
THE PROFILE

Agnes Scott College's Independent Student-Led Newspaper — Friday, February 1st — Volume II

Most Innovative College?

Staff Writers: Elinor Davis '21 & Isabella Barbuto '21

In September of 2018, U.S. News ranked Agnes Scott College as the “#1 Most Innovative School” in the country, and also honored it with “#2 Best Undergraduate Teaching.” While students are proud to see Agnes Scott recognized, some are questioning just how “innovative” our campus really is.

Generally, while students were very proud to have Agnes Scott's teachers recognized, the other title, “Most Innovative...”, has inspired some confusion, as many students are not seeing innovation in daily campus life. Structural issues in the dorms have become impossible to ignore, and with no solutions in sight, students have become increasingly frustrated, leaving them to dispute the title and question the transparency on campus.

First-years living in Winship have been plagued with grout worms since the beginning of the semester, and many of their air conditioners are filled with mold and dust from previous years, as they have not been replaced since the dorm's inception. Across campus,

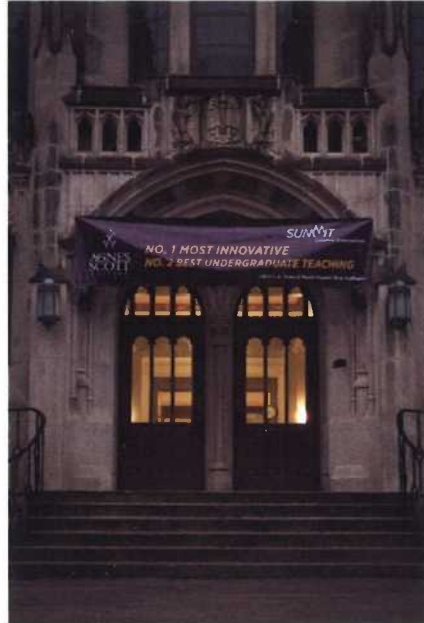


Photo by Joann Lee '20. Buttrick Hall proudly hangs a banner that reads “No. 1 Most Innovative. No 2. Best Undergraduate Teaching.”

upperclassmen in Main Hall have a bit more on their plate, including, but not limited to, cockroaches, leaking roofs, inoperable elevators, and unsecured stairs. Students who chose to live in Main were made aware of its lack of air conditioning, but these other structural issues were not part of the deal. Saul Lewis '21 was promised alumni housing, but was later moved to Main with his therapy cat, Rose, who became sick in the heat of the building. Luckily, Saul was allowed an air conditioning unit to keep his pet healthy, but other students were not able to solve their issues with the building.

On move-in day, Tristan Campbell '21 fell down the stairs in Main after she stepped on an unsecured stair and landed on her foot, leaving her with an injury that took more than two months to heal. During this time, Tristan was not able to walk without assistance and could not use the stairs, so when the elevator in Main broke, she was unable to attend class.

The issues in Main Hall are many, and they're growing. To many students living in Main, these issues are something they can't walk away from. They still fear walking up the steps and are acutely aware of the shaky structure of their rooms, but to all those living in discomfort, there is good news: the college has a master plan for its campus, and goal number one of five is the renovation of Main Hall. Associate Vice President for Global Learning and Leadership Development, Elaine Meyer-Lee, addressed this issue. “President Zak has a bit of a fire in the belly about this. She's heard you loud and clear. It's a top goal and it was a main topic for the trustees,” said Meyer-Lee.

The president is not the only person who is adamant about fixing the issues in Main Hall. Dean of Students Karen Goff has expressed her thoughts about the renovations of Main. “Every single issue that has been put through Residence Life and Facilities has been addressed,” said Goff.

Additionally, Goff credited the beginning of the process of renovating Main Hall to the Student Government Association. "SGA took that up as one of their key focuses and initiatives, and they wrote a resolution which they presented to the cabinet, and I have to say, the cabinet responded very positively," stated Goff.

While the "Most Innovative..." title can be confusing if one lives in a dorm that is crawling with mold or spitting brown water, the innovation that Meyer-Lee discusses is about the larger picture of Agnes--of the amount of work that went into the SUMMIT program and the work that is yet to come. "There is a different spirit here," said Meyer-Lee. "We continue to innovate." Students need to know that the directors of the SUMMIT program are aware of its imperfections and issues, but they are taking them into account moving forward and take student evaluations extremely seriously. Meyer-Lee and her colleagues expect SUMMIT to need reworking; after all, it's a very young program. The graduating class of 2019 will be the first to experience SUMMIT for its full four-year duration.

"It's a combination of the content of SUMMIT and the process by which we implemented it--and are still implementing it--that models responsiveness and nimbleness," said Meyer-Lee. "I think the boldness of the program itself and the story of how it came about and the speed it came about is what makes Agnes innovative."

When asked the reason for the SUMMIT program's implementation into the Agnes Scott curriculum, Meyer-Lee explained that "these days, the kinds of things that students and parents expect and

want in a college is a wide range of services and programs," and that these exciting, engaging programs are required for schools to grow and gain more prospective students each year. Agnes Scott needed to enter itself in a competitive pool in order to grow, and the SUMMIT program was developed in order to meet this goal. "We needed a more distinctive, compelling answer to *why Agnes Scott?*"

Now, we have the answer. Agnes Scott is number one for innovation on U.S. News, a website frequently visited by students and parents searching for prospective schools. In order to determine these rankings, administrators from various schools are selected to provide diverse and knowledgeable perspectives on what makes a place successful. These administrators then vote on which schools deserve to win each title, and although there is no formal prize, the benefits are clear. "This name recognition for Agnes Scott elevates opportunities for all of the students and all of our graduates," said Meyer-Lee .



Photo by Joann Lee '20. A light post in the quad proudly displays a SUMMIT banner.

Agnes Scott College hopes to grow in the years to come in a physical sense, too. For the 2019/2020 academic year, the college hopes to enroll about 1,110 students. Although the campus currently has an issue with housing space, this growth is still possible while Main Hall is being renovated,

and Goff was clear about how the college would be able to house 300+ additional students. "We're going to acquire the rest of [Avery Glen], and we've already met with the varied constituent groups--myself, Res Life, Finance, and the property manager for Avery Glen to ask, 'how many apartments will we need, and how many additional spaces that will give us.'"

