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THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF WESLEY COLLEGE

SEPTEMBER 2015



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Students and Faculty React to Federal Indictment of Board of Trustees Chair

By Brittany Wilson and Kristen Griffith
The Whetstone

Wesley senior Ashley McNeal heard about the indictments against several Wilmington Trust executives in the news, but when she realized the name in bold on the indictment was one of Wesley's board of trustees members, her eyes grew wide and she sat back in her seat.

"It just gives me a really icky feeling," she said. "I wouldn't want him representing a public bathroom, let alone my college."

Robert Harra, Jr., Wesley College board of trustees chair and former president of Wilmington Trust bank, was criminally indicted on Aug. 5 along with three other bank executives. The federal government charged him and the others with providing misinforma-



Najya Beatty-McLean/The Whetstone

tion to bank regulators, the government, and the investing public about the true financial state of the bank.

Despite the controversial allegations against him, Harra recently was reelected as chair of Wesley College's board of trustees for another term.

"They are two mutually exclusive things—the bank doesn't necessarily have anything to do with the school," McNeal said. "But what happened with the bank is a reflection of Harra's

integrity and his character, which does have to do with the school."

Harra is one of the highest ranking bank officials to be indicted and criminally charged, and if convicted, he will face significant prison time.

Harra's lawyer's secretary told the Whetstone that Harra's lawyer, Michael P. Kelly, was unable to comment.

"He has been busy preparing for trial," she said.

Junior Dru Sottnick

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New President Quickly Adjusts to Wesley College

By Kristen Griffith
The Whetstone

It seemed like Wesley College's new president, Robert E. Clark II, barely has enough breath to get out all he wants to say.

From tossing around ideas about Wesley College's future, to boasting about all the people he knows, it's tough to keep up with him.

"I am a fan of opportunity," Clark said. "I am a fan of potential. I am a fan of the Wesley College student body."

In his office, he can't hide the pride in his voice as he shows picture after picture on his computer of people he

knows, from members of the rock band Kiss to Michelle Obama.

"I really like how the photographer captured this picture of us," he said, referring to the First Lady.

In the picture, Clark is listening intently while Michelle Obama is speaking.

Clark officially became the 17th president of Wesley College on July 15 – and, he said, he couldn't wait for the students to move in.

"The college took on a whole new aura since you all have arrived," he said. "I haven't stopped smiling since."

Clark said the faculty,

coaches and administration are his family.

"I am even more impressed by the sense of family on campus," he said. "It's small and inclusive, and everyone knows each other by name."

Clark identified two staff members by name as he drove to his office in a white Buick, and noted how nice one was and how long the other had worked at Wesley.

"I like to be out and about," he said. Senior Rahson Morrison said he has never seen Clark.

"I hope he comes around more, like to

- JUMP to p. 2

Million-Dollar Gift Honors Retired President

By Emily Temple
The Whetstone

Last spring semester, the administration of Wesley College raised funds for a proposed \$1 million gift to the college in honor of retiring President William N. Johnston and his wife, Susan Johnston.

During May commencement ceremonies, Chris Wood, vice president for institutional advancement, announced that the gift would allow for the renaming of the Health Sciences building to William and Susan Johnston Hall.

"It's a big honor to have your name put on a building, so you want a gift that's high enough," Wood said.

The amount raised, \$1,027,490, was given in cash donations, pledges, and, in some cases, physical gifts to Wesley College. Donors included trustees, alumni, community members, faculty, staff, and businesses.

The honor of naming the Health Science building was given to the Johnstons, but Wood said the funds will support campus renovations and expansions, among other projects.

"When you give a gift to Wesley, there's three or four buckets that you can give to," he said.

Each of the 54 donors, with gifts ranging from less than \$100 to \$100,000, selected one of these "buckets" to determine their gift's purpose. Wesley's Student

- JUMP to p. 2

From p. 1 New President Quickly Adjusts to Wesley College

football games," he said. "I hope he interacts with the students, gets his name out there, and make everyone feel comfortable."

Morrison said he hopes Clark has some of the qualities previous president of Wesley, William Johnston, had.

"When you hear 'president' it makes you feel like you're in trouble," he said. "Johnston didn't make you feel like that. Johnston was cool."

Clark said he likes to watch sports practices and games. He said he does not have a favorite team – he's a fan of all of them and each of the players.

"You all put so much in your education, and you all put so much passion in the things you like to do," he said.

Freshman Shawny'e Jones and his football teammates were invited to Clark's house for ice cream during the pre-

season.

"It was a wonderful experience because a lot of people from higher up don't talk to people below them," he said.

After having a birthday dinner with his wife, Ruth Anne, on Sept. 1, Clark made sure to make it back to campus in time to see field hockey, soccer and volleyball games on the first day of the fall sport season.

"We made it to every one of the sporting events," he said.

Clark said he and his wife have sampled many Dover restaurants, but nothing compares to the campus.

"My favorite place is right down the street at



President Clark with his wife Ruth Anne

Kristen Griffith/The Whetstone

Wesley College," he said.

Clark said everything he does and will do is about the students. He even referred to Whetstone reporters as his daughters.

"You'll never find anybody that works harder and is more committed to the job," Ruth Anne Clark said about her husband.

He said he appreciated his wife's comment, "But the critique I want the most is from (the students)," he said.

Senior Taylor Lynch said Clark is already a

great president.

"I wish this wasn't my last year because I would love to see how much more progress he makes," she said.

