

THE ALBRIGHTIAN

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The Voice of Albright College

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President Zimon Resigns From College

■ Dr. Zimon resigns for "personal and family reasons," leaving Dr. Steinbeck as acting President.

News Staff
The Albrightian

Dr. Henry A. Zimon resigned as president of Albright College effective immediately, the Board of Trustees announced Monday February 20. Dr. Zimon said that personal and family issues drove his decision. Provost David Stineback was appointed acting president pending results of a search process.

"Dr. Zimon is leaving Albright College in even better standing than when he arrived," said Salvatore M. Cutrona, Chairman of the Board of Trustees. "By any measure, Albright has made significant strides in the past five years. Student applications and enrollment are at record levels,

as is the college's endowment. And we're particularly proud that the Princeton Review named Albright as one of the best colleges in the mid-Atlantic region. Dr. Zimon leaves with our thanks and best wishes for his future endeavors."

Dr. Zimon became the 13th president of Albright College on July 1, 1999, upon his retirement from the U.S. Army with the rank of colonel. In recognition of his 29 years of military service to the nation, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the nation's highest peacetime Defense Department award. During his years in the Army, he earned his master's and doctorate degrees in geography from Ohio State University.

At Albright, Dr. Zimon fostered the college's tradition of interdisciplinary studies, such as the recently launched Holocaust Studies Program, and initiated significant fundraising efforts.

"I regret this sudden departure, but leave feeling proud that our team has accomplished nearly all of the major goals that the Board of Trustees set before me in 1999—goals that a few years ago seemed completely out of reach," Dr. Zimon said in announcing his resignation.

Provost David Stineback assumes the position of acting president immediately. Cutrona said the Board of Trustees is initiating a formal search for a permanent president.

"We anticipate this will be a seamless transition, with Provost Stineback keeping Albright on course during this search," Cutrona said.



"Whoever becomes the next president of Albright College will be joining an institution that is poised for the future."

Albright Receives 1.5 Million Communications Endowment

■ Robert and Lillian Gerhart Jr. donate money to endow the Communications Department, which will help create a full concentration in the subject.

Sheila Berninger
The Albrightian

What would you do with \$1.5 million? Before you start dreaming of hot new sports cars, mansions, and trips to exotic places, consider what it would be like to give that money to future generations who want to better their education. Robert R. Gerhart, Jr., a 1941 Albright graduate, and his wife Lillian did, and they decided to give a gift of \$1.5 million to endow the Bob and Lillian Gerhart Chair in Communications at Albright.

The Gerhart's gift is Albright's largest gift from a living donor and will be used to establish the first faculty chair in communications. The gift was finalized on January 29, 2004, sadly on the same day that Lillian passed away.

Lillian had always supported her husband Bob whose many accomplishments include: serving as a Pennsylvania State Senator, reporting for the Reading Times for ten years, and editing the New Era weekly labor newspaper for 28 years. Previously, the Gerharts established the Senator and Mrs. Robert R. Gerhart, Jr. Scholarship at Albright for needy and worthy students.

The college will invest the money from the Gerhart's gift into an endowment fund that collects interest over time. The principal amount invested in this case \$1.5 million-remains untouched so it continues collecting interest. The interest will then be used to pay the endowed chair holder's salary. Essentially, this frees up money that the college would have been spending to pay the faculty

member.

The receipt of this gift, however, means a lot more than just another faculty member getting paid.

"It's a great gift for the campus," Dr. Michael Adams, English Department Chair, said. He said that any time a gift is given to better a department on campus, it benefits the college in general.

Dr. Al Cacicedo, Professor of English, said that from the Communications Department's point of view the endowment marks a huge step towards communications becoming its own department like theatre did last year.

"We're trying to move toward full concentrations," Dr. Jon Bekken, director of communications, said of the department. He added that along with becoming a full concentration, the communications department would acquire more faculty members and course offerings. Also, Bekken said he anticipates that the college will

Reaction to Zimon's Resignation

"Overall, I think he had a good relationship with students. He was a visible person and seemed interested in student welfare. He had Albright's best interests at hand."
-Andrea Blasingame,

"I didn't really know him. I didn't feel attached to him. His going didn't really have an effect."
-Therjuana D. Bethune, '07

have a full concentration in the journalism track of communications by next year.