As much as the student body might have been reacted with initial disagreement with the title of "Most Innovative School," the administration, and particularly the president, according to Goff, believes that "the student experience [should] be everything you would imagine in an innovative college. Main has risen to the top as our #1 priority for fundraising."

Despite all of the chaos and distress regarding residence halls and questions surrounding the innovation of Agnes Scott, the administration has been exceedingly open to discussion with students and expressed that they want to be as transparent with us as possible. Something Scotties often overlook is the willingness of our administrators to tell us the truth, and while at many institutions, information is actively hidden from students, our administrators have been more than happy to let us know what's going on and are able to address and calm our frustrations. All we have to do is ask.

Opinion: The Mind Behind Harry Potter Is Actually Problematic

Staff Writer: Abbie Cox '21

It was my freshman year of high school when I picked up "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" and dove into the magical world. From the moment I opened the book, I joined Harry, Ron, and Hermione on their journey to Hogwarts castle. We sat next to Hermione as Harry shot after the Golden Snitch on his Nimbus 2000. We tiptoed through Hogwarts castle under the invisibility cloak, and we listened to Ron and Hermione argue in the Gryffindor common room. Reading "Harry Potter" was attending Hogwarts. Reading "Harry Potter" was like going home.

Now, years later, I open Twitter to find J.K. Rowling revealing new facts about the series. Rowling, the eminent author of the "Harry Potter" series, continues to create the world twenty years after its publication by uncovering new facts and expounding on the current narrative of "Harry Potter." Many fans of the series are excited to read each new fact she tweets about.

There are many elements about the books that Rowling mentions she wished she would have changed, and she tweets many details about the story that are not mentioned in the novels.

For example, Rowling sorted Harry's son, James, into Gryffindor, and Teddy Lupin, son of Nymphadora Tonks and Remus Lupin, into Hufflepuff.

She also explained why Harry named his son after Snape, which was controversial in the epilogue of *Deathly Hallows*. Rowling explained that Harry hoped to be forgiven after all the deaths in the Battle of Hogwarts by honoring Snape and naming his son Albus Severus Potter.

Another exciting fact she announced was that there is no tuition at Hogwarts.

Rowling even apologized for killing off Remus Lupin. This blew up on Twitter, with around 130,000 likes and almost 100,000 retweets.



Illustration by Jim Kay by Bloomsbury Publishing Plc 2017, from *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* - Illustrated Edition.

At first, it was exciting to hear about "Harry Potter" outside of the series, and Rowling revealing new facts about the series maintains the hype and the presence of the novels. However, twenty years later, it is less authentic, less informed, and driven by an attitude that seeks attention and almost demands controversy.

Rowling's misuse of Twitter to update fans with new details about the already-established canon of the "Harry Potter" universe has created a frustrating atmosphere that makes me less excited about the original narrative.

Her habit of inserting plot-points into the series after its publication began in 2007 after the release of *Deathly Hallows*, the final book in the series, when Rowling announced that

Dumbledore is gay. This idea seemed like a reasonable storyline at first, as Dumbledore's sexuality was always vague. He had a close relationship with his friend Grindelwald as illustrated in the final book, but it was never clear whether the relationship was platonic or romantic. Rowling's clarification, although delayed, seemed sensible.

I soon realized, however, that this rubbed me the wrong way. All of the romantic sub-plots in the series involved straight couples, and there were only implications of Dumbledore's potentially romantic relationship with Grindelwald. Despite the somewhat intimate relationship between Dumbledore and Grindelwald, many people could interpret that relationship as purely platonic. So my question is, why not make Dumbledore's sexuality explicit from the start?

In addition, the debate over Hermione's race began around the time the cast of "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child," was released, and Hermione was set to be portrayed by a black actress. Many fans deliberated over this, and Rowling, in her response, did not confirm Hermione's race. "White skin was never specified," said Rowling on Twitter. This tweet implied she had never considered Hermione's race, and it inspired fans to research the matter, coming up with varied conclusions.

The broader issue surrounding this discourse is that fans are recognizing the lack of diversity in the series. As a response, Rowling continues to tell fans about a number of LGBT and Jewish characters that are apparently in the series. However, none of these details are transparent in the books, and are only retroactive responses to this new discussion of diversity and inclusion. Although most characters'

racers are not explicitly defined in the books, people tend to assume they are white, unless stated otherwise. Consequently, fans notice the lack of diversity and Rowling feels guilty about it, hoping to fill in these holes by communicating with her fans and showing her enthusiasm about a diverse "Harry Potter" world.

Rowling wants to be inclusive. The problem is, she is twenty years too late.

Another recent controversy revolves around the new Fantastic Beasts movie, "Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald", set 70 years before the first "Harry Potter" book. In the trailer, released in September 2018, a new plot point was revealed: Nagini, the evil snake that is Voldemort's partner-in-crime and Horcrux host, was once a woman. Rowling calls her a Maledictus, a human who can shapeshift at will, but is cursed to one day remain in animal form.

This new character is played by Claudia Kim, a South Korean actress and model. After turning into a snake, this character will become Nagini, a slave of Voldemort. As seen in many tweets directly addressing J.K. Rowling, making a minority woman turn into a snake that is enslaved by a white man has caused an uproar, being that this woman is one of the only minority characters in the books.

Overall, it would be better for Rowling to admit that marginalized characters are underrepresented in the books, as they were written in the 90's, when she was young, and that after realizing this, she will use this experience to improve her future writings. A simple statement like this would make more sense.

With each new tweet or statement about "Harry Potter," she is getting more attention and more controversy, but I think it is time for Rowling to let "Harry Potter" go.

The Eggplant

Staff Writer: Bethany Velarde '22

Campus Ghosts Turn Attention to Haunting Bullock after Walters Residents Cast Circle

"On Friday night, Scottie first-years decided enough was enough. 'The third-floor ghost spilled yogurt on the hall carpet,' said Ashley R. 'I'm tired of cleaning up after someone else's mess.' Ringleader Ashley gathered the first years via GroupMe to hold hands outside Walters and send the ghost out. *The Eggplant* reached out to the Ghost who responded via ouija board: 'imlactoseintolerant.' By Monday morning, Bullock blackboards showed clawing chalk marks, but walls appeared unyogurted."

