

THE THIELENSIAN



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Hall and Rydberg shows own production

by Tina Kramer, TKram138@thiel.edu

On Sept. 9 and 10 senior Austin Hall and Dr. Pete Rydberg presented “Berlin Ist Gefallen” in the William A. Robinson Theater. The project was funded by the GNC Research Institute and was designed to educate audience members on the Weimar Republic during 1918 to 1933.

The performance was a one man show featuring senior Austin Hall as 11 different historical figures, including Anita Berber, Ernst Toller, Kurt Tucholsky, R.W. Darre, The Ghost of Rosa Luxemburg, Bertolt Brecht, George Grosz, Magnus Hirschfeld, Joseph Goebbels, Sigmund Freud, and Albert Einstein.

The speaking roles Hall performed were from original primary documents the characters he portrayed had actually wrote. The show lasted 90 minutes and was performed strictly from memory. The roles of each character were distinguished by outfit changes and different vocal patterns. The performance was complimented by visual aids, ranging from the name of the character currently speaking to photos that were relevant to the era.

“It was clear a lot of effort went into the performance, and the technology that showed the narrators’ names and dates helped people watching the show to follow along,” audience member and junior Jonathan Papa said.

An informational and question and answer panel followed each performance. Here Rydberg explained the process of choosing documents for the show to create a strong cross-section of viewpoints that represented the majority of Weimar Republic’s society. To represent technology and video of the time, the movie Metropolis played silently in the background. [cont. on pg.2]

GNC holds faculty and student research symposium

by Tina Kramer, TKram138@thiel.edu

On Friday Sept. 9 The GNC Faculty and Student Research Institute held a plenary session from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Students and faculty members presented research covering various topics and disciplines in 15 minute sessions while observed by their peers.

Dr. Kristel Gallagher presented her summer research on first-generation college students and health in her talk titled “Believing is Eating—Predicting Unhealthy Eating in First-Generation College Students.” Gallagher surveyed 101 Thiel students and found that first-generation college students were more likely than other college students to eat unhealthily.

Dr. Pete Rydberg and senior Austin Hall introduced their dramatic production, “Berlin Ist Gefallen” that was shown later that evening in its entirety. Students Alana Callahan and Amber Martin, mentored by Dr. Christopher Fonner presented “The Effects of Sex on Disease Susceptibility in the Red-Backed Salamander.” In their study, females were found to be more likely to be affected by disease than males.

Students Evan Youker and Korinna Sherman, mentored by Drs. Laura Pickens and Greg Butcher studied “The Cognitive, Behavioral, and Neural Consequences of Adolescent Nicotine Exposure in Adult Long-Evans Rats.” The results

of this study have not been fully analyzed, and more research may be conducted on this topic. “I am so thankful for the amazing research experience I received this summer through GNC. I learned so many useful skills that I will continue to use throughout my future career path in medicine,” student presenter Sherman said.

Senior Beverley Kozuch presented the findings of herself, Amber Martin, and mentor Dr. Delbert Abi Abdallah in “Neutrophil Killing Mechanisms of Listeria Monocytogenes.” They were able to conclude which treatment was most likely to kill neutrophils from their research.

“Thiel Electronics Camp:

Teaching Kids to Love Electronics” was presented by student Dylan Squires, mentored by Dr. Eugene Torigoe and Professor Ron Anderson. This project explored what kind of electronics interested students within the camp.

Dr. Marie Courtemanche talked about “The Gendered Disadvantage of Political Wrongdoing.” The project, inspired by the different ratings of Hilary Clinton as compared to Bill Clinton, found that males were judged more harshly than females in political situations, unless the female was ambitious, then this trend was reversed.

The keynote address was given by Dr. Marie Pollard, and examined “Local Field Poten-

tial Recordings for the Targeting of Deep Brain Stimulation Electrodes.” Pollard’s research is aimed to improve deep brain stimulation by increasing the accuracy of localization.

The presentations allowed students and faculty to present and learn about research happening within the Thiel community. “Seeing all the diverse departments working together under the GNC grants and coming together to present their findings was a wonderful experience for anyone interested in research,” junior Jason Takacs said.

Thiel welcomes Dr. Susan Traverso as newest President

by Hunter Michaelis, HMich813@thiel.edu

Thiel College is celebrating its 150th birthday this year, and this sesquicentennial is being celebrated with a variety of different events. One of these significant events is the appointment of Dr. Susan Traverso as the College’s 20th President.

The significance of her appointment goes beyond taking office during the 150th Anniversary. She’s the first female President in College history. The event was marked by several anonymous donations of \$150,000 when she took office Aug. 1. The only condition given for the donation was that it had to be used for the overhaul of facilities, which is still ongoing.



