



La Roche College continues to renovate

By Sydney Harsh
Editor-in-Chief

College undergoes
\$275,000+ renovations

Last year, La Roche College launched the Zappala College Center Square into the 21st century.

This year the College continues to launch the College Center hallway, as well as a few other locations throughout campus into the 21st century.

President of the College, Sister Candace Introcaso, said the renovations for the College Center hallway were staged right before commencement.

“All the spaces we have renovated over time and plan to renovate in the future are where a lot of interesting things happen,” she said. “Students want to be a part of those interesting events, so that is why we planned to renovate the areas we did this summer.”

The president said the College is able to budget for these renovations each year in their Capital Expenditure Budget. This budget allows La Roche to continue to renovate its facilities each year.

“We want to do these major types of renovations when it would be least disruptive to our students, faculty, staff, and conference guests,” Sr. Candace said.

She said once the design was staged the College began the actual renovation process in the beginning of June. The deadline for the renovation was August 5, 2016; however,

that deadline was extended a week.

The president said the College also started renovating the last six suites of Schneider Hall at the same time the College began the renovations of the hallway.

“After four years of renovating – Schneider Hall is, finally, completely renovated,” Sr. Candace said. This renovation also included the renovation of the lounge area.

Throughout the summer the College also made a few smaller renovations, she said.

“We put a sprinkler system in Peters – it is bright orange piping; everyone loves it,” the president said jokingly. “But, it makes the Hall a little bit more distinctive from the rest of the resident halls.”

Sr. Candace said when the College first built the three residence halls in lower campus, the College was not required to have sprinkler systems.

However, she continued, “We are certainly going to try to address the sprinkler system issue because we want our students to be as safe as possible.”

The College started with Peters because it was the easiest to do, the president said. The College does intend to put sprinkler systems in Mahler and Schneider over time.

Another small renovation this summer was a few cosmetic changes to the first floor of the science center. The cosmetic changes included painting the walls, lighting, and putting a focus on the College’s Study Abroad and Study U.S.A. programs, Sr. Candace said.

“We have the Study Abroad and Study U.S.A. programs, but not a lot of students know about them,” she said. “We wanted to put pictures of students who went on some of the trips to inspire and excite students to

participate in these two programs.”

There are many benefits to these renovations – both big and small, the president said.

“These renovations benefit the students, faculty, and staff because anytime we enhance an environment it makes people feel good. It also gives the College a fresh feel to it,” Sr. Candace said.

She used the Zappala College Center Square hallway as an example.

“Many students and faculty think we expanded the hallways, but we just upgraded the lighting,” the president said. “We simply just enhanced the hallway to give it a more welcoming feeling.”

Sr. Candace said the number of students who utilized the space in the square told them how important it

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Information Desk secretary Rose enjoying her newly renovated desk.

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La Roche College accepts students from closed ITT Tech campuses

By Heather Radick
Contributing Writer

La Roche College has always accepted transfer students from all over the world. It has multiple partnerships with different Pennsylvania colleges to ensure a wide variety of incoming students, and will give them a pleasant experience at their new school.

This assurance is especially paramount now, because, as of September 6, ITT Technical Institute announced that it was closing all locations nationwide amid a crackdown on federal loans. Forbes magazine reports that the move left as many as 45,000 students without a school, drowning in one of the highest rates of student loan debt in the industry, and wonder-

ing if their painstaking years spent at college will go to waste.

La Roche College Graduate Admissions Counselor Sherryl Lisco confirms that La Roche will be accepting any and all ITT Tech orphans with the same respect and accommodation afforded to all transfer students.

This is quite the feat in itself, as many universities are hesitant to take in transfers from for-profit colleges, fearing residual liability. ITT Tech’s own website warned that “it is unlikely that any credits earned at an ITT Technical Institute will be transferable to or accepted by any institution other

than an ITT Technical Institute.”

Sherryl Lisco has already accepted three students from ITT Tech, and expects many more to come in the following months. ITT Tech graduates are likely to possess a degree in technical engineering or computer sciences, though many leave the school with an associate’s degree in criminal justice or nursing.

For any wandering ITT Tech students desperate to salvage their floating credits, La Roche College will accept up to 66 credits, as most ITT Tech students will be left with more than the standard 45 credits of an associate’s degree. Their labor and ex-

perience will not remain worthless for long, as La Roche rewards those who show diligence and ambition in pursuing a higher education.