The interview process will also begin next year to find an individual worthy of the prestigious position of Gerhart chair holder. The position is one of honor, not only administrative duties. Endowed chairs are typically chosen based upon their professional and scholarly work in the field. As requested by the Gerharts, the college will hire an individual for the position who values the link between technology and journalism and will design an interdisciplinary program in communications. A separate department chair will also be

hired when the department becomes a full concentration. Department chairs are in charge of administrative functions such as maintaining the department budget and overseeing faculty meetings.

U p o n communications becoming its own department, communications majors expect a lot of improvements.

"I think it opens up a lot of doors," Junior Business and Communications major Julie Horton said. She added that she would like the

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NEWS

From the Editor's Desk by: Pamela Herb

So, apparently the Editor-in-Chief of the newspaper gets her own column where she can say pretty much whatever she likes to the student body. That's a bit intimidating, but here it goes.

My first order of business should be to explain how I ended up being Editor. There was no big coup d'état: Dan Ruedy is a biology major (insert cringe here) and does not have the time necessary to run a successful newspaper, which he very much wants The Albrightian to be. So here I am, taking over something that Dan saved from extinction last semester.

I would like this paper to represent us, the student body.

Not the Administration, not College Relations, and not Admissions. This requires a lot from you though, it requires your thoughts and your talents and your time. I know, no one actually has any free time, but the next time you are sitting around bitching to your friends about something here at Albright, write it down, and send it to me. I want to read it, and I would bet that there are a lot of people here that feel the same way. If you are involved in something, whether it be an organization or a protest, tell me about what you're up to. We'll cover it.

You might notice a few changes over the next few

issues, and I would like your feedback about them, because this paper is yours as much as it is mine. So if you hate what I'm doing, I want to know. Or if you love something one of my oh-so-talented writers has to say, tell us about it! For this paper to be any good, we need student support, something we are terribly lacking. Sports writers, photographers, and columnists are desperately needed. So get involved, like most things in life, it's the only way we're going to get anywhere.

To the Freshman class: what do you think of our pieces on Gateway? What's your opinion of the program? Let me know at albrightian@albright.edu.

Communications Department

cont'd from page one

department to have a better class selection and additional experienced professors.

Junior Michele Dempsey, majoring in Marketing and Communications, shares Horton's opinion about the important role professors play.

"I think in communications it's critical for your professors to have had a strong background because communications is all about having good connections and contacts."

Not only do students feel that it is important for professors to have connections with other professionals, but also for professors to have connections with their students.

"I'd like to see an increase of the involvement of the communications department and students," Junior Art and Communications major Ashley Seilhamer said. She

also said she hopes for the development of clubs and organizations specifically for the communications department.

Overall, communications students seem to have positive visions of what the Bob and Lillian Gerhart Chair in Communications endowment will accomplish in the communications department.

"I think that it will greatly improve our department, hopefully enable us to become a full major, and add experienced and enriched professors to our concentration that would be more specific to our department," Amanda Crouse, Junior Communications and Digital Media major, said.

So, still thinking about that \$1.5 million? Just remember that you could leave behind a legacy. The Gerharts did.

Sheila Berninger is a junior staff writer for The Albrightian.

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A FRESHER PERSPECTIVE

-Andrew Holets



"I like to take photographs..."



"I DJ a lot for you guys..."

THE ALBRIGHTIAN

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STUDENT LIFE

Gateway Takes on a New Look for a New Year

■ The Gateway Committee changes the content and purpose of the Freshman orientation class.

Sumi Holman
The Albrightian

When the class of 2006 came in as freshmen the mandatory Gateway class had little structure. It was unclear as to what goals the class was trying to achieve. Most students thought it was a waste of time and boring. Since then, the Gateway program here at Albright has made multiple improvements.