Lynch said she likes how Clark shows his support

by attending her soccer practices and games.

"He's just a pleasant man to be around," she said.

Clark said he was concerned with the violence near campus, but said he has a plan to improve it.

"It is an opportunity to partner with the community and to be part of the solutions," he said. "We will move our family forward to help heal the community and make them partner and move forward with us."

Building a relationship with the community was one of the things on Clark's to-do list, he said. Another is to extend Wesley into the downtown area.

"It's all about what we can do to make [the student's] experience brighter," he said.

He said he is also looking forward to the future student activities center, which has yet to leave the planning stage.

"Great things await, and there is no doubt about that," he said.

Clark only spent two years at the previous institution (Penn State) he worked for, but said he is not leaving Wesley any time soon.

"This is not a stepping board for somewhere else," he said. "We came to be here for a long, long time."

Whetstone reporter Brittany Wilson contributed to this report.

From p. 1 Million-Dollar Gift Honors Retired President

Government Association donated \$10,000 into the Campaign General fund near the end of last semester. The primary focus of this fund is Wesley's Capital Campaign, the future Student Activity Center across Governor's Avenue.

SGA President Savannah Durham said she was optimistic about the new funding for the center.

"If an activities center is built, it would help students immensely," she said. "There's been talking about this for a long time, and I'm excited to see they are moving forward with the fundraising and planning."

Aside from the campaign's general fund, unrestricted donations may be made to the Wesley fund; or, money also may go toward a scholarship fund, which is invested and left untouched aside from interest earned; and restricted funds, which are specific projects designated by the donor to benefit Wesley.

For example, one donor contributed a gift specifically to put a new roof on Wesley's gym, while another funded the construction of a ramp to meet ADA guidelines at the campus chapel.

A unique gift, Wood said, was offered by a

retired woman seeking to honor the president and his wife through art. "Instead of giving us money, she chose to donate a sculpture in honor of the Johnstons," he said.

Dover woman seeking to honor the president and his wife through art.

"Instead of giving us money, she chose to donate a sculpture in honor of the Johnstons," he said.

The donor commis-

sioned the sculpture, which is to be installed in the South plaza and dedicated this fall, as an homage to Susan Johnston's interest in the arts.

"Susan really engaged the Dover community," Wood said. "Susan was fully engaged with the downtown businesses,

this possibility there was never any question that it should be for both Bill and Susan."

Gifts to Wesley during the 2014-15 school year totaled just under \$2.8 million, up more than \$2 million from 2009's \$675,000. Wood attributed this not only to the opportunity opened through Johnston's retirement, but to increased efforts by administrators to raise money for student life.

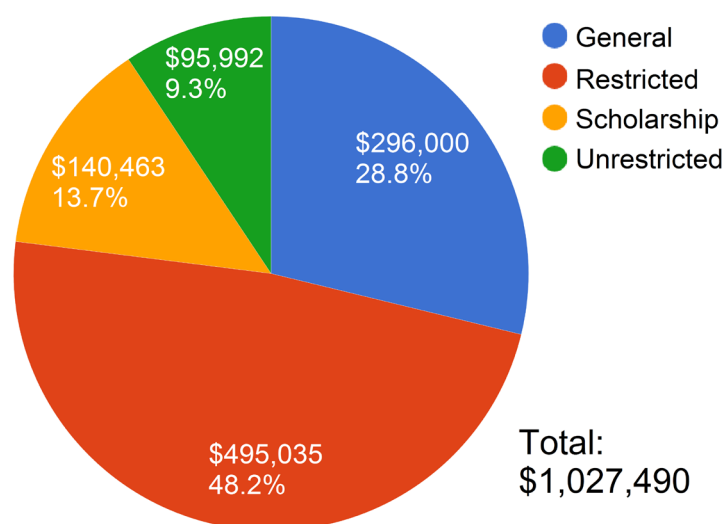
"Any way we can improve our facilities, and particularly facilities that will directly impact students—that's residence halls, and some type of activity center for students—those are the highest priorities that we have right now," Wood said.

Dru Sottnick, SGA representative of the junior class, said she believes the impact of the gift is yet to be seen on campus.

"The way it's been laid out should've been explained," she said. "I don't see any differences on campus."

the arts community, and some of the social circles in Dover, and she was promoting Wesley College in that process. Both for me personally and for members of the board of trustees, when we started talking about

Presidential Gift Breakdown



Pie chart of the million-dollar gift allocations

Emily Temple/The Whetstone

The limited information students have received regarding the purpose of the gift also frustrated Sottnick.

"At graduation, they said the gift is naming the building," she said. "But the money didn't really go to doing that, so why would they say that?"

Durham agreed.

"I can understand the secrecy, because they were trying to surprise Dr. Johnston with the naming of the Health Science building," she said. "I do wish that we had known more about where the money was going, so that congress could have been more informed."

Wood admits there was no report to SGA aside from a letter of thanks sent to the board, but he is willing to speak further with the association about how this funding is being used.

"Wesley has really been working hard to raise additional gift support for our school," he said. "It's helpful for the students, and it's helpful for the college."

From p. 1 Students and Faculty React to Federal Indictment of Board of Trustees Chair

said it is unfair for the college to allow Harra to stay when so many other staff members have been let go for less serious reasons.

“We let all these people go, but then someone like this can still be here and no one has said anything to him,” she said. “This guy is risking jail time for his involvement in some huge scandal, and yet last year, certain people from the history department were told they needed to leave and they didn’t do anything.”