ITT Tech is considered a for-profit school; that is, one is that privately owned by large businesses hoping to make a profit off of prospective students. These institutions often advertise deceptively affordable schooling targeted directly to those who are unable to afford federally-funded school and want to learn a practical skill to be used in the workforce, like ITT Tech’s

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Student Life



SGA executive board unveils new plans for semester

By Kristen Spezialetti
Contributing Writer

La Roche's 2016-2017 Student Government Association (SGA) is working hard to carry out last year's plans and acknowledge suggestions from students.

One project proposal SGA received last year, according to President Veronica Russo, is installing a fire pit in the courtyard between the Zappala College Center and Wright Library. Finally, after months of planning and re-planning, Russo confirmed that SGA will place a portable fire pit in the courtyard once the members and grounds keeping staff weed and clean the courtyard.

Executive Vice President Brooke Audino worked diligently on the issue on the previous plan to convert the dance studio, used by the dance team, to a cardio room. La Roche resolved this issue by deciding to expand the lower level dance studio in the Kerr Fitness Center to include more weight and cardio equipment.

A plan that SGA plans to implement this semester is spreading the

word about SGA meetings and projects. Brett Meeder, Director of Public Relations, said he plans to use Twitter to reach students and get the community involved. Meeder also plans to use the bulletin board in the Academic Building to advertise the board and upcoming events.

He plans to promote the use of the suggestion box, to encourage students' participation.

Audino plans to start a monthly or bi-weekly movie night. She plans to use social media to vote on which movie to show.

Members of the board will be attending a conference hosted by the American Student Government Association (ASGA) from Oct. 6 to 9 in Washington DC. Attendees will learn leadership strategies and collaborate with different colleges from all over the country to develop new ways to improve La Roche.

La Roche's SGA proves themselves to be an important asset of the college community. SGA serves as a li-

aision between students and faculty. Russo said, "[SGA] is a representation of the students and their ideas about needs to be done around campus."

An advantage La Roche's SGA has is the size of the school. It is easier to talk to faculty to express problems and this advances the outcomes.

Last year, Russo proposed to change the math placement tests. She does not think this change would be in effect so quickly if it were not for the size and close-knitted nature of La Roche.

This close-knitted nature also contributes to the level of collaboration between SGA and other clubs, an idea being emphasized this semester. "[The size of La Roche] puts us at a really good position to operate, because of the chemistry we have," Meeder said. Russo also commented on the importance of that chemistry, saying, "If we don't motivate each other, we are not going to get it done."

Russo, Audino, and Meeder agreed that this year's SGA board is goal-ori-

ented and is capable of successfully resolving issues. "I think we work well together," Russo said.

One ongoing issue SGA addressed is the student body's apathy. Meeder said, "It's their job to make their voices heard."

SGA is working hard this semester to better capture students' interest. This will lead to a more productive SGA and a better college community. "If we don't hear what the student body wants, we just fill a 17-person agenda," Meeder said. "It's more than putting on your polo and sitting in the Ryan Room for a half hour."

It is only with the support and participation of the college community that SGA can truly thrive and serve its purpose. "People have to fight for the school they want," Meeder said.

Students and faculty can learn more about SGA and their goals by attending the SGA meeting in the Ryan Room on Oct. 26 at 5p.m.

Internships offer hands-on experience, bolster resume

By Kristen Spezialetti
Contributing Writer

According to Forbes, students fill roughly 1.5 million internships across the United States each year. More and more companies are turning to internships, mostly unpaid, to scout out potential employees and provide professional experience to students and recent graduates.

Internships are usually a one-time professional experience related to a student's major or career goal. Interns are often working in a professional setting under the supervision of practicing professionals. Students can have paid or unpaid internships and may be able to receive academic credit. At La Roche, some majors require students to complete an internship before they graduate.

Internships fulfill many purposes. Working as an intern, in any setting, provides experiences that educators cannot teach in a classroom. By gaining experiences, interns have an edge over the competition when applying for jobs, because they have experience, even if just a summer's worth.

Internships often lead to full-time

positions. Interns are able to gain hands-on experiences and potentially work themselves into a job. By completing an internship successfully and professionally, interns already have a background with the company.

Internships also give students the opportunity to see what positions are available and which ones they want to pursue.

Although internships are often unpaid, the skills and opportunities gained from them often prove to be more valuable than the lost wages. Completing an internship leads students to a new world of resume building, job opportunities, and real-world experience.

