

The GW Hatchet

What's inside

Opinions

The editorial board lays out the botched federal response to COVID-19.
Page 6

Culture

Check out staff picks for must-have Amazon purchases this semester.
Page 7

Sports

Read about how GW's peers in the A-10 conference are handling fall sports.
Page 8

'CANNOT CONTINUE WITH ANY SENSE OF CONFIDENCE'

LeBlanc's support dwindles as hundreds faculty, staff, students call for resignation

ISHA TRIVEDI

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

ZACH SCHONFELD

CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITOR

University President Thomas LeBlanc's support among faculty, staff and students is fading.

Soon after LeBlanc arrived at GW in 2017, he announced improving the student experience and the University's institutional culture as two of his top priorities. But hundreds of students, faculty, staff and alumni now cite decisions he made as part of those initiatives as reason to choose new leadership.

LeBlanc began reducing the University's undergraduate population by 20 percent while upping the share of STEM students – dubbed the 20/30 Plan. The plan was quickly met with criticism from many faculty before it was halted in April as a result of the pandemic.

Now as GW faces a \$220 million annual budget shortfall, many faculty say recent decisions to lay off hundreds of employees and suspend benefits could have been avoided had the planned enrollment cut not been implemented.

More than 220 faculty and 130 students have signed a petition in recent days stating LeBlanc has "threatened" the "core values" of the University, citing the cut as part of their rationale. The signatories include at least 20 percent of the Fac-

ulty Senate.

"We need a president who understands GW and can inspire the whole community," the petition states. "We need a president with compassion and a clear moral compass, a vision for the future that builds up GW's reputation and the capacity to communicate effectively and steer our community through difficult times. Thomas LeBlanc is not that president."

The petition also condemns GW's partnership with the Disney Institute as part of the administration's institutional culture initiative. Officials have repeatedly declined to provide the full cost of the partnership, drawing criticism from many faculty.

Marie Price, a member of the Culture Leadership Team who helped oversee the initiative, signed the petition. Price did not return multiple requests for comment.

"President LeBlanc hired the Disney Institute to 'increase morale' at GW, despite Disney having virtually no experience with higher education," the petition states.

When reached for comment, LeBlanc said protecting the health, safety and care of the GW community and the University's "core" academic mission has driven every decision during the pandemic. Administrators have consulted "extensively" with faculty, the senate, staff and the Board of Trust-



HATCHET FILE PHOTO
University President Thomas LeBlanc has lost the confidence of several groups representing hundreds of faculty, staff and students on campus.

ees about these decisions, he said.

"I want to emphasize that I firmly believe that our University benefits from the collaboration and constructive input of our faculty, staff and students," LeBlanc said in an email. "Differing viewpoints and robust discussions on complex issues are expected and encouraged in a strong academic environment."

He added that officials began layoffs only after implementing other cost-saving measures, like leadership pay cuts and suspensions of most capital projects

and hirings. LeBlanc and most other administrators have previously declined to specify how much of a salary cut they took.

"We believe that instead of making indiscriminate, across-the-board reductions, a principled, unit-by-unit approach best supports our ability to continue to deliver our core mission of teaching and research," LeBlanc said. "As we have done throughout this process, we will continue to discuss our options with our community and communicate about them regularly."

Officials have declined to answer all of The Hatchet's questions about layoffs in specific offices, but affected employees said administrators have laid off hundreds of staff, including career coaches and IT workers.

LeBlanc declined to say if he has any plans to resign. He declined to say if he regrets the Disney Institute partnership, the 20/30 Plan or the strategic plan.

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences department chairs, program heads and directors sent an open letter to LeBlanc late last

month stating they were "disturbed" by administrators' lack of transparency during the layoffs.

"These actions lead us to conclude that we cannot continue with any sense of confidence in the decisions by you and your leadership team," the letter states.

Last week, nearly 50 faculty in the School of Business demanded administrators pause all layoffs until further consultation with faculty.

Tensions between faculty and LeBlanc were elevated after the hiring of Heather Swain last month, who later rescinded her job offer after hundreds raised concerns about her efforts to shield information from investigators during the Larry Nassar case at Michigan State University. LeBlanc has since apologized for the decision to hire her.

The senate will vote on a resolution Friday to censure LeBlanc for the hiring.

When the Faculty Association – an independent group open to all full-time faculty – met last month with more than 300 professors to discuss the Swain hiring and layoffs, members overwhelmingly supported a measure calling on the Faculty Senate to move forward with a vote of no-confidence in LeBlanc.

Almost 400 faculty members have signed an open letter to the Faculty Senate's executive committee calling for a no-confidence vote.

See ASSOCIATION Page 3

Students say professor who falsified Black identity 'betrayed' them

LIZZIE MINTZ

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

MAKENA ROBERTS

CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITOR

TIFFANY GARCIA

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

When junior Justin McCulloch took "World History 1550 to Present" his freshman year, he said professor Jessica Krug mainly focused on African and Caribbean history because professors focus "too much" on Europe.

McCulloch said Krug often criticized White professors who taught Black history. So when McCulloch learned through a Medium post that the professor was in fact a White woman from Kansas City, Missouri who claimed a Black identity for most of her life, he said he was in "complete shock."

"I had never, ever doubted who she claimed to be," he said.

McCulloch is one of more than a dozen students and alumni who said Krug "betrayed" their trust by blackfishing – when a person pretends to be Black – and allowing her falsified life experiences to steer class material. They said officials should go further than remove her from her classes and boot her from GW, adding that the University must learn from the situ-

ation and increase diversity in academic departments.

Officials have not disclosed how administrators will determine if or when Krug can resume her role, but the history department sent a note to students Friday evening calling on Krug to step down.

Daniel Schwartz, the chair of the history department, did not return multiple requests for comment but wrote to Krug's students early Friday that the department was seeking to remove her from teaching this fall. Krug has been removed from GW's course system but is still listed on the department's website.

The course system now lists Schwartz and Patricia Acerbi, a professorial lecturer of history, as the instructors for Krug's "History of Latin America I" class. Schwartz is listed as the instructor for her "African History to 1880" class but wrote students Sunday evening that he believes he has found a replacement for the course.

Five students have dropped Krug's Latin American history course and three have left her African history class since Friday morning, according to GW's course management system.

See OFFICIALS Page 4

Budget cuts during pandemic common among universities across the country, experts say

AMY LIU

STAFF WRITER

All of GW's 12 peer institutions are implementing budget cuts ranging from furloughing employees to delaying the implementation of certain projects and instituting hiring freezes.

Officials eliminated roughly 60 positions of event staff across various University departments, at least dozens of staff across the University's technology offices and at least 70 employees in facilities and the Career Center the past few weeks. Seven of GW's peer schools have instituted layoffs in various departments, while others are putting it off for now.

The University of Rochester projects a \$315 million budget gap while the University of Southern California has predicted a potential \$300 to \$500 million budget gap. Northeastern University, on the other hand, has projected a budget surplus by reducing operating expenses.

University spokesperson Crystal Nosal said the \$220 million budget gap accounts for the anticipated financial implications of GW's current scenario for the full academic year.

"The effects of the pandemic on the Univer-



FILE PHOTO BY SOPHIA YOUNG | CONTRIBUTING PHOTO EDITOR
GW's estimated \$220 million budget shortfall from the ongoing pandemic is pretty typical to that of other institutions of higher education, experts say.

sity have been very fluid," Nosal said in an email. "Due to the uncertainty of the pandemic, we expect these variables and our financial situation will continue to evolve."

Administrators had previously announced a postponement on most hirings and capital projects, a freeze on salary increases and a suspension of the University's matching and base retirement contributions. Senior of-

icials, including University President Thomas LeBlanc, also took a temporary pay cut as part of efforts to reduce GW's expenses.

"While these are difficult decisions, we have been and will continue to be focused on the health and safety of our community, caring for those affected and protecting our core academic mission," Nosal said.

Higher education ex-

perts said budget cuts and layoffs are common ways to minimize the financial impact of the pandemic across universities.

Barry Fishman, a professor of information and education at the University of Michigan, said it is not uncommon for institutions to make drastic budget cuts amid the pandemic.

See FACULTY Page 3

GWPD rolls out body-worn cameras, training reforms ahead of fall semester

JARROD WARDWELL

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The GW Police Department adopted a series of reforms late last month that officials hope will start answering student leaders' demands for more effective policing.

GWPD Chief James Tate organized two 40-hour, weeklong training sessions during the first two weeks of August with 18 focus points that included defense tactics, unconscious bias training and de-escalation skills, University spokesperson Crystal Nosal said. Tate said the revamped training pro-

gram, new body-worn cameras and an increased focus on community involvement highlight the department's latest efforts to improve campus policing.

"If the GW community doesn't trust its own police department, then we have to find ways to fix that," he said. "We can never be effective if we don't have the University's or the community's trust."

Tate said the changes are the first step in addressing concerns about a discord between officers and students. The Black Student Union wrote a letter to GWPD in June, demanding the de-

partment work to improve its relationship with students.

Tate said GWPD's new reforms include greater community involvement in the officer hiring process, during which students from the Student Association and student organizations for "underrepresented" communities will be able to ask interview questions and exchange perspectives with the department.

"They are so valuable to us or to me as an administrator because students see things that I can't see or I don't see," he said. "They pick up on things that I

don't pick up on."

Tate said he plans to hire a "community outreach officer" in the next month to build relationships with students and enhance community policing. He said officers will arrange video calls to engage students in any discussions with the department.

Division between students and GWPD grew earlier this year when an officer pushed a student down several stairs outside University President Thomas LeBlanc's on-campus residence during a protest. That officer was placed on administrative leave, and officials an-

nounced the department's new reforms in March following an internal investigation into the incident.

The February encounter between the officer and student compelled officers to use body-worn cameras to boost accountability and transparency within the department, Tate said. He said releasing video footage provided by the cameras places the department in better communication with the community.

"When we capture a good piece of video, that can help all of our officers get better, but it also helps with accountability, with

transparency when the public knows that we have the video, and then we're willing to share it," Tate said. "Anytime we do that, I think it strengthens our relationship with the community."

Public access to body-worn camera footage has become a topic of debate throughout the District, as the D.C. Council repealed emergency police reform legislation in July, returning the deadline for the Metropolitan Police Department to release arrest footage from three days to five days.