Susan Traverso was appointed as President over the summer.

Photo credit: Caleb McCracken

“I believe in the mission here,” Traverso said. “We have the right learning environment here. You can see this in class and with the co-curricular activities. There really is a development of the students for success. Many of the students here are first generation college students in their families.”

Before coming to Thiel, Traverso studied History and African Studies in college, and enjoyed being in the classroom. After college, she joined the Peace Corps, travelled, and learned some Arabic.

She completed her graduate work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and had a faculty career at Northcentral University, located in San Diego, California. She also had time working for the University of Redlands, in Redlands, California in a position that is similar to Dean of Students. Her final job before Thiel was Provost of Elizabethtown College, located in Elizabethtown, which is outside of Harrisburg. In this position, the Deans reported to her and she oversaw all educational programs.

“This position really gave me purpose – in a lot of ways, they’re just like Thiel,” Traverso said. “They have a very similar mission and values. One of Thiel’s greatest appeals is its small size. We’re like a small community. We’re not a univer-



Dr. Traverso meets members of the football team.

Photo credit:

Caleb McCracken

sity, and there are differences between the two.”

Traverso is a defender of the college degree, a card-carrying holder of the trivia fact that men and women who have college degrees tend to make \$1 million more over the course of their lifetimes, which is a sizable chunk of change.

One noticeable trend at Thiel is the retention rate – students sometimes leave after their first semester or year and transfer to another school. Traverso is leading talks and retreats with the faculty to figure out how to help students create a better fit that makes them want to stay at Thiel for the entirety of their education.

“The question is how can we make sure they get the most of their first six weeks?” She said, presenting a few solutions.

“We want to establish that

feeling of belonging, and remind them that if you continue to work better, you’ll get better. There are no ‘smart’ people, only those who continue working hard and practice. We believe in you.”

One solution they are working with is getting the upperclassmen involved, with a focus on the seniors. Seniors are not only the oldest students on campus, they found that fit and stayed for their final years. Traverso feels getting out there and talking with the freshmen and younger students will make a difference.

Part of her commitment with earning that college degree is reminding students that if one transfers, odds decrease heavily, to the tune of being cut in half, of that person getting their degree.

[cont. on pg. 2]

Thiel Forum of September

by Kiley Raskob, KRask490@thiel.edu

On September 15, 2016, the first Thiel Forum of the semester was held in Stamm Lecture Hall in Pedas at 4pm.

Dr. Mary Theresa Hall, Ph.D. led the event; introducing Dr. Dane Claussen’s “Working, Living, and Traveling in China,” Nicholas McNutt and Martin Black’s, “2016 Thiel College Neuroscience Bike Trek to Maine,” and Jennifer Shelley’s “Thailand: The Land of Smiles.”

Professor of Communications, Dr. Dane Claussen, Ph.D. began the forum talking about his experiences teaching in China. Claussen was old friends with the dean of the university he taught at. He had the opportunity to teach journalism there while living in a nearby hotel. Around the time when he first arrived in 2008, students at the university where holding a mock election to vote for either Barack Obama or John McCain. He had also shown many pictures of the university, hotel, cityscapes, museums, the zoo and other areas he had visited while living in China. This included the common occurrences of people selling fruit in the streets, reading the paper in the park, and a group of teenagers who wanted a picture just because Claussen was an American.

Nicholas McNutt, a neuroscience and psychology senior, and Dr. Martin Black, head of the Career Development Center, organized a bike trip with the Thiel College cycling club up to Maine from the school. “The trip was amazing. We met so many amazing and interesting people along the way,” McNutt said about the experience. They had help from a Thiel alumna, Fred Kiser ’11. The first day took the cycling club up to Mercyhurst College and they stayed there for the night. They spent the other nights on their trip camping along the way. They continuously biked through the rain, wind, and the cold.

[cont. on pg. 2]

English professor of 17 years promoted to Associate Academic Dean

by Kiley Raskob, KRask490@thiel.edu

Professor of English, Dr. Mary Theresa Hall, Ph.D. was recently promoted to the position of Associate Academic Dean.

After 17 years of teaching since she arrived in 1999, Hall is excited and thankful for the opportunity to work with both the administration and students of Thiel College in her new hybrid position.

Hall’s official responsibilities began on August 1st and she is now in charge of collaborating with the VPAA on all aspects of academic affairs, working with other colleges and schools, overseeing academic assessments, working with students on academic issues, serving as a liaison with admissions, and directing the new faculty orientation program. Her work with the Thiel forums and the

Student-of-the-Month Program will continue as an official part of her new position as well.