Andrea Chapdelaine, the head of the Gateway program says, "So far, the student feedback this year is

positive and I'm happy with that." She explains that the changes in the Gateway program since last year are drastic. Not only do they use a different textbook, but the syllabus this year includes independent research projects and experience events.

Because the topic of Gateway has been changed to "violence and aggression," the two experience events are a capital punishment speaker and a speaker on activism against violence.

Instead of simply talking about time management and

basic learning skills in Gateway, the curriculum has been modified in hopes of starting each freshman off on the right foot for making the most of their academic resources here at Albright. More changes are to come in Fall 2004 for Albright's Gateway program; what the nature of those changes are remains unclear.

Chapdelaine wanted to make it clear that the Gateway program is "a faculty collaborative effort," relying heavily on faculty and student input when it comes to decisions about how Gateway should be run. Although Chapdelaine and the rest of the board plan to stick with her basic formula that has

worked this year for the Gateway program, she says that there is a chance of switching the topic of "violence and aggression" to something else for Fall 2004.

The class focuses on critical thinking skills, enhancement of reading, writing, and research methods. Professor Kaye gave his input about the new Gateway program by saying, "The goals for the students are to learn how to look at an issue, and the literature concerning that issue, critically. This will help the students develop their own informed opinions about contemporary social issues." Freshmen who are satisfied or

dissatisfied with the Gateway program this year are encouraged to make their opinions heard, because this year their opinion counts. Chapdelaine and her fellow faculty members are continuing to make the program more enjoyable and worthwhile to freshmen.

Sumi Holman is a sophomore staff writer for *The Albrightian*.

Is Gateway the Right Way? No!

Student Opinion

Brian Walsh

The current freshman class shares an academic problem. In my own experience as a student in the second semester, I am taking four classes and am also involved in many activities. I find myself with hardly any time to relax. Classes give me homework and projects to be done that demand excellence. Sports and activities are also very important in the college experience that requires valuable time and effort. This is a very difficult juggle for any student, but something has been thrown in that causes a boggle; this is Gateway.

Teachers and students walk hand in hand against this year's program. Upper classmen comment on how they never had to do this much work for a class that we do not get credit for. Teachers have commented on how the aim of Gateway has been diminished.

It has gone from a freshman transition to a rigorous study program. Students find themselves losing study time that is crucial to their education. This is a very critical problem.

Students were led to believe that this class would consist of a few little assignments. So far students have had homework ranging from playing "hide and go seek" by finding a teacher's office to sign a sheet to reading many articles on one side of an opinionated debate and writing an essay about it. Students find themselves working more on their Gateway assignments than on their core curriculum assignments. This is not what is supposed to happen.

Looking at the syllabus for the course, it is obvious that the program has good intentions. It is aimed to "foster critical thinking skills," "enhance peer interactions," "understand the meaning and importance of interdisciplinary study," and "hone technology

skills." This is perfectly fine, but a better time would have been before the school year started.

With good intentions but a bad approach, Gateway has become a calamity that needs to be stopped.

Editors Note: Brian Walsh has started a petition for any student interested in reforming or abolishing the Gateway program.

What do you think? Let us know at albrightian@albright.edu, and we'll print the best responses in the next issue of The Albrightian.

Capital Improvement Campaign Begins

Julia Pfaff
The Albrightian

While the topics of the discussions that take place in Science Hall may forever leave many of us in the dark, much light has been shed on the topic of the building itself. You don't have to be tuned in to all the latest scientific techniques to have gotten word of Albright's plans to construct a new science building. A new building with all the latest advances in scientific technology – sounds like a double in tuition, right? Not exactly. Sue Perrotty, class of 1975 and member of the Board of Trustees, is currently serving as the Chair of Albright's Comprehensive Capital Improvement Campaign. While still in its early phase, or "nucleus phase" as stated by Mr. Donald Kirkwood, Vice President for Advancement, the outlook for the campaign is a promising one. Albright has established "a concerted and focused effort to raise money for its specific goals" –

namely, the new science building and a strengthened endowment of the college overall (Kirkwood).