See GWPD Page 3

News

September 8, 2020 • Page 2

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

A CONVERSATION ON THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

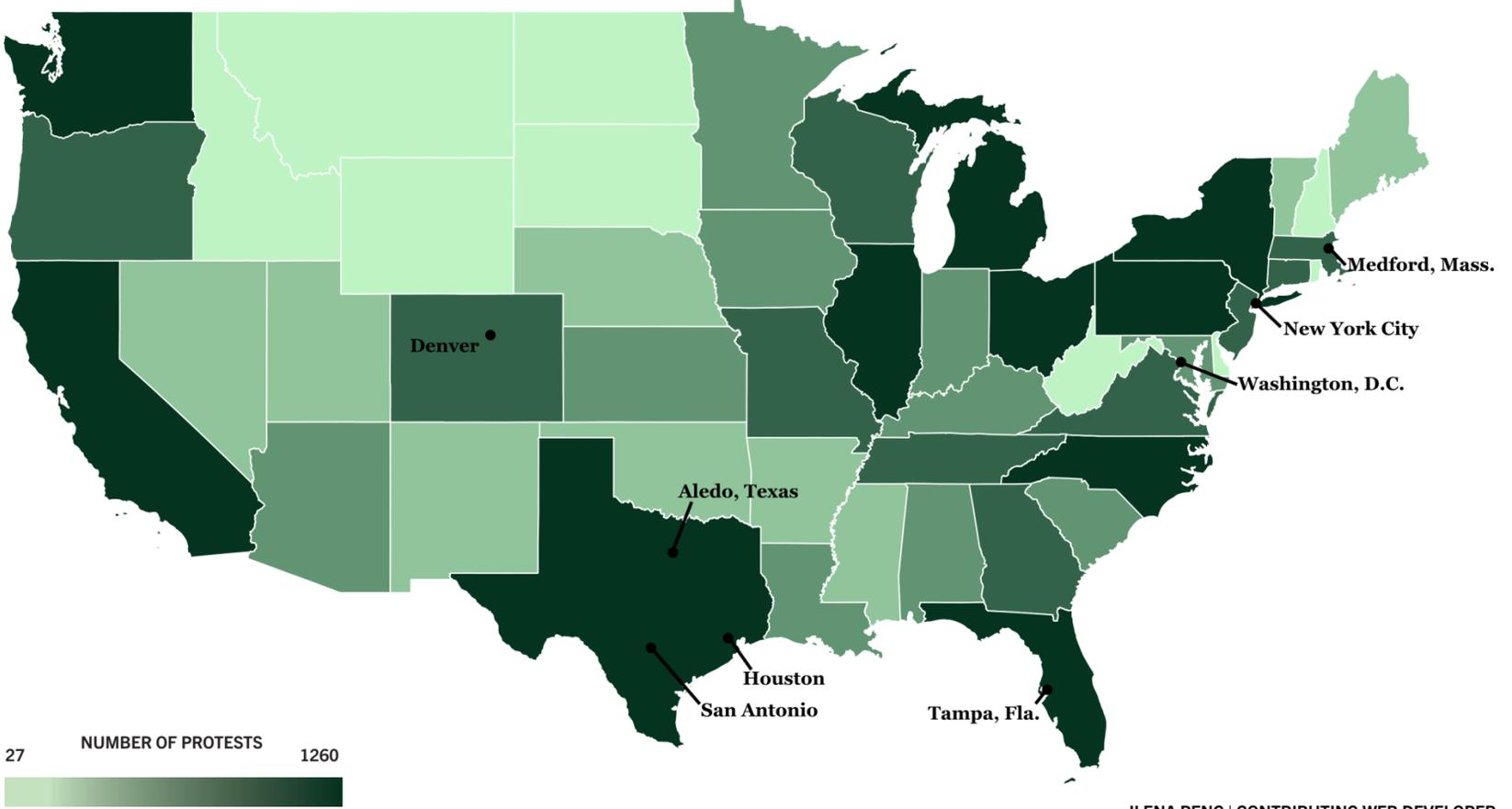
September 10 • Noon EDT • Free
Join a conversation between Jeremy Diamond, an alumnus and CNN White House correspondent, and Marianna Sotomayor, an alumna and campaign embed for NBC News.

COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO COVID-19 - ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS

September 11 • 11:45 a.m. EDT • Free
Join a panel discussing the factors that led to COVID-19's disproportionate impact on marginalized populations.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the name "George Washington University," administrators dedicated a White Ash tree, a clone of one Washington owned, on campus. September 1, 2004

BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES



ILENA PENG | CONTRIBUTING WEB DEVELOPER

ARIELLE BADER
ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

LILLIAN BAUTISTA
SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR

MAANSI SRIVASTAVA
PHOTOGRAPHER

SARAH ROACH
EDITOR IN CHIEF

SARAH URTZ
SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SOPHIE MOTEN
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer three months ago – and acts of police violence ensued – protests have erupted across America in support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Demonstrators brought attention to the numerous Black lives lost to police brutality, demanded budget reforms in police departments and highlighted other inequalities in areas, like the health

care system and education. The rallies culminated in a March on Washington late last month, where thousands of people flocked to the National Mall on the anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, and the protests have continued into the past couple of weeks.

Hatchet photographers documented several of these marches and rallies in varying parts of the country from May until August.

Denver, Colorado



SARAH URTZ | SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A protester holds a sign reading "I can't breathe" at the corner of Colfax Avenue and Washington Street in Denver, Colorado where traffic is stopped by crowds marching on May 30 to protest the police killing of Floyd.

San Antonio, Texas



LILLIAN BAUTISTA | SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR

On May 30, hundreds of protesters marched on Travis Park in downtown San Antonio to the police department headquarters to denounce police brutality following George Floyd's death.

New York City, New York



MAANSI SRIVASTAVA | PHOTOGRAPHER

A physician holds up a sign that states "stop killing my patients" during a protest at Union Square in New York City on June 5. Health care workers held the "White Coats for Black Lives" protest in New York City to show their solidarity.

Aledo, Texas



SOPHIE MOTEN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A group of protesters pass by the Faith Presbyterian Church on June 21 in Aledo, Texas. Following the march, they held a moment of silence for 8 minutes and 46 seconds, the amount of time Floyd was pinned down at his neck by a police officer.

Houston, Texas



LILLIAN BAUTISTA | SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR

On June 9, more than 1,000 students, scientists and health care professionals attended a protest dubbed "White Coats for Black Lives" starting at the John P. McGovern Texas Medical Center Commons to highlight discrepancies in treatment for Black patients.

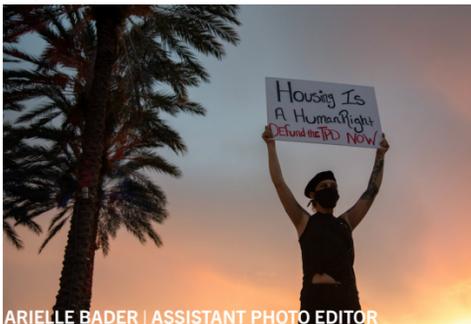
The White House, D.C.



MAANSI SRIVASTAVA | PHOTOGRAPHER

A protester climbs to the top of a traffic light in front of the White House on May 30, days after George Floyd was killed. The atmosphere was tense as protesters confronted a line of police in riot gear, who threw tear gas and fired rubber bullets at the crowd later that evening.

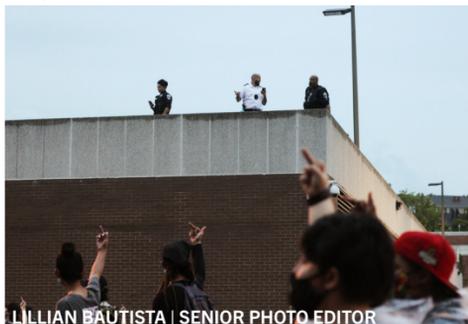
Tampa, Florida



ARIELLE BADER | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

A protester holds a sign reading "housing is a human right – defund the [Tampa Police Department] now" while facing a busy intersection in downtown Tampa, Florida at a Tampa People's Protest on Aug. 17.

Adams Morgan, D.C.



LILLIAN BAUTISTA | SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR

Protesters raised their middle fingers to officers at the Washington Metropolitan Third District Police Department. Demonstrators organized by They/Them Collective marched from Dupont Circle through Adams Morgan as part of weekly protests in support of Black Lives Matter.

Medford, Massachusetts



SARAH ROACH | EDITOR IN CHIEF

A protester faces a busy street in Medford, Massachusetts, holding a sign reading "respect Black lives." Protesters have gathered outside a Unitarian church in the city every Tuesday since Floyd's death.

MSSC staff aim to stay connected with students through virtual events

TIFFANY GARCIA
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Before the COVID-19 pandemic forced campus to clear out, some students frequented the Multicultural Student Services Center to catch up with friends, take naps on the sofas in the center's lounge and attend student organization meetings.

Now, MSSC staff are trying to recreate that space through community-building events and academic advising services while the center remains closed this fall. MSSC staff said they're turning to virtual meetings on WebEx to host events for students to build community and find a safe space.

MSSC Director Michael Tapscott said staff will continue their "community approach" via WebEx to work with and maintain interpersonal relationships with students who typically visit the center for support.

"The challenge for us is finding ways to provide really good: community building, cultural education, LGBT life, religious life and MSSC daily life," Tapscott said in an email. "All are things that seem to work best when rendered interpersonally. Without face-to-face human interaction, it is incredibly difficult. I would wager a bet that our office is one of the most relational

groups on campus, which requires that we are as creative and observant as humanly possible."

Tapscott said officials don't plan to cancel any previously scheduled events like Trans Awareness Week and Giving Thanks Dinner that traditionally occur in the fall. He said MSSC staff have reached out to student groups and community groups like the AT&T Center for Indigenous Politics and Policy to begin virtually planning for any upcoming heritage celebrations.

He said the MSSC's annual block party began Friday and was expanded to include five additional mixers for minority students to attend like an LGBTQ+ WebEx through Sept. 15. Tapscott added that September's Latinx Heritage Celebration will include 15 virtual events, like a panel discussion with Latinx professionals and a Netflix watch party.

He said the MSSC staff will share pictures of themselves and contact information in addition to advising and promoting multicultural and associated student organizations so students feel comfortable enough "to let their guard down." He said the center's programming is meant to encourage incoming students to recognize that their growth in the

"cultural intelligence component" of their student experience starts immediately as they begin college.

"We want the Class of 2024 to know that there is an ideologically driven center for cross-cultural understanding on campus, just a tweet, insta-story, email or text away," Tapscott said. "In the spring, hopefully, they will be able to walk by the front door and shout out, 'Anybody home?!' just as they walk in."

Junior Keyla Ruiz, a criminal justice major and the director of cultural affairs for the Organization of Latin American Students, said 'Meet La Familia,' Latinx Heritage Celebration's annual kick-off event on Sept. 15, will be hosted on WebEx as a meet and greet opportunity for Latinx students and groups. She said Miriam Martinez, the MSSC's interim senior program coordinator, has provided the LHC committee with resources like access to WebEx for events and promotion of the celebration on the MSSC newsletter.

"I'm actually really excited for all events," Ruiz said. "From knowing how these events were in-person to now switching to virtual, I know we are going to make it the best that we can be."

Experts in multicultural programming said they plan



HATCHET FILE PHOTO

Multicultural Student Services Center staff hope to recreate the familial feel of their townhouse on G Street through online programming this semester.

to provide personalized virtual programming events, celebrations and meetings to guarantee marginalized students still feel a "sense of belonging" at school.