Forbes writer Jacquelyn Smith said, "Internships are a great opportunity to test out a company and determine whether you'd want to work there full-time."

Not only does the completion of an internship benefit interns, companies benefit as well.

Hiring an intern allows employers the opportunity to be more produc-

tive, scope out new talent, and most importantly, find future employees.

Internships give companies the perfect opportunity to hire successful interns.

Although internships sound like a good deal for everyone, the hard part is getting one.

Employers look for very specific skills sets when hiring an intern. As the number of internships increase, employers must be more selective and require certain tasks and experiences that will best suit their company.

In a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employer (NACE), 271 employers participated. This survey concluded that, "In terms of competencies they seek in their interns and co-ops, employers weigh ability to work in a team most heavily."

Prospective interns can stand out by noting clubs and organizations on resumes that display leadership and teamwork skills.

Desirable skills sets are not the only thing needed to obtain an intern-

ship. Grades prove to be an important component of the hiring process.

The NACE survey concluded, "When selecting candidates for their internship and co-op programs, employers look at the applicant's field of study; a high GPA and leadership experience are also significant factors."

Employers look to resumes to see if prospective interns and employees have these skills sets. Resumes make or break a student's chance at obtaining an internship or job.

Internships are important things to put on resumes, demonstrating an intern's hard work, accomplishments, and industry experience.

La Roche College's Office of Career Development presents opportunities to enhance professional skills with available internship opportunities and job fairs. Visit collegecentral.com/laroche for more details.

Community

Student's charity continues to thrive

By Lauren Villella
Editor-in-Chief

While most 9-year-olds are preoccupied with sports and video games, Conner Hagins had his eyes fixed on ventures of a different kind.

Hagins is the founder and president of "Cuddles for Kids," a non-profit charity devoted to improving the lives of others through donations and special events. Hagins, a sophomore marketing management major, founded the organization in 2006. When his father had surgery that year, an observation Hagins made sparked an idea.

"My father was in the hospital with double bypass surgery and patients at that time, you get a stuffed animal for your condition, for coughing and breathing," Hagins said. "I asked a nurse, 'Does everybody get a stuffed animal?' Because being 9, that was one of things you see when you walk in the room. And the nurse told me not everyone gets it, it's only for the condition. So it was kind of just an idea from there."

"Cuddles for Kids," Hagins said, began with a primary focus on children, but has now expanded to meet the needs of all age groups. Hagins, a native of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, said it was hard to get "Cuddles for Kids" off the ground because people initially questioned its authenticity.

"From the beginning it was really hard because, especially in my hometown, people don't know if this is a legit thing, you don't know if it's a scam, so it was hard to start up," Hagins said.

For the first couple years, Hagins said, "Cuddles for Kids" collected approximately 50 to 100 stuffed animals.

"Now we're sitting at over 107,000, I believe, stuffed animals collected," Hagins said. "I think it's around \$13,000 in money donations and grants and stuff like that. So it's definitely grown rapidly."

Hagins said his mom was instrumental in helping him start "Cuddles for Kids," a venture he thought would last only a couple years.

"And now you're sitting here 10 years later, going on 11 years, and it just keeps going and every year it's just getting bigger and better," Hagins said.

Hagins said his classmates at the time responded with mixed feelings to his starting a charity. Their reaction, Hagins said, may have stemmed from the amount of press coverage "Cuddles for Kids" received in its earliest years.

"There was a lot of negativity with it," Hagins said. "But I knew what I

was doing and I knew why I was doing it and it was special for me. But then I also had a lot of teachers that were very supportive of it."

In the year of its inception, Hagins said, his charity did not have a specific name. Hagins credited his parents with helping him to select a title.

"I think at the end of the first year we made the name," Hagins said. "Obviously at the time it was for kids. It was going to be kids-based."

Hagins said he and his parents selected the word 'cuddles' because of the charity's collection and donation of stuffed animals. 'For kids,' Hagins said, was because of the charity's initial focus on children.

"Now, we've just kept the name because we've liked it and it's stuck with us," Hagins said.

At age 9, Hagins said, he never imagined "Cuddles for Kids" would be what it is today.

"It's kind of bloomed into something absolutely crazy," Hagins said. "I think at that time, it was just an idea for maybe that year, or for the next couple years. It was kind of one of those things, at the beginning, we didn't know what we were getting into, we didn't know what it would turn into."