The campaign came about as a result of a strategic plan for a commission on the future. In 1999, a group of 300 Albright Alumni and the Board of Trustees envisioned the future of higher education and the role of Albright College. As a result, a strategic planning process was developed to increase the endowment of the college for all purposes, including the construction of the new Science Hall.

While the campaign is still relatively new, those involved remain encouraged and very optimistic. According to Mr. Kirkwood, the campaign has received "a great response from alumni and friends" and it continues to gain momentum with the generous effort and support of everyone involved.

Campus Spotlight: If You Were a Scratch and Sniff Sticker, What Kind Would You Be?



Danielle Audain
'04, Bio/Spanish
"Chocolote, because when I was little I used to get those on my tests for doing well."



Kim Bush
'05, Biology
"Coconut, because coconuts are delicious."



Shannon McBride
'07, Elementary Ed/Theater
"Cotton candy, because who doesn't like cotton candy?"



Seiji Yamashiti
'06, Theater/Spanish
"The smoke smelling ones that warn children about fire."



Emma Baker
'06, Special Education
"Strawberry, because it smells good."

SPORTS

New Athletic Logo May Be on Horizon

Pamela Herb
The Albrightian

Last year, the college unified its many faces with one logo, and now the Athletic Department is looking to do the same. The department is looking to continue the process of creating a clear, unified picture of the College by developing one "theme" of logos to represent Albright Athletics. Larger schools like Penn State and Carolina have a definitive, signature logo that can be adapted into team jerseys, letterhead, and gear. The current Albright logo, the Lion leaning on the "A" has been around since the 1940's, and is in dire need of modernization. When this process was completed for the College in general, it did not cause a stir, but there is something different about the search for a new athletic logo.

The football players are causing a bit of a commotion because they do not want to see their logo changed. The team took it upon itself to find a new logo for the 2003 season to replace the traditional "A" that had

been emblazoned on their helmets since the mid-nineties. Senior WR Jesse Dorais, an art major, stepped up to the plate and provided just what the team was looking for: a stylized lion head that incorporates the letters "AC."

Both players and coaches were impressed with Dorais' work.

"I love it," says sophomore RB Mark Pallash. Head Coach E.J. Sandusky also likes it. "We like Jesse's [logo], it's catchy. It's neat to see that is done by one of our players and that it caught on." Dorais' design can be found on everything: hats, sweatshirts, shorts, stationary, warm-ups, vests, and a myriad of other football gear. With the issue of the logo settled, the team focused on winning games.

The Athletic Department came to the decision that a unified picture of Albright Athletics might be needed, and turned to College Relations for some ideas for a new logo. Seth Stockholm, son of Joanne Stockholm, a swimming coach here at Albright and an intern at College Relations, designed the possible logos, with post-production help from Mark Lambertson, the Associate

Director of College Relations/Publications. Eight different test groups, primarily student athletes, were shown the "finalists" and asked what they liked, what they didn't, and why they didn't like it. Changes were made, and revised versions are now being considered. When the football team was shown these replacements for their teammate's design, many became angry.

"The old logo [the traditional "A"] is too plain, and the new logos they are looking at look like they should be on the helmets of a pee wee football team, not a college football team. We should keep the one we have because the majority of the school likes it, with few exceptions" according to Pallash. A similar discord can be found throughout the team. Senior Offensive Lineman Jeremiah Andrejski thinks that this should have happened last year, if it is to occur at all. "They should have never let us change it in the first place if they were going to do this. We, as in the football team, want to keep the logo and we should be able to since it was designed

by a member of the team and for the team."

Not content just to sit idly by and watch the logo that represented them during their 7-3 season relegated to the past, Dustin Kaplan, a sophomore kicker, started a



petition to make the current football logo the official logo of Albright Athletics. His results back up Pallash's statement that a large number of students like the current logo: there are over three hundred signatures on the petition already. Dr. Steve George, acting Athletic Director, calls the petition "premature." So why the fuss?