While her new position gives her a wide variety of new responsibilities, she is still currently mentoring a student for their DHI thesis and teaching classes in the English department. British Literature I, Literary Criticism, and an independent study in The English Language are the three classes she is currently teaching. Next semester she will continue to teach British Literature II and the English Language.

Hall has taught at a number of schools during her career as a teacher. After teaching high school for almost a decade, Hall went on to teach college at Seton Hill University and Kutztown University, where she also supervised student



Dr. Mary Theresa Hall, Ph.D., Associate Academic Dean and Professor of English

Photo credit: thiel.edu

teaching. Since she joined Thiel College she has served as Chair of the Faculty, Chair of the English Department, and on a number of other faculty and college committees.

Until this semester, Hall was the advisor of Sigma Tau Delta, the English honorary society. Sigma Tau Delta notably received the Smarty Pants Award on April 26, for being the most active honorary society on campus. Now that her duties as the associate academic dean are keeping her busy, she has given that position to Professor of English, Dr. Jared Johnson, Ph.D.

“Through her work with Sigma Tau Delta, Dr. Hall has enabled Thiel’s English majors and minors to create a visible presence on campus. I’m excited for the opportunity to carry on her legacy with a great group of students,” Johnson said when asked about his new role in the society. Hall still plans to be involved in Sigma Tau Delta’s events, especially

when it comes to their literary journal The Phoenix.

Dr. Hall wanted to give a special thank you to Dr. Lynn Franken as well. “Our VPAA has served behind the scenes on so many academic initiatives and encourages and challenges both faculty and students to do our best. I’m honored to work with her and the Thiel community as we propel Thiel forwards into its next 150 years,” she said.

The theme of this year is “Student Success” and as an English professor she enjoys having a theme to direct her work and that is also extremely important as a goal for the college. Dr. Hall is always happy to have new challenges ahead of her, and she believes this position will give her just that, for many years to come.



EVENTS AND STUDENT LIFE

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The One-Man-Show on WWII

[cont. from pg. 1]

Hall and Rydberg said that their production was designed to include Holocaust information and illusions yet they wanted to avoid making these elements a focus of the play. Though the audience knew the inevitable end, Rydberg and Hall wanted the audience to understand the development of this end in a dramatic way.

Pete Rydberg, Theater Director and Austin Hall, Senior on set of Berlin 1st Gefallen
Photo credit: Allen Morrill



New president comes to Thiel

[cont. from front page]

Sometimes, they'll finish later in life or work some other job, but the degree they were going toward with that institution tends to not happen.

"Students never insult any of us by talking with us. Most of the time, they should stay, but if you talk with us and we see it might be better for you to transfer, then we won't take it personally," Traverso said. "A car decreases in value as soon as you drive it off the lot, but a degree's value goes up. That's why you finish it."

In her other institutions, Traverso was known for what she called "sidewalk conversations." She would stop and talk with students as they walked along the campus. This puts her day behind, but this is one way of connecting with students.

One thing commonplace around college campuses is quite a few students don't know who the Dean of Students or the President are. Even if they know who they are, most don't enjoy a relationship with them in some form.

"I'm so impressed with the students I've met here," Traverso said. "I'm learning about their internships, research and their experiences. I want to learn more about them."

To achieve this goal, she plans on hosting events for student leaders at the President's House, such as those involved with ASG, and participating in activities. Traverso has already attended several Thiel sporting events, where she got to know some of the athletes.

She hopes to make the above an annual tradition, so

students can get to know others and celebrate their achievements. She'll host events during Homecoming weekend, and provide breakfast for those who participate with Phi Theta Phi's Walk-a-thon for the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, which she will walk in a little herself.

A mother of two, her daughter attends college in Ohio, while her son is still a senior in high school. The family still isn't living in Greenville, opting to wait until both kids are in the secondary education level.

"My husband and family are very enthusiastic about Thiel," Traverso said. "They want to be here. They have a big family commitment. It's because Thiel's a warm, supportive place."

Thiel College Police Blotter

Aug. 30: A student was arrested for public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

Sept. 3: One underage student found intoxicated.

Sept. 3: A fire extinguisher was sprayed inside Frat #2.

Sept. 7: A student reported a disturbance.

Sept. 9: A student reported being grabbed by unknown person(s).

Sept. 10: A student was found intoxicated.

Sept. 11: Three non-students were found and cited for underage drinking.

Sept. 18: A student was found underage, intoxicated, and transported to the ER.



