Gender Neutral Fashion Show impeded by university

OLIVIA GRATZINGER
editor-in-chief

Last year’s poster for the Gender Neutral Fashion Show, cohosted by the Gender Forum and Department of Women and Gender Studies (WGS), featured a male-presenting runway model sporting a dress.

The event was well attended and favorably received, according to Gender Forum President Emma Shirey.

It wasn’t until 11 months later — and while the organization was preparing for this year’s event — that higher administration officials in the university reported that due to complaints they had received about the 2018 posters, they would require that this year’s show refrain from using gender neutral language and photographs like the one on last year’s flyer. WGS faculty members and Gender Forum participants alike fear this will render the show’s message moot.

“It blindsided all of us,” Shirey said. “No one had said anything about it being problematic.”

The club was, however, aware of several posters that had been taken down or damaged by students in the weeks leading up to the event last year.

Nevertheless, Laura Engel, a professor in the department and who spoke at the academic panel event — that higher administration, though it was the chair of the English department at Duquesne for the last six years, and the director of freshman writing for 10 years before that. “It is not appropriate for university relations to have any say in what is fundamentally an academic program.”

Multiple sources corroborated this statement off the record, but the Diocese of Pittsburgh did not respond to requests for comment by press time.

Barnhisel said there was a lot of discussion about the event in higher administration, though none of it was conveyed to faculty members. The Gender Forum was not notified of any issues with this year’s fashion show until a month before it was set to happen either, according to Shirey. When they were informed in early September, they were not given a reason why. Barnhisel said that faculty members, too, were initially left in the dark.

Engel, a professor of 18th-century literature, theatre and gender studies, said she was confused when she heard from her colleagues that the event was facing so much backlash.

“The runway walk was people wearing clothes that you would see people wearing every day. This was not a costume show; this was a show about people just walking and saying hello and being appreciated for how they are dressed,” she said. “It was really lovely,” she said.

The theme of Duquesne’s Catholic mission was raised in an official statement signed by Kristine Blair, dean of McNulty College, and Darlene Weaver, associate provost for academic affairs, sent in response to Duke inquiries.

“No matter what group seeks to use university resources for programming, Duquesne University has consistently required that it show respect for the Catholic religious identity of the institution,” the statement said. “Faculty, staff and students share in Duquesne University’s Catholic and Spiritan mission, and therefore have a common responsibility to develop programs and events that foster academic rigor and align with our core values.”

The statement went on to say that “the posters advertising the event generated numerous complaints from a variety of students, faculty and alumni.”

As of press time, the university did not respond to inquiries regarding the character of the complaints or how many were received, but Greg Barnhisel said he’d heard from well-informed sources that they came from the top.

“I heard that some of these complaints originated from outside the university, even with the office of the bishop and Bishop Zubick himself. Also with donors,” said Barnhisel, who has been the chair of the English department at Duquesne for the last six years, and the director of freshman writing for 10 years before that.

“Multiple sources corroborated this statement off the record, but the Diocese of Pittsburgh did not respond to requests for comment by press time.”

Barnhisel said there was a lot of discussion about the event in higher administration, though none of it was conveyed to faculty members. The Gender Forum was not notified of any issues with this year’s fashion show until a month before it was set to happen either, according to Shirey. When they were informed in early September, they were not given a reason why. Barnhisel said that faculty members, too, were initially left in the dark.

Engel, a professor of 18th-century literature, theatre and gender studies, said she was confused when she heard from her colleagues that the event was facing so much backlash.

“The runway walk was people wearing clothes that you would see people wearing every day. This was not a costume show; this was a show about people just walking and saying hello and being appreciated for how they are dressed,” she said. “It was really lovely,” she said.

The theme of Duquesne’s Catholic mission was raised in an official statement signed by Kristine Blair, dean of McNulty College, and Darlene Weaver, associate provost for academic affairs, sent in response to Duke inquiries.

“No matter what group seeks to use university resources for programming, Duquesne University has consistently required that it show respect for the Catholic religious identity of the institution,” the statement said. “Faculty, staff and students share in Duquesne University’s Catholic and Spiritan mission, and therefore have a common responsibility to develop programs and events that foster academic rigor and align with our core values.”

The statement went on to say that “the posters advertising the event generated numerous complaints from a variety of students, faculty and alumni.”

As of press time, the university did not respond to inquiries regarding the character of the complaints or how many were received, but Greg Barnhisel said he’d heard from well-informed sources that they came from the top.

“I heard that some of these complaints originated from outside the university, even with the office of the bishop and Bishop Zubick himself. Also with donors,” said Barnhisel, who has been the chair of the English department at Duquesne for the last six years, and the director of freshman writing for 10 years before that. “It is not appropriate for the office of the diocese and donors to have any say in what is fundamentally an academic program.”

Multiple sources corroborated this statement off the record, but the Diocese of Pittsburgh did not respond to requests for comment by press time.

Barnhisel said there was a lot of discussion about the event in higher administration, though none of it was conveyed to faculty members. The Gender Forum was not notified of any issues with this year’s fashion show until a month before it was set to happen either, according to Shirey. When they were informed in early September, they were not given a reason why. Barnhisel said that faculty members, too, were initially left in the dark.

Engel, a professor of 18th-century literature, theatre and gender studies, said she was confused when she heard from her colleagues that the event was facing so much backlash.

“The runway walk was people wearing clothes that you would see people wearing every day. This was not a costume show; this was a show about people just walking and saying hello and being appreciated for how they are dressed,” she said. “It was really lovely,” she said.

The theme of Duquesne’s Catholic mission was raised in an official statement signed by Kristine Blair, dean of McNulty College, and Darlene Weaver, associate provost for academic affairs, sent in response to Duke inquiries.

“No matter what group seeks to use university resources for programming, Duquesne University has consistently required that it show respect for the Catholic religious identity of the institution,” the statement said. “Faculty, staff and students share in Duquesne University’s Catholic and Spiritan mission, and therefore have a common responsibility to develop programs and events that foster academic rigor and align with our core values.”

The statement went on to say that “the posters advertising the event generated numerous complaints from a variety of students, faculty and alumni.”

As of press time, the university did not respond to inquiries regarding the character of the complaints or how many were received, but Greg Barnhisel said he’d heard from well-informed sources that they came from the top.
POLICE BRIEFS

It's the first week of fall, and the crimes didn’t end with summer.

On Sept. 18, Duquesne Police were contacted to report damage to a vehicle that was parked in the Locust Garage extension.

On Sept. 19, a report was made concerning damage to an unattended vehicle in Forbes Garage.

Also on Sept. 19, while RAs in St. Ann Hall were doing rounds, the odor of marijuana was detected. An administrative search was conducted and several vials of marijuana vape oils were discovered.

On Sept. 21, a Duquesne student was found to be intoxicated and in possession of a fake ID. They received a non-traffic citation in possession of a fake ID. They also cut hash on areas like Executive Contingency and Senate Contingency. These areas are money-budgeted for the Exec board and the Senate to spend without prior authorization.