Jessica Rea Guzman, the director of the Paul J. Briquette Intercultural Center at the University of Rochester, said her staff has focused on expanding bias training for professors and providing individualized support for students like open Zoom office hours in response to nationwide protests against

police brutality affecting students of color. She said the school has increased its outreach efforts on social media to make students aware of events like its annual "LGBTQ meet-and-greet" for students and faculty.

Guzman added that since Rochester is operating remotely this fall, the center is in the process of organizing outdoor activities like yoga for students living on campus. She said the department previously hosted virtual programming events

in August for students who returned to campus and needed to quarantine for two weeks called "Spilling the tea with the BIC [Briquette Intercultural Center]" so students didn't feel lonely while isolating.

"That was really fun and intimate and felt like a good way to meet people," Guzman said. "And we answered a lot of questions about the resources we offered, basically the same thing we would have done if we had an open house."

Faculty cuts negatively impact morale: experts

From Page 1

Molly Ott, an associate professor of higher and post-secondary education at Arizona State University, said higher education as a whole will take a large financial hit this academic year because of the pandemic.

Ott said universities are generating less revenue than expected and incurring unplanned expenses due to the pandemic through costs like converting courses to online formats, which requires new investment in technology and instructional design support.

Administrators held workshops this summer to assist faculty in moving their courses online.

She said tuition and fees paid by students is the main source of income for universities, and losing those sources of funds will be "devastat-

ing."

Ott added that it is common for universities to make cuts to their staff and freeze their matching and base retirement contributions for employees during this period to cut costs.

GW has announced a freeze on merit salary increases and the temporary suspension of matching and base retirement contributions.

Ott said universities are opting for permanent changes to their academic and non-academic programs like cutting athletic programs and reviewing programs to see where money could be saved or resources stretched.

Officials will cut seven athletic programs following the 2020-21 season due to "growing financial concerns."

George Justice, a professor of English at the Univer-

sity of Arizona, said universities may face permanent effects of going fully online for the fall like losing students as they consider other education opportunities. He said many institutions are making cuts to their faculty as an effort to close budget shortfalls.

Justice said faculty cuts may negatively impact students as professors could feel "demoralized" and have trouble figuring out new methods of teaching online.

Justice said universities may risk their reputation when their leadership "handles crises badly."

"I don't think university administrations have made good decisions, but that's partly because of the structure of higher education," Justice said. "Instead of working together, we are competing for a shrinking number of tuition dollars."

faculty members' disapproval for LeBlanc and the Board – criticizing LeBlanc and Board Chair Grace Speights. She said at the Faculty Association meeting last week that the graphics are for faculty members to circulate on Twitter or include on their syllabi or classroom Blackboard pages.

The graphics include various criticisms of administrators along with claims that some faculty members will give A's to all of their students this semester and that some will be unavailable every Wednesday of the semester for grading and advising students.

Multiple student groups have also called on LeBlanc to resign. GW Black Defiance launched a petition calling for him to step down Wednesday, which has since received more than 800 signatures as of Friday, according to an Instagram story post.

The Student Association has condemned the Swain hiring and encouraged students to "resist" ongoing layoffs by sharing their concerns with the Board but has not called on LeBlanc to resign.

Students opt for leaves of absence, deferred semesters

TIFFANY GARCIA
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

When officials announced the fall semester would go online, incoming freshman Ilaria Montecourt considered moving to D.C. with her roommates and taking classes remotely.

But she said she felt conflicted about moving somewhere new during an ongoing pandemic, and she didn't want to begin her college experience from home without being able to socialize in person. Montecourt said she ultimately decided to defer her enrollment for the academic year and spend the time interning at a technology start-up company in San Francisco that teaches mindfulness.

"I can defer and then get a typical freshman experience that people are missing out on this year," she said. "It's not going to be the same in the spring anyways, even if we did go."

Montecourt is one of more than 10 students who did not tune into Blackboard Collaborate and Zoom last week, choosing to defer enrollment or take a leave of absence while their peers take classes online. Students said they chose to attend GW because of the available internships and events offered in D.C., which would not have been the same had they stayed enrolled this semester.

Students who apply for continuous enrollment continue their studies elsewhere and may transfer up to nine general credits at another school, according to the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences advising website. Students who take a leave of absence take a "leave" from the University and do not study during that time, the website states.

University spokesperson Crystal Nosal said the number of students deferring admission this fall coincides with a national trend at other universities conducting distance learning this semester. She said officials won't have

finalized numbers of how many students deferred until October.

A May Carnegie Dartlet survey of 2,800 high school seniors said the later an institution announces its policy, the more apprehension students would have about it. Thirty-three percent of high school seniors surveyed said they would defer or cancel an admission offer depending on their college's reopening decision, according to the survey.

"Like many other universities with a significant population of international students and mostly online classes, the number of students deferring admission this fall is more than usual," Nosal said in an email. "GW is making every effort to support the enrollment of all new admits and returning students."

Continuous enrollment

Two students said they decided to take courses at their local community colleges as continuous enrollment students, citing concerns about finances and being unable to live in D.C. Both students said they will continue taking classes at their local community college if GW remains online in the spring.

Sophomore Sam Weinerman, a political science major taking courses at County College of Morris in Randolph, New Jersey, said he applied for continuous enrollment as soon as officials announced fall classes were going online in July. He said he saw no purpose in paying tuition for the semester if he was not going to receive the same access to professional opportunities and networking events that led him to choose to attend GW.

He said he is taking a constitutional law class to count toward his major during the fall and is working full time at his parents' grocery store.

"A lot of the reason people go to GW is for the Washington, D.C. experience, and it's just not the

same having to take those classes from home on a computer," Weinerman said.

Taking a step back

Nine students interviewed said they are deferring or taking a leave of absence for the semester because of concerns with academically succeeding in their classes and missing out on experiencing GW's social aspects in person. Students said they've decided to pursue internships and other work opportunities for the fall.

Yvonne Liccione, a sophomore majoring in political communication who lives in Waxhaw, North Carolina, said she chose GW for the School of Media and Public Affairs' political communication program, which presents opportunities to learn from professionals in her field.

Having joined the campaign for Rep. Andy Kim, D-N.J., and writing for Students for Sensible Drug Prevention, an independent magazine on drug prevention, Liccione said she felt more passionate about working on her projects than navigating virtual learning, which led her to defer.

"I know I don't succeed in online classes, I don't care enough to do them," Liccione said. "Quite frankly, if I care about something, I do it 140 percent, but online classes, you can't make me care."

Sarah Ahmed, an incoming freshman majoring in economics who deferred her acceptance until the spring, said she did not want to miss out on living in D.C. throughout her four years of college. She said is happy to be saving a semester's worth of tuition and working as a homeschooling teacher this fall.

"Paying even the 10 percent tuition discount honestly doesn't do that much," Ahmed said. "It's a great education nevertheless. But I don't think that it's worth \$26,000 for one semester of Zoom university."

Association forms committee for no confidence in LeBlanc

From Page 1

Erin Chapman, the president of the Faculty Association and an associate professor of history, said at the meeting that LeBlanc and his administration are operating GW like a "corporation" with a "lack of transparency."

"This is the continuation of a pattern of putting the burden for meeting the budget shortfall on faculty and staff, rather than the administration sharing that burden with us with their much larger salaries and rather than using the other resources that GW has at its disposal," she said.

Chapman said the vote would generate "negative publicity" for GW that the Board will be hard-pressed to respond.

"LeBlanc and his administration are treating GW as if it were a profit-making business beholden to shareholders, shareholders who expect an annual return on an investment," she said.

Laura Schiavo, an associate professor of museum studies and a member of the Faculty Association's steering

committee, said even if an official vote of no confidence in LeBlanc fails, it will still be "meaningful" even though it will not be binding.

The Faculty Association organized a no-confidence committee, which is working to organize faculty members to call for a vote of no confidence in LeBlanc, a direct action committee, which is working to plan public protests and strikes against LeBlanc, and an organizing committee, which is working to recruit more faculty members to join the Faculty Association.

The Faculty Association will hold a protest supporting LeBlanc's resignation in Kogan Plaza Friday.

"We are demanding the removal of LeBlanc as president of GW and for the BOT to be accountable to our community, or the whole lot has got to go!" the Facebook post announcing the rally states.

Dara Orenstein, the minister of information for the Faculty Association and a professor of American Studies, designed "GWUFA memes" – graphics describing

of his pocket and throw it into a nearby yard. Protesters who gathered outside the Seventh District police station Wednesday said the shooting was another case of police brutality.

Jeffrey Kerch, a GWPD officer who completed the department's training last month, said he spent between eight to 12 hours

learning how to wear and operate body-worn cameras. He said he doesn't think the training will change how he acts on duty, but the cameras will uphold transparency within the department.

"There's a lot of calls for transparency within police departments in general, and I think body-worn cameras can help with that

because we activate them when we're interacting with the public and during incidents," Kerch said. "And it's a camera. It doesn't lie."

Despite the recent training improvements, police and policy experts said the department needs to focus on reworking entry-level training requirements and swiftly releasing body-cam-

era footage to ensure department-level reform pays off.

Frederick Shenkman, a professor of criminology and law at the University of Florida, said the high number of training directives taught within the 40-hour training period won't help officers in real-life situations because of the lack of time officers could spend on each

topic. He said officers must complete a college education and police training that lasts more than a few months to serve.

Tate, the GWPD chief, said training will be "continuous" throughout the year, following the formation of the department's new training unit led by a lieutenant and an officer.

GWPD chief says training will be 'continuous' throughout year

From Page 1

Following last week's fatal police shooting of 18-year-old Deon Kay in Southeast D.C., MPD released footage within 24 hours of the incident, which shows Officer Alexander Alvarez shooting Kay in the chest when Kay appeared to pull a gun out

International affairs student groups work to support Black students

SAMANTHA SERAFIN
REPORTER

Students in the Elliott School of International Affairs formed two student organizations to enhance and promote African studies.

The student organizations, the African Development Institute and the Young Black Professionals in International Affairs, will engage with students virtually this fall to provide educational opportunities like educational postings and community discussions for them to expand their knowledge of African studies and network with professionals in international affairs. Student leaders said their organizations will create inclusive spaces for students to be exposed to topics traditionally marginalized within the international affairs field like Africa's development, whether or not they are in the Black community.

"You can't just have a singular voice with just one group of people speaking about something – you need to have everyone speaking about it," Sophomore and co-founder of the African Development Institute Crystal Nayiga said. "That's the way that you break down the stereotype of a single story. You can't help build a place or continent or community without the voices of other people."

Nayiga said she and two other sophomores first had an idea for the ADI in January after noticing a lack of educational opportunities for students to learn about research in Africa outside of the continent's economic and societal problems. She said some of the events she has attended at the Elliott school's Institute for African Studies have focused on the continent's "gloom," like the population's rising numbers but lacked discussions about Africa's political, economical and societal growth.