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The Thielensian is Thiel College's student-run newspaper, funded by the Student Government Association. Our mission is to serve the campus community by publishing timely, fair, and relevant news, sports, feature stories, and other information, and to provide a lively forum for student expression and the opinion of others on campus. The Thielensian encourages letters to the editor of 300 words or less by traditional mail and preferably by email. Letters must be signed (no pseudonyms, please) and a phone number must be provided for verification. Letters must be free from offensive language, personal attacks, obvious errors in fact, and libelous or potentially libelous statements. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity, and we reserve the right to reject any letter. Guest columns, letters or other opinions expressed in The Thielensian are the views of the writer and don't necessarily reflect those of the staff and advisor or the college. Letters may be emailed to: Thielensian@thiel.edu

Staff Writers Wanted! If you are interested in writing for the Thielensian please contact Hunter Michaelis hmichaelis@thiel.edu or thielensian@thiel.edu



OPINION

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Experiencing study abroad: the Oxford Way

by Nate Flory, NFlory@thiel.edu

"Here at Oxford, you've got to think for yourself! That's the Oxford way." This was the mantra of the founder and president of the Oxford Study Abroad Programme (OSAP).

My reply, via thought, was something along the lines of "Thank you, sir, but don't tell me how to think."

This was a portion of my two-day OSAP orientation last May, as I spent six weeks studying abroad at Oxford University. I was one of about fifty American students going through this orientation process. Some were like me, the lone student from a small, private college. Many others were from larger state schools, the largest group being eight students and two staff members from Mississippi State University.

I cannot speak for the state schools, though I like to think

that, coming from Thiel, I am a fairly representative sample of the private college students when I say that I can already think for myself.

This is not for boosting my own ego but to honestly say that a Thiel education does challenge you to think for yourself. Just because this school is smaller than most does not mean it is any less effective at instructing its students. Every professor here is different, but from my experiences (mostly in the English and Religion departments), I have been allowed to think independently. The best way to get people to think for themselves is not to explicitly instruct them to do so but to implicitly create space which allows for such novelty and creativity.

Sure, Oxford has incredible resources, a big name, and



Oxford was the site of Flory's study abroad experience. Photo credit: Nate Flory

ed and allowed me to freely choose much of the subject matter I studied. Many of the English students I met were equally welcoming and accommodating, and they joked about their college's food services just like we joke about AVI.

Also important to note, the founder did have one thing right: the ability to think for yourself is one to be sought, cultivated, and treasured. In this age of fads, mass media, and peer pressure, it is critical that individuals shake the mob mentality and think independently. Let me emphasize that once more: on this college campus of so much peer pressure and silently imposed "norms," it is imperative that individuals possess the ability to think for and the courage to be themselves. As much as we—the students of Thiel Col-



The Oxford Study Abroad Programme, OSAP, gives opportunities to interested students. Photo credit: Nate Flory

lege—like to complain about this place, it will change you for the better if you take advantage of the opportunities it presents. If you aren't doing that, then what are you here for?

I would tell you to think for yourself and go against the crowd, but unlike the founder

of OSAP, I recognize the irony of telling a person to do that. Que sera, sera.

The Oxford Study Abroad Programme partners with a variety of colleges at Oxford University in England to allow American students to study there. Programs may be for full semesters or for as short as four weeks, and arrangements can be made for the study of any academic subject. Admission is on a rolling basis, but it is recommended to apply at least two months before your intended start date.

Despite a couple subpar days of orientation, my experience was extremely worthwhile, and I encourage anyone interested to speak with me or check out OSAP's website: www.osapabroad.com.

Finding your way as a Freshman

by Tina Kramer, TKram138@thiel.edu

As the school year begins, new students enter Thiel's student life and elder students move to new rankings, often taking on new responsibilities and activities.

Though all students feel this change in scenery, none are more aware of the changes than freshmen. Most are thrown into new environments with new people, different types of classes, and a new found freedom unlike what they have ever experienced before.

These changes cause many students to consider their possibilities, usually including the question: do I study or have fun?

The best possible option is to choose a balance both, yet too often this balance does not occur. Many students may admit that they have achieved a balance now, but that is only because they were off-balance in their first year and eventually realized that they needed a change.

Though this often happens in college and in life—after all, don't we learn by making mistakes?—there is a point where harmless fun becomes carelessness.

As a resident assistant, I hear about many unfortunate cases of carelessness, in which students become hospitalized, are arrested, or become emotionally hurt. We do need mistakes to grow, but does it have to reach this level?

As an incoming freshman, my sister geared me with all that I needed to know to succeed in school. I knew what kind of social interactions were safe, I knew how much time should be devoted to school work, and I knew where to look to find friends.