Hagins said he is lucky to have the support of the La Roche community and, specifically, the men's soccer team. In 2015, Hagins said, "Cuddles for Kids" started an event at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC called "Kickin' It With The Kids."

Hagins said he and members of the men's soccer team, including coaches, gather in the Eat'n Park Atrium and interact with patients. Hagins is a goalkeeper for the soccer team.

"We set up a little event where we do soccer with the kids, we do crafts," Hagins said.

The soccer team also takes a toy cart room-to-room so patients can select an item they like, Hagins said. The most important thing, Hagins said, is to allow patients to have some respite from their ordeal.

"Every time we go there it's something new and it's something different, which I like a lot," Hagins said. "We try to interact with them and we grow bonds with some of the people that have been there. It's special. It makes you appreciate being healthy and being happy and that's the biggest thing."

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Humans of La Roche

Similar to Brandon Stanton's Humans of New York, Editor-In-Chief Sydney Harsh set out to ask students and faculty inspiring and motivating questions, eliciting insightful responses.



Q: What are you passionate about?

A: “One of my passions is to help people. I have been socialized and raised with the idea that helping others is a way to help yourself. Having the roots on this idea, I have been able to help so many friends in different situations. Like my idol Roberto Clemente said, ‘If you have the chance to help someone, and you don’t do it, you are wasting your time on Earth.’”

–**Angel Sanchez**, senior psychology and sociology major



Q: What are you looking forward to this year?

A: “I am looking forward to beginning research with Dr. Bozym this year. I am brainstorming my own questions related to biochemistry that I want to research and test. This will be my first real scientific research. I am really excited to create my own lab experience and work with Dr. Bozym to do so.”

–**Cassidy Shaffer**, sophomore biochemistry and biology major

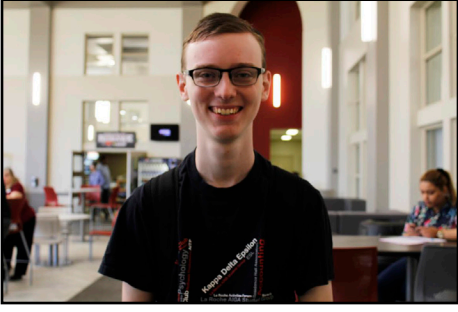


Q: Why did you choose your major?

A: “The reason I chose my major is a bit silly; it’s not a ‘noble’ pursuit like “I want to solve cancer!” or “I need to be a doctor to save people!” I sat and thought “If I could go back in time, what would 3 year old Jess be most proud, most amazed and most excited to see myself as?” I think a lot of life is about satisfying our childhood selves; it’s when you’re most happy, when everything is simple and carefree so why not pick a career that embodies that happiness? Young Jess loved the X-Files and Sherlock Holmes stories so, I picked science. What keeps me going though is thinking how proud little me would be to see if I can be like Dana Scully or Sherlock Holmes. I told you it was silly.”

–**Jessica Seng**, senior chemistry and forensic biology major

Man in the Street



Name: Andre Parker
Major: Communications
Year: Junior

“I played with Neopets a lot when Neopets were cool for like, a year and a half.”



Name: Hannah Mclee
Major: Business Management
Year: Freshman

“My favorite toy was my Easy Bake Oven!”

Entertainment editor Jess Lee asked students:

“What was your favorite toy when you were younger?”



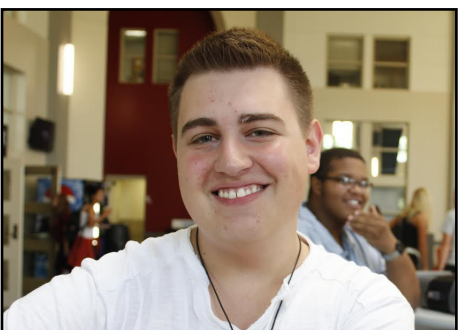
Name: Audrey Swandeski
Major: Marketing
Year: Freshman

“Obviously my American Girl Dolls!”



Name: Isaiah Johnson
Major: Information Technology
Year: Freshman

“I’m gonna say Legos.”



Name: Michael Van Kirk
Major: Business Management
Year: Freshman

“I loved Hot Wheels.”

Man in the Street

Continued...



Name: Jess Seng
Major: Chemistry
and Forensic
Biology

“Definitely Sega Genesis. We used to play it so much! Nintendo was expensive so Sega was for poor people. I loved playing Sonic the Hedgehog.”