Political Science professor, Dr. Anthony Armstrong said other members of the board could be persuading him to step down behind closed doors, but support him in public.

“I remember when a major story about Wesley College and the administration appeared in the News Journal during the 1990s, the board voted confidence in the current president,” he said. “Behind the scenes, they already determined to ask the president to step down.”

Armstrong said he hopes the same process is happening with Harra.

“If nothing else, I think reports of numerous donors and alumni would move them in that direction,” he said.

Senior Rahson Morrison does not think this is any of the student’s business.

“How does this affect us as students?” he said. “It doesn’t. Our opinion

doesn’t even matter. I don’t even know this guy, so my opinion definitely doesn’t matter.”

Morrison said Harra does not deserve to lose his position over this.

“People underage drink here all the time,” he said. “Are we about to kick them out? No.”

English professor Susan Bobby said that although the school cannot force Harra to resign, he should consider stepping down as chair for the sake of the college’s reputation.

“I just think he should want to resign as that figurehead so people don’t associate the word ‘fraud’ with the college,” she said. “If he feels he needs to remain on the board until he is proven guilty because he is maintaining his innocence, fine—just step down from the chair position and let someone else be the chair in the meantime.”

Senior Keroll Newby also said someone else

“I wouldn’t want him representing a public bathroom, let alone my college.”
- Ashley McNeal

should take his position.

“There are many people who are certified and trustworthy enough to care about this job title,” he said. “Robert Harra should not be holding such a prestigious position that requires trust after he has proven to not be trustworthy.”

he would take the initiative to step down as chair until he was done with the indictment process,” she said.

Dr. Cynthia Newton, professor of political science, said a board of trustee member is responsible for the overall vision and existence of the college.

“They approve major policy changes, capital projects and donate funds,” she said.

She said they also approve the budget and promote the college, as well as other things.

But the chair has other important responsibilities.

“The chair of the board of trustees presides over board meetings, serves as adviser to the board

and president, and represents the college at ceremonial occasions,” she said.

Newton said he helps with the negotiation of larger projects, fiscal matters, and other community-business

relations.

Harra’s name was included in 15 of the 19 indictments, including conspiracy to commit fraud related to the purchase and sale of securities, conspiracy to defraud the United States, and making false statements to regulators and the SEC.

The statement released by Delaware’s Department of Justice said, “Harra encouraged the ‘waiver’ of past due loans,” which hid the poor health of the bank’s loan portfolio so people would continue to invest.

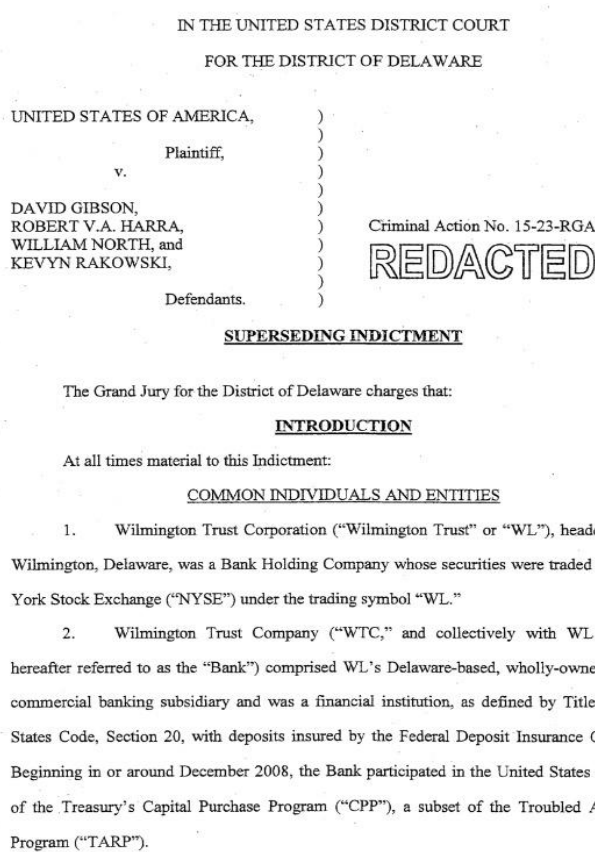
Special Agent in Charge Scott Hinkley of the Delaware FBI said in a press release that deliberately concealing information from the government and the investing public is a serious offense.

“These aren’t victimless crimes,” he said. “Those who committed them will be held accountable.”

When M&T bought out Wilmington Trust, shareholders lost 46 percent of their shares’ value overnight. About 600 employees lost their jobs.

McNeal said Harra’s willingness to profit from other people’s expense is a true expression of his character.

“Bad decisions don’t make you a bad person,” she said. “But bad decisions do make you an untrustworthy person, especially when you have affected that many people.”



Federal indictment document

Dr. Patricia Sherblom, professor of physical education, said Harra is making the college look bad by remaining chair of the board.

“Even though he’s innocent until proven guilty, it would be nice if

New Turf Named After Football Coach

By Brittany Wilson
 The Whetstone

Wesley College witnessed more than the football team’s opening home game win against Christopher Newport on Sept. 19.