 Areas where they increased spending are tabling events and town hall meetings, both of which are designed for student engagement, as well as the Night of Lights. Night of Lights is our biggest philanthropic event. Megginson said, “We want to go big with that.” In 2019, SGA budgeted about $2,500 for the event; this year they raised that to $4,500—an 80% increase.

However, the biggest part of the SGA budget still goes to the Loop Bus. “Previously, that was budgeted incorrectly. They budgeted $30,000 and then reported going $6,000 over budget. This year we accurately budgeted for that expense,” Megginson said as an explanation for the $6,000 increase in the Loop Bus price.

SGA pays only one-third of the price of the Loop Bus, while the Office of Student Life pays the other two-thirds.

The idea of “doing more with less” has been a theme for the entire academic year. To do that, SGA voted to cut areas of spending that did not directly influence the student body. In 2019, SGA had budgeted $1,530 for the Faculty Appreciation breakfast. This year, they budgeted zero.

“Obviously the faculty knows we appreciate them,” Megginson said. “I couldn’t justify spending [the money] on students.”

They also cut back on areas like Tech for the students.

JOIN THE DUKE!

Writing for The Duke is a great way to get involved with everything going on down on campus. Whether you like to write, draw, take photos, play video games, listen to music or are just looking for a new way to make friends, The Duke is a great place to start.

If you’re interested, email thedukedu@gmail.com or stop by our newsletter room in the basement of College Hall (Room 115).

EMAIL TIPS

We want your input!
The Duke’s news section would love to hear from you about stories that you want to see in print. Know a talented professor or accomplished student? See something on campus that just doesn't make sense? You can send your tips and story ideas to News Editor Hallie Lauer at hallielauer18@gmail.com

Mary Pappert School launches new program

KELLEN STEPLER
staff writer

To be the best, you have to learn from the best.

And now, Duquesne’s Mary Pappert School of Music has launched a new program to provide students with valuable hands-on and hands-on experiences to learn more about the music industry.

The Institute of Entertainment, Music and Media Arts (IEMMA) program is designed to promote students’ skill sets to better prepare them in the constantly evolving entertainment field. IEMMA (pronounced I’m a) offers real world situations and the opportunity to work alongside industry leaders in areas like composing, recording, performance, engineering and production.

Duquesne professor and IEMMA director Tom Kikta describes IEMMA as students applying their skill sets in real world situations through seminars, clinics and projects. The first phase of IEMMA is a public lecture and seminar series that will run through the 2019-2020 academic year.

The IEMMA Experience began Friday, Sept. 20, with voice actor Jeff Bergman. Bergman, one of the voices of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and the original Gus the Groundhog, shared his experiences in the School of Music’s PNC Recital Hall. Not only is IEMMA an initiative for school of music students, but also for law and business students as well. Kikta said that Duquesne’s Red Masquers attended the Jeff Bergman event.

Additionally, IEMMA benefits law students through a course with real music law, and business students learning about music agents, negotiation and contracts.

The next lecture, titled “Hybrid Mixing with Solid State Logic and Sweetwater Music,” will be Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. A three day interactive seminar for audio engineers and producers, the Oct. 22 event is free and open to the public at the Dr. Thomas D. Pappert Center for Performance and Innovation.

Other events scheduled include “Composing for Film,” with Hollywood composer Michael Andrews, a gaming creation seminar and more.

In the “Composing for Film” event, Andrews will mentor student composers’ skills to make their works more effective. Once that stage is done, it will go to audio engineering students to create Foley and dialogue audio.

According to Duquesne’s IEMMA webpage, IEMMA will “help each student develop an entrepreneur mindset that can, in turn, help them generate multiple revenue streams through their creative abilities in all media including performance, recording, producing, composing, engineering, managing, publishing and distributing, and more.”

Like most industries, the music industry is all about connections. Kikta says that IEMMA will absolutely benefit students in the music school through networking.

“We are better positioning our students in the world and industry,” Kikta said.

Kikta also noted the advantage Duquesne students will have, because they will already have these connections in school. These connections through IEMMA make the university more competitive for prospective music school students. Founded on Duquesne’s Spiritual tradition, the mission of IEMMA is to awaken and equip each student’s unique talents and aspirations for their career, to instill excellence and professionalism with a foundational and ethical core and to provide the entertainment industry with visionary leaders and professionals for the field.

Kikta notes that not only does the program align with Duquesne’s Spiritual mission, but also is part of the university’s strategic plan.

Not only can Duquesne students benefit from IEMMA, but the Pittsburgh region can as well. For the Jeff Bergman event, Kikta invited the Carnegie Mellon and Point Park acting department to attend. While Duquesne students will be front and center at the clinics, the region can benefit by seeing what’s going on at Duquesne.

According to the website, “Students benefit from an environment equipped with the latest hardware and software necessary for development of the advanced techniques required to be successful.”

Additionally, IEMMA offers Sound Stage Sessions, a program through which music technology students can prepare, set up, run and strike recording sessions for music ensembles at Duquesne.

It simultaneously helps ensemble performers learn how to conduct themselves in a recording studio environment. Students will perform, mix and master recordings to be broadcast, downloaded and streamed under the guidance of Grammy Award-Winning sound recording faculty and seasoned stage musicians.
Gender neutral terminology barred from event

On Sept. 25, faculty of the WGS department met with university administration to discuss an alternative event. At that meeting, according to Linda Kinnahan, professor of English and founding member of WGS, the Gender Forum was cleared to hold an event similar to last year’s fashion show, as long as they abided by the restrictions outlined by the university — eliminating “gender neutral” and similar language, and refraining from using images that the university could consider offensive.

“It’s our understanding as of today that we can proceed with an event,” Kinnahan said. “But we’ve been told that the image [on the poster] was a problem in combination with the language, particularly the term ‘gender neutral.’”

By failing to communicate the aforementioned issues sooner, some students and faculty still feel as though the university effectively hindered the show’s production, even if it was never cancelled outright.

“When these complaints were made, we were never informed except for … complaints about the image on the poster,” Kinnahan said. “All of these delays have had the effect of endangering, if not cancelling the event.”

Kinnahan and other faculty members also worry about the possible implications of the university putting limitations on what words can or cannot be used in an academic setting.

“The questioning of this event as the inclusion of queerness is erased, is a continuation of the initial position by the Duquesne administration to erase the queerness of their students,” Frick said. “The offer of putting on a show while simultaneously eliminating the original purpose of having a gender neutral fashion show — to signal to queer students that they are welcome, accepted and that they have the right to feel secure in the clothes they choose to wear — fills me with disappointment and sadness for the queer students of Duquesne.”

Shirey and Frick both share the sentiment that the university has taken a stance against LGBTQ+ students and community members.

“It was us versus the university, which sucks when you’re a student,” Shirey said. “You’re paying them. You are a leader of a lot of students who are putting money into a university which clearly does not support them.”

According to Danielle Vecchi-one, the Gender Forum’s president last year when the fashion show first took place, this is not the first time the club has faced complications with the administration.

“Students were ripping down our posters and … faculty and staff did nothing to help or support [us]. Basically, there has been a lot of ‘we don’t want to rock the boat from the school, faculty and staff,’” Vecchi-one said.