Name: Andres Ortiz
Major:
Communications
Year: Junior

“I have no idea... I really liked to play Club Penguin?”



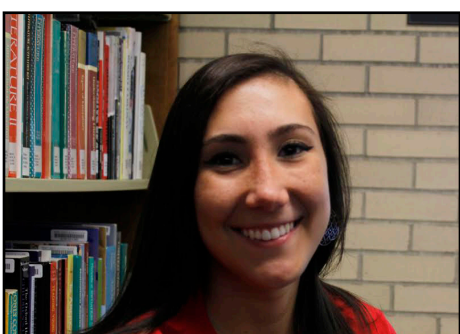
Name: Samantha
Ramsey
Major: Chemistry and
Bio Chemistry

“I remember when I was younger I played with some marble game? I don't know the name, but I loved playing with toy cars. I smashed them together until the paint came off.”



Name: Kai Javois
Major: Information
Technology
Year: Junior

“Mario Kart 64 was awesome. You and your cousins would be playing and smash into each other- by the end you'd make a lot of enemies.”



Name: Tori Albert
Major: Marketing
and Management
Year: Junior

“Probably Barbies... and Polly Pockets.”

Interested in joining our staff?

The Courier is always looking for new writers and photographers.

Contact either Sydney Harsh or Lauren Villella for more information on writing for the Courier.

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'Sully' soars with riveting suspense, passion

By Lainey Standiford
Contributing Writer

"Miracle on the Hudson"—that's what the media called it. If anyone could portray the hero captain who emergency landed a plane onto a river—Tom Hanks is your man. Risking his life once again for the safety of others, Hanks shines in the true story about a remarkable event that instills confidence into humankind once again.

Hanks plays the tenacious captain Chelsey "Sully" Sullenberger, who flew the ill-fated plane. After 208 seconds in the air, U.S. Airways flight 1549 crash-landed in the Hudson River on Jan. 15, 2009. Shortly after takeoff from La Guardia airport, a flock of geese blows out both engines on the jet.

Other screen veterans join him onscreen portraying First Officer Jeff Silkes (Aaron Eckhart), Sullenberger's wife Lorrie (Lauren Linney), and investigators of the National Transportation Safety Board.

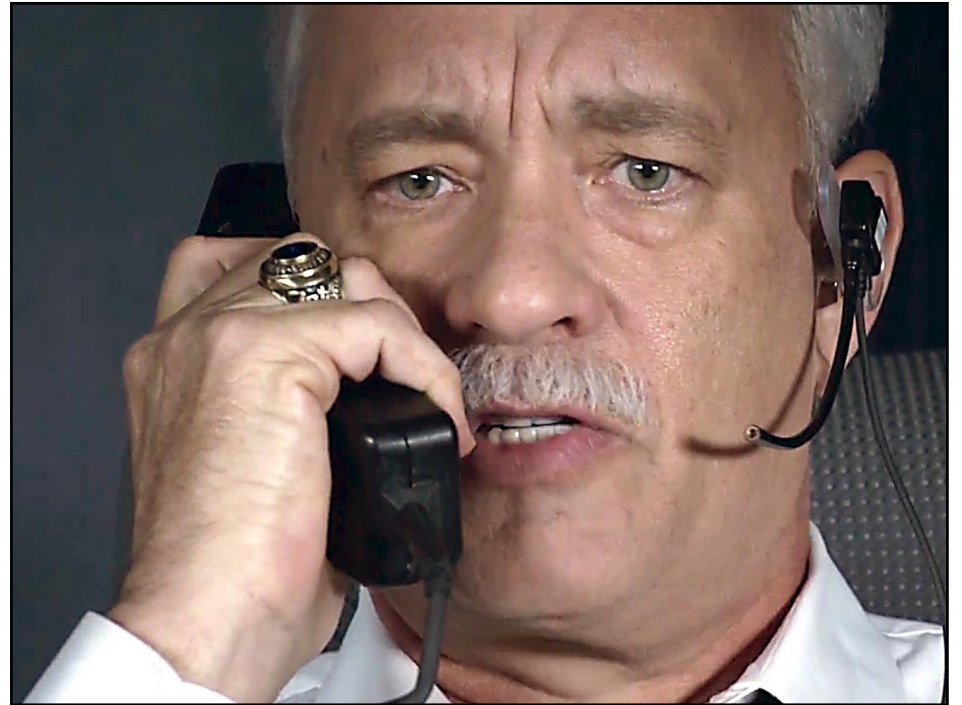
Directed by Clint Eastwood, and based on the book "Highest Duty"—the movie focuses intensely on the moments of action, and on the consequences that Sullenberger faced after safely landing and saving all 155 souls. How about a happy-ending for

the man that saved everyone? No—there is fist-clenching moments of anger watching board members grill Hanks. Because, according to protocol, Sully should have returned to La Guardia.