During a pre-game ceremony, Wesley’s new field was unveiled and dedicated to Head Football Coach and Athletic Director Mike Drass. Dover’s mayor declared Sept. 19 “Mike Drass



President Clark presents Coach Drass with gift before football game.
 Joyrenzia Cheatham/TheWhetstone

Day.”
 That afternoon, the

44-24 victory over CNU was Drass’ 200th career

win—making him one of 15 active coaches from any division to achieve such a record.

Drass, who is in his twenty-third season as Wesley’s head football coach, said he never expected to receive such an honor.

“I was surprised,” he said. “I still really don’t know how it came about.”

During Drass’ years as head coach, the football team received four

Lambert-Meadowland Trophies, was named ECAC Team of the Year six times, and played the NCAA tournament 11 times. The team is currently ranked fifth in the nation for Division III college football.

At the post-game reception, Drass credited his success to family, friends, players and fellow coaches—specifically Coach Knapp, who has coached alongside

Q&A with Dr. Tony Armstrong, Political Science Professor

By Raiisha Jefferson
The Whetstone

Raiisha Jefferson:
Where are you originally from?

Tony Armstrong: My father was in the Air Force. I was born in an Air Force hospital. I grew up in southern Idaho, in a small place called Emmitt.

RJ: What year did you graduate high school?

TA: I graduated in 1970. I graduated from San Clemente High School in San Clemente, Calif.

RJ: What made you come to Delaware?

TA: A job offer at Wesley.

RJ: How long have you been working at Wesley?

TA: I'm starting my 25th year here at Wesley.

RJ: What made you start teaching the Happiness class?

TA: I wanted to figure people out. My undergraduate degree was in psychology. And I



Dr. Tony Armstrong in his office

Raiisha Jefferson/The Whetstone

learned they had interesting theories, but I don't really think there was much insight to be gained. I discovered I found politics and social theories more interesting.

RJ: Do you think your Happiness class benefits your students?

TA: I think it makes them more aware of what's going on inside them. A lot of change from insights about happiness will only come later. I have had some students who have told me it's a big impact on their life. A number of

them have agreed with me happiness should be taught in a number of schools.

RJ: What made you begin looking into psychology?

TA: I've always been interested in happiness as a core human pursuit. And I asked if happiness is important and if it's important in schools. And that led to thought and research and eventually writing a book on teaching happiness in schools. I had an awakening in the Nineties, which led to my first book called the Love

Star.

RJ: What is your ultimate goal in teaching your class?

TA: Ultimate happiness. Practically speaking, eventually I want to be involved in promoting happiness education.

RJ: Were there any people who inspired you to pursue psychology?

TA: I think I always wanted to do that as a kid.

RJ: What are your plans for the future at Wesley?

TA: I would like to continue teaching the Happiness class and I'd like to perhaps expand it.

RJ: How would you like to expand the course on Happiness?

TA: I would like to teach more sections or have related courses to Happiness such as other Humanities classes. A long time ago, there was a course on Happiness in psychology. My course is in psychology, philosophy and politics.

RJ: What kind of topics

would you teach if you expanded your course?

TA: There would be topics related to the pursuit of happiness. For example, I thought of teaching a course on love. Or a course on mental practices related to happiness. I also wrote a book on the philosophy of love.

RJ: What are your thoughts on the school? Does it affect what you talk about in your classes?

TA: They hired me to teach political science. Whether I like it or not, that's what I have to teach. I haven't been able to convince anyone to teach that happiness is important.

RJ: Are you a part of the political science department?

TA: For the longest time, I was the political science department. The new core allows interdisciplinary courses and the Happiness class is listed under humanities.

Four Academic Departments Change Curriculum

By Brittany Wilson and
Kristen Griffith
The Whetstone

Senior Dylan Kaplan is happy about the changes to his major, Multimedia Communications.

"It shows that we're trying to improve," he said.

Multimedia – which used to be called Media Arts – is one of four Wesley College academic departments that revised or completely revamped their curriculum. History, Philosophy and Religion, and Kinesiology also modernized and restructured several aspects of their programs.

All the changes went into effect this semester. Aside from the name change, Multimedia Communications also added specific concentrations. The History program lowered their credit requirements and added several new

classes. Philosophy and Religion got rid of old courses and added new ones. And Kinesiology added two new programs.

Dr. Jeffery Gibson, interim vice president of academic affairs, said it is just a matter of good timing.

"Because the old core overlaps so much with major requirements, almost all departments on campus have made some change to their program, in order to reflect the new core curriculum," he said. "Because there is so much happening right now, it is an opportune time to make those sort of changes, the whole faculty is in a mode of curricular restructuring."

Multimedia Communications

Changing the name from Media Arts to Multimedia Communication was important, said Dr. Tery Griffin, Chair of the department.



Dr. Griffin

Dakota Smith/The Whetstone

"Media Arts is an old name," Griffin said. "It's now all about multimedia. We've been a multimedia program for a long time. This is the name people Google when they are looking for a program like ours."

Aside from the main program, Multimedia Communication has added Multimedia Storytelling and Digital Media concentrations.

"Multimedia Storytelling is designed for writing and publishing, whether print or digital materials," Griffin said. "That one has a heavier

focus on writing."

Kaplan said he wants to pick up Digital Media as a concentration.

"I want to do communication in sports," he said. "Digital Media is more toward broadcasting."

The Digital Media concentration is for students who like "creating and manipulating" video, audio, photography or things on the Web.

"It has a heavier focus on production," Griffin said.

Griffin said it has been 20 years since the program had any major changes. They started out using analog cameras, and dark rooms.