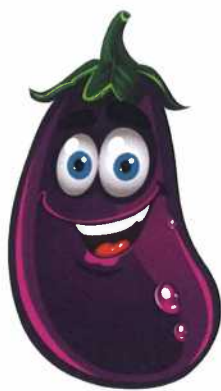


Photo from ClipartMax.com illustrates a smiling eggplant.

Bike Profile

Staff Writer: Isabella Barbuto '21

Leonard



Photo taken by Abbie Cox '21 of Isabella Barbuto '21 as she hangs out with Leonard in between classes.

Bike #2*, Leonard, is full of angst. Pedaling him is a whole thing in of itself. It doesn't matter what gear you switch him to; going up that one hill on your way to work is going to be just as tough on gear 7 as it is on gear 2. He wants you to have a tough time and enjoys reminding you just how weak your thighs are, no matter the "muscle" that they appear to have on display. While Leonard is one of the more temperamental bikes offered to the students at Agnes Scott College by McCain Library, he is a loyal comrade, always ready to go even in the darkest rainfalls Decatur has to offer. Go take Leonard for a ride. As much as he seems to resent going out and leaving the comfort of his rack, he truly does get excited to go on a trip. Just make sure to bring him back before lights out.

**You can check out bikes at McCain Library. Visit the Circulation Desk for details.*

An Introduction to Student Government with SGA President, Amira Daugherty '19

Staff Writer: Bethany Velarde '22



Amira Daugherty '19 pictured in the purple SGA blazer. Photographed by Sharon Gurung and featured on SGA Instagram: @ascsga

Agnes Scott's Student Government Association is not only about the students holding positions on the Executive Board and General Body, but is concerned about all students, according to their webpage. But few, if any, ever show up at their meetings. When asked about this, students answered that either 1) they did not know when meetings are and that they can attend, or 2) they know about SGA meetings, but because they take place on Friday when they get out of class for the weekend, they never consider attending. Friday afternoons, according to one first-year, are "prime nap-time."

According to SGA President Amira Daugherty '19, it is SGA's hope that these feelings might shift in 2019. Her driving goal for this year is to

"SGA cares." To achieve this vision, SGA is increasing their use of social media and communications to convey have students feel like they are "a part of that process," and to bring "transparency and awareness" to everyone on campus.

However, to many students, the realities of SGA, the weekly meetings and signature Agnes "thoughtful conversation" that contributes to proposals and other successes, are still a mystery. To clarify the functions of Student Government, Daugherty has answered a few questions about her experience on SGA.

Are there any little-known facts about SGA?

SGA achieves a lot of its goals through Bills and Resolutions. A bill is something we draft to affect an issue we have direct jurisdiction over (i.e., providing sanitary items to students, the Onyx Ring Bill, and standing in solidarity with the living wage campaign).

Resolutions are written when we don't have direct power over an issue but want to affect change (e.g., mandatory diversity and inclusion training for faculty and staff, closing the college on religious holidays and Election Day, and providing jobs to international students). If you as a student want something resolved by SGA, you can always come to us and let us know; your voice is truly our priority.

Are there any initiatives you would like to highlight from SGA?

We worked to pass a lot of legislation last year, between the Onyx Ring Bill, our resolution to help commuters, the work we did to co-sponsor events, chartering organizations, charitable work, etc. But a lot of our best work is yet to come, as we are working

diligently now to secure campus jobs for international students, provide free sanitary products to students, create a mandatory diversity and inclusion training for faculty and staff, and to provide more affordable books for our students.

Have there been any memorable moments in SGA?

This may sound cliché, but every meeting I've had with SGA has been memorable. There have been some passionate debates, silly moments, and moments of triumph. I remember once when we were discussing placing cameras in the library for student security, we ended up extending our meeting time to work out the nuances and make sure we were taking into consideration both security and privacy. I remember feeling a lot of pride in how much these students cared about every little detail.

How long have you participated in SGA and what have you learned?

I have been an active participant of SGA since my first year, but I have been an officer for two years. Through SGA, I've learned so much about service in action, goal setting and priorities, and how to work on a diverse set of issues. I have also had the great privilege of learning a lot about my fellow Scotties, and what helps them feel included and comfortable in our space.

Ultimately, Daugherty wants to "leave Agnes better than [she] found it" through her work on SGA. In order to do so, Agnes students need to feel be empowered to be present for the process, because as long and untimely as their meetings are, SGA makes decisions on our behalf. Through social media especially, SGA is taking steps to inspire students to participate by providing profiles of their members and increasing awareness of their meetings. And when we attend

meetings and understand the functions of SGA, we strengthen the Agnes community. So this semester, consider foregoing your nap and heading to Campbell on a Friday afternoon, even if you do end up daydreaming during the roll call. You might just dream up a more welcoming and open-minded process for change.

*For more information, visit the Student Government Association webpage:
<https://www.agnesscott.edu/dos/student-involvement/student-government-association.html>*

The Profile

Published in print and online at
ascprofile.com.

Executive Members:

Editor-in-Chief:

Sami Shahbandy '20

Copy-Editor & Secretary:

Abbie Cox '21

Entertainment &

Opinion Section Editor:

Isabella Barbuto '21

On-Campus Section Editor:

Elinor Davis '21

Off-Campus Section Editor:

Eve Barrett '21

Photography Editor:

Joann Lee '20

The Profile



Editorial Team:
Sami Shahbandy '20, Editor-in-Chief
Abbie Cox '21, Copy Editor
Isabella Barbuto '21, Entertainment/Opinion
Section Editor
Eve Barrett '21, Off-Campus Section Editor
Ellie Davis '21, On-Campus Section Editor
Joann Lee '20, Graphics Editor

In this issue...
“Libraries: An Outlet for Resistance and
Change”...pg 2
“2020 Presidential Candidates”...pg 4
“The Spy-Cam Porn Epidemic in South
Korea”...pg 6
“Remakes and Reboots”...pg 6

VOL. 1, NO. 4

THE AGNES SCOTT PROFILE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2019

“Where Are You From?”

By Ha Vu '22
Staff Writer

One of the factors that makes the Agnes Scott College community more vibrant and diverse is the international student population. Although only making up approximately 7 percent of the student body, the international population represents countries such as China, Nepal, Brazil, Congo, Somaliland, Vietnam, and many more. As these students strive to gain academic and social achievements in the progressive community at Agnes Scott, the college gains distinct diversity and invaluable insights about globalization from the students' identities. However, international students often encounter tremendous challenges when trying to thrive and immerse themselves in a new environment. Behind their successes are accounts of their remarkable journeys.