Eastwood's unique storytelling technique creates the suspense fitting for a movie such as this. He cuts from scenes of the plane—to boardrooms with the NTSB—to Sully, torturing himself over possibilities of different outcomes. They push the actual flight as long as possible, instead of opening with it, to place the focus on the aftermath of the incident.

The film runs 96 minutes—but efficiently covers everything to make the plot line riveting. Eastwood opens the film with a nightmare—a plane crashing into a building in New York—similar to the 9/11 attacks. Yet, minutes in, Sully jerks awake. Dreams that haunt the pilot-turned-hero add the idea of human error, the one thing the NTSB simulations lack trying to prove Sully wrong.

A story ripped from the headlines—Hanks portrayal of Sully leads the movie through the drama and the exhausting emotional impact only a plane crash could present. "Sully" is



A still of Tom Hanks from the movie "Sully."

a movie about good news, in a time where good news is scarce—especially involving airplanes. Hanks leads the show, quickly allowing us to become immersed in the film. Sully is a man confident in his ability, his knowledge, but unfailingly humble.

Paired with a great movie score,

"Sully" sweeps the theater out of their seats and into the plane, experiencing everything with the cast. For those looking for a movie with passion, simplicity and a true story driving it, "Sully" comes out on top of the list.

Renovations (continued from page 1)

was to give the square and the hallway a face lift.

The College also made some big changes to the Information Desk, she said. "We designed it so it juts out a little bit, which makes it a lot easier for guests, students, faculty, and staff to navigate."

The president added that the College plans to renovate the signage on campus. "We want to give the rest of the offices on campus: Registrar's Office, Student Accounts, etc. the same look we gave the Information Desk; big block, stenciled-like letters, as well as making the signs ADA compliant.

Another small renovation the College did over the summer was upgrading the sound system in the fitness center, Sr. Candace said.

"You can now hear the announcer's announcing the players' names, as well as the calls the referees make

throughout the game," she said.

The College plans to continue the renovation process throughout the school year.

"We already started renovating the hallway to the bookstore," the president said. "A few of our interior design students were asked to come up with a design for that hallway as a project for one of their classes."

Sr. Candace said the interior design students presented their ideas and designs.

However, the final design for the hallway was tweaked somewhat. The College does not have the resources to do some of the big ideas that our interior design students had in mind, she continued to say.

"The design for the bookstore hallway will include replacing the old furniture with more modern furniture, replacing the blinds, and upgrading

the lighting," the president said.

Also, the College plans to renovate the Redhawk Café.

"This renovation will be through a relationship with SAGE, our dining hall service," Sr. Candace said. "They will also be funding this renovation. To reimburse them, we agreed to extend their contract with La Roche College."

A few other renovations students can look forward to, she said, are the second floor of the science center, sidewalks along Babcock Boulevard and the College driveway, the residence halls, and the courtyard.

All of these renovations are designed to benefit the La Roche Community, the president said.

"Everything the College is focusing on renovating helps bring people together and build community," Sr. Candace said, "whether it's a place like the courtyard: a place to relax and

have a good time, or the hallway to the bookstore: a quiet place to study."

She said she hopes that with all of these renovations, the La Roche students will appreciate what the College is doing for them.

"I want our students and faculty to know that we are committed to quality facilities," the president said. "We believe that is important to enhancing one's learning environment. You feel good about La Roche and the La Roche community when you look around and see that everything is clean and comfortable. It's all part of creating an environment where each and every one of us can engage each other and feel good about the La Roche Community. I hope that this message is reflected in these enhancements."

"Everything the college is focusing on renovating helps bring people together and build community."

-Sr. Candace Introcaso

Clubs

New app spotlights LRC events

By Sydney Harsh
Editor-in-Chief

This year, La Roche College invested in an attendance app called 'Check I'm Here.'

Jeffery Daily, assistant director of student development, said the app will help track the attendance at events occurring on campus. The app will also help advertise for those events.

The app is pretty simple and easy to use, he said. "We take a unique ID number on the back of each student's ID card; this is how the app records your attendance at each event," the assistant director said.