She said the group's social

media will be aimed at attracting students inside and outside of the Elliott School interested in learning about Africa's history and progress.

"And I know that maybe that wasn't the intent of our professors or people speaking about the subject, but because there was a lack of voices to show a different perspective, we're hoping that our org will kind of offer multiple perspectives that give you the full picture like yes, this is an aspect of African issues," Nayiga said. "But there's also another side there's like new young leaders emerging."

Sophomore Dasola Adeniyi, who is one of the co-founders of ADI, said students in the group can join one of three committees dedicated to research, networking and media. She said the student organization's main project this fall will be a research presentation posted on their Instagram page spanning several weeks aimed at educating members on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa's political, social and economic sectors.

She said the organization is also planning virtual talks with professionals in Africa for students interested in learning more about the continent's current events to engage with. She said she attended events at the Institute of African Studies last year, but she was usually one of the only undergraduate students in attendance and surrounded by graduate students and professionals and felt left out of the conversations with professionals.

Sophomore Hannah Jackson, president of Young Black Professionals in International Affairs, said she came up with the idea for the organization after noticing a lack of representation, support, community, and resources for Black students during her first semester as a student in the Elliott. Jackson said YBPIA hopes to

facilitate a professional, academic, and intellectual community so that Black Elliott school students feel supported and their concerns are heard.

Jackson said the organization plans to start the "open syllabus project" which will address how syllabi, curricula, and pedagogy within Elliott contribute to the exclusion of Black students in the field of international affairs. She said the project on their Instagram page will "push" Elliott to include the perspectives of African American scholars studying the mass dispersion of peoples from Africa during the Transatlantic Slave Trades and intentionally hire Black professors to teach courses, especially those about Africa.

"It will be a push to include the perspectives, the journalism, the readings, the writings, of African and African diaspora scholars within the field in Elliott syllabi and curriculums and events," Jackson said.

Sophomore Simeon Parker, vice president of YBPIA, said the organization hopes to improve the low retention rate of Black Elliott school students by providing students with resources like access to the Elliott alumni network to connect with Black international affairs scholars and professionals. He said the group has been reaching out to freshmen especially to provide support like holding Instagram livestreams on study tips for the school year and managing a LinkedIn page for students to engage with professionals in international affairs.

"In a lot of the conversations it's reiterated to me just how important it is to have some structure or to have some people that have your back, have somewhere you can go to find advice on just companionship and like minded people who want you to succeed," Parker said.



JACK FONSECA | SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Boston Properties, the company in partnership with the University to develop 2100 Penn and Rice Hall, agreed to renovate the park across The Shops at 2000 Penn in a deal with GW.

Park across 2000 Penn to receive new trees, flowers, sidewalks

JARROD WARDWELL
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A park near campus is undergoing renovation this fall as part of a neighborhood improvement deal between the University, a real estate company and the Foggy Bottom community.

Catherine Dewey, the National Park Service's chief of resource management at the National Mall and Memorial Parks, said the construction site at Reservation 28 – which sits along Pennsylvania Avenue across from the Shops at 2000 Penn – was assembled Aug. 24. She said NPS approved designs to plant new trees and flower beds and replace surrounding sidewalks following a yearslong planning process with the real estate company Boston Properties.

Dewey said the designs include plans to replace trees that have been damaged in previous years because of age or disease, plant flower beds along the Pennsylvania Avenue side

of the park and renovate surrounding sidewalks with "aggregate concrete" used in other D.C. parks. She said NPS could also install new benches accessible under the Americans with Disabilities Act, but those plans are still "in flux" since production has yet to start.

NPS scrapped plans to install new ramps that would allow individuals with physical disabilities to access the space because officials would have to seek approval from the National Capital Planning Commission and the Commission on Fine Arts – federal offices that oversee urban planning and design, Dewey said.

Dewey was unable to comment on the number of trees or flower beds that will be planted.

She said the construction site shouldn't impact much of the area surrounding the reservation, as renovations will be limited to the confines of the park.

The \$700,000 neighborhood deal that includes

the renovation at Reservation 28 served as part of the University's partnership with Boston Properties to redevelop 2100 Penn and Rice Hall. Officials signed a 75-year lease to the real estate company last summer, and the northeast side of campus has since devolved into a construction site over the past year.

Boston Properties requested NPS approval to renovate Reservation 28 as one of three neighborhood improvement projects the company must complete before occupying newly constructed office space at 2100 Pennsylvania Ave., according to a deal the University reached with the company in 2017.

Sean Sullivan, the vice president for development at Boston Properties, said those involved in the renovations hope to be finished by the end of October. After finishing work at Reservation 28, Sullivan said the company plans to complete renovations at Rose Park and the 22nd and I Street intersection by the end of 2020.



FILE PHOTO BY ARIELLE BADER | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

After remaining vacant for two years, the top post at the Milken Institute School of Public Health's Food Policy and Health Institute is now filled.

Faculty hope food policy institute leader will bring clear direction

RACHEL ANNEX
STAFF WRITER

After two years without a permanent leader, Milken Institute School of Public Health officials announced a new director of the Food Policy and Health Institute.

Following a more than year-long search, officials tapped Michele Ver Ploeg, who has served as acting assistant administrator of the Economic Research Service for the past nine months, late last month to lead the institute. Public health faculty involved with the institute said they hope Ver Ploeg will bring an end to the "holding pattern" that has caused the institute to lack funding and a clear direction.

Ver Ploeg said GW's location in the nation's capital provides students with a unique opportunity to interact with federal institutions that can contribute to their learning experience. She said the world faces many "complex" issues like food security and health and looks forward to contributing to research and policy debates under her leadership.

"My goals are to ensure the institute is a trusted voice in producing research and analysis that can be used to inform policies that improve food security, encourage healthier food choices and promote the health and en-

vironmental sustainability of food systems," she said in an email.

She said her past experience in the U.S. Department of Agriculture and in health policy provides her with a strong background to tackle a wide range of U.S. health policy issues as the director of the institute.

"I grew up on a farm in Iowa, have gardened in the rich soil of Iowa, a rocky plot in upstate New York, a deer-prone community garden in D.C. and the clay-heavy soil of Virginia," Ver Ploeg said. "I love cooking and tasting new foods. Combined, these experiences give me a broad perspective of the agricultural, food and health policy challenges the U.S. faces."

She declined to say what feedback she's heard from faculty about the direction they hope the institute will go and how she plans to tackle issues, like lack of funding for the institute and confusion among faculty members about the institute's mission.

Public health faculty members said they hope Ver Ploeg will bring a clear direction to the institute, which they said has been underfunded and lacked a clear direction since former Director Kathleen Merrigan left two years ago.

The Food Policy and Health Institute, previously named the Food Policy Insti-

tute, has remained stagnant since the last director stepped down and its website was not updated for more than a year.

Bill Dietz, a former co-director of the Food Policy and Health Institute who was on the search committee for the director position, said Ver Ploeg is a "very solid" choice for this institute and he looks forward to working with her. He said for the past two years, he and his co-director have temporarily overseen the institute and are excited to see Ver Ploeg bring a new focus to policy initiatives.

He said Ver Ploeg has a strong interest in food insecurity, which he said is a critical issue as the COVID-19 pandemic has caused increases in U.S. levels of food insecurity.

He said food programs like Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children are stretched because of the pandemic, revealing a need for essential workers to be supported.

Dietz said Ver Ploeg's background in food policy will help advance Milken's exercise science department, where the institute is "officially" located.

"One of the weaknesses of the nutrition and exercise science department is that they don't have a very strong base in food policy, and Shelly brings that," Dietz said.

Officials investigating Krug's future at the University

From Page 1

"I'll have more information once it's official," he wrote to students in the African history class. "I will be in touch with you whether there will be a class as usual on Wednesday morning or we'll need to take a break a week in order to get the new instructor up and running."

Yomaira Figueroa, an associate professor of English and Africana studies at Michigan State University, said she was at a virtual forum Aug. 26 where a professor discussed Hache Carrillo – a former GW professor and writer who died of COVID-19 in April and was found to have falsely claimed to be Afro-Cuban during his career – when she was then approached by a junior scholar who had suspicions about Krug's identity.

Figueroa said she and three scholars discovered Krug was from Kansas City while researching her after the forum and began reaching out to editors and scholars who had worked with her to find out if anyone knew about her real identity and to trace the various identities she had donned. The group did not contact GW with their findings, she said.

She said she believes Krug outed herself in her Medium post to "control the narrative" of what people would say about her lying about her identity.

"We didn't want to hurt her in any way, which is why we didn't come forward on Aug. 27, or 28th, when we had already found out all this information," Figueroa said. "We just began to ask questions and hopefully think that someone would nudge her in the right direction for her to stop doing this."

Krug did not return multiple requests for comment.

Students reflect on experiences with

Krug

More than 15 former and current students said Krug's admission was initially "shocking," but after reading the Medium post, they said they now realize her actions in fabricating her identity were a "performance."

McCulloch, the junior who took Krug's world history class, said he emailed Schwartz, the history department chair, saying the incident "proves" the department and GW at-large must hire more faculty of color. Schwartz responded that one of his priorities when running for chair was to diversify the faculty but said GW's hiring freeze temporarily prevents him from following through, McCulloch said.

"The department wants to make amends," McCulloch said. "I truly, truly believe that."

Sophomore Lauryn Renford, who started her "African History to 1880" class with Krug last week, said Krug would attempt to make a "direct link" between Black students' experiences and her own, often starting statements with "we." She said Krug would tell Black students she was "so happy" to have them in the course but did not say the same to non-Black students.

She added that officials should not cancel the course because courses about African history are "limited" at GW.

Scott Ross, a doctoral candidate in the anthropology department, said he took two classes with Krug – including an independent study – and saw her as a "mentor." He said when meeting her, he believed she presented herself as a non-Black person, but she would sometimes imply or "subtly reference" identifying as Black through her mannerisms.

Ross said GW must disclose whether Krug's hiring was a result of increasing diversity, as universities often hire to diversify their staff. If her hiring was a result of in-

creasing diversity within GW or the history department, she must be disciplined or officials need to do more to diversify faculty, he said.

He added that students and colleagues Krug "directly lied to or deceived," especially her Black students and colleagues, should determine how she should be held accountable for her actions.

Officials, faculty members respond

Administrators said Thursday they are investigating Krug's claim that she lied about her racial identity. University spokesperson Crystal Nosal declined to confirm Thursday when officials were made aware of the post and whether any action would be taken against Krug.

Nosal declined to say Friday how many years Krug has been part of the history department and if students had raised suspicions about Krug falsifying her identity prior to the Medium blog.

Until an individual with tenure retires, their tenure can only be stripped as the result of terminating an instructional program, "extraordinary financial exigency" or "adequate cause," according to the University's Faculty Code.