"The world has changed a lot in 20 years," she said. "We just want to make sure our students are prepared for the current environment."

Griffin said recently-hired Professor Ron Douglas brought new

skills to the table, including animation.

Douglas said he can do stop-motion animation and motion graphics.

"Animation is fun to teach and is very time-consuming," he said. "You spend eight hours and you only get eight seconds."

Douglas said he is



Ron Douglas

Ron Douglas

looking forward to the animation class.

"It's always interesting to see what students do," he said. "Once you show someone how to do it, it doesn't take that long for

From p. 3 New Turf Named After Football Coach



Drass Field at Scott D. Miller Stadium

Wesley Athletics

Drass for the extent of his tenure and all 200 wins.

Football captain, Craig Pettit, said Wesley's football team is lucky to have Drass as its coach.

"We are fortunate to have amazing coaches that help us become better athletes and better men," he said. "Coach always talks about us being student-athletes. Education is why we are in college, football is a privilege."

Football players are not the only athletes who benefit from Wesley's new field. Men's soccer, women's soccer and the women's field hockey teams also share the turf.

Wesley senior and field

hockey captain Morgan Seymour said the new turf was well worth the wait.

"The new turf is great," she said. "We definitely needed it because of the amount of wear and tear it gets from all the athletic teams that use it daily, both in and out of season."

Drass said the college and surrounding community made good use of the old turf, but it was definitely time to invest in something new.

"I think anyone who saw or played on the field over the last 2-3 years could see that it was deteriorating," he said. "It was a great field in 2004 and we certainly

got our mileage out of it for the past 11 years."

Wesley invested in the FieldTurf Revolution system—a "premier synthetic turf system," advertised as having the highest player safety and performance ratings.

Seymour said the turf is an ideal surface for field hockey because it allows the ball to move faster and smoother.

"It looks great too, and it gives the athletes that use the turf something to be proud of," she said.

Wesley's cross country and track and field coach, Stephen Kimes, said the new turf will definitely change the game for athletes.

"A soccer ball will

roll slower on new turf versus old worn down turf, and in field hockey the ball will roll faster," he said. "The football guys might not be running quite as fast as they would on the shorter surface."

Natalie Trujillo, junior nursing major and soccer player, said the new turf was necessary for the sake of athletes' health.

"Now players do not have to worry about getting serious bacterial skin infections," she said.

"Infections occurred often with the old turf since it was inhabited with MRSA (staph infection). It is not abnormal for turf fields, especially old turf, but it should

have been changed years ago."

Drass also said the field is safer.

"The field now is the best thing from a safety standpoint for our student-athletes to play on and certainly more pleasing to the eye for our fans to see and enjoy," he said. "We wanted to have the best field we could possibly have, and we got it."

Kimes said the field looks great.

"It's beautiful turf and it's a beautiful field," he said. "I know the athletes are excited about it."

Faculty Member's Promotion Causes Shift in English Department

By Evan Le'Mon
The Whetstone

Dr. Jeffrey Gibson believes the mission of everyone who works for Wesley College is to make it the best place possible for the students.

"I don't think I'm alone in that mission among the faculty, and I know I'm not alone in it among the staff," Gibson said. "Everything that we do here is for the benefit of the students."

This year, Gibson was named Wesley's Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs. A faculty



Dr. Gibson sitting in his new office

Kristen Griffith/The Whetstone

member in the English department, Gibson was promoted to Associate Dean of Academic Affairs in 2013 under

then-VPAA and Provost Dr. Patricia Dwyer during her reorganization of Academic Affairs.

"I learned a lot about different aspects of the

college and the way that it's run from an administrative perspective," Gibson said. "It was interesting to see from the perspective of someone who had to coordinate with a lot of different departments across campus instead of in the classroom."

While a professor, he played an important role in the development of the Scholar's Day program, the Honors Program and the new core curriculum. He also contributed to the periodic review report for Middle States in 2009.

According to Dwyer,

Gibson was a "wonderful asset and colleague."

"He came to the position with great experience as a faculty leader, and I knew he would bring many talents, skills and experience to Academic Affairs' administration," Dwyer said.

In June of this year, Dwyer resigned from Wesley and is now teaching graduate students in educational leadership and helping develop an online Ph.D. program in higher education administration at Notre Dame of Maryland University.

"My family and I have

- JUMP to p. 8

It's never too cold for Ice Cream!



This month, the winner of the "5 Program" will receive a Gift Certificate to MomMom's Ice Cream Shop 900 E. Division Street, Dover, DE



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From p. 4 Four Academic Departments Change Curriculum

them to do it.”

History

Dr. Anthony Armstrong, professor of political science and Chair of the History program, said changes needed to be made.

“(The changes) reduced the number of required history credits from 48 to 36,” he said. “And it reduced the number of specific required courses.”

Armstrong said Wesley’s required credits for history had been high compared to 21 other schools similar to Wesley.

He said 33 credits was the median, 42 was the highest and 27 was the lowest. Most of the school’s history program required courses outside of history, unlike Wesley’s.

“The 48 credits here required nothing but History and American Studies, but that’s basically History,” he said. Armstrong said the goal was to create a balance. A history student can now choose a concentration between U.S. History or World and Regional History.

“It creates a new flexibility,” he said.

Armstrong said the

program is no longer allowing 200-level classes to be taken at the 300 level. And new 300-level classes will be added.