However, far too many new students come into the experience blind, leading to these incidences of poor judgement.

My advice, then, for the incoming students is to seek out reliable resources. Look to

people that act as role models and care about your safety. If something is illegal or is morally wrong, do not be afraid to say no. Each person is unique, which means that what one person finds fun another may find scary or irritating.

In general, we shouldn't judge other people for what they think is fun or the mistakes they had to make to grow into the person they are today.

Every person has things they did their freshman year or in life in general that they are not proud of; it is part of the growth that happens while you are in college. This is what school inadvertently teaches you: how to be you.

Still, new students should not consider freshman year as a free pass: the memories made and the habits created can carry through and follow students in later years. You only live once, so think twice.

The good and bad of DC's newest film

by Kyley Raskob, KRask490@thiel.edu

On August 5 of this year, DC Comics released the movie Suicide Squad; starring Will Smith, Margot Robbie, and Jared Leto. Suicide Squad was a highly anticipated film, but did it live up to its comic book reputation?

Suicide Squad is about a collection of incarcerated supervillains who are recruited by the government agent Amanda Waller to become a taskforce that can be used for good, or at least to assist the government in their dirty work. Since the members of the taskforce are villains, they are, therefore, expendable. The government then locks them back up when they aren't needed.

The movie was colorful and exciting, but there were three main points that I think carried the movie. First: the soundtrack. The music in this movie is not only great, but it also fits perfectly into the scenes. Many of the big names in the soundtrack include Eminem, Imagine Dragons, Skrillex, Twenty-One Pilots, Skylar Grey, Lil Wayne, and Wiz Khalifa just to name a few. Panic! At the Disco even did a cover of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody. The soundtrack added much more to the movie than most films accomplish.

The second part that added to the movie was Will Smith's performance of Deadshot. The character Deadshot is a hitman for hire who never misses a target. When he is first introduced in the film, we see both

his softer side with his daughter and the hardcore skills and cocky nature he exhibits when on the job. Deadshot brings in a humorous element that blends well with the darker nature of the film. As one of the center focuses of the film, Deadshot was a very successful character.

The final point that carried the film was Margot Robbie as Harley Quinn. It is no secret that every fan, including myself, was extremely excited for the film debut of the Joker's number one woman. Harley took on the look of her most recent comic book costume and brought a level of crazy to the film that might have otherwise been missing. Robbie's voice and actions successfully showed how crazy and sexy Harley could be, while also proving just how well she can handle herself. Her banter with Deadshot defines the slower parts of the film so you aren't missing the action.

While there were other good points to the film, mainly the other characters involved, there were points in which the movie fell short. While Jared Leto was no Heath Ledger, he still made an amazing Clown Prince of Crime with his psychotic portrayal of the Joker. His backstory and attempted rescue of Harley further defined her character and gave him purpose in the film. However, since many of his scenes were supposedly cut, we don't get to see a full

representation of his character. The Joker, like a few of the other characters, was given very little screen time. These characters weren't given the chance to develop in the film, and members in the audience who did not read the comics have no clue who these characters were or what purpose they had in the film.

The biggest issue I had with the film was the plot. When I say "plot," I really mean there wasn't one. At the beginning of the film, the characters were introduced and given a decent backstory (the characters that had a big part in the film at least). After this, the movie is haphazardly thrown together with a side mission that has absolutely nothing to do with the Enchantress (the villain). While she trying to take over the world, the suicide squad goes to save Amanda Waller with no orders or intention to take care of what the Enchantress is doing. It is only after Waller is saved that she gets kidnapped and they decide on their own to go save her.

While the movie had many great points and a few no-so-great ones, overall it was decent movie for DC Comics. Considering it only had Batman vs. Superman to live up to in 2016, I would say that this film was, overall, a success.

Thiel Forum

[cont. from pg. 1]

They averaged around 80-90 miles per day. It took them 10 days of biking to make it to Maine and they took a van to come back home. Overall, with the days they had off, it was a 14 day trip.

Jennifer Shelley received the Vira Heinz Scholarship and was given the opportunity to travel to a place of her choosing. She chose Thailand and spent a month there teaching and sightseeing. She stayed in a home stay in Bangkok with a Thai family. She learned a lot about the language and religion while she was there. "The discipline and education was something I had never seen before. Teachers are really appreciated and it was amazing to see that during their teacher appreciation day," Shelley said about her experience in the classroom. On the weekends, when she wasn't teaching, Shelley spent short trips at museums, temples, and palaces.