The code defines adequate cause as the "unfitness" to perform duties because of "incompetence," "lack of scholarly integrity," "persistent neglect of professional responsibilities" under the code or "gross personal misconduct that destroys academic usefulness."

"Tenure is reserved for faculty members whose scholarly accomplishments are considered excellent when compared with successful candidates at similar stages of their careers at institutions of higher education or research that are nationally recognized in the particular candidate's field," the code states.

CRIME LOG

THEFT II/FROM BUILDING

Mitchell Hall (7-Eleven)
8/26/2020 – 7:28 p.m.
Closed Case
GW Police Department responded to a report of theft from 7-Eleven. Upon arrival, the male complainant reported that an unknown subject stole deodorant and shaving cream. GWPD officers canvassed the area with negative findings.
No identifiable suspect.

SIMPLE ASSAULT

Lisner Auditorium
8/27/2020 – 8:11 a.m.
Closed Case
A male staff member reported that a man threw a trash can at him. GWPD officers arrived on scene and arrested the subject. Metropolitan Police Department arrived and transported the subject to the Second District police station.
Subject arrested.

THEFT II /FROM BUILDING

Ames Hall (Mount Vernon Campus)
Unknown – Unknown
Closed Case
A female staff member reported her camera stolen from her office..
No suspects or witnesses.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY/ VANDALISM

Public Property On Campus (600 Block of 23rd Street)
Unknown – Unknown
Closed Case
A GWPD officer observed graffiti on a trash can and electrical box.
No suspects or witnesses.

THEFT II/FROM BUILDING

CVS Pharmacy (2125 E St)
8/29/2020 – 8:56 p.m.
Closed Case
GWPD responded to a report of theft at CVS. Upon arrival, GWPD officers made contact with the male complainant who reported that two unknown male subjects stole several laundry detergents and soap bars. Officers canvassed the area with negative findings.
No suspects or witnesses.

—Compiled by Kateryna Stepanenko

GW Libraries transitioning tutoring, academic success workshops online for fall

RYAN LIPTRON
REPORTER

GW Libraries staff are transitioning tutoring programs and academic success workshops online as classes go online for the fall.

Officials closed Gelman Library in March, citing COVID-19 concerns and later extended due dates for all previously borrowed items until students returned to campus. Geneva Henry, the dean of Libraries and Academic Innovation, said GW Libraries staff will provide virtual resources like research consultations and specialized software to help students with their online classes and will grant some students, faculty and staff members access to the library's physical space.

She said access to Gelman is "strictly limited" to students, faculty and staff members with active GWorld cards and "special" permission to be on campus this semester. She said GW Libraries staff have removed or rearranged the furniture in Gelman to ensure a minimum of six feet of distance between patrons, and the occupancy level will be kept at or below 25 percent by requiring seat reservations.

Officials approved about 500 on-campus housing requests to students with outstanding circumstances this fall.

Henry said books are currently available for carryout or delivery and can be requested through the online library catalog.

"Once the books have been retrieved from Gelman or received from other libraries, the requester receives an email with a link to schedule an appointment," Henry said in an email. "When the requester arrives for their appointment, they enter

the lobby through the designated door, show their GWorld card and are given a bag with their requested books, which has already been checked out to them."

Henry said the Top Textbooks program, which provides copies of required textbooks for short loans to students in certain courses, has been suspended for the fall semester.

"During the spring 2020 semester transition to virtual learning, we were fortunate that digital textbook providers made their textbooks freely available, and those included almost all of our Top Textbooks," she said. "That temporary provision is no longer available and while electronic versions of some of the Top Textbooks are available, most publishers will not allow libraries to purchase an e-textbook version of their textbooks."

Henry said she "strongly urges" students to tell professors of their restricted access to textbooks and encourage them to adopt open educational resources for their courses.

"The libraries have long been advocates for open educational resources, online resources that are freely available, to replace expensive textbooks and access codes," she said.

Henry added that students experiencing an "emergency need" for textbooks or course materials can apply for assistance from the GW Cares Student Assistance Fund, adding that Top Textbooks from previous semesters are still available to borrow through the regular book request process in the library catalog.

An August update from GW Libraries staff stated that all borrowed materials would no longer

be automatically renewed as of Sept. 1, and students and faculty can either renew outstanding items themselves or return them by mail or via the 24-hour book drop near the revolving doors outside of Gelman.

"Borrowers may renew items up to three times, but this will no longer be done automatically," the update states. "Once an item has met its renewal limit, it must be returned to the library."

Academic Commons staff will also provide live workshops on virtual learning for students who are struggling to cope with online classes and have prepared videos on topics like time management to help students stay motivated in their online courses.

"While some students enjoy the online classes, others may feel that online learning is more difficult or just not for them," the website states. "Much like with classroom learning, virtual learning requires a specific set of skills to be successful."

The website states that officials have suspended the sharing of print materials through consortium loan requests "until further notice," and books in other libraries in the consortium can be requested through the interlibrary loan service for either delivery or pickup at Gelman.

Research experts said students should take advantage of the virtual resources officials will provide for students instead of in-person facilities in the interest of public health.

Brian Raphael, a professor of legal research at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, said many students will want to use Gelman's physical study

reservation system because students may not be able to study at home.

"I think many students will want to use this reservation system since their home conditions may not provide an optimal study environment," he said in an email. "They may also not have good internet connections at home and may wish to utilize the Wi-Fi capabilities offered on campus."

Raphael said ebooks are easier to study electronically because students can search for key terms and take notes digitally.

"Ebooks have some advantages over hard copy materials, like being able to be searched full-text and in some cases, the ability to be highlighted and annotated electronically," he said.

Julian Allgood, a serial cataloger and authority control librarian at New York University, said NYU library staff are providing similar resources as GW Libraries staff, like planning to mail physical materials to students and faculty members or provide them the opportunity to pick them up in person.

"What most libraries are mainly attempting to achieve instead is to ensure that students or faculty have access to the content they need, whether physically or electronically," he said.

He said students and faculty should stick to virtual services and resources instead of going to Gelman as much as possible.

"From a public health perspective, I suspect that until COVID-19 vaccines and treatments are available, limiting the number of people in and out of the University facilities, including the library, is in everyone's best interests," he said.

TwentyTables reconnects food trucks, students during pandemic's fall months

CLEO HUDSON
REPORTER

TwentyTables and several popular food trucks reopened in Foggy Bottom late last month despite an unprecedented shortage of students on campus.

Alex Cohen, the founder and CEO of TwentyTables, said the company's food truck partners moved from Potomac Square to the Lisner Auditorium loading dock on Aug. 26 to make themselves more accessible to students and attract more business for the program. Cohen said he plans to match staffing and scheduling with the size of fall business numbers, which have fallen during the first week of serving students back on campus.

Cohen said food trucks moved across campus to accommodate students' living arrangements during the fall semester. Officials approved on-campus living for 500 students who returned to campus last month, filling Shenkman and South halls and District House, located just across the street from the hub of on-campus food trucks.

"We're trying to bring that additional level of convenience to students as well as increase the appeal of the vendors themselves," Cohen said.

He said even though the pandemic has damaged the food industry, food trucks are more flexible and mobile than other dining options, which helps them transport to busy areas.

The University announced its partnership with TwentyTables last year, launching a dining program that sells students \$6.60 meal tickets for local food trucks and donates meals to local charities for each ticket sold. Cohen said food trucks returning to campus through TwentyTables will supply students with dining options more diverse and affordable than other nearby restaurants.

"What we're hoping is

that students will recognize both the school and TwentyTables' efforts to bring this affordable food onto campus, and in that way we can get to bring the \$6.60 meals to them, especially at this time when budget is that much more of a challenge," Cohen said.

Since the pandemic reached D.C., some GWorld vendors have shut down or limited operations for the fall semester. Without business from students, faculty, staff and local workers, many food vendors near campus are struggling to stay afloat with a lack of funding and less food available to students.

Cohen said many of the food trucks affiliated with TwentyTables have been "resilient" and "creative" in their efforts to adapt to the pandemic's conditions.

"In most instances, they've been able to weather the storm pretty well," Cohen said.

Cohen said whether the food trucks stay on campus this fall depends on the customers, a clientele in smaller numbers with only a few hundred on-campus residents.

"If ultimately there's just not sufficient students using the service in the space, then we'll have to reduce and scale it back to whatever levels necessary," Cohen said.

SoulTarian, a vegan and pescatarian street food truck, has been back on campus since Aug. 28, chef and founder Christopher Arnold said.

Arnold said the relatively small number of students and faculty on campus has tested business sustainability. He said the truck still serves local employees, but the majority of business comes from residential students.

"Our loyal students are still back on campus," Arnold said. "They always come and see me, so I appreciate that. But that's a challenge because there's not that many people around."

Arnold said he chose to return to campus when he heard the University had welcomed back a few hundred students, many of whom sent him messages that stressed how much they missed his business.

"A lot of students were already on my Instagram account sending me messages, telling me, 'Hey we miss you. We can't wait for you to come back to campus,' so I was like 'OK,'" Arnold said.

Arnold said despite the continuous student support, he's gone from seeing 40 to 60 daily customers at lunch down to 20 to 25 so far this fall. He said SoulTarian has been utilizing touch-free payment methods, including Google Pay and Apple Pay, to keep business transactions safe during the pandemic.

Giuseppe Lanzone, the co-founder and CEO of the food truck Peruvian Brothers, said his truck is back on campus at least once a week, but sales have been "lower than usual" because of the limited number of nearby students.

Lanzone said the truck has adapted to customer dropoff by cooking less food to avoid wasting leftovers at the end of the day. He said Peruvian Brothers has also kept hand sanitizer by the window and followed guidelines outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

He added that the number of customers he's received on campus during the pandemic has dropped by half compared to previous years, now receiving between 40 to 80 customers per day.

"The majority of people are still working from home," Lanzone said. "There's the fear of people going outside, but I think little by little people are starting to come out more and more. And they've started to feel a little more comfortable with being outside and eating out of a restaurant or food truck."



FILE PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WELLING | SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
The arts and design school will grant limited access to Corcoran facilities to fewer than roughly 50 students to complete projects like capstone theses.

Corcoran grants limited access to studio space

JAYDE LYON
REPORTER

Officials in the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design implemented social distancing regulations for students with special access to the facilities to complete projects.

Kym Rice, the interim director of Corcoran, said students working on capstone projects and faculty and staff in the District who agree to the strict COVID-19 testing protocol will receive limited access to labs and studios at Corcoran. She said she anticipates fewer than 50 students will receive access to a studio space for the fall.

She said in order to meet health and safety standards, approved students can access the building on assigned days, and the building will be open to those students between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

"Other students, even those who live locally, will not be permitted access to campus or Corcoran spaces," Rice said in an email. "The Flag Building will not be open to the public at any time this semester."