Frick, adviser to the Gender Forum and chair of the WGS department, highlighted a part of Duquesne’s Mission Statement, which advocates for celebrating all students.

“The Duquesne University website notes among university goals the intention to ‘create an environment of unconditional inclusion,’” Barrett said. “I hope that the higher administration can live up to this commitment, recognizing as the website also says, that ‘we welcome diversity because it enriches us all.’”

Barrett also said that Blair and Swindal had both been allies to the department.

Stew Frick, a nonbinary fashion designer, does not attend Duquesne, but they were set to resume their role as featured designer at this year’s show. But as the event faced an adverse reaction from the administration, Frick said they were “really disappointed.”

“The development of being offered a fashion show, as long

“IT HOPE THAT THE HIGHER ADMINISTRATION CAN LIVE UP TO THIS COMMITMENT, RECOGNIZING AS THE WEBSITE ALSO SAYS, THAT ‘WE WELCOME DIVERSITY BECAUSE IT ENRICHES US ALL.”

— FAITH BARRETT, GENDER FORUM FACULTY ADVISER

GENDER—from page 1

neutrality is nothing new; in the 18th century, fashion was very ambiguous, and men’s high fashion was often marked by wigs, makeup and high heels. She also mentioned that the initial push-back from the administration could send a negative message to students.

“Students need to feel safe and know that they have allies and advocates,” she said.

In the statement, the university said that it ever cancelled or banned the event. Rather, Blair and Weaver wrote that, before approving space and resource allocation for the fashion show, (the university) has sought to determine that the program is academically-focused and that promotional materials are not designed in a fashion that will unnecessarily offend others.

They also claim that the process took 11 months because of leadership changes and staff turnover in other offices. Blair and Weaver both began their tenures as dean and associate provost respectively in July.

James Swindal, who was McNulty’s dean at the time of last year’s event, had signed off on the posters, according to Shirey, and was in attendance at the fashion show. Swindal could not be reached for comment by press time.

Less” also includes doing more for the students.

“We feel SGA in the past has spent a lot of money on itself, rather than for the benefit of the student body,” Megginson said.

In prior years, SGA had been hesitant to release their budget to the fashion show. Swindal could not be reached for comment by the fashion show. Swindal could not be reached for comment by

Shirey at last year’s Gender Neutral Fashion Show.

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

Visit our website at duqsm.com

COURTESY EMMA SHIREY

Shirey at last year’s Gender Neutral Fashion Show.

GENDER—from page 2

less” also includes doing more for the students.

“We feel SGA in the past has spent a lot of money on itself, rather than for the benefit of the student body,” Megginson said.

In prior years, SGA had been hesitant to release their budget to the fashion show. Swindal could not be reached for comment by the fashion show. Swindal could not be reached for comment by

Shirey at last year’s Gender Neutral Fashion Show.

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

Visit our website at duqsm.com

COURTESY EMMA SHIREY

Shirey at last year’s Gender Neutral Fashion Show.

GENDER—from page 1

neutrality is nothing new; in the 18th century, fashion was very ambiguous, and men’s high fashion was often marked by wigs, makeup and high heels. She also mentioned that the initial push-back from the administration could send a negative message to students.

“Students need to feel safe and know that they have allies and advocates,” she said.

In the statement, the university said that it ever cancelled or banned the event. Rather, Blair and Weaver wrote that, before approving space and resource allocation for the fashion show, (the university) has sought to determine that the program is academically-focused and that promotional materials are not designed in a fashion that will unnecessarily offend others.

They also claim that the process took 11 months because of leadership changes and staff turnover in other offices. Blair and Weaver both began their tenures as dean and associate provost respectively in July.

James Swindal, who was McNulty’s dean at the time of last year’s event, had signed off on the posters, according to Shirey, and was in attendance at the fashion show. Swindal could not be reached for comment by press time.
“Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much.”  

OSCAR WILDE

You just read | Now tweet our thoughts. | us yours

@TheDuquesneDuke

OPINIONS

Sino-African relations mirror colonialism

As developing nations continue to grow, globalized trade systems have become a staple of modern economies, and Sino-African relations are no exception.

For decades it has become commonplace for larger, developed nations to seek cheaper labor in less wealthy areas of the world. In recent years, this practice has become more and more prevalent in developing African nations.

Chinese corporations are continuing to branch into the African sector at a record setting rate. In the past decade alone, China has finally surpassed the United States as Africa’s No. 1 trading partner.

However, Sino-African relations go far beyond standard trade agreements. Chinese companies, with their vast resources and capital, have overtaken most major African industries and government projects. Instead of hiring native, African workers to build railways, oil power plants, oil refineries and other forms of infrastructure, many companies are importing temporary contractors from China. Estimates now project that over a million Chinese citizens are living and working in Africa.

To many experts, Sino-African relations are beneficial to both parties. China gets to expand its global trade and internally their version of religious missionaries: Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) doctors and experts. Since the late 1970s, China has been sending “missionary” medical teams to various African nations to provide healthcare to impoverished areas. While this appears as a selfless act of humanitarians, the Chinese government likely has darker intentions. TCM is rooted in dietary health and herbal remedies; therefore, Africa, with its abundance of plants and high rates of species diversity is an opportunity for Chinese scientific gains. TCM’s influence across Africa also increases China’s soft power in the region. This illustrates the greatest problem with Chinese presence in Africa: Chinese culture is attempting to diminish African cultures.

This problem has escalated to terrifying levels across all aspects of culture. Within the last five years, countries like South Africa, Kenya and Zimbabwe have started mandating Mandarin as part of school curriculums. In addition, many African newspapers, airports and railway stations have started to be published and built with entirely Mandarin signage.

Total immersion in Chinese language, industry and traditions with little regard for African involvement reeks of colonialism. These are the same tactics used by colonial governments hundreds of years ago. Africa’s horrific history of colonialism should serve as a warning for the turmoil ahead if African governments refuse to halt Chinese influence on the region.

While African development of infrastructure, education and medicine is beneficial to locals, those benefits cannot be bought in exchange for Africa’s economic, political and cultural independence.

Sino-African relations mirror colonialism

In addition, many African newspapers, airports and railway stations have started to be published and built with entirely Mandarin signage.

The economic opportunity for black Pittsburghers is diminishing. According to the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, Pittsburgh is the eighth most gentrifying city in the U.S.

The continued gentrification of lower-income neighborhoods is slowly pushing portions of the black population out of the city. For the continuation of economic growth of this city, it is necessary to invest in the people. Opportunity is out there, but for black residents, this is not in Pittsburgh.

If the lives of black residents are more likely to improve immediately upon leaving, the irony of rating Pittsburgh one of the top livable cities is immediately present.

Pittsburgh should not be touting a “most-liveable” status without taking into consideration its population as a whole. Being a top-rated place to live for only a single demographic is not something that should be celebrated, but rather an example of precisely what needs to be changed about cities.