"The app does more than just track your attendance," Daily said. "There is also another part of the app that not many people know about; it's called the La Roche College events app. This part of the app allows other offices throughout campus to advertise for an event they are hosting."

For now, La Roche is using the app

to keep track of attendance and advertise for events. However, the program does so much more, he said.

The office of Student Development is trying to work out the bugs right now.

"For example," the assistant director said, "there is a feature to have a wavier that would pop up, in the app, once a student signs into an event."

Daily said the College is still in an early stage of development for the app.

"I believe that everyone using it is trying to figure out how to maximize their use of the app to benefit their department," he said. "That's why we have to start from the basics. Eventually we will introduce the other aspects of the app to the departments, but for now, we want it to be an app that's simple to use and understand."

'Check I'm Here' has many bene-



Students at a La Roche event.

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fits for our students, faculty, and staff on campus.

It benefits our students, the assistant director said, because the app has a list of events students can attend. Students can then access this information from the palm of their hand.

"[Student Development], as always, is trying to find new ways to reach out to the students who want to know what is going on around campus, and the app is a great central location of everything the College has to offer," Daily said.

He said the office of Student Development is always brainstorming ideas that will benefit the clubs and organizations on campus.

"I am currently working on a process to where clubs can use this app to

help keep track of their attendance at meeting, as well as their own events," the assistant director said.

Faculty and staff members also benefit from this new app, Daily said.

"It is a much easier way to collect data than pen and paper," he said. "In the past, the way to track attendance at events was to have students sign in on a sheet. That method can be very tiring for the person who has to then type up all of those names."

Student Development said they plan to eliminate the old pen and paper method to track attendance, and introduce the entire College to the 'Check I'm Here' app.

Photography Club an outlet for students' artistry and creativity

By Jess Lee
Entertainment Editor

With a new school year comes new ideas, and one La Roche student's new idea is to give life to the photography club.

Brooke Audino, a junior and graphic design major, is the current president of photography club for the 2015-2016 school year. This is the club's second year at La Roche.

According to Audino, the president last year wanted to focus on photographing campus events, such as basketball games or dances. The club drastically declined in membership as many of the participants wanted to take artistic photographs instead, Audino said.

"... instead of being 'go photograph events on campus,' we're going to go places like the Phipps Conservatory and Mt. Washington for a day to take pictures of the city from up on the hill," Audino added. "It won't be 'go to the basketball games and take pictures of the basketball games.'"

While the club will have a bigger focus on the artistic side, Audino says they will still be doing a lot at La Roche, like taking pictures at the Halloween dance and the Blizzard Bash, and working with other clubs.

Audino said the idea for the club spawned while she was taking a photography class at La Roche. "I wanted to teach people how to use their cameras at the same time I was sort of learning. I also wanted to use the experiences to go other places and take pictures of other places."

The photography club had their own booth at the activities fair that

was held earlier this month where 25 new students signed up. Audino said the hardest thing about getting people to join in the first place is they think they need a camera to be in the club. Audino explained that wasn't the case.

"I'm fine if people use their phone camera, but I hope we can get a camera this year... I want to make sure people in the club have a chance to use a DSLR instead of their phones

or other things," Audino said. "I want them to have a chance to be on an even playing field with other members."

The time and place for the first meeting has not yet been decided. Audino said, "If you have any questions about how to use your camera, or want to take better photos, or edit, you can talk to me and I can try to help you."

If you are interested in joining photography club, you can contact Brooke Audino at brooke.audino@stu.laroche.edu.



Brooke Audino capturing the beauty of campus

© JESS LEE

Charity (continued from page 3)

Seeing patients' smiles and the reactions from their families, Hagins said, are the biggest rewards for him.

"Kickin' It With The Kids" also receives some help from members of the La Roche women's soccer team, Hagins said. The next "Kickin' It With The Kids" event will be on Nov. 18 at Children's Hospital, Hagins said.

Hagins said he would like to grow connections with the Pittsburgh Penguins and Steelers and get them involved in "Kickin' It With The Kids."

"We actually grew a connection with the Steelers," Hagins said. "We've actually contacted one of the players' wives and that is heavily with Children's Hospital. Hopefully we can grow a connection there. It's the Moats family."

Hagins said he would like to get the La Roche community more involved in "Cuddles for Kids" events. Last year, Hagins said, "Cuddles for Kids" hosted a toy drive at La Roche.