Rice said officials are working to ensure no room, floor or building will exceed 25 percent occupancy at any given time. She said officials are still working to finalize the full details of guidance, but studios and labs have had furniture removed and rearranged to keep students separated six feet apart.

Rice said officials have planned for staff members to print necessary materials for students to limit the number of people in spaces like the printing area.

Anyone who breaks the University's policies jeopardizes access for everyone and will be "held accountable" through the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, according to a school-wide update from Rice. The website states decisions will be specific to each case and may include "warnings, censure, probation, public health education and the possibility of immediate and/or long-term removal from the University."

Robert Baker, the program head of the music department and an associate professor of music, said access to stu-

dio space is "critical" for seniors preparing their thesis projects.

He also said it is his "responsibility" to work in the program space to ensure that its "tangible assets are secure."

Baker said as the head of the department, he will teach from his studio space this semester with "better technology" and "a better piano," along with the music resources from personal and University scores.

Susan Sterner, the assistant director for academic affairs at Corcoran and the director of graduate studies for the new media photojournalism program, said at a town hall meeting for juniors and seniors that students with permission to access Corcoran's studio spaces should not be "afraid" to not come in if they are feeling unwell.

She told students at the town hall meeting to "err on the side of caution" when deciding to access Corcoran's studios to "keep each other safe and healthy." Sterner said professors will not penalize students for falling behind if they are feeling unsure or anxious about the pandemic.

The federal government should have stepped up to aid higher education

STAFF EDITORIAL

For colleges like GW – and the faculty, students and staff who attend them – the COVID-19 pandemic is worsening finances.

The death toll is still climbing, people are still out of work and colleges around the country are still facing a choice of whether to shut down its campus or risk students' lives. It did not have to be this way. The fact that the pandemic and its financial impact are this bad demonstrates the failure of national leadership to fight the virus and protect the well-being of people across the country. These failures have laid a colossal burden on universities to respond to the pandemic. And that burden has taken an economic toll on faculty, staff and students.

From the outset, the federal government dropped the ball. The Trump administration could have and should have used executive authority in January to mass-produce tests and protective

gear, but it did not. America could have relied on an existing pandemic response playbook – but the Trump administration got rid of it. And people should have been able to rely on Congress to provide economic aid to workers and businesses – but Congress only passed a small benefits package that has now dried up.

The federal government punted responsibilities to the states, and while some states responded well, others simply ignored the problem. With the government having abdicated its responsibility to keep the economy afloat, universities have been placed in the impossible position of having to pick up the slack – despite having nowhere near the capacity to do so. Universities were forced to make hard choices related to staffing regardless – because the government's failure left them no other option. Universities, including GW, may not have made per-

fect decisions in response to the pandemic, but we must recognize that they were left to their own devices with little support from national leadership.

While the CARES Act did provide some funding to colleges, it was woefully inadequate. GW received \$10 million – which is ludicrously little in the face of a \$220 million budget shortfall – and distributed it to students who needed it. The University may not have needed to dole out that money to students directly, and instead could have used it to prevent layoffs, if the federal government hadn't ignored students in its stimulus package. Students were also largely ineligible for the \$1,200 aid that most Americans received, even though college students are some of those hit hardest by the pandemic. It is shameful that their government failed to provide them the financial backstop that others re-

ceived.

The federal government's cascading failure extends beyond students, to faculty and staff of universities as well. Because universities did not receive adequate stimulus funds, they faced massive budget shortfalls from new student attrition and changes in operations. GW, for example, has had to lay off dozens of workers, with more firings expected. Being laid off in the middle of a pandemic and recession is devastating to workers and their families. But it remains hard to see what other options GW might have had – the endowment is largely untouchable, and raising tuition costs will cause more stress for families. It is the role of the government to pick up that slack and prevent havoc from being wrecked on families and the economy – the U.S. government failed spectacularly on that measure, and for that, we paid a price.

The federal government's

lack of leadership put all responsibility on individual states and in turn individual universities. Universities were allotted a certain amount of money in the CARES Act – GW chose to distribute it to students who met certain need-based criteria. This screwed officials into a financial position in which they felt that they needed to care for their students' needs since the federal government was not. It should not have been GW's responsibility to give the money to students to help them – that should have been the government's responsibility. While layoffs should not be happening right now, they need to occur because of the financial strain this pandemic has put on the University. Had the University been given more financial support from the federal government, and its students been supported by the government as well, GW would not be in the situation where it had to choose where

their funds should go.

Colleges' responses to the pandemic have been varied across the country – endangering both students and faculty. Some actions have been executed well, while others have been botched. For example, the University of Alabama's COVID-19 toll since bringing its students back to campus has reached more than 500. On the flip side, New York University has invited students back to campus but quarantined them and has suspended students who broke the rules. They could have kept their students safe and at home had they been given more financial resources to stay afloat this fall.

Universities' varied responses to the pandemic are messy. College administrations should not value finances over student health and safety, and our government should have recognized that and stepped up to the plate.

YAF's opposition to campus name changes is ignorant of reality

As students take an active role in effecting social change on and off campus, our community has an opportunity to assess the names of our buildings. Five student organizations – The Black Student Union, Students for Indigenous and Native American Rights, Persist GW, Students Against Imperialism and GW Black Defiance – have organized a campaign to rethink who GW venerates. It is well past time we heed their advice.

Matthew Zachary
Columnist

But in typical GW fashion, the far-right GW chapter of Young America's Foundation's executive board wrote out its temper tantrum at the potential changes. This group spews ideas that would make our slaver Founding Fathers proud by bringing speakers who are afraid of healthy vaginas to campus and giving a platform to a man who Fox News banned for his hateful rhetoric. This group despises social change, they hate the other and they claim to be the target of hatred when, at worst, they're the target of petty crimes. This group should not be taken seriously in GW's naming process.

But just for the fun of it, let's deconstruct the organization's old-dead-White-men bootlicking.

By the fifth sentence of its op-ed published in The Hatchet last month, the group's ignorance of the Black Lives Matter movement – and social change more generally – becomes clear. YAF writes that ditching the racist namesake of several campus buildings serves those who "seek to dismantle rather than cre-

ate." But their claim ignores the deep-seated rot in many U.S. systems. When peeling back the layers of a building, upon discovering dead wood, a competent builder recognizes the need to eliminate the rot and replace it. Recognizing James Madison, James Monroe and Francis Scott Key for "establish[ing] the foundational ideals of freedom, justice and equality" has some merit but only some. Each owned slaves, meaning those "foundational ideals" were intended for a select few. Their moral rot must be removed from our buildings.

YAF suggests that the contributions of these men to the United States are worth more than their "[p]ersonal flaws." The legacies that men like Madison, Monroe and Key left are those which Americans still seek to overcome – racism, imperialism and misapplications of justice. The e-board notes as much in their opening paragraph but apparently fails to connect 400 years of oppression to modern phenomena.

YAF also blames "[o]ur education system and popular culture" for a lack of national pride, citing a poll that shows more than one-third of Americans refuse to call our Founding Fathers "heroes" and one-quarter of millennials call them "villains." To borrow from YAF's idol, Ben Shapiro, "Facts don't care about your feelings." There is no doubt that the Founding Fathers took great risks in establishing this quasi-democratic republic. But to idealize them, to ignore their glaring flaws, is the exact opposite of their aims. Blind idolatry of leaders was for the English under King George, not Americans across the Atlantic Ocean.

YAF calls these opinions on America's Founding Fathers "unsustainable." They are, in fact, irrefutable. The American "success" story that YAF clings to was built off the backs of slaves, off the care of women forced to remain at home and even now seeks to exclude as many people of color and poor people as possible. The success YAF glorifies is at the expense and because of almost everyone who is not a wealthy, White, Christian man.

If "[the] journey is part of the story," as YAF noted, this American journey sought to quash any and all attempts at change, from the Dred Scott decision in 1857 to the recent gutting of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Madison and Monroe did not believe that Black Americans deserved the same rights – it's unclear if they believed their compatriots of color were even human. If they did, their slaveholding is unconscionable and constitutes a terrible act of violence. If they did not, their dehumanization of Black people is equally disqualifying.

GW needs more patriots who will stand for what this country is supposed to be about: freedom and equality. Removing namesakes, no matter how small, of the undeserving is the first step for our community toward alleviating displays of racism, both overt and covert. We must not accept anything less from our administration than the implementation of the plans proposed by the five groups named at the beginning of this piece – they are the students who are pro-American, not YAF.

—Matthew Zachary, a senior majoring in Latin American studies, is a columnist.

Op-ed: Filibuster abolition would worsen partisan divide

After witnessing the third presidential impeachment in American history, nationwide protests over systemic racism and the continual struggle to combat COVID-19, it is natural to feel like things need to change. But that does not mean we should destroy the filibuster, an institution that forces our political leaders to collaborate. In fact, they are the exact opposite of the changes that need to be made: changes that force public officials to focus on their duties as servants of all as opposed to their partisan loyalties.

Garrett Hoff
co-host "On the Ballot"

The filibuster, a rule that requires 60 votes to pass major legislation in the Senate as opposed to the narrowest possible majority, should be thought of as a fundamental institution of American democracy. As with the separation of powers and federalism, it can ensure greater participation in the governing process. The rule essentially requires bills to be supported by senators from both parties, as no party has held 60 Senate seats since 1979. In this time of remarkable polarization, this institution is more important than ever as it protects Americans from one party acting unilaterally in governing America.

One of the most heated political controversies in recent memory was Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme

Court. A key factor stoking the divisiveness was that without the judicial filibuster, the Senate majority did not need to consider other opinions because confirmation only required their majority – 50 votes – to hold strong. A controversial choice like Kavanaugh likely would have failed if Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., needed the support of 10 Democrats. The destruction of the filibuster would result in the ability for the majority to ram legislation on any issue down the throats of Americans with no recourse for the minority to stop it, as we saw with Kavanaugh's confirmation.

As tempting as it may be to blame governmental inaction on a wide variety of issues, including D.C.'s current lack of statehood on something as straightforward as the legislative filibuster, the real culprit is a poisonous national political culture that has made the unglamorous but necessary work of governing a near impossibility. It should not be easier to throw out a centuries-old legislative practice than to get a fraction of the other party to agree to a compromise. The terrifying fact of the matter is that getting rid of the filibuster will actively worsen this dynamic.

The devastating consequences of removing the filibuster have been well acknowledged by political leaders. Former President Barack Obama said as a senator in 2005 that the fighting and the bitterness and the gridlock will "only get worse" if the filibuster is removed.

As dysfunctional as our government currently is, destroying the filibuster will only increase dysfunction by escalating partisan conflict and further decreasing the influence of individual senators. When party leaders are no longer required to engage with members from the opposing party – as in the House – they can focus more on, as Rep. Justin Amash, L-Mich., said "using every tool to compel party members to stick with the team." This dynamic will devalue the influence of Congress as a whole by reducing room for individual senators to do anything without support from leadership.