Pittsburgh is in need of change; it has the potential to be a phenomenal place to live for all, but until the city begins to accept the black population under the rug,
Big Food perpetuates the national obesity epidemic

TIMOTHY RUSH
staff columnist

Popeye's Louisiana Kitchen took the world by storm on Aug. 12 with the release of their special chicken sandwich, but another big fried chicken company had a swift answer. On Sept. 16, 2019, Kentucky Fried Chicken released the chicken and doughnuts sandwich.

That's right: KFC had an answer to what was more unhealthy than deep-fried Oreos, and that is slamming a piece of fried chicken between two glazed doughnuts and selling it for $5.99 a piece. Questions regarding the sandwich being good—aside—which by the way it is—my question very simply is: are we not going a bit too far with this comfort foodstuff?

Don't get me wrong, I love all kinds of unhealthy food, but do we need this? There seems to be a trend in our modern culinary culture to essentially make food as unhealthy and as fatty/sugary as possible. From making pizzas as large as possible to single burgers taking up more than half of the recommended daily calorie intake, it seems as though the outcry against harmful diets is falling on deaf ears.

This is a trend that has long been recognized, a common critique thrown at so-called Big Food, but we must analyze this as a culture and recognize how harmful it is. We are still in the prime of the obesity epidemic. America has an obesity rate of almost 40%, meaning that 2 out of every 5 people are now obese in the U.S., according to the CDC in a 2017 brief. This has been an increase from past years, with us rising by almost 10% since 2000, despite the concern for it. As much as Michelle Obama's crusade against unhealthy eating was honorable, it seems that it may have been in vain.

A lot of people do choose to be obese, and that's fair enough for them, but there's also a lot of people that are obese but have lots of difficulties losing weight. However, I think if we analyze why people choose to be obese, I think we find a much darker answer. That being that Big Food indeed fetishizes unhealthy eating. Eating unhealthy is glamorized on TV. While we all go to the doctors and hear about how much dieting and exercising is important to living a healthy life, we all go home and are bombard ed by advertisements to eat the brand-new fatty thing from our local fast-food joint. Obesity and unhealthy lifestyles are being commercialized for the sake of making a profit by corporations.

These corporations prey upon people's desires to feel good while eating, to feel that relaxation that comes with overloading our system on grease and sugar. They glamorize it to make people want it, to normalize unhealthy eating for the sake of profit. If Big Food was seriously concerned about the obesity epidemic, they'd do more than just include calorie counts that most people ignore. Instead of glamorizing fried chicken, let’s glamorize healthier options like grilled chicken. Instead of sugary sauces, focus on lean seasonings. Society should be looking to make things flavorful and healthy, not doubting down on sugar and fats.

And yes, I do recognize that obesity is something that people need to personally contend with. Ultimately if people want to lose weight, no law or giant societal shift will help people lose weight. There is a large degree of personal responsibility that comes with living a healthy lifestyle, and a person can’t blame their own unhealthy life choices entirely on big corporations. But we can at least acknowledge that enabling people to feel positively towards unhealthy choices certainly impacts that rate and would go a long way in helping people make the right choice.

We are amid a public health crisis, one that is getting worse with each passing year despite of plenty of research and public outcry. The time for action is now. In the U.S., alcohol companies have adopted policies wherein their adverts at least attempt to discourage underage drinking. There are also rules and regulations about alcohol commercials, such as distilled spirits requiring a stated alcohol content. Why should fast food companies get a pass on encouraging unhealthy eating?

The point is that these trends in Big Food are hurting our society, and they're aware of it. While an unhealthy chicken and doughnut sandwich might be good occasionally, we should remember that it’s these companies must take responsibility for their part in the obesity epidemic, for glamorizing this excess eating.

Cancel culture continues to pervade pop culture and politics

ZOE STRATOS
staff columnist

From Justin Trudeau to James Charles no influencer is safe from the wrath of the public.

Over the past decade, social media has become a huge societal norm in which every day people are able to share their opinions on celebrities, political voices and news outlets—also referred to as the fifth estate. The critical mass of users on these platforms act as a watchdog; they are able to unapologetically use bias and state facts about people and events that certain outlets conveniently leave out of their articles.

From this spawned the creation of a new culture: cancel culture. Cancel culture, Cancel a trend on multiple social media platforms—especially Twitter—which a large group of people essentially ‘call-out’ influencers in attempt to eject them from fame due to their actions, words or actions.

Most of the time these call-outs come from accusations with little proof, but people jump on the bandwagon regardless of its authenticity. However, sometimes these accusations are then backed up with more proof due to the spread of the news to the general public.

One of the most recent ‘canceled’ public figures is Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau after a leaked photo of him in brownface surfaced. The photo was taken in 2001 and was featured in a yearbook of the school he was teaching at.

After the photo was released, thousands took to Twitter to share their opinions, ultimately resulting in political party conflicts. Twitter user @RubinReport described it as ‘asymmetry.’

“The fact is if this was anyone on the Right it would be a massive scandal and they'd be forced to step down. Trudeau is progressive media darling thus will get a pass. Cancel culture is bad enough but the asymmetry of it can't stand much longer.”

The user does make a point about the lack of repercussions Trudeau has received professionally thus far; however, the fifth estate overall has expressed their disappointment in Trudeau, as they should.

The use of brownface in 2001 is just as unacceptable as it is now in 2019. There is no excuse for his actions and the public should call him out for it— as they are. With that said, Trudeau has publicly apologized and does not condone his own actions.

“I shouldn’t have done that,” said Trudeau in a statement. “I should have known better and I didn’t. I'm really sorry.” He then continued on to agree that it was racist. “I didn't consider it racist at the time, but now we know better.”

The questions then become, do we forgive them? How much is too much?

In this case, Trudeau’s credibility is knocked and there should be repercussions; however, over the past few years, he has

Canadian Prime minister Justin Trudeau addressed allegations of racist brownface at 2001 party shown his support for progressivism and inclusion, and his contributions to his country prove his growth as a human. With that said, the public should be wary of what he says and remind him of his serious mistake.

Another recent ‘canceled’ celebrity to hit the headlines is YouTube star and beauty influencer, James Charles. After a conflict between Charles and his mentor, Tati Westbrook, over a vitamin promotion Charles took part in, Westbrook released a YouTube video titled “Bye Sister,” condemning Charles for his betrayal of her brand. A series of other videos followed between the two, eventually causing Charles to lose around three million subscribers—Westbrook gained around four million. The cancel culture of Twitter even went as far as creating a trending hashtag: #JamesCharlesIsOverParty.

In this case, cancel culture walks the line between call out and bullying. The toxic side of cancel culture includes death threats and unnecessary insults thrown at people who have barely done anything wrong. Charles made a mistake to help promote another brand; however, he didn’t mean to cause harm to his mentor. His mistake comes nowhere near that of Trudeau’s. Yet here users were destroying Charles public image over a commercial.
Katie Westbrook Memorial Race going strong for 18th year

On Saturday morning on Mellon Patio, dogs, from a teacup Yorkshire terrier to a huge fluffy husky named Socrates, barked, whined and wagged their tails at each other. Duquesne University School of Law provided red and blue bandanas hung around the dog’s collars in honor of the Katie Westbrook 5k and Dog Walk Memorial Race.