Dr. Hall finished the forum by thanking everyone for attending and announcing the upcoming forums. The next upcoming Thiel forum is on October 13th and is a good opportunity for both students and teachers to learn about different teaching methods used in the classroom. Dr. Hall would love to speak to anyone interested in participating in future forums.

Thiel College is known for its fantastic and dedicated faculty and staff, for its numerous trees surrounding Brother Martin's Walk, for its student-led organizations and its long-held tradition of striving to succeed.

What Thiel College is not known for is its dormitories and housing buildings. Thiel has come a long way in creating a new, better look for the campus with the construction of the Pedas Center, the construction of the new track and field complex, and the soon-to-come Science Wing renovation and construction project. However, student living quarters also need to be looked at and renovated.

Hodge Hall, a freshman, now handicap-accessible, dormitory was renovated in 2011. It is, according to some students, the nicest dormitory on

Thiel's campus.

"Compared to other dorms, Hodge was, structurally, much nicer to live in. The renovated dorm had carpeting that was still nice, even after housing students for over 5 years. Also having relatively new furniture that wasn't broken and beaten around was also a really nice thing to have," Evan Youker, current sophomore and Sawhill resident assistant, said.

"Sawhill is good, but older and could use some work, just like many of the other dorms especially Bane Hall" Youker said.

This sentiment was echoed by Ashley Torres, current junior at Thiel.

"I lived in Flo West my first year as a student and felt like I was living in an old building, because I was. It did the job, but, as far as a comfortable

living space went, I was envious of those who got to live in Hodge. They got the nice dorm, with carpeting and new desks while I was in what seemed like a cinderblock jail room with tile on the floor. I remember that some of the rooms had a few tiles missing. I believe that an overhaul of the dormitories would help the campus' retention rate drastically," Torres said.

Many students across Thiel's campus agree with this statement. When compared to other schools in Thiel's categorization of a private school, campus dormitories are drastically behind the times. Waynesburg University, Grove City College, and Westminster College have all undergone extensive building and renovation projects over the past decade. They have updated living quarters

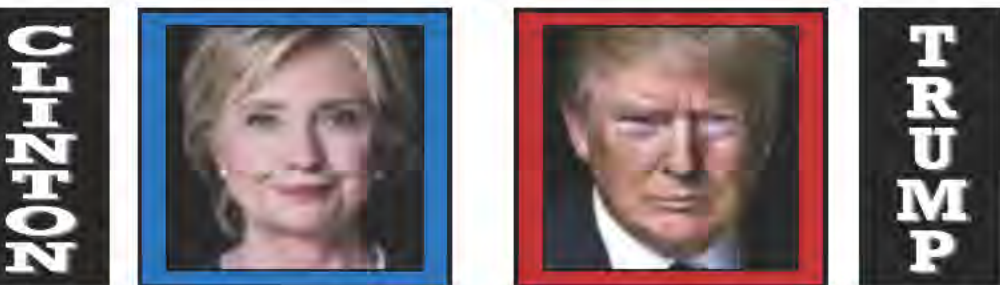
and constructed new buildings that give a new, nicer look to their respective campuses.

Ashely Hall, a current sophomore attending Waynesburg University said, "The upper-class dorms are newer and provide more spacious living than the dormitories at some of the other colleges that I looked at. It gave me something to look forward to rather than feeling like I would go down in status as an upperclass student."

"The dorms are mostly apartment style with as many as four people living in a space at a time. We each generally have our own living space as well in these dorms. Overall, I would say that Waynesburg has done a great job at putting money into improving, renovating, and constructing adequate living spaces," Hall said.

Many students feel as if they

Presidential Debate Watch Party



Join the Political Science Department as we watch the first Presidential debate

Come early for pre-debate comments and analysis

Pizza and Soft Drinks Provided!

DATE AND TIME
September 26 from 8:45 pm-10:30 pm

LOCATION
Stamm Lecture Hall - Pedas Communication Center

SPONSORS
Pi Sigma Alpha
Office of Student Life

The changes needed for dorms

by Austin Hall, ahall194@thiel.edu



TLC honors Fink and Radford for Extraordinary Effort Award

by Hunter Michaelis, hmichaelis@thiel.edu

The TLC Extraordinary Effort Award is given to two students by the Thiel Learning Commons, TLC, based on a nomination by a TLC staff member. The first winners of the semester are seniors Julia Fink and Camille Radford.

“I was really excited [to win the award],” Fink said. “I know people who had it last year. I like to think maybe I’m inspiring others and can pass my knowledge down to younger students.”