It is understandable why many are frustrated with the current state of affairs. But dismantling systems that prevent the "tyranny of the majority" in a time when both sides have shown a disinterest in thinking beyond their own bases will leave us even more at the mercy of a current class of political leadership that has repeatedly prioritized the political aspects of their job over courageous leadership.

I understand how easy it can be to focus only on the winner-take-all nature of contemporary politics. But governing is about more than "winning" and "losing" – it is about maintaining the integrity of America for generations to come.

—Garret Hoff, a senior majoring in political communication, is a co-host of the upcoming WRGW show "On the Ballot" and a former secretary of the GW College Republicans.

Students deserve better – Jessica Krug must leave her position

We're almost a year out from the now-former Phi Sigma Sigma president's racist Snapchat, and the University has once again been shaken by a blatant anti-Black situation.

Hannah Thacker
Opinions Editor

History professor Jessica Krug, a White woman, admitted in a blog post that

she has been falsely claiming a Black identity for years. Her lie is a punch to every student, faculty member and staff who ever looked up to her or took a class with her.

Race relations in the United States are at an all-time high following the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and countless other Black Americans. The racial climate at GW could not be worse, as two racist Snapchats from sorority members have surfaced in the past

three years and a racially insensitive comment from our own University president caused an uproar just a few months ago. Krug is adding fuel to a country and school that is already on fire.

In her blog post, Krug wrote that she should be "canceled." But she adds that she doesn't even know what being "canceled" means. I have an answer for her – Krug must leave the University and stop teaching altogether.

Krug claimed to be a Black woman while teaching African History, writing a book on African leaders in the 16th century and writing three published papers on the African diaspora and African History. She built her academic reputation on a bunch of lies. She placed herself in stories and contexts that are not her lived experience.

This semester, she's teaching classes on African and Latin American history. She's

met her students this week. But Krug doesn't deserve to have a relationship with them when her platform is built off lies. She should hand her classes over to a more reputable and honest professor.

Representation is key in higher education teaching and research. Black professors and academics have more hoops to jump through and have had continuous representation struggles, all of which get exponentially

more difficult at a predominantly White institution like GW. Krug has taken a position away from an actual Black academic that could be just as or even more deserving of a position.

Black students at GW deserve better, and the University must do better at choosing who they hire to represent them. Krug must leave.

—Hannah Thacker, a junior majoring in political communication, is the opinions editor.

The GW
Hatchet

609 21st St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20052
gwhatchet.com | @gwhatchet

ews@gwhatchet.com
news@gwhatchet.com
opinions@gwhatchet.com
sports@gwhatchet.com
culture@gwhatchet.com
photo@gwhatchet.com
multimedia@gwhatchet.com

Parth Kotak, managing editor*
Kiran Hoefner-Shah, managing director*
Jared Gans, senior news editor
Lia DeGroot, news editor
Isha Trivedi, assistant news editor
Jarrod Wardwell, assistant news editor
Tiffany Garcia, assistant news editor
Makena Roberts, contributing news editor
Zach Schonfeld, contributing news editor
Ciara Regan, blog editor
Hannah Thacker, opinions editor*
Andrew Sugrue, contributing opinions editor*
Anna Boone, culture editor
Dolly Mendoza, contributing culture editor
Meggie Kaiser, contributing culture editor
Emily Maise, sports editor*
Belle Long, contributing sports editor

Sarah Roach, editor in chief
Lillian Bautista, senior photo editor
Arielle Bader, assistant photo editor
Camille DeSanto, assistant photo editor
Grace Hromin, assistant photo editor
Sabrina Godin, assistant photo editor
Sophia Young, contributing photo editor
Amanda Plocharski, assistant video editor
Dante Schulz, assistant video editor
Heidi Estrada, assistant video editor
Alec Ijewere, assistant video editor
Isi Rich, podcast host
Sarah Sachs, podcast host
Gwyn Wheeler, podcast producer
Lizzie Mintz, copy editor
Ed Prestera, assistant copy editor
Zeniya Cooley, head research assistant
Carly Neilson, research assistant

Lauren Sforza, research assistant
Rachel Annex, research assistant
Olivia Columbus, design editor*
Riley Burke, contributing design editor
Sidney Lee, graphics editor
Aaron Kovacs, web developer
Ilena Peng, contributing web developer
Lindsay Paulen, social media director
Amy Liu, contributing social media director
Donna Armstrong, contributing social media director
* denotes member of editorial board
Business Office
Andrew Shloh, business manager
Meredit Polk, sales representative
Mary Clare O'Connor, sales representative

Submissions — Deadlines for submissions are Friday 5 p.m. for Monday issues. They must include the author's name, title, year in school and phone number. The GW Hatchet does not guarantee publication and reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, grammar and clarity.
Submit to opinions@gwhatchet.com

Policy Statement — The GW Hatchet is produced by Hatchet Publications Inc., an independent, non-profit corporation. All comments should be addressed to the Board of Directors, which has sole authority for the content of this publication. Opinions expressed in signed columns are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the view of The GW Hatchet. All content of The GW Hatchet is copyrighted and may not be reproduced without written authorization from the editor in chief.

Cost — Single copies free. Additional copies available for purchase upon request.

Culture

September 8, 2020 • Page 7

THE SCENE

DC FRIDAZE AFROBEATS
September 11 • Food purchase required
Ozio DC
Experience nightlife again (with safety precautions) and dance all night to Afrobeats, Soca and Hip Hop artists.

CLIMATE ACTION MEETING
September 12 • Free
Eventbrite Registration
Join Citizens' Climate Lobby to discuss and plan how to progress forward with climate change agendas.

RELEASED THIS WEEK:

“FALL TO PIECES,” AN ALBUM BY TRICKY

How to be a stoner in your childhood home

DIEGO MENDOZA
CONTRIBUTING CULTURE EDITOR

If you're like me, your stoner days only really began to blossom in college.

The few occasions I got high in high school were met with anxiety that my conservative Christian parents would somehow find out. I could freely explore the world of cannabis once I got to GW, trying edibles with friends and smoking on a weekly basis — only to be sent home to continue online classes indefinitely.

But my years in college have helped me conceal my cannabis, and I've learned to carry those tricks back home this fall. Here's what you should know if you're yearning to smoke in your childhood home:

Getting the goods

When I abruptly flew home for the remainder of spring semester, my stash was left in D.C. for a lucky Storage Squad member to find, and my quest for a plug in my hometown began.

The obvious and often most convenient choice may be that guy from high school who you know has a side hustle. But you should dig a little deeper — 20-year-old boys can be unreliable. More often than not, you can find a more experienced, older plug to gather your goods from than a community college frat boy.

Ask stoner friends you trust if they could give you their plug's contact information. After getting a few references, reach out to them over text and ask them about their products, prices and pickup location. Choose which one you like best.

I live in a state where cannabis is still criminalized, but if you live somewhere where it is recreationally legal, you can order cannabis products for delivery. Some of these companies even offer discreet packaging to mislead your rents.

Securing supplies

Once you've secured your cannabis products of choice, consider your best options for consuming it without your parents finding out.

Many people find that vaporizing pens with THC oil cartridges are the most discrete options for getting high because the smoke it produces is less dense and fragrant. But if the experience of smoking bud is integral to your ideal high, you could buy disposable joint and blunt papers and cones because you can throw them away after use. My go-to options are the RAW organic hemp paper pre-rolled cones because I don't have to worry that my mediocre rolling skills will cause a bud spillage.

If you live in a state where cannabis is illegal, you might have trouble buying joint papers or glass paraphernalia. You can get around this



FILE PHOTO BY ARI GOLUB | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Is the remote semester less than conducive to your newly developed drug habit? Here are some tips to manage the hassle.

by looking for local smoke shops that advertise themselves as 18-plus or by purchasing supplies online.

Storing your stuff

Once you've gotten your supplies, it's time to hide your stash from sight and smell.

One of the best pieces of advice I've ever gotten from a plug was to invest in a pint Talenti gelato. Once you polish off the pint, you can clean the plastic container and use it as your weed jar. This plastic container is less bulky than your average mason jar and has a screw-on lid. It's

easy to tuck away, and all of the wonderful aromas you don't want your parents to smell are locked inside.

If you're in the market for something more sophisticated than an empty ice cream pint to store your cannabis, there are quite a few smell-proof bags and containers on the market designed specifically for stoners. Leafly, a publication for cannabis-related topics, published a rundown of the smell-proof “stash bags,” like Oh Sew Different stash bags and Stashlogix EcoStash bags to purchase. You can also find an overwhelming number

of options, like the Ozchin odor-proof bag with a combination lock, by doing a quick Amazon search for smell-proof or odor-proof bags.

Scoping out a smoke spot

Regardless of your method, cannabis smoke has a distinct and strong smell. Creativity is key in finding a spot you feel safe smoking.

First, have a friend tag along if you're venturing away from your house to smoke. Public parks and greenways are solid options, especially if you enjoy being high in nature, but make

sure you visit either early in the morning or late at night to avoid crowds. If you're a lucky one with a balcony or large backyard, wait until you've got the place to yourself to light up.

If you're smoking at home, I recommend adding your parents on Find My Friends so you know where they are and when they might be home.

Baking your bud

If you don't even want to risk your parents smelling your post-park high, edibles might be the way to go.

If you've secured a reliable and experienced plug, they will either have edibles to offer you or will refer you to someone else that does. Be intentional about understanding the dosage of any edible you purchase. Dosage guides can be helpful once you know how many milligrams of THC is in the edible you buy. For a seasoned stoner, anywhere from 15 to 50 milligrams will produce a desirable high.

If you have a couple hours in the house to yourself or a generous friend with a kitchen, you might also consider making your own edibles. There are endless tips and hacks for making edibles at home that you can research prior to getting out the mixing bowl. But when you're ready to get cooking, cereal treats, brownies and cupcakes are some of my favorite recipes to infuse.

Pop-up restaurants opening up around the District

CHLOE KEARIN WILLEFORD
REPORTER

You might be able to stop by your favorite D.C. restaurant whenever you please, but the District's pop-up food scene is rapidly changing.

Pop-ups, temporary eateries that pair up with established restaurants to host, are appearing around the District with menu items ranging from American to Mexican cuisine. From burritos, bagels to bacon, visit these blink-or-you'll-miss-them joints for a bite to eat before they travel to the next temporary location.

Delikatessen

D.C. favorite All Purpose Pizza, known for creatively-topped pizzas baked in their outdoor pizza oven, has recently added a temporary Jewish-style deli at its Shaw location. Delikatessen's menu includes classics like potato latkes (\$12) and pickles (\$6/pint) as well as deli salads in varieties like tuna (\$8), egg (\$6) and smoked whitefish (\$10). Bagels are made daily by local bakery Bullfrog Bagels and are topped with house-made schmears or served as sandwiches with eggs, pastrami, smoked salmon, tuna salad or pizza toppings.