When asked why she chose Agnes Scott College, Prishamsa Rimal '20 from Nepal said, “I wanted to be in a women's college and amongst the colleges I found in the U.S., ASC resonated with me the most.” Similar to Rimal, Pema Lama '22, also from Nepal, states that she likes the idea of “a small, liberal arts college and the idea of a women's college.”

Helena Buschemöhle '22 travelled from her home country of Brazil to the United States to study at Agnes Scott College because she enjoys “the idea of coming to a place where I have leadership skills and global learning that can be applied to math, chemistry, and physics.”

Coming from Vietnam, Tu Phung '20 set out for a brief visit to Agnes Scott College during his high school years. Delighted by the welcoming and accepting community,



International flags hanging in the Hub.
Photo by Joann Lee '20

he decided to apply.

However, studying abroad is always a challenge, and international students are required to adapt and adjust to an alien environment where certain cultural aspects may completely contradict the lifestyles of their hometowns. Furthermore, international students' journeys here can become even more taxing with the college's high expectations

for efficiency and diligence.

“Some of the problems I encounter are microaggressions, in which I feel that there is condescension towards me from certain people around here. I was once frowned upon when I said I did not know of Kroger, and ironically people kept explaining things I already knew. They also kept complimenting me and said, ‘Wow, your English is pretty good for someone who is not from here,’ which was irritating,” said Lama.

Phung also shared some of his difficulties at Agnes Scott College. “Colleges are always a new environment and are hard to get used to at first. Because there were so many people and opportunities, I had to rotate around different groups to identify where I fit in most, which was fascinating yet exhausting and overwhelming at the same time. As an international student, tuition fees and financial aid are also pressing problems.” Phung goes on to say, “even though ASC is really diverse, there is still a lack of inclusion sometimes. In many instances, the college still treats me as a woman while I identify myself as a trans person...and since there are not many people that come from my country here, it was hard to share the struggles.”

To accommodate international students more effectively and reinforce inclusion among the student body, faculty, staff and student organizations can provide more support to raise their voices. One way to do so is to provide more opportunities for international students' cultures to be presented in events and activities, both in class and with extracurricular activities.

Furthermore, the college can provide more resources, from daily necessities such as a wider variety of food, to more details about the particular qualifications of internship opportunities, or guidance for legal procedures and document filing, given that international students must undergo unfamiliar process regarding their legal status in the United States.

However, despite the hardships of an international student, Rimal states that there are multiple aspects of Agnes Scott College that

she enjoys. "When I first came here, I thought the campus was really beautiful and I enjoyed it. It took time to fit in, but I received an extremely warm welcome. The academic life is definitely challenging, but I have learned a lot and found many skills that I want to develop, and I think my social life is also pretty good. I am also part of different clubs and I get to share a lot of my skills and cultural experience."

After overcoming challenges, Lama maintains that "it's going OK right now. There were definitely a few bumps when I was getting set up, but now I'm in a good place. I like learning about and interacting with people who are different from me."

Buschermöhle states that she also enjoys her experience here. "I am very happy and excited to belong to such an embracing community."

Phung also shared his memorable

and delightful experiences at Agnes. "I'm an open-minded person, so I embrace and want to interact with people regardless of their races, genders, or identities as long as they are nice and great. Through that, I would like to share more about my country, Vietnam, and I want to help my country become more recognized and appreciated. I also want to learn more about other cultures since I've worked so hard to come here."

As an international student myself, I find encountering hardship is inevitable in the context of a new environment, and I feel pressure to keep up with the compelling pace of a college workplace. As distraught by the circumstances as I am sometimes, in the end, such adversity has emboldened me and added versatility to my native Vietnamese identity. It is what signifies the value of being an international student, something that no one else can acquire.

FEATURES

Libraries: An Outlet for Resistance and Change



Third floor of McCain Library on a misty morning during finals week.
Photo by Joann Lee '20

By Abbie Cox '21

Copy Editor

Public library funding has been cut from Trump's budget proposals for the past three years.

On March 11 of this year, the White House released the FY2020 federal budget proposal with Trump's plan to remove the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the main source of public library funding in the United States.

The American Library Association, the biggest and most long-standing library association in the world, responded to Trump's budget proposal with hopeful backfire. ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo released a statement on the ALA site on the day the proposal was released.

“As discouraging as it is that the administration has again proposed eliminating the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the bipartisan support in Congress over the past two years gives us reason to hope,” said Garcia-Febo. “America’s 120,000 libraries are part of the fabric of thriving communities, and across the country, they are stretching capacity to accommodate a surge in demand for resources that are more relevant than ever.”

ALA will continue to work with Congress to keep this from happening. However, Trump’s threat against libraries is an important matter to discuss, and one thing we need to address is how much we need to fight for libraries.

The question today is whether libraries, publicly funded or not, will even be around in the future.

In today’s technologically-advanced world, it seems like technology provides more access to the resources and knowledge that were once only found at libraries. Mass communication through email, television, podcasts, online classes, and tutorials has become the core of information for the past decade or so.

Although online databases are

growing, they are not always accessible or free. It would be unfair to assume that people can access information online without journal subscriptions, newspaper and magazine paywalls, and the purchase of books, let alone the internet. Information accessed through the internet is not always accurate or reliable. It is far too easy for people to spread false information through the internet, and libraries maintain the authenticity of that information.

Additionally, the gap is widening between those who have access to the internet and those who don’t. Public libraries give people the opportunity to learn and to stay updated in worldly events without access to the internet.

Libraries are free. They advertise job opportunities, provide computer and internet access to the public, and contain literature for all kinds of readers. Libraries have always been centerpieces of professional development, learning, and literacy--a place of gathering, of refuge for homeless and underprivileged communities. They instill a sense of community and host activities for children and groups of all ages. They provide services that are essential for this academic and intellectual time period. Now, more than ever, libraries are an outlet for

resistance and change.

“Libraries are the great equalizers,” said Garcia-Febo. “Anyone can come in and use the resources available – to learn, to read a book, to research, to write a resume, to code a computer program, to create a business plan, to experiment with new technologies, to access government information, and much more. By giving people access to resources, libraries offer chances for people to pursue success and achieve their goals.”