Fink, who is a triple major in Math, Actuarial Studies, and Business Finance, is a Supplemental Instruction, SI, leader for Principles of Accounting. In addition to leading these study sessions, she’s a member of the Business and Accounting clubs, serves as the Vice President of sorority Chi Omega, and participates in the Business and Accounting clubs.

“What makes her extraordinary is her flexibility and commitment,” said Nancy Katz, Professor of English and Coordinator of SI.

“She often subs for other SI leaders and puts aside her personal preferences for the greater good... She exemplifies the ideal SI leader, a facilitator of collaborative learning, helping students master not only their coursework but also improve their overall study skills,” Katz said.

Her performance in class has earned her membership in Kappa Mu Epsilon, which is the Math honorary at Thiel, and the National Society of Leadership and Success, NSLS. She adds to her student-assistance repertoire by working with the Thiel Student Support Network, TSSN.

“You don’t have to be failing to utilize the TLC,” she said. “B students should do it to get an A. You can be whatever you want at TLC, a tutor, a GPS leader. The TLC can help you be the best you can be.”

Fink is undecided about where to go after graduation, but is navigating toward employment in Business Finance.



Julia Fink, SI leader and Extraordinary Effort recipient. Photo credit: Prof. Noel Stanger

Radford, an English major with minors in International Relations and Public Relations, has participated in the TLC programs for several semester and has used her involvement to take on leadership roles.

“I didn’t know I was getting

it [the award],” Radford said. “It’s nice to get it and be recognized after the struggles I’ve been through.”

Deciding not to utilize the TLC early in her career, Radford failed a class and eventually failed out her sophomore year. She chose not to leave Thiel and successfully petitioned her professors via email to recommend her re-admittance.

During this time, she became close with Professor Noel Stanger, on both a personal and a professional level. Stanger coordinates the Writing Lab service of TLC. She would help Radford with social and academic issues. Stanger acted as the motherly figure Radford didn’t have at Thiel, who is a native of Baltimore.

“The TLC will work with you. Professor Stanger taught me about learning from failures to achieve success,” Radford said.

“I have never met anyone more tenacious and receptive



Camille Radford, a TLC leader and Extraordinary Effort recipient. Photo credit: Prof. Noel Stanger

than Camille is,” Stanger said. “She is practically a force of nature. Not only does she work hard, but she seeks out new opportunities and gets everything she can out of them, as she did by studying abroad in Asia last summer... With her deter-

mination, inherent optimism, and ability to think critically, I have no doubt that she will not only be successful, but will have a positive influence on the world.”

Radford is a sister of Chi Omega and works for the DocuCenter on campus. She is the President of the Photography club, and participates in the English, Arts and Equestrian clubs. In addition to her regular role as a Conversation Leader, she sometimes brings students in need of support to Stanger’s office.

In the future, Radford would like to write a book with her own photos on transferring zoos to sanctuaries and then donate the proceeds to sanctuaries.

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION (SI) & GROUP PEER STUDY (GPS) FALL 2016

Course/Instructor	Room	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Sunday
Supplemental Instruction Sessions						
ACCT 113: Accounting I (Oakes) Julia Fink Dana DePaulo (asst)	AC 40		8:30-10 pm			4-5:30 pm
ACCT 213 Intermediate Accounting (Witosky) Brittany Bates	AC 40		7-8 pm		7-8 pm	12- 1 pm
CHEM 140 Gen Chem I (Khalsa/Eppley) Chandler Daugherty	AC 108	7-8 pm			9-10pm	5-6 pm
CHEM 200 Organic Chemistry (Franz) Alexis Mowris	S 211	9-10 pm	9-10 pm		9-10 pm	
MATH 125 Quantitative Reasoning (Hecking, Gadola, Kim) Terri Eddy	AC 138		4-5 pm		7-8 pm	7-8 pm
MATH 181 Calculus I (Wu) Rebecca Adams	AC 4	8-9 pm		8-9 pm	8-9 pm	
PSY 270 Neuropsychology (Pickens) Nick McNutt	AC 201		8-9 pm		8-9 pm	3-4 pm
Group Peer Study Sessions						
CSCI 169 Data Structures (Anderson) John Clark	AC 35			8-9 pm		
PHYS 174 Physics I (C) (Torigoe) Mike Long	S-1		9-10 pm		9-10 pm	
PHYS 154 Physics I NC (Hecking) Mike Long	S-1		8-9 pm		8-9 pm	
PSY 150 Gen Psychology (Deets/Pickens) Mandy Slupek	Pedas 120	8-9 pm		9-10 pm		6-7 pm
Review Sessions						
SOC 121 Microsociology (Sutton) Libby Grasso	G 201				9-10 PM	
Test Review Sessions						
SPAN 151 Spanish I(Carlson & Thompson) Tasha Glaub & Samantha Deems				To be announced in class		
ECON 211 Macroeconomics (Shaffer) Desiree Totten				To be announced in class		
HIST 101 US History to 1877 Nick Sarratori				To be announced in class		

Supplemental Instruction (SI) and GPS (Group Peer Study) are a series of weekly review or study sessions for students enrolled in historically difficult classes. These sessions are voluntary, free, and facilitated by a trained peer leader who has successfully completed the course. All students who want to improve their understanding of course material and improve their grades are strongly advised to attend sessions for classes in which they are enrolled.