Five classes were eliminated, and several added, including “In Search of God and Self,” “Money and Sex,” and “Tyrants in World History” at the 300 level.

Armstrong said he and the department, which voted on the changes, want to make things better for History majors.

“I think students will find many of the interesting courses they’ve taken were special topics,” he said. “Now there will be a lot more interesting courses in the catalog for them to take.”

Philosophy and Religion

Because of the new Common Core that was implemented last year, the religion class that all students had to take was eliminated. The new Core’s second level classes, however, include four sections, one of which is called Philosophy and Religion.

The department eliminated all of its 100-level courses—“Literature of the Old Testament,” “New Testament” and “World Religions”—

which were made obsolete by the new Core. The “Historical Jesus” was also deleted.

The Philosophy and Religion Department created new courses to replace those which were



Dr. Mask

Kristen Griffith/TheWhetstone

deleted, including, “The Torah: Law and Tradition,” “Prophets and Social Justice,” “Jesus, Gospels, & Canon,” “Paul and the Early Church,” and “Introduction to Black Theology.”

“I think these changes strengthen the major in Philosophy and Religion,” said Dr. Jeffery Mask, professor of religion, philosophy, and American studies. “We have more offerings from which students may choose what they take, and some provide more depth of knowledge.”

The department has developed two new

courses at the 100-level, which will double as First Year Seminars: “Nature and the Supernatural – Intersections of Religion and Science,” and “Sacred Story: Myth and Scripture.”

Dr. Alban Urbanas, chair of the Philosophy and Religion department, said the courses introduce freshmen to new ways of thinking, whether they be philosophical, religious, or both.

“These courses stimulate interest in what philosophy and religion offer,” he said. “Students learn to see life through different lenses and begin to recognize all of the benefits of learning how to think critically and conceptually, rather than in a narrow way.”

Mask said the departmental changes are bittersweet.

“The new Core is better in some ways than the old one, but at the same time it is weaker in others,” he said. “In developing the new core the faculty focused on skill sets to the exclusion of everything else.”

Urbanas is positive about the changes.

“It gets us thinking about what we have

done well in the past so we can apply that in the future, and considering new opportunities, new kinds of courses, and new collaborations with other programs,” he said.

Kinesiology

The Kinesiology department’s Pre Physical Therapy program was implemented this semester. This major will provide students with the prerequisite courses necessary to apply for a graduate level program in physical therapy.

The Kinesiology department also is instituting a similar undergraduate program for pre-occupational therapy, said Barbara Abbott, associate professor of kinesiology.

“The pre-OT program will serve as an avenue for those students who know as freshmen know they want to be a licensed occupational therapist,” she said. “You can’t just graduate from high school and get into the master’s program, you have to take the prerequisite courses at the undergraduate level first.”

Q&A with Coach Tracey Short, Associate Athletic Director and Head Field Hockey Coach

By Lily Engel
The Whetstone

Lily Engel: Where are you from?

Tracey Short: I am from Vienna, Md., Dorchester County

LE: What do you do like to do outside of the classroom?

TS: Hang out at the pool...dogs, and go to sorting events

LE: How do you expect your season to go?

TS: I would say I expect them to get better every game and to compete for the win – not going to say we’re going to win all the games, but were going to be competitive. Were just so young.

LE: How many seniors



Tracey Short sitting in her office.

Lily Engel/TheWhetstone

will you be losing this year?

TS: Seniors Renee Schneider, Meghan Groom and Kayla Fro-

mal.

LE: Favorite thing about the job?

TS: The kids. It’s great to see them learn new

things and come together as a team and watching them grow.

LE: Where did you graduate?

TS: Salisbury University

LE: Did you play any sports in college?

TS: Field hockey, softball and basketball

LE: What was your major?

TS: Physical Education, K-12

LE: What are you teaching at Wesley?

TS: In the Kinesiology department, Administration and Organization of Sport and two activity

classes, bowling and individual and dual sport, and an AS 198 class

LE: Favorite show?

TS: Big Bang Theory- I love it

LE: Favorite food?

TS: Peanut butter and jelly

LE: Do you have any pets?

TS: Yes, I have two dogs and a cat, Piper, Stix and Zooey

LE: History with the field hockey team when you were at Salisbury?

TS: When I was in college, we went to the Final Four three times and won the national championship my sophomore year at Salisbury.

LE: Do any of your ex-players continue to play field hockey?

TS: Absolutely, we have a summer league in Dover with about 18 teams, and of the 18 teams, 14 of them have an ex-Wesley College player on them.

2015 Fall Sports Update

By **Brittany Wilson**
The Whetstone

Football



Alex Meza prepares to snap the ball during the game against Christopher Newport.
Joyrenzia Cheatham/TheWhetstone

The Wesley College football team is off to a winning start, with a 3-0 record this season. The team dominated its first game of the season on Sept. 12, winning 44-3 against Frostburg. The team won 44-24 the following Saturday on the new home turf—Drass Field—in a game against Christopher Newport, earning Coach Drass his 200th career win.

Football captain Craig Pettit said the team has a very close bond, both with their coaches and each other.

“I came to college knowing that this was the experience I want-

ed,” he said. “As a team we [consider] ourselves family—a band of brothers who will always have each other’s backs.”

Wesley’s football team—which has not experienced a losing season in twenty-six years—ranked in the top 25 for the fifth year in a row in D3Football.com’s Top 25 preseason poll and, in July, joined the New Jersey Athletic Conference. For the first time in the football team’s history, the Wolverines have a chance at an automatic qualifier for the NCAA Tournament.