We cannot grow without literature, and we cannot grow without libraries. We don’t often recognize that libraries are still functioning as an undercurrent tool to help drive movements forward, hold people accountable for their history, and inspire change.

Next time you step into a library, take a look around. You are surrounded by the home of thousands and thousands of years of history, literature, culture, science, mathematics, and human development. Don’t let technology fool you. It is libraries that keep our world together.

It is essential to advocate for the continued funding of libraries. Contribute to the efforts of ALA by telling Congress to #FundLibraries.

Agnes Anonymous

Dear Agnes Anonymous,

Today, I got a piece of CHICKEN in my tofu, broccoli, garlic, ginger, garlic chili--oh wait you ran out? You got any sweet chili? No? Alright, that’s okay... I’ll take the sweet and sour sauce noodle stir fry. Honestly, I’m not even a full vegan and I’m mad.

I can understand if there was a mix up in the kitchen, and I know what it’s like to have a tough, long day. Just last week my English professor asked me to come to office hours and it cut out ten minutes from nap time. And I also understand that my dietary needs

are pretty blasé--I am the person who would happily eat cubed raw tofu in my stir fry day after day.

I can really empathise with Evans staff, but enough is enough. How do I send a clear message to campus dining that it’s unacceptable to be shoveling back a plate of stir fry and munch right onto a slab of factory farm poultry?

--A Disgruntled Almost Vegan

Dear Disgruntled,

I’m sorry you had an unsavory bite of

chicken. As a member of the Agnes community who has no choice but to take the 21 meals a week plan, I know the struggle of ordering one thing and getting another because I have to eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner here, and for some reason the stir fry line seems to think I love baby corn. I don’t.

As a recreational vegan, I truly understand how it feels to bite into meat by accident. It’s like a betrayal. It’s like when Brutus stabbed Caesar because he was jealous of how well Caesar rocked his toga and bald spot combo. I get it, not everybody can pull it off, and Brutus couldn’t, and sometimes

you get a little jealous and pull cutlery on your bestie. We've all been there.

Take it from me, even yesterday I tried to get a grande chai from Black Cat Café and what I got was a cappuccino/vanilla soy milk/chai tea hybrid, and I after I drank it I was unsatisfied and

kind of sweaty. But I didn't lash out at our staff and neither should you.

Like you work and nap hard, Evans staff works hard too. I think if you can respectfully voice your concerns to dining services, or give feedback on campus dish, maybe there would be

less chicken in the stir fry. Or just like stick to the salad bar, I guess lol.

Good luck on the decontamination crusade,

--Agnes Anonymous

OPINION

2020 Presidential Candidates

By Stella John '21 and Maya Martin '20
Staff Writers

In 2016, America turned on us and elected an orange for president. Three years, a Mueller report, and a White House gourmet fast food meal later, you may still be reeling from the shock, but that hasn't stopped good old US democracy's wheels from continuing to churn. Pretty soon, before you know it, election time will come at us again. The 2020 presidential election is more than a year away, but already cluttered with a WIDE and diverse field that includes a onesie-wearer and a Hickenlooper.

Most of the Democrats seem to conform to a uniform platform with few out-standers. Joe Biden, Bernie Sanders, Kamala Harris, and Elizabeth Warren lead the polls and win the name-recognition game, but it's still far too early to tell who among the group of 30 will emerge from the pale.

According to a Quinnipiac poll, 29 percent of people said they'd vote for Joe Biden, and it makes sense: Biden has a ton of experience from working in the Senate for years, and he's been in closer proximity to the American presidency than any of the other candidates as Obama's vice president. Lots of people wanted him to run in 2016, a candidacy he turned down in part because of the tragic death of his son. Biden's popular and energetic, despite being 76 years

old. But he's also pale and male in a record-breakingly diverse field of candidates. He has a not-so-progressive history, having served on the committee that grilled and shamed Anita Hill when she came out with allegations against Clarence Thomas. A woman's recent claim that Biden sexually harassed her doesn't help matters. Is it enough to give us pause? Definitely. Is it enough to break a presidential campaign? Considering Trump's success, obviously not.

Are you still #FeelingTheBern? Because 19 percent of voters are. The Sanders campaign centers around what Democrats are calling a "Green New Deal," health insurance, and affordable college tuition. Could democratic socialism work? Many young people, struggling to get ahead no matter how many hours they work, think so, and part of the Sanders campaign's success in 2016 was in getting young people out to vote. When people ask the question of whether an old white man really knows what's best for America right now when we have so many other options, Sanders usually says something like, "oh, it's not about race," or "you know, you have to look at experience." Not super convincing.

A young Senator with a promising career, Kamala Harris announced her run for president Jan. 21, 2019. There are several other prominent women running in this election, but Harris' campaign is going strongly: 8 percent of voters have stated

that they would vote for her in the democratic primaries. Harris has a background in law, having served as the District Attorney for San Francisco and California's Attorney General. She became a U.S. Senator in 2017. Harris is known for being outspoken on issues regarding Civil Rights and Equality for all, including support for women's issues, LGBT Equality, and Civil Rights and justice. She also believes climate change is an important issue, as well as criminal justice reform. As the daughter of Jamaican and Indian immigrants, Harris's perspectives could provide a fresh direction for Washington and the United States if she secures the presidency. She would be the first woman of mixed heritage, a welcome change from the previous trends in the presidential patterns.

Beto O'Rourke is another individual who could stand a chance in the Presidential Election. O'Rourke served as the representative for Texas' 16th Congressional District from 2013 to 2019, and his following grew with his run for a senate seat. The 2018 Texas Senate election ended with losing to incumbent Sen. Ted Cruz by a 2 percent margin. Although he lost, he managed to amass a massive following, something that will undoubtedly prove helpful in his Presidential Campaign. At 46 years old, O'Rourke is one of the younger candidates in the race and could be perceived as more in tune to the younger generations of voters,

and the fact that he was in a punk band and is a longtime skateboarder only adds to that. With a strong stance on issues such as expanding disability rights, addressing gun safety, and improving healthcare, O'Rourke has a good chance of winning the Primary. However, will things from his past, such as the DUI he received in 1999, come back to haunt his campaign?