"I'm on SGA this year and there's another club, LAF, that we're trying to do a dance or event or a charity game or something along that line where we can get the school involved and get some of the students involved in

a fun way," Hagins said.

"Cuddles for Kids," Hagins said, has also been relevant to him in the classroom. Hagins said his first La Roche marketing professor, Rishi Bahl, knew about "Cuddles for Kids."

"When we would do things in that class, he would always bring my charity as an example," Hagins said.

Hagins said his marketing classes connect to his real life experiences in managing "Cuddles for Kids." His classes, Hagins said, provide him with a bigger picture of different marketing strategies and advertising ideas he can apply to "Cuddles for Kids."

"It definitely all connects and it definitely all goes together," Hagins said. "I think having a charity, it just helps with understanding the whole cycle of it."

Hagins said his advice for other people his age who would like to start a charity includes always striving to be your best.

"No matter what you do, you've got to love what you do," Hagins said. "Sometimes it might not be the most fun, but if you make it exciting and make it happy, and put a lot of emotion into it, you'll love it and it'll be

something special that you'll always remember."

It is also important, Hagins said, to surround yourself with people who support your vision.

"If you have a dream or if you have an idea, push towards it," Hagins said. "Don't give up on it. Keep trying to achieve it, no matter how crazy it may seem."

It is easy for others to get involved in "Cuddles for Kids," Hagins said.

"With us, we're trying to help as many as people as possible," Hagins said. "That doesn't matter if it's something small or something big. I think this year, one of the biggest things is we revamped our website and we made it easier for donations and stuff like that."

Craig Bruno, La Roche's director of annual giving and advancement services, helped to update the new "Cuddles for Kids" website, Hagins said.

Hagins said he is also working on creating a committee for "Cuddles for Kids." Two members of the men's soccer team, Hagins said, will serve on the committee.

"We're trying to grow in the Mc-

Candless area and hopefully get connected with some of the places over here, the shops, the restaurants," Hagins said.

Hagins said he wouldn't be who he is without "Cuddles for Kids" and is thankful for the support he has received.

"Cuddles for Kids" is who I am and it's always with me and it will be stuck with me," Hagins said. "It's special for me, every event that we do. Just to see not only how far I've come, but how far "Cuddles for Kids" has come and all the people that support it. I don't think there's a feeling quite like it in seeing how successful it's become."

Going forward, Hagins said, he hopes "Cuddles for Kids" continues to grow. Hagins added he also strives to contribute to more organizations.

"I definitely want to make it bigger than it is and help out more agencies and more hospitals," Hagins said. "We've actually donated to many hospitals around the United States but, maybe, grow to different colleges is an idea."



Conner Hagins, founder of "Cuddles for Kids," with a patient at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. © TRACY GIBSON



A group photo from the April 2016 "Kickin' It with the Kids" event at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.

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ITT Tech (continued from page 1)

computer-based technical degrees.

Despite professing to be the best option for disadvantaged students, ITT Tech charged among the highest tuition fees in the country. In 2014, the tuition for attending an ITT Tech campus ranged from \$45,000 to \$85,000; however, as of September 2016, College Scorecard reported that graduates of ITT Tech schools nationally earned an average income of only \$38,400, measured at 10 years after graduation.

ITT Tech students were characterized by the school itself as "older and balancing family obligations with underemployment." On the flipside,

in 2014, Time magazine ranked ITT Tech number two on its list of "The 5 Colleges that Leave the Most Students Crippled by Debt," second to the University of Phoenix, another for-profit college.

In addition to complaints about cost, a group of more than 2,000 former students claimed they received a subprime education. A former ITT Tech Warrior, Leon Wiggins II, told the LA Times that he was "angry times ten million," as he was barred from finishing his paid-in-full education.

The shutdown was unsurprising to many who followed the recent col-

lapse of ITT Tech, which reached a critical point in August. The US Department of Education banned the school from enrolling new students who rely on federal financial aid – ITT Tech's main source of revenue – and required it put aside \$247.3 million in case the school went out of business. Clearly, this warning went unheeded.

Like many other passionate teachers and administrators, Sherryl Lisco finds the ordeal "unfortunate," but welcomes the influx of students with open arms and numerous opportunities, joining many other institutions in proclaiming that for-profit colleges will no longer be tolerated. She will be

patiently waiting for more eager students, from ITT Tech and elsewhere, to choose La Roche College to help them on their journey to success.