Pettit said he is excited to see what the team can do this season.

“My favorite part about playing for Wesley is our winning tradition,” he said. “I

am looking forward to wearing that jersey that says Wesley across the front, and representing the school and the community.”

Field Hockey

After winning their first game of the season against Immaculata 3-0 on Sept. 1, Wesley’s field hockey team has struggled to hit the back of the goal—scoring only six times over the course of nine games.

Field hockey captain Meghan Groom said the team made 27 shots on goal against Immaculata, and scored three times.

“This is a huge improvement from last year,” she said. “Having this many shots and winning our first game is a big momentum builder.”

Field Hockey Coach Tracey Short said there are no disappointments, just lessons learned.

“We have a very tough conference and our non-conference schedule is also highly competitive,” she said. “It is always a challenge when you lose large classes of seniors and we lost seven good players last year.”

Groom said despite the number of new players this season, the team is full of talent.

“There is talent in the defense, mid field, and forward lines which

makes the team solid,” she said. “This year we are depending on everyone to win. It is not up to one person to score, it is up to all the players.”

Team captain Kayla Fromal said the team is like one big family off the field, but communication on the field could use some improvement.

“As a team I feel like we should work on communication—knowing where everyone is on the field is key to winning games,” she said. “We have been working hard in the offseason and preseason to be the best team we can be this season.”

Last season, the team almost made it to the CAC Playoffs. Team captain Morgan Seymour said this year they hope to make it all the way.

“My hope for this season is to improve upon last year’s season and, of course, ultimately make it to post-season,” she said. “Our schedule is tough, but that will only force us to continue to improve each day.”

Groom said reaching play-offs is the team’s ultimate goal.

“I know that it is not always about winning, but to win is the best feeling in the world,” she said.

Volleyball

Wesley’s volleyball team has started off strong this season, winning 10 of the 15 matches they have competed in so far.

The team’s new coach, Lindsay Miller, said the team will focus on game strategy and becoming smarter, more efficient players this season.

“We want this to be a “Next Level” kind of season,” she said. “We want to build on the talent that we already have and become a stronger, more cohesive unit.”

The team’s overall winning percentage is .667, which is progress, Miller said.


“The team has hovered right around .500 in the past and we’d really like to improve upon that, as well as become more competitive in our CAC conference.”

Wesley’s volleyball team only graduated one senior last year, and has returned its top four hitters from 2014 this season.

Team captain Megan Marshall said the team is working on running a more consistent defense to better fuel its offense.

“My hope for this season is to win more conference games than last season,” she said.

- JUMP to p. 8

 Academic Support Seminars for Academic Success FALL 2015		
ALL WESLEY STUDENTS WELCOME TO ATTEND! Seminars begin promptly at the scheduled time.		
Sept. 28 th - Oct. 2 nd	MyWesley account	MIDTERM GRADES!
Wed. Sept. 30 th 12pm & 2pm	FL12	"Lions, and Tigers, and Math, Oh My!" <i>Identifying and Managing Math Anxiety</i>
Thurs. Oct. 1 st 2pm	FL12	"Midterm Crisis? You're Not Stuck with Those Grades" <i>A Look at Midterm Grades and How to Recover</i>
Tues. Oct. 6 th 2pm	FL211	"Sweaty Palms, Racing Heart: It's Not Just Love?" <i>Identifying and Managing Test Anxiety</i>
Wed. Oct. 7 th 6pm	FL211	"Unraveling the Mystery of the Thesis Statement" <i>Writing Workshop: Thesis Statements</i>
Thurs. Oct. 8 th	South Plaza (or College Center Lobby if it rains)	"Majors & Minors Fair" <i>Come see what major & minor fields are available at Wesley and talk to people who know about those majors & minors!</i>
Mon. Oct. 12 th - Tues. Oct. 13 th		FALL BREAK - NO SEMINARS
Wed. Oct. 14 th 12pm & 2pm	FL12	"Not Just for Games; Use that SmartPhone to Get Smarter" <i>Academic Apps for your Phone</i>
Thurs. Oct. 15 th 2pm	FL211	"Remembering Almost Everything Forever!" <i>Brain Based Memory Techniques</i>
Tues. Oct. 20 th 2pm	FL211	"Taking Charge: Improving Test Taking Strategies" <i>Test Taking Strategies</i>
Wed. Oct. 21 st 6pm	FL211	"A Comma Conundrum" <i>Writing Workshop: Comma Usage</i>
Thurs. Oct. 22 nd 2pm	FL211	"Saying What You Mean & Meaning What You Say." <i>Coping with College: Communication & Relationships</i>
Tues. Oct. 27 th 11AM & 2pm	FL12	"Can your Resume Make it Past the JUNK Pile?!" <i>Basics about Creating & Improving your Resume</i>
Wed. Oct. 28 th 12pm & 2pm	FL12	"How to Find the Best, Not the Most" <i>Using the Internet for Academic Research</i>



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From p. 7 2015 Fall Sports Update

“We had a very new team last year with a lot of freshman so we have definitely learned how to work together better.”

Cross Country

At their first meet of the season on Sept. 12, the men’s and women’s cross country teams competed at the University of Delaware Invitational. The men’s team earned a seventh place finish, and the women’s team made ninth place. A week later, the women placed sixth out of eleven teams, and the men placed eighth out of nine teams at the Seahawk Invitational.