Runners stretched as students, supporters and organizers were milling around, drinking coffee, playing cornhole. Most everyone was smiling over the dogs’ antics and in anticipation of the run. Set up along the patio were different stands representing organizations from the law school, including the Buck-a-Duck game representing the Black Law Student Association and a 50/50 raffle sponsored by the Sports & Entertainment Law Society, among others.

"Katie was a huge animal lover," said Kerry Westbrook, Katie’s young­er sister said. "I’m super elated everyone remembers her and comes together in her honor. She was a sweet and loving spirit with a strong sense of justice."

"The story of the 5k, which is 18 years strong, begins with Katie. Dr. John T. Rago, an associate professor of law at Duquesne, describes Katie as someone with a “passion for life, for all things big and small, with an energy and intensity and depth of compassion that some people go through their whole lives without ever experiencing. You couldn’t meet this girl without knowing there was something very special about her."

Katie’s life was forever changed when she was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer called osteosarcoma. The condition occurs when a tumor forms around bone and then metastasizes, meaning that the cancer spreads to different or secondary sites from its origin.

Whenever Rago was contacted by a friend at Children’s Hospital who knew a young woman who probably wasn’t going to make it and who desperately wanted to be a lawyer, the friend asked if the law school at Duquesne could send her a hat or something.

“My God, we could do better than that!” Rago declared, smiling. "My God, we could do better than a hat or something."

"Bittersweet doesn’t begin to describe (commencement),” Rago said. "Her mother Beth accepted the degree on her behalf hours after her daughter was gone. There were nearly 3,000 people there."

Katie first dreamed of becoming a veterinarian, and after much “riecocheting,” according to West­brook, she changed paths and desperately wanted to become a lawyer in order to “represent the underdog.”

Rago wholeheartedly agreed that despite the pain Katie was going through, she accomplished a lot with the short life that she had.

Eighteen years later, Katie still remains part of the law school. Through the efforts of Dr. Rago; Beth Bauer, student organizations assistant; the dean’s office at the law school and Comas, the 5k and dog walk has been organized in honor of a young woman’s dream to become a lawyer.

“Katie’s spirit lives on here at Duquesne. We can feel it today,” Bauer said. “These law students are living her dream. We want them to know that and also to know that as a law school, we want to build a family and a community.”

Don’t settle for boys that call the Red Ring “going out.”
Women's soccer defeats VCU in overtime

JAMES LEO
staff writer

An underdog heading into Sunday's matchup against rival VCU (6-2-1, 0-1-1), the Duquesne women's soccer team (3-2-2, 1-0-0) commenced this season's conference slate with a convincing win. VCU has always been a viable opponent for Duquesne. In their last meeting, VCU got the better of Duquesne, and went on to finish the year 2nd in the A-10. Duquesne currently leads the all-time head-to-head series 4-3.

This game was truly a tale of two halves for the Dukes. VCU's defense stilled them in the first half; while Duquesne had many good opportunities, they had just one shot on goal. Despite their first-half offensive struggles, the Dukes held VCU to only one goal during that half. Out of 10 first half shots, VCU's lone goal came in the 26th minute from forward Idelys Vazquez.

"We had a game plan going into the game, playing against this team specifically," coach Al Alvine said. "We did it too infrequently over the course of the first half."

The second half saw a more efficient and exciting Dukes team. They continued to keep VCU from scoring, allowing a mere three (unsuccessful) shots on goal in the second half.

The Dukes offense got back on track as well, attempting six shots in the second half, four of which were on target. The Red and Blue tied the game in the 73rd minute with a goal from midfielder Deena DeBaldo. With this goal, she now leads the A-10 in goals scored (6) and is tied with VCU's Mallory Walker for points scored (13) on the year.

"I knew I was up there in goals," DeBaldo said. "I knew I was tied with someone, but I didn't know who. I'm very excited to be where I am."

The Dukes took a 2-1 lead with a corner kick goal in the 84th minute by defender Ashley Briscoe and successfully fended off two corner kicks in the final six minutes from VCU to win 2-1.

Coach Alvine was proud of his team's performance in the second half.

"In the second half, we came out and made a real commitment to the way we wanted to play," he explained. "I thought we dominated the second half and created a lot of really good chances. I'm thrilled to get our first conference win under our belts against a very good VCU team."

He also emphasized that while this win was important, he is thinking of the bigger picture.

"Based on what I saw today, if we can show that same level of commitment to each other and commitment to playing our game and that level of organization, the sky is the limit," he said. "I told them before the game that we can beat anyone on our day. Especially on our field. I think the sky is the limit for our team; if we keep on playing focused, good things will come our way."

DeBaldo shared a similar sentiment.

"This was a huge win for us; we've always had tough battles with VCU, and getting this win was a great start to conference play," she said. "I think we can go all the way. I believe in our team; I think we can do it."

This conference win marks the first time the Dukes have won their opening conference game since 2016. They went on to finish 7-2-1 in conference play that year, and went to the A-10 Championship game.

The Dukes will continue their A-10 play with a game at Davidson at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 26.

They will head to Philadelphia to take on La Salle at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29 to wrap up their short road-stint. Both of these games can be viewed online via ESPN+.

Any who wish to catch the Dukes in person may do so when they return to the Bluff on Thursday, Oct. 3 to play Richmond.

Football beats Dayton, heads to UNH

JACK BREEN
staff writer

After a 20-point loss to Youngstown State, the Dukes managed to pull off a win at Dayton this past Saturday by a score of 3-5-1. This win was Duquesne's fourth consecutive victory against the Flyers.

Mark Allen led the rush with 201 scrimmage yards and two touchdowns, including the game winner. Allen has been named NEC Co-Offensive Player of the Week for his superb performance against the Flyers.

Quarterback Daniel Parr will look to follow up a solid outing after finishing with a noteworthy 81.8% (18-22) completion percentage with three total touchdowns (two passing, one rushing) and zero turnovers. His 182 passing yards is a season-high for the senior.

Senior wide receivers Kelon Taylor and Kareem Coles Jr. picked up their first touchdown receptions of the year which both came in the first half. After the defense gave up 21 points in the first half, they settled in in the second half, allowing only 10 points. Seven of Dayton's second-half points came on a 97-yard kickoff return to begin the half. Also on the defensive side, senior defensive back Reid Harrison-Ducros recorded his first career interception in the end zone while the match was tied 17 with 7:23 left in the third quarter.

With 1:34 left to play in the game, the Dukes' defense came up with a big stop on fourth down as Jassir Jordan deflected the pass to give the offense the ball at their own 36, which sealed the game for Duquesne.

The Dukes offense got back to work after a thrilling win of commitment to each other and to the team; I think we can do it."

The Dukes offense got back on track as well, attempting six shots in the second half, four of which were on target. The Red and Blue tied the game in the 73rd minute with a goal from midfielder Deena DeBaldo. With this goal, she now leads the A-10 in goals scored (6) and is tied with VCU's Mallory Walker for points scored (13) on the year.

"I knew I was up there in goals," DeBaldo said. "I knew I was tied with someone, but I didn't know who. I'm very excited to be where I am."