People have long been wondering whether Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren would ever run for the Presidency. In 2016, Warren was put forward by supporters as a possible presidential candidate; however, she repeatedly stated that

she would not be running in 2016. On Feb. 9th 2019, Warren announced that she would be running in this election. Warren has been involved in law for a long time, having been a law professor at several universities. Her following has grown as response to her call-out tweets at President Trump. Her campaign is founded on her stance for economic reform through increased taxes for the upper class, rebuilding the middle class, ending corruption in Washington, equal justice under the law and foreign policy for all. However, her controversial claims to Native American heritage could undermine her

campaign. Although she apologized for her remarks and DNA test in Jan. 2019, it might still become a hindrance to her campaign.

The 2016 Presidential Election presented a plethora of candidates from both the Republican and Democratic sides, and the result was President who had no experience in politics. This election is shaping up to be the one that could change that. With a large number of experienced, dedicated candidates in the field this year, the 2020 Presidential Election could be the election that changes the direction the election is going, but it all hinges upon choosing the right candidate.

A Day in the Life

By Adena Adams



The Spy-Cam Porn Epidemic in South Korea

By Connie Tran '21
Staff Writer

In March, two men were arrested for installing secret spy-cams in 42 motels across South Korea, engaging in a illegal scheme that live streamed non-consenting motel guests for a subscription porn site. These devices were hidden in couches, hair dryer holders, satellite boxes, and closed electrical sockets, and overseas servers were used to conceal the camera user's IP address from police detection, states The New York Times. Regular site visitors paid a \$50 monthly fee to see the videos, which could also be recorded and replayed an unlimited amount of times. Police stated that over 1,600 guests were recorded over the course of just 3 months.

This is just the latest instance case of hidden-camera crime. The phenomenon is known as molka, and has seeped into other public spaces. Seoul, South Korea's capital, hired 8,000 employees in 2018 to check changing rooms, public bathrooms, and other commonly targeted areas for these cameras. However, critics say more work needs to be done to combat the growing industry - there were 1,100 incidents in 2010 and more than 6,500 in 2017, states Gizmodo.

Lawmakers are seeking to change current regulations that allow spycam buyers to avoid giving personal information. Last Aug., they cosponsored

a bill that requires such buyers to register with a government-run database. This has led to some pushback from retailers who fear they will lose business, reports South China Morning Post. Shin Jang-jin, a shop owner in Incheon interviewed by the newspaper, sells a variety of items along with his selection of microscopic cameras. Shin claims that the devices can be used for good, in capturing video evidence of domestic or child abuse. He also will not sell a camera to a customer if their intentions are unclear or they are obviously trying to spy on women. However, he claims this is not a foolproof way to screen out potential criminals.

Furthermore, he claims that "more than 90 percent of spy-cam porn crimes are due to mobile phones, not specialised items," which has also been expressed by other police officials. But there seems to be a disconnect in evidence: activists point towards numerous spy-cam cases involving customized cameras. Even if Shin is incorrect, he does provoke a larger conversation about smartphone ownership in South Korea. The country has a high rate of smartphone usage, with nearly 90 percent of adults having access to one, according to BBC News. Law enforcement often finds it very difficult to capture criminals and prevent the rapid spread of footage in a technologically advanced society.

However, it is wishful thinking to say

that the spy-cam porn epidemic can be solely fixed with harsher technology and internet regulations. The problem is also cultural. "Misogyny is prevalent here and women are often treated as sexual objects," says You Seung-jin of the Korea Cyber Sexual Violence Response Centre. Women are held to extremely high beauty standards, but when they read with glasses instead of contact lenses or donate to feminist causes, they are scorned upon. South Korea also ranked as 118 out of 144 countries on the 2018 Global Gender Gap Index by the World Economic Forum, who has referenced a huge gender wage gap and low female representation in high positions.

The key to solving the problem, suggests Seung-jin, is "to educate people that this is cyber-sexual violence - it is not their porn." Since last summer, massive waves of protestors have shown up in the streets of Seoul on several occasions in a public outcry against the legal system, which fails to punish the thousands spy-cam criminals reported by police each year, with signs reading, "My Life is Not Your Porn." Inspired by the recent rise of feminism in South Korea and similar protests in the past such as #EscapeTheCorset and #MeToo, these feminists not only seek to reclaim their right to privacy and a fair trial, but also demand that society reconsiders an overhaul of their patriarchal views on women.

ENTERTAINMENT

Remakes and Reboots

By Damera Soto '22
Staff Writer

We've all had those moments where we look back at our past and reminisce about the 'good ol' days, whether it be flipping through embarrassing baby pictures in the family album (or the family iCloud

for you Gen Z babies), giving away old clothes and questioning your middle school sense of fashion, or finding your lost MP3 player in the back of your closet next to your Heelies and Nintendo DS. We smile, we laugh, and we cringe as we remember the good times, the bad times, and the times that walk

that thin line between the two. And one of the best throwbacks is Netflix-and-Chilling with that show or movie from back in the day that you can quote line-by-line without fail and make references to just about every day. And then, there are the remakes. In the past few years, there has

been a significant increase in the number of remakes and reboots of popular television shows and movies, particularly from the 90s and early 2000s. Fans become ecstatic seeing news that their favorites from childhood are making a comeback on screen, and that excitement has them at the edge of their seats in front of the TV or swiping their Visa for a movie ticket. This is when our expectations are sky high, and the entertainment industry thrives on it. We are giving them exactly what they want. But are they giving us what we want? Or are they just piggybacking on our own nostalgia without putting in any real work?

Take, for example, one of the most highly anticipated television remakes of 2018: the CW reboot of the witchy 90s/early 2000s show "Charmed." Back when it was still on the WB network, "Charmed" was among the most popular shows on television, with its debut episode garnering 7.7 million viewers, making it the network's highest rated TV pilot. The show was praised by critics and audiences for its careful balance of action and emotion and its powerful feminist messages. So when there was an announcement at the beginning of 2018 that a reboot was in the works, fans of the classic witchy drama fell into two categories. On one side were those excited for the revival of such a beloved show, and on the other were those who felt a remake could never do justice to the original. Mirroring this divide were former "Charmed" cast members Holly Marie Combs and Shannen Doherty, who played Piper and Prue Halliwell respectively. Combs took to Twitter when the news of the reboot went public, accusing the CW of "capitalizing" on

the success of the franchise without employing any original ideas of their own, while Doherty expressed a more positive opinion, saying that she was "intrigued by the idea that a new generation might be comforted, inspired like you all were." But while her support was endearing, Combs's argument is interesting due to the questions it presented about the TV industry. Do her words have merit?