"Because Jesse designed it and I like the fact that a student and a team member came up with the idea," states Kaplan. Lambertson understands the team's concerns. "I understand that one of the students

designed it, we (College Relations) don't want to do something students hate," and he is "not at all offended that they like what their own teammate has done." However, according to Dr. George, no one has brought up the idea of implementing the current design as the official logo of Albright Athletics.

Other student athletes are rallying around the logo as well. Sophomore volleyball player Kari Forsy enjoys the current football design. "Personally, I don't like most of the proposed ones. I really like the football logo."

No deadline has been set for a decision about the fate of the Albright Athletics logo, but a recommendation will be made by the Athletic Department to the Board of Trustees and the Administration, who will make the final decision. Whatever happens, the process is sure to be followed closely by the members of the football team.

Pamela Herb is Editor-in-Chief for *The Albrightian*.

COMMENTARY

William Hung in 2004

Dan Ruedy
The Albrightian

People are talking. No, not about that nipple, but the upcoming presidential election! Ah, yes Barney Gumble, the day when they close the bars early! The day you can take off work to perform your civic duty! The day that has been paid for by the blood, sweat, and tears of millions throughout history. Remember that last election? The election of 2000 is one that will not be soon fleeing from the collective American consciousness. Virtually everyone with a degree in Political Science or taking an advanced placement U.S. government course had enough fodder for small talk to last well into the millennium, and, wait, hear it? They're still pouring lemon juice on that paper cut. It was just the second time in U.S. History that the candidate with the most votes did not win and we were rudely reminded of this thing called an electoral college. For first time voters, myself included, were left with a sour taste of deception and the feeling that the system had failed, but as the cloud of smoke and "dimpled chads" cleared, the resentment turned towards the failure of the American

people, more notably the failure of our generation, to utilize the influence and control we like to believe we have.

I find it a poverty that the young people of today seem more interested and are more likely to "vote" in artificial, pseudo-democratic elections like American Idol or Total Request Live. It's almost like the cultural monster most responsible for this trend, MTV, is trying to come to terms with its uselessness by heavily plugging their famed "Choose or Lose" campaign. Through careful spin doctoring, they present the figures from the last election as a monument to their own greatness. As if these ads actually slap any sense into an aging generation or our younger brothers and sisters that are probably too stupefied by images of Britney's honeyed thigh or a misplaced nipple. Simply put, we're supposed to be proud that four years ago, roughly 18 million of us made it out of bed to the polls. That's all well and good, but we can do better.

To understand the trend a little better, we must increase the resolution of our sample. Compared to 1972, the 2000 Presidential Election

actually saw 12 percent fewer youth aged 18-24 at the polls. In 2000, only 42% of 18-24 year old citizens voted, compared to 70% of citizens 25 and older. Current college students or those with some experience are twice as likely to vote as non-college youth, according to YouthVote, an organization dedicated to improving youth voter turnout.

According to iTouch, a UK based firm contracted to compile votes for the 2002 season of American Idol, 15.5 million telephone votes were received during the two hour long finale. 15.5 million Americans were moved to voice their opinion on a contest that won't determine whether they go to war, whether more arsenic is allowed in their drinking water, etc. In that same season, roughly 100 million telephone-based votes were tabulated, compared to 101.5 million voters turning out in November of 2000. Though there are no statistics of repeat voters during the American Idol season, those



SHE BANGS! William Hung, who recently scored both a record deal and music video contract.

numbers are staggering.

In a day when youth seem to be at the bottom of agendas in Washington and state governments across the country are cutting back on education funding, you'd think that we would respond. 2000 made the cliché that "every vote counts" so annoyingly clear. We can't really blame Florida anymore. But here's a parting thought: according to the Youth Vote Coalition, if all the 600 seniors at Sarasota High School in Florida had voted (for a certain candidate, mind you), they could have easily overturned Bush's 537

vote margin that gave him the presidency. Maybe Kerry will win it all with William Hung as his running mate.

Dan Ruedy is Assistant Editor-in-Chief for *The Albrightian*.