The Dukes took a 2-1 lead with a corner kick goal in the 84th minute by defender Ashley Briscoe and successfully fended off two corner kicks in the final six minutes from VCU to win 2-1.

Coach Alvine was proud of his team's performance in the second half.

"In the second half, we came out and made a real commitment to the way we wanted to play," he explained. "I thought we dominated the second half and created a lot of really good chances. I'm thrilled to get our first conference win under our belts against a very good VCU team."

He also emphasized that while this win was important, he is thinking of the bigger picture.

"Based on what I saw today, if we can show that same level of commitment to each other and commitment to playing our game and that level of organization, the sky is the limit," he said. "I told them before the game that we can beat anyone on our day. Especially on our field. I think the sky is the limit for our team; if we keep on playing focused, good things will come our way."

DeBaldo shared a similar sentiment.

"This was a huge win for us; we've always had tough battles with VCU, and getting this win was a great start to conference play," she said. "I think we can go all the way. I believe in our team; I think we can do it."

This conference win marks the first time the Dukes have won their opening conference game since 2016. They went on to finish 7-2-1 in conference play that year, and went to the A-10 Championship game.

The Dukes will continue their A-10 play with a game at Davidson at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 26.

They will head to Philadelphia to take on La Salle at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29 to wrap up their short road-stint. Both of these games can be viewed online via ESPN+.

Any who wish to catch the Dukes in person may do so when they return to the Bluff on Thursday, Oct. 3 to play Richmond.

The Dukes after Deena DeBaldo's goal in the 74th minute.

The Dukes after Deena DeBaldo's goal in the 74th minute.

The Dukes after Deena DeBaldo's goal in the 74th minute.

The Dukes after Deena DeBaldo's goal in the 74th minute.
Fantasy Sports Edge: Tips for this weekend’s games

**Wayne Gallman, RB, New York Giants**

An injury opening up a starting spot always creates a tough waiver wire add situation. Unfortunately, like your league has a waiver wire process with an order then you may not even have a chance to get Wayne Gallman. More than likely, the Saquon Barkley owner is going to be jumping on Wayne Gallman here.

It’s too early to tell how long Barkley will be sidelined, but you can’t wait to find out on this one. You need to add Gallman ASAP. I know, I know, he did absolutely nothing last week when he took over for Barkley, but after seeing Barkley in a boot on the sidelines, this could be serious.

Perhaps a week of practicing as the starter will help Gallman to become an acceptable flex player.

**Darrel Williams, RB, Kansas City Chiefs**

He had more touches than veteran LeSean McCoy in Week 3. McCoy got the touchdown, but Williams showed a lot of promise with nine carries for 62 yards, and five receptions for 47 yards. Not to mention, McCoy is banged up, and the Chiefs would like nothing more than to save those old legs for a Super Bowl run. In a Mahomes offense, it’s only a matter of time until Williams blows up. If he does it again in Week 3, then we can say it’s probably going to be consistent.

The only problem with waiting until Week 3 to make roster moves is that every league has a guy like me who tries to predict those breakout players and hits the waiver wire hard and heavy Weeks 1, 2 and 3.

By this point, the cat is out of the bag on names like Terry McLaurin, Marquise Brown, Jon Ross, Mark Andrews and Mecole Hardman. Most of those guys got snagged up after the first two weeks.

I encourage you to take a look at this week’s “Money Makers or Money Takers” advice that I list below. In this section I will give you my waiver wire moves for this upcoming week. I’ll do my best to help you to begin thinking in the right direction. The Money Makers are the guys that I believe are worthy of a roster spot. The Money Takers are guys that I think you should drop.

**Money Makers**

**Wayne Gallman, RB, New York Giants**

Everyone who drafted Cam Newton is probably kicking themselves over and over again. I saw signs last year that he was falling apart, so I avoided him at all cost this year. However, if you drafted Newton, it isn’t too late to pick up Kyle Allen. Most people in your league are going to get all twirly eyed about Daniel Jones. I believe Allen is the better option. Allen has something that Jones no longer has, for the time being. That is, he’s a running back that can catch short passes and break off long touchdown runs.

Look at the other quarterbacks who are scoring high points. Yes, they have good receivers, but nothing is easier on a young quarterback than being able to dump off the ball to a great running back and watch him take it to the house. Remember, if the quarterback throws it to the running back it doesn’t matter if the ball flies 60 yards to a receiver or five yards to a running back, either way the quarterback gets credited with a touchdown pass.

Additionally, Allen has big time weapons around him. Greg Olsen looked great last week and his receivers are getting better each week. For me, I’m higher on Allen right now. I’ll take the “wait and see” approach on Jones without Barkley.

**Money Takers**

**Daniel Jones, QB, New York Giants**

Don’t get me wrong, Jones looked great last week. He has weapons like Sterling Shepard and Evan Engram and will still be getting Golden Tate back sometime soon. However, losing Barkley hurts the young quarterback.

When you think of Fantasy Football, you think of guys that you drafted are probably doing what you expected. Another way to look at it, the play ers that you drafted are probably doing what you expected. You can’t take the results from last week’s outlier, I’m pretty happy with those old legs for a Super Bowl run. In a Mahomes offense, it’s only a matter of time until Williams blows up. If he does it again in Week 3, then we can say it’s probably going to be consistent.

First option, if available.

**Kyle Allen, QB, Carolina Panthers**

Everyone who drafted Cam Newton is probably kicking themselves over and over again. I saw signs last year that he was falling apart, so I avoided him at all cost this year. However, if you drafted Newton, it isn’t too late to pick up Kyle Allen. Most people in your league are going to get all twirly eyed about Daniel Jones. I believe Allen is the better option. Allen has something that Jones no longer has, for the time being. That is, he’s a running back that can catch short passes and break off long touchdown runs.

Look at the other quarterbacks who are scoring high points. Yes, they have good receivers, but nothing is easier on a young quarterback than being able to dump off the ball to a great running back and watch him take it to the house. Remember, if the quarterback throws it to the running back it doesn’t matter if the ball flies 60 yards to a receiver or five yards to a running back, either way the quarterback gets credited with a touchdown pass.

Additionally, Allen has big time weapons around him. Greg Olsen looked great last week and his receivers are getting better each week. For me, I’m higher on Allen right now. I’ll take the “wait and see” approach on Jones without Barkley.

**Wayne Gallman**

Wayne Gallman hasn’t seen much action in the first three weeks of the season, With Saquon Barkley sidelined with an ankle injury, Gallman should see a major increase in production, and is worth picking up if fantasy football leagues if possible.

Jason Mignaneli

Staff Writer
A little over a year after the release of a 10-episode season on Netflix, Matt Groening works his magic yet again with *Disenchantment*, season 2. The concept of an “adult” cartoon is not a new one — in fact, Groening has been whipping out animat ed shows for grown-ups since 1989 with the release of *The Simpsons*. Unlike Groening’s other creations, *Disenchantment* is a fantastical experience, full of magical creatures, somewhat noble quests and a kick-butt heroine.