According to Marianne Eloise, an online critic for the review website Digital Spy, the show employs the same basic elements of the original, with three sisters discovering their witch heritage after the mysterious death of their mother who have to use their powers to fight evil forces. To her, it "goes in hard updating the story to be so on-the-nose 'woke' that it's a giant punch to the face." With "cheap" dialogue and way too many references to current movements, the show spends a lot of time trying to pay homage to the original while trying to make it as modern as the writers possibly can, resulting in a very sloppy balance between the two. Taking a Walkman and putting it in an iPhone box doesn't make it a smartphone, you guys. Many fans of "Charmed" tuned in to watch this reboot, only to discover a copy trying too hard to be new and shiny with its clunky attempts to convey female empowerment. One of the most loved aspects of the original show was the loving, sisterly bond between the Halliwell-Matthews sisters, but the opinions on the chemistry between the Vera-Vaughns leaves much to be desired, with words such as "bland" and "underdeveloped" seen in many reviews. The new Charmed just goes to show that all of the "wokeness" and modernity in the world can't make up

for a complete lack of originality in a show or movie.

On the flip side, the CW's "Riverdale" has the opposite problem, with fans taking to social media with scathing commentary on the show's chaotic plot and inconsistent storyline. Many comments have to do with the cringey dialogue, stating that it is hard to listen to and not representative of how modern teenagers speak. This is most likely the result of writers trying to draw on the characters' personas in the original Archie comics and integrate them into modern day conversation. The problem? The comics were originally written in the early 1940s, so you can imagine how awkward it would be, trying to take what these characters say seriously when the dialogue sounds like it's straight out of an Audrey Hepburn film. These problems weren't nearly as bad in the show's first season, with critics and fans expressing praise for the compelling murder mystery plot paired with the usual high school teenage drama that so many of us have endured in the past, and those of us familiar with the classic characters were ecstatic to see them brought to life. Seeing the iconic love triangle between Betty, Archie, and Veronica as a backdrop to the hunt for Jason Blossom's killer was definitely an interesting and well-received change to the source material. Unfortunately, the show went off the metaphorical deep end after season one, and many fans found themselves relating to the show less and less as time went by. The most common reason people still watch the show is, "What could the writers possibly come up with next?" Yet another nostalgia booby trap. Surprisingly, there is a common

theme among some of the most popular remakes of the past five years to now: a great majority of them are produced by the CW network. In addition to “Charmed” and “Riverdale,” the CW has also produced other popular remakes like The “Vampire Diaries,” “Jane the Virgin,” “Dynasty,” and “Roswell: New Mexico.” Now, to those that are familiar with “The Vampire Diaries,” it is not technically a remake since it is based on a book series and is not a reboot of a previous TV show, but it is included because the content is so different from the novels, and the

events of the books are set in the 1990s, while the show occurs in early 2009 and beyond. But let’s focus the lens for a minute on why the CW has begun to hop on the remake bandwagon in recent years. The answer can be found in the heart of social media if you know what to look for. A common trend among the most abundant of social media users (millennials) is the lamentation over their childhoods and the good ol’ days of 2000’s past (“X-Men” fans will see what I did there). And because the majority of the CW’s viewer platform consists of young adults between

the ages of 16 and 35, social media is the perfect hunting ground for what is appealing to the public. But what they don’t seem to understand is, while we do miss those childhood gems, we kind of prefer them to stay in the past. Yes, we loved them. That is exactly why it causes so much controversy when someone tries to recreate that same magic we felt watching them as kids, and it’s even worse if it’s not done effectively after people have given their time and money for it, only to be disappointed.

“Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” Review



By Adena Adams '21
Staff Illustrator

With great power comes great responsibility. That’s surely what was going through the minds of directors Bob Persichetti, Peter Ramsey, and Rodney Rothman as they were tasked with developing the first animated feature film about Spider-Man. And boy, did they wield their executive power! On Dec. 14, 2018 Sony Pictures Animation released Academy Award winning “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse.”

Rather than regurgitating the same Peter Parker origin story, “Into the Spider Verse” focuses on Afro-Puerto Rican Miles Morales as he struggles with a new school, new powers, and the fate of multiple universes resting on his shoulders. Miles is the breath of fresh air every superhero fan of color has been waiting for in a white-dominated genre. Not only can children of color see themselves on screen, but also Miles’ interactions with his family and friends, both in English

and in Spanish, make him relatable to many different minority groups.

It is a film for people of all ages--it puts the P back into the "PG" rating. It completely annihilates the common misconceptions that animation is only for children. At the same time, it also respects kids enough to allow them to handle tough themes and process "mature" emotions like grief and loss.

Maybe you like comic books, but don't care for all the Spider-people? That's fine! The movie is a full on homage to any and all things comic bookish. Not a fan of comics, but

you love Spider-Man? No problem! The movie is also a love letter to the very essence of Spider-Man. It's a versatile film that, by introducing different renditions of the same character, emphasizes the morals on which they all stand--anyone can wear the mask.

What really sets the film apart from any other animated film of 2018 is its incredible and highly stylized animation. The film is a combination of 3D computer graphics and hand-drawn animation, all in the style of comic book art. This is the most admirable aspect about

"Into the Spider-Verse." It took 180 animators roughly three years to create what can literally be called a moving comic book. Stop the movie at any point and the frame mimics a panel straight out of a comic book. This highly stylized art pushes the boundaries on what 3D animation can accomplish by going past the needlessly realistic, rendering other big animation companies alike to flaunt. Its masterful design and their love for the craft show through in every frame, and that's exactly what fans of quality animation have been waiting for.

Dick Cheney, Evil Genius: "Vice" Review

By Isabella Barbuto '21
Entertainment/Opinion Section Editor

The story of Dick Cheney's climb to the top of the political ladder depicts him as one of the most brilliant and manipulative people to walk the halls of the White House in Adam McKay's "Vice."