Dr. Svetlana Kulikova joins Communication staff

by Hunter Michaelis, hmichaelis@thiel.edu

The Department of Media, Communication and Public Relations welcomed a new face this semester, visiting assistant professor of communication Dr. Svetlana Kulikova (Dr. Lana).

Dr. Lana came to Thiel after learning about the open position from Dr. Dane Claussen, who she attended Kansas State University with from 1995 to 1997. She is currently teaching four classes, including Public Relations, Introduction to Integrated Marketing Communication, Communication and Gender, and Intercultural communication. Originally from Kyrgyzstan, Dr. Lana first came to the United States in 1995, almost immediately after graduating from the university back home. Once in the United States, she attended graduate school at Kansas State University until 1997, when she returned back home to Kyrgyzstan. She eventually came back to the United States in 2004 after spending seven years teaching Public Relations and Communications at American University in Central Asia and

working as a Public Relations Office director there. She returned to the States in 2004 to get her PhD at Louisiana State University. Dr. Lana’s first job in the States was as an assistant professor at Georgia State University. After spending five years working in academia, Dr. Lana left the field to start an independent literary agency that promotes Russian writers in the United States. Although most of her time is now devoted to teaching, she still maintains the literary agency on the side. In addition to her career, she has a fourteen year old son that she enjoys traveling and spending time with. “Since moving to the area less than a month ago, my son and I have already travelled to Niagara Falls and Cleveland. We hope to be able to start doing more weekend trips in our free time,” said Dr. Lana. Although she is new to Thiel College, Dr. Lana has already began to get to know her students and set goals for herself to accomplish this semester. “I like the size of Thiel College. It is so small and intimate and

I have the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with my students. It is a lot different than teaching at a larger, urban college,” she said. As for goals, she has two major ones. The first is to accomplish teaching two classes that are completely new to her. “It takes a lot of preparation to teach these new classes but I love learning. Developing new classes allows me to engage with students in a joint venture in the field of knowledge,” said Dr. Lana. Her second goal is to start a Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) chapter at Thiel. Dr. Lana’s office is located in the James Pedas Communication Center. If you are interested in the field of public relations, or simply wish to stop by and welcome her, be sure to visit her during her office hours, which are posted on her office window.

Thiel Football battles with Bison for PAC win

by Justin Felgar, Jfelgar@thiel.edu

The Thiel Football team had a titanic match on Saturday, toppling the Bethany Bison 57-47 in one of the highest scoring games Thiel has ever played.

The Tomcats, who did not trail Bethany during the match, ruled the field in turnovers, topping Bethany three to one.

Thiel executed a splash plays in the fourth quarter when LaRonald Smith burst through the Bethany line to block a punt, which he ran in for a 25 yard touchdown.

Thiel quarterback Ryan Radke threw a 64 yard touchdown on the next drive, which was answered by two more Bison touchdowns, putting the Bison within one field goal of victory.

Radke solidified Thiel’s victory when he scored a 37 yard rushing touchdown with 1:16 left in regulation.

Radke connected with Eugene Bailey in the second quarter to put Thiel up 20-7.

Chris Rossales drove the ball through the uprights for a 24 yard field goal to put Thiel up



Thiel Football defeated The Bison to get their first win of the season. Photo Credit: Thiel SID

23-14 at halftime. In the third quarter, Randy Groves capitalized on a fourth and two fumble by the Bison, giving the Tomcats a 36-21 lead at the start of the fourth quarter. Radke successfully threw 15 of 29 passes in the game, also running for 151 yards and two touchdowns.

Hicks gained 173 yards on four catches, including a 72 yard touchdown catch. Bailey caught a total of five pass-

es, two of which were touchdowns. Jake Elk, Tyron Bynum, Trey Andrews each made eight tackles on defense. Richard Proper intercepted two passes, one of which was his 29 yard pick-six.

The Tomcats will face the Geneva Golden Tornadoes on Saturday in Beaver Falls. Kickoff is scheduled for 3:00.