Wesley’s cross country coach Stephen Kimes said he wants to see the men stay in the mid-pack and the women move upwards toward third or fourth place.

“We’ve got to get better at pack running,” he said. “We have disparity in talent, so it is a challenge to get all of the women running closer to Dieunise Desir and the men running close to William Taylor. We need to bring everyone closer together, but keep the top runners still running fast.”

Last year, Dieunise Desir was the fourth Wolverine in program

history to earn multiple All-Conference selections, finishing 16th in the CAC Championships. Kimes said he would like to see her make All-Conference for her third year in a row.

“We have the goal in mind that she be all-conference all four years, which is a rare feat in our conference,” he said. “On the men’s side, we have a very talented newcomer, William Taylor Jr, and we are hoping that he will be all-conference also.”

This year, the team hopes to improve upon its sixth place CAC standing this season, bringing them into the



Chelsea Marriner winds up to take goal kick

Ryan Sanders/TheWhetstone

top five for 2015.

Women’s Soccer

Wesley’s women’s soccer team is 3-4-2, after winning three, losing four and tying twice so far this season—scoring 18 goals over the course

he said. “Last year, we finished just short, losing a tough match with Mary Washington University 1-0. Mary Washington earned the last spot in the CAC tourney and made a run to the

of eight games they played.

Team captain Kerri Pagnels said she is looking forward to a successful season.

“Every practice and every game everyone puts in 100 percent,” she said. “Wesley women’s soccer is always considered the underdog for our conference, so my hope this year is to prove everyone wrong and have a winning season.”

Women’s soccer coach Edward Muntz said last year the team narrowly missed the CAC playoffs but qualified for the ECAC Tournament.

“The goal each year is to make CAC playoffs and compete with the best in the conference,”

conference finals.”

Team captain Megan DeFalco said the team’s greatest strength is their work ethic and cohesiveness.

“Last season we had a pretty good record, but we had to work hard for it,” she said. “This season I hope to be even

both of which are something we have never lacked,” he said. “We have a talented group of young guys that have not played for us before so we need to learn their strengths and weaknesses and build on them as well.”

Dina said the team



Adrian Brice attempts to dribble around a player from Widener.

Kristen Griffith/TheWhetstone

better than the last— we may have to train harder and put in a little extra time, it will all be worth it in the end.”

Men’s Soccer

Wesley’s men’s soccer team is 3-5-1. The team has scored nine goals.

Team captain Robert Dina said the team’s greatest strength is their speed and physicality.

“Playing in one of the toughest conferences in the country we have to be fast and physical,

is looking forward to conference games this season.

“Every game we play is an important game, but conference games are played at a much higher level of intensity,” he said. “Last season was a disappointment missing the playoffs and it did not sit well with us upperclassmen so we don’t want to be in that position again this year.”

From p. 5 Faculty Member’s Promotion Causes Shift in English Department

been living in two different cities for six years, travelling back and forth between Baltimore and Dover,” she said. “My partner and I both decided that life is short and it was time to live in the same house again.”

While Dwyer knew she was leaving Wesley’s Academic Affairs department in good hands, the position has not been without its challenges. Although one of his stipulations for accepting the associate dean position was the ability to teach at least one course per semester as well as a summer course, Gibson had to temporarily give up teaching due to balancing the duties Interim VPAA.

“I think, particularly at a school like Wesley,

it would be great for everyone who had the background to be faculty to also be in the classroom,” Gibson said. “I can see the danger of being an administrator and losing touch with the students. The primary work that we do here is in the classroom. I’ve already been in contact with the head of the English department, and I’ll be back in the classroom this spring.”

For the time being, the other professors in the English department have picked up the slack. Dr. Linda De Roche is teaching Gibson’s Shakespeare class. Taking this class on has required some shifting of her own classes.

“I loved my schedule for the fall,” De Roche

said. “There wasn’t a course that I wanted to give up, but we needed to adjust and make it possible for Dr. Gibson to take on the administrative assignment. I was the best-placed person to teach the Shakespeare class, so I had to sacrifice.”

The only real disadvantage has been giving up her Gender Studies class, she said, which she passed on to Chelsea Vest, Wesley’s student outreach coordinator.

“It’s given me a heavier workload,” says Vest, who is also a full time graduate student in Women’s Studies and Psychology. “But I look at it as more of an opportunity than anything. It’s giving me the chance to teach a class in my

field of study, so I’m just thankful for the opportunity.”

At the semester’s first full faculty meeting on September 21, four representatives were elected to a search committee for a full-time VPAA. Wesley’s new president Robert Clark will also appoint one member of the cabinet, and one member of the board of trustees to this committee. A chair will be elected from the faculty group before the search begins.

Gibson said he hasn’t come to a decision on whether he’ll apply for the full-time position. However, he says he can see the benefits the position would have.

“In some ways, it might make teaching a class that much easier,”

Gibson said. “I wouldn’t have to balance the duties of both Interim and Associate Deans as much. Anywhere I am, I’ll always keep being a member of the faculty central to my professional identity and my relationship to the college.”

De Roche said she is willing to continue to fill in for Dr. Gibson until he’s able to return.

“That’s what you do at a small college,” De Roche said. “You shift to make certain that the ball isn’t dropped, and you want your colleagues to have the opportunity to grow. This is his opportunity, and I wouldn’t have wanted to stand in the way of that. We have each other’s backs around here.”