Picking up right where season 1 left off, the main antagonist, Princess Tiabeanie, or Bean (voiced by Abbi Jacobson), finds herself in a new land far from her home of Dreamland. Consumed by guilt, due to the events of the previous season, Bean sets out to make things right. Recruiting help from her own personal demon-pal, Luci (Eric Andre), the two go on an epic journey, attempting to address her father in court, put on her own play or even help rule the kingdom, Bean finds herself being shut down by the old-fashioned men in her kingdom.

From the beginning of the season, Bean is established as a strong character, willing to take risks and go in a different direction. In fact, she is the one doing most of the rescuing. Bean is initially forced to show her father that the expectations set before her are ridiculous.

This time around, however, Bean is faced with the fact that she is not allowed to do everything a man can do in her kingdom. Whether it is attempting to address her father in court, put on her own play or even help rule the kingdom, Bean finds herself being shut down by the old-fashioned men in her kingdom.

Recognizing the issue of gender discrimination, Bean begins to fight back, but this issue is still not fully resolved by the end of the season. I predict it will continue to be dealt with during the third season.

My favorite part of this season was the ninth episode, titled, “The Electric Princess.” While *Disenchantment* is a fantasy show, this episode tackles the sci-fi genre, much like Groening’s other show, *Futurama*. While I hope this episode doesn’t permanently change the set-up of the show, it provided a great tone-shift for the season finale.

Overall, the second season of *Disenchantment* does not disappoint. Like with most Netflix shows, I found myself bingeing the new episodes as soon as they were released. Groening successfully develops his characters into dynamic individuals, capable of carrying their own subplot. Between Luci, Elfo, Bean and others, Groening fills each second with more than just empty humor. While the jokes are a constant, they are methodically woven into the dialogue, careful not to take attention away from the plot.

Bean’s father, King Zog (John DiMaggio), develops a stronger relationship with his daughter, while also dealing with a major heartbreak. Although his character is mostly used for comedy in season 1, audiences get to see a different side of Zog due to this new relationship with Bean. This adds some more emotional depth to the humorous cartoon.

What makes *Disenchantment* so different from other modern adult cartoons is its content. While there are some crude jokes thrown in here and there, a major social issue is brought up this season — gender equality.

From the beginning of the series, Bean is established as a strong character, willing to take risks and go against the grain. Although Bean is a princess, she does not fit the archetype of a damsel in distress. In fact, she is the one doing most of the rescuing. Bean is initially forced to show her father that the expectations set before her are ridiculous.

This time around, however, Bean is faced with the fact that she is not allowed to do everything a man can do in her kingdom. Whether it is attempting to address her father in court, put on her own play or even help rule the kingdom, Bean finds herself being shut down by the old-fashioned men in her kingdom.

Recognizing the issue of gender discrimination, Bean begins to fight back, but this issue is still not fully resolved by the end of the season. I predict it will continue to be dealt with during the third season.

My favorite part of this season was the ninth episode, titled, “The Electric Princess.” While *Disenchantment* is a fantasy show, this episode tackles the sci-fi genre, much like Groening’s other show, *Futurama*. While I hope this episode doesn’t permanently change the set-up of the show, it provided a great tone-shift for the season finale.

Overall, the second season of *Disenchantment* does not disappoint. Like with most Netflix shows, I found myself bingeing the new episodes as soon as they were released. Groening successfully develops his characters into dynamic individuals, capable of carrying their own subplot. Between Luci, Elfo, Bean and others, Groening fills each second with more than just empty humor. While the jokes are a constant, they are methodically woven into the dialogue, careful not to take attention away from the plot.

Bean’s father, King Zog (John DiMaggio), develops a stronger relationship with his daughter, while also dealing with a major heartbreak. Although his character is mostly used for comedy in season 1, audiences get to see a different side of Zog due to this new relationship with Bean. This adds some more emotional depth to the humorous cartoon.

What makes *Disenchantment* so different from other modern adult cartoons is its content. While there are some crude jokes thrown in here and there, a major social issue is brought up this season — gender equality.

From the beginning of the series, Bean is established as a strong character, willing to take risks and go against the grain. Although Bean is a princess, she does not fit the archetype of a damsel in distress. In fact, she is the one doing most of the rescuing. Bean is initially forced to show her father that the expectations set before her are ridiculous.

This time around, however, Bean is faced with the fact that she is not allowed to do everything a man can do in her kingdom. Whether it is attempting to address her father in court, put on her own play or even help rule the kingdom, Bean finds herself being shut down by the old-fashioned men in her kingdom.

Recognizing the issue of gender discrimination, Bean begins to fight back, but this issue is still not fully resolved by the end of the season. I predict it will continue to be dealt with during the third season.

My favorite part of this season was the ninth episode, titled, “The Electric Princess.” While *Disenchantment* is a fantasy show, this episode tackles the sci-fi genre, much like Groening’s other show, *Futurama*. While I hope this episode doesn’t permanently change the set-up of the show, it provided a great tone-shift for the season finale.

Overall, the second season of *Disenchantment* does not disappoint. Like with most Netflix shows, I found myself bingeing the new episodes as soon as they were released. Groening has truly proved himself to be a versatile writer, finding the humor in all different settings.
Claire Neibergh  
staff writer

Cambodian Rock Band rocked the City Theatre Company’s stage in Pittsburgh’s Southside. I saw this play on Sunday, Sept. 15 as part of my Social Justice in Educational Settings class in the School of Education. Directed by Marti Lyons, the performance was as electrifying as its title, as it creatively tells the story of the Cambodian genocide through the relationship of a father and daughter.

Going into the theatre, I had high expectations for what I was about to see because I am passionate about history and always find it interesting when history and entertainment are brought together. However, I did have my doubts because I was afraid upbeat music and flashing lights would make too much of a spectacle about a horrendous time in history which caused many to suffer.

The play tells the story of Neary (Aja Wiltshire), a young, enterprise woman, she is both the lead singer of her rock band and also an intern working to uncover the harsh realities of the Cambodian genocide. When her Cambodian father, Chum (Greg Watanabe), comes to visit her unexpectedly, she uncovers the dark tale of her family history. Lauren Yee, the playwright, stated in an interview with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette that, “In so many instances, when you hear stories about genocide or any kind of atrocity, your mind goes educational. All the pictures in your mind suddenly go black and white, sepia-toned, very sad. And I didn’t want to tell a story about victims. I wanted to tell a story about survivors.”

Because genocide is, needless to say, a far from comical event, Yee crafted her play by weaving the comedic lines into the relationships between the individual characters. The aspects of the play that were heavily based on the events of the genocide were taken seriously and even involved realistic fake blood and gunshots to amplify the effect on the audience.

While the sets and costumes were fairly simple, the show was a brilliant work of art. The music was original, catchy and had the audience singing along in a standing ovation at curtain call. As a pre-service teacher, theatre is of great importance to me, as it inspires us to educate our students to think outside the box and utilize the materials we already have to create art.

The most influential aspect of Cambodian Rock Band was the Asian representation. The Cambodian genocide is not commonly taught in American schools and Asians are not heavily represented in the media. However, it was incredibly heartwarming to see an entire auditorium of people gather to hear the story of an underrepresented minority. It also inspired me to implement diversity into my future classroom through the arts.