The film, released Dec. 25th, 2018, has made \$72.5 million in the box office thus far. For his performance, Christian Bale ("The Dark Knight Rises"), who plays Dick Cheney, won the Golden Globe for Best Actor in a Musical or Comedy Film. He was also nominated for an Oscar in the Lead Actor category. Sam Rockwell ("Three Billboards Outside Ebbing Missouri"), who portrayed George W. Bush in the film, was nominated in the Supporting Actor category. Amy Adams ("American Hustle") also starred in the film as Lynne Cheney, Dick's wife, who, according to the film, was the entire reason Cheney got into politics in the first place and a driving force in making him into the monster that he later became. Adams was nominated for Supporting Actress. The film also won for Best Make-

up/Hairstyling. More Oscar nominations for the film include Best Picture, Director, Original Screenplay, and Film Editing.

The film conveys Dick Cheney in a light sure to be understood and appreciated by liberals, exposing him for what he was: a cold-hearted, power-hungry schemer. Bale's portrayal of Cheney as an evil genius who completely transformed the role of the Vice President of the United States is the confession audiences have been waiting for.

A. O. Scott from the New York Times reviewed the film, saying, "'Vice' offers more than rage-bait for liberal moviegoers. If this is in some respects a monster movie, it's one that takes a lively and at times surprisingly sympathetic interest in its chosen demon."

The film is smart, witty, and is able to pull at the heartstrings of audiences all over, especially if you happen to be a Bush-Cheney-hater.

While there is an obvious target audience for the film, many would benefit from McKay's enormous emphasis on humor. And who doesn't like to make fun of George

W. Bush? Probably just Georgie himself. The scene in which Sam Rockwell's George asks Cheney to be his running mate while chaotically eating chicken wings is one of the best scenes in cinema this year, and is an image of Bush that most liberals will delight in.

"Vice" does an incredible job at painting Dick Cheney as the man he was and still is. He is given credit for being remarkably smart, but that credit is not held for long. He is soon viewed as cold, heartless, and ruthless for his actions during his time in the White House, and particularly for his work in his two daughters' political careers. One thing was clear in the film: whether you agreed with Cheney's actions or not, he knew how to manipulate the top people in Washington D.C., and he knew how to play the game.

If you haven't had a chance to see Adam McKay's phenomenal film, take the time to go see it in a theater near you as soon as you can. You won't want to miss the dark humor and incredible wit that comes with it.

From my Mother to You: A Recipe for Self Care

By Jacqueline Hernandez '22

Staff Writer

The end of the semester is vastly approaching and with it comes the multiple deadlines, projects, and essays we've all surely put off for much too long. As a result, many times we can find ourselves falling deeper and deeper into fits of stress and exhaustion. These fits can be draining, physically and emotionally, which is why I find it so important to take the proper time to care for ourselves. For some of us, that might mean a nap, a stroll around campus, or maybe even an extra long shower. The possibilities are endless and purely up to each of us individually. For the past seven months, for me, this has meant skin care.

Serums. Lotions. Oils. Clay Masks. Sugar Scrubs. Creams. All of them with scents ranging from radiant florals to aromatic earthy notes. They proclaim themselves elixirs, promising supple, bright, and glowing skin. Yet, each becomes harder and harder to splurge on while on a college student budget. This is a problem most students our age face at some point or another. After all, books, food, and coffee often take priority over a number of other things.

It was as I applied a layer of clay across my cheek that I thought of my mother, who, as I've come to understand, has quite possibly long given me the answers to all, if not most, of my problems. It occurred to me that she had taught me plenty of homemade alternatives to the overpriced products I found myself using. Under the harsh overhead light of my dorm, I was reminded of summer afternoons spent with chia seeds and mint leaves, blueberries and steaming bags of green

tea resting on my face. I could practically see my mother standing over her bathroom sink applying these different things to her skin, looking over and asking my sisters and me if we'd like to try. Having grown up in rural Mexico with six other siblings, she had always been able to find other ways to meet her "beauty" needs, as had her mother, and her mother, and her mother, and so on. They passed on information like tamale recipes or sewing techniques from word of mouth and hand to hand.

These masks and treatments have passed the test of time, continuing to work as well as they did for her, for me in the present day. Every now and then, instead of reaching



Illustrated by Adena Adams '21 for something store-bought, I find myself looking to these masks instead. They remind me of home, even as far as I am from it.

Here are two of my favorite masks:

Oatmeal Mask

This mask helps to reduce inflammation, fade scarring, and soothe your skin. It can be made in small quantities for spot treatments, or larger portions for the face, or body.

Ingredients:

- Instant Oatmeal (no flavoring) or Plain Oats
- Water
- Raw Honey (softening)
- Natural Granulated Sugar (scrub)

Preparation:

Cool: Pour the desired amount of oatmeal into a dish with only enough water to make a paste. Allow mixture to sit and apply to the desired area.

Warm: Boil desired amount of water and add the corresponding amount of oatmeal. Let sit until warm, and apply.

Both should be applied to clean skin.

Crushed Strawberry Mask

This mask is full of antioxidants and vitamins ready to help your skin, whether you struggle with dryness, hyperpigmentation, dullness, scarring, or acne in general. This one, in particular, is an exfoliating mask, meant to do away with dry or dead skin, leaving you with a glowing complexion.

Ingredients:

- Fresh Strawberries
- Raw Honey

Preparation:

With a spoon or fork, crush each strawberry into a pulp in a dish. To your preference, choose whether or not to remove the leaves (they can enhance exfoliation!). Once you are finished, introduce the honey and mix well, until ready for application on clean skin. The mask may be refrigerated for a cooling effect.

PHOTOSTORY

Fashion at Agnes

Photographed by Ariba Khan '22



Black on black, a classic fashion statement! Amira Daugherty '19 is elegantly wearing a beautiful biscotti golden-brown hijab with matching shoes on her way to grab some food. A fashion queen!

Hannah Joseph '22 is wearing a comfortable pastel yellow long sleeve tee, rolled jeans, and white Converse on her way to hang out with her friends. This chic look is a casual go-to.



Cameron Franks '22 is on her way to class wearing a vintage denim jacket with super chic patches on it, black jeans, and a mustard shirt that adds a pop to her look.

Isabelle Eiden '19 has on a dark forest green blouse, black ripped skinny jeans, and black ankle boots. What a great look!



Kaitlyn Staten '21 wears a white tee, blue jeans, a light beige long shirt, and socks with heels. A beautifully coordinated look!

A fiery red sweatshirt with matching shoes and a gorgeous smile, Cinnamon '20 is truly a beauty queen. She accurately represents how to be fashionable and comfortable!