I highly recommend going to Cambodian Rock Band before the final show on Oct. 6. The play was a stunning example of how the arts inspire us to be braver than we can imagine. In two hours, the play embodied the concepts of a rock band, comedic interjections and familial relationships. It left my class in tears of both joy and sadness, as it unveiled the chilling, and underrepresented history of the Cambodian genocide. It gave us all a point of inspiration to create a socially just classroom environment in the foreseeable future.

Human Discoveries is Facebook’s hidden gem

Hallie Lauver  
managing editor

I need everyone to take a deep breath and just bear with me for a couple hundred words. I have recently discovered a show on, drumroll please … Facebook Watch. It is an animated series called Human Discoveries created specifically for this platform. Human Discoveries is exactly as it sounds - it is prehistoric humans discovering the world. The tagline for the show is “Go back in time with a group of friends who are trying to figure it all out, for the first time.”

It’s basically like The Flintstones got remade for modern viewers; the only difference is this show is much more crude. For instance in episode 2 titled “And then they got drunk,” the group of friends discovers what happens when you drink “rotten grape juice.” They get drunk and as a consequence, they also get to discover the first hangover. Welcome to the party, friends.

The two main characters Gary (Zac Efron) and Jane (Anna Kendrick) are in traditional roles for the time. Gary is a rather unsuccessful hunter and Jane is a gatherer, much displeased with her job. Efron and Kendrick are also both executive producers for the show. These two, displeased with their roles in the newly formed society, create the premise for the rest of the series. They desire to do more than “just survive” as Jane puts it (despite the fact that a minor character dies in nearly every episode by things totally avoidable like being eaten by a tiger or drowning in a river).

Jane is the rebel of the group, and Gary... Gary is like that nerdy dude in an 80’s rom-com that is funny and somehow manages to get the girl even though she’s ten times smarter than him. Gary and Jane muddle their way through dating, without any of the modern tools of dating. Like knowing what dating is, or what it is to be with someone exclusively. It’s funny in a primitive ironic way.

Though the main plotline revolves around Jane, Gary and their desire for more than survival, the minor characters are not forgotten and often have some of the funniest moments in the show.

My personal favorite character is Jane’s best friend Minerva (Jillian Bell). She’s sarcastic and by her own admission “only does things out of spite.” She steals the show with her one liners.

Another minor character is B-plot to this show follows two elk, Judy (Lisa Kudrow) and William (James Adomian) in search of a leader and a way to live in harmony with the humans.

The problem the elk have, is every leader they appoint creates an elaborate plan to interact with the humans, which ultimately ends in them being killed for food for the camp. However, Judy and William manage to avoid being hunted somehow. Human Discoveries is one of those shows that you put on when you need something mindless. So instead of watching The Office for the fifteenth time, try this out. Each episode is only around 25 minutes. The first season has 10 episodes, which could easily all be watched in a day.

The series premiered in July of this year, and there is no word yet on if a second season is in the works. Listen, I don’t know how we got here. I’m not sure how I discovered a TV show on Facebook. I didn’t even know they did that, but Human Discoveries is worth getting back on Facebook just to watch it.
Unhealthy food trends create health problems for Americans

Food — from page 5

plenty of research and public outcry. The time for action is now. In the US, alcohol companies have adopted policies wherein their adverts at least attempt to discourage underage drinking. There are also rules and regulations about alcohol commercials, such as distilled spirits having to require a stated alcohol content. Why should fast food companies get a pass on encouraging unhealthy eating?

The point is that these trends in Big Food are hurting our society, and they’re aware of it. While an unhealthy chicken and doughnut sandwich might be good occasionally, we should remember that’s it. These companies must take responsibility for their part in the obesity epidemic, for glamorizing this excess eating.

Social media channels further lies within cancel culture

Cancel — from page 5

toxic,” said Charles in his video titled “No More Lies.” “It’s very concerning to me that, as a society, we’re becoming okay with guilty until proven innocent instead of the other way around. I truly hope that everyone who participated in this...take the time to think about your words and the impact that they may have on others because I assure you and I promise you, it’s a lot stronger than what you may think.”

The biggest problem with cancel culture is its toxicity and escalation over mostly simple things. The best way to handle it is canceling the behavior, not the people. It gives celebrities no room for mistakes that people make every day. The idea of it is great: it gives people the opportunity to teach the youth what not to do, but it can turn ugly. The people sending out threats and unconfirmed facts are no better than the people making the mistakes.

Get updates instantly

Facebook
The Duquesne Duke

Instagram
@TheDuquesneDuke

Twitter
@TheDuquesneDuke

Online at
www.duqsm.com

Follow THE DUKE on Social Media

Advertise with us at a discounted rate!

Contact Madison Pastrick at dukeads@yahoo.com

This week’s weather

Thursday
75° Clouds and breaks of sun

Friday
79° Times of clouds and sun

Saturday
86° A t-storm in spots

Sunday
82° Clouds breaking for some sun

Monday
82° Periods of sun; very warm

Tuesday
87° Clouds limiting sun

Wednesday
86° Sunshine and patchy clouds

Courtesy of AccuWeather

Listen Live
24/7
DUQSM.COM/WDSR/
“If you’re interested in:

Internships
Scholarships
Conferences
& Networking

Join Duquesne’s English Honor Society
Sigma Tau Delta!

Email lynchk5
@duq.edu or visit
Dr. Mirmotahari
on the 6th floor
of College Hall!

SIGMA TAU DELTA
INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY

For Hire

Features Editor
The Duquesne Duke

The Duke is currently looking to hire a new Features Editor starting immediately. This is a paid position that is open to any full-time Duquesne student, but candidates with journalism experience are preferred. For those looking to apply, resumes and cover letters should be sent to olliegratz@gmail.com by Oct 3.

Layout Editor
The Duquesne Duke

The Duke is currently looking for a new Layout Editor starting in the Spring 2019 semester. This is a paid position that is open to any full-time Duquesne student, but candidates with graphic design and layout experience are preferred. For those looking to apply, resumes and cover letters should be sent to theduqduke@gmail.com by Oct 30.

Advertising Sales Manager
The Duquesne Duke

The Duke is currently looking for a new Advertising Sales Manager starting in the Spring 2019 semester. This is a paid position that is open to any full-time Duquesne student, but candidates with a background in advertising are preferred. For those looking to apply, resumes and cover letters should be sent to theduqduke@gmail.com by Oct 30.

Writers & Photographers Needed for THE DUKE

Visit us at the newsroom in 113 College Hall or email us at olliegratz@gmail.com

Duquesne University’s Society of Professional Journalism is recruiting new members!

Contact President Hallie Lauer for more details at lauerh@duq.edu

CLASSIFIEDS

Counseling

Anxiety, depression, & stress are things many people experience. Questions arise during transitions in relationships, jobs, and geographical moves. Find meaning & direction at PCA.

Pittsburgh Counseling Alliance, treating people, not disorders.

Contact:
Brandon Graf
412-440-5795
pittsburghcounselingalliance.com

Your Ad Here

Contact
Madison Pastrick
at dukeads@yahoo.com