Available Friday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1250 9th St. NW, pickup and delivery, bagel sandwiches

starting at \$12.

Fight Club DC

Beuchert's Saloon, a new American restaurant and bar in Capitol Hill, has temporarily transformed into sandwich spot Fight Club DC to combat revenue losses caused by the pandemic. Helmed by Head Chef Andrew Markert, the restaurant serves sandwiches like the Tonnato Melt with roasted pork & fishy tonnato sauce (\$14) and the GT Cauliflower with tso sauce & broccoli slaw (\$12). You can also grab a creative cocktail by Beverage Director Mackenzie Conway.

Available daily 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., 623 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, pickup and patio seating, sandwiches starting at \$11.

Muchas Gracias

This Mexican restaurant in Chevy Chase is offering a burrito lunch menu for the time being. Diners can choose between carnitas, short rib, chicken tinga, chorizo, vegan camote, sweet potato or “mystery” fillings for their burritos (\$12). Sides include chips & guacamole (\$8) and vegan queso (\$7).

Available Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 5029 Connecticut Ave. NW, pickup and delivery, burritos for \$12.

Butter Me Up

Sausage restaurant HalfSmoke, known for its game tables, sports TVs and party atmosphere, now operates a breakfast pop-up

each morning, according to Washingtonian. Compared to the host restaurant's vast menu of customizable dogs, Butter Me Up's indulgent menu feels simple. The pop-up, created by HalfSmoke's General Manager Michelle Andrade, offers sandwiches with sausage (\$10), eggs (\$8) or bacon (\$9), as well as the customer favorite “Feels Like Home” buttermilk fried chicken sandwich (\$10). Sides (\$4) include home fries and sweet potato tots.

Available daily, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., 651 Florida Ave. NW, pickup, delivery and patio seating, sandwiches starting at \$8.

Pier 1354

Although the interior of Swiss restaurant Stable might make you feel at home in the Alps with its wooden beams and pine decorations, its new pop-up that opened Aug. 6 is going for more of a beachy vibe. This summer, nearby Gallery O on H's patio was transformed into Pier 1354, described on its website as a “summertime seafood shack.” The menu combines classic New England seafood selections like shrimp (\$23/dozen), oysters (\$21/dozen) and mussels (\$19) with custom mixed drinks, like a Pier Chic with vodka & watermelon juice (\$12) and a Gin Ricky with gin, lime and club soda (\$12).

Available Thursday through Saturday, 5 to 10 p.m., 1354 H St. NE, patio seating, seafood starting at \$12.



SARAH URTZ | SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Check out our staff's picks for must-haves from Amazon this back-to-school shopping season.

The Hatchet's Amazon picks to jumpstart your online semester

GW HATCHET STAFF

Everyone's school supply list is looking a little different than usual this year.

This time of the school year usually warrants last-minute trips to Target, Walmart or the campus bookstore to pick up everything you need to start campus living and schoolwork. But as you transition to navigate school from home this year, overnight Amazon finds may become your new best friend.

We asked a few Hatchet editors what kinds of items they'd recommend off Amazon. Here's what they suggest:

Sarah Roach | Editor in chief
Electronic highlighter (\$79)

“I'm the type of person who likes to hold a textbook while I'm reading, but I always hated turning to my computer to write down notes. I bought this electronic highlighter last week and tested it out during the first week of classes. I basically highlight any text on a physical page, and the sentence will show up on a Google document. I can also read the text aloud and it'll translate them onto my laptop. When I'm studying for midterms down the line, I can look back at all of the notes I highlighted and it'll be there for me like I wrote them myself.”

Amy Liu | Contributing social media director
Blue light glasses (\$18)

“I've been spending way more time on my computer and phone because of virtual classes and internships,

and sometimes I find myself staring at a screen for hours. I found that these blue light glasses help with headaches and eye fatigue that comes with increased screen time, so whether you're sitting through a three-hour Zoom lecture or going on TikTok in between classes, you won't feel as tired and burnt out by the end of the day.”

Cold brew coffee maker (\$22)

“I found myself needing more caffeine throughout the day just because I'm spending so much time at home and not moving. My body feels naturally relaxed and lazy. This cold brew coffee maker is an easy and quick way to make my favorite coffee drink. Cold brews really help me with this because for me they are a little stronger and more refreshing and I don't feel as jittery after I drink it, and you can adjust the water-to-caffeine ratio to be how strong you want it to be.”

Yoga mat (\$20)

“With a lot of gyms in D.C. and around the country closed, I've been turning to virtual workouts. A lot of these classes don't require any equipment except for a yoga mat, which you can grab off Amazon.”

Olivia Columbus | Design editor
Hammock (\$28)

“I recently bought this hammock from Amazon that I can hang up between two trees. I really like that I can take it outside and get some fresh air in between classes or go outside to do work in it. Living in the city but not having access

to campus spaces can leave you feeling really cooped up, so being able to spend some time outside in my hammock has been a great way to change up my scenery when I would have previously utilized campus spaces to do work.”

Anna Boone | Culture editor
Watercolor paint set (\$30)

“At the end of a long day of classes, I crave a creative release that doesn't involve looking at my computer or using my phone. After purchasing this watercolor paint set, I set up the paints, a palette and a cup with water and brushes on my desk. So whenever I feel anxious, bored or pent-up, I open my sketchbook and doodle with the watercolors. Sometimes if I can't sleep, I'll just pop over to my desk and paint until I start nodding off.”

Diego Mendoza | Contributing culture editor
6-port USB charger (\$26)

“Virtually 75 percent of all things I own today need to be charged via USB. My laptop doesn't have enough ports, and I have lost all the USB socket cubes that come along with new devices. Instead of having to run to CVS and purchase a new adapter, this charging station has room for six cables, and the long cord means you can still lay in bed while on your phone. Best of all, the charger has current-adjusting technology, which means all of your devices will charge quickly and you won't have to worry about accidentally frying their batteries.”



KATE CARPENTER | PHOTOGRAPHER
Restaurants across D.C. are turning to pop-ups to find revenue amid the pandemic.



MEN'S SOCCER
vs. Liberty
September 10, 2019
The Colonials recorded their second shut out of the season against the Eagles.



MEN'S WATER POLO
vs. UCLA
September 8, 2017
Men's water polo took a beating from No. 4 UCLA, dropping the game 20-4.

NUMBER CRUNCH

3.99

The average kills per set Skylar Iott recorded in 2019, the highest single season average in at least five years.

A-10 roundup: How other conference schools are tackling fall athletics

BELLE LONG
CONTRIBUTING
SPORTS EDITOR

When the Atlantic 10 postponed fall sports until the spring semester, individual schools were left to decide whether fall athletes could come back to campus and train in person.

At GW, some squads like men's and women's basketball and women's soccer have returned to campus for training, according to their respective social media pages, but officials have declined to say how many student-athletes are back on campus and what teams they're from. Fellow conference schools are also bringing their athletes back, prioritizing social distancing, face coverings and continued testing as they begin practicing.

Athletic department spokesperson Brian Sereno said late last month that the athletic department is still finalizing its return to athletics plan, but the plan will abide by NCAA guidelines and in its testing protocol and workouts.

Student-athletes will only be allowed to use facilities, like weight rooms, under the direct guidance of coaches, strength and conditioning coordinators or sports medicine personnel, Sereno said. He added that any athletic activity will include the "latest guidance from medical professionals."

Here's a roundup of how athletes are training across the A-10 this semester:

Dayton

Dayton wrote in its return-to-campus plan that its athletic department would announce official guidelines for gatherings and events at a later date.

Athletes can practice in person using Dayton's facilities. Dayton's women's soccer team tweeted Aug. 16 that the squad underwent COVID-19 testing, physicals and bonded with socially distant "speed dating bingo." Preparations were also made to the court and gym for the volleyball team to practice and train, head coach Tim Horsmon tweeted Aug. 12.

Athletic Director and Vice President Neil Sullivan told Flyer News Aug. 17 the department will try to make conditions as "safe as possible" for student-athletes to continue to practice.

Duquesne

Duquesne's official "Return to Athletics" policy states that the officials aim to create a "safe and manageable return," prevent cross-contamination among teams and establish a tracing system.

The document requires athletes to wear personal protective equipment, practice good hygiene and report when they're feeling sick. Prior to starting practices again, athletes were required to quarantine for 14 days. Players on teams like the bowling squad are now holding practices while wearing face coverings.

After isolating, athletes were allowed to begin a three-phase return to full activity. Phase one allowed groups of 10 or fewer athletes to compete in non-contact training. Groups of 50 or fewer athletes could participate in full-contact training during phase two. Phase three permits a full resumption of practice activities with social distancing measures in place.

Fordham

Like Duquesne, Fordham will undergo a three-phase return to athletics plan. Only 24 people will be allowed to participate in strength and conditioning exercises during phase one. Phase two allows for 50 people to gather for non-contact practices.

In the final phase, teams will return to practice with "distancing guidelines, sanitation and precautions." Teams will tentatively begin practicing in person Tuesday, according to the Fordham Athletics COVID-19 Health and Safety plan. When practices resume, players are required to wear face coverings "whenever feasible" and practices will be mostly held outdoors.

Athletes coming to campus from "restricted states," as determined by the New York Health Department, will need to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival. The University's sports medicine department will conduct contact tracing.

George Mason

Players are required to quarantine for two weeks at home before returning to practice and take a daily health assessment that includes a "wellness

screening" and temperature check.

Athletic personnel were provided with two cloth face masks and will be required to wear a face covering. Locker rooms will remain closed and groups will be allowed to work out in weight rooms and athletic facilities.

The school is conducting scheduled testing for groups of student-athletes, administering tests five minutes apart to ensure social distancing. Before returning to campus, athletes underwent Polymerase Chain Reaction testing prior to arrival on campus, a release states.

Rhode Island

Fall sports teams will be able to train this semester "in accordance with safety protocols," and group size limitations and alternating schedules are being considered, according to a school webpage.

Rhode Island Athletic Director Thorr Bjorn said July 24 the athletic department was working on a "strategy and plan" to allow student-athletes to practice in the fall. The school is preparing athletic facilities for returning players and promised more detailed plans in the future.

Saint Joseph's

The athletic department's return plan includes a phased reopening with time limits on practices, caps on how many athletes can use the facilities at one time and social distancing during workouts.

A member of the athletic training staff must be present during all practices or workouts and student-athletes, coaches and support staff will be required to wear face masks throughout the three phases.

Phase one of the plan, which runs through Oct. 2, permits skill groups and strength and conditioning pods of up to 10 student-athletes. Saint Joseph's doesn't expect to begin full practices until Nov. 3 when phase three kicks in.

Saint Louis

Athletic director Chris May said the school will fully support student-athletes and ensure they have "the very best intercollegiate athletic experience possible," allowing in-person practice during the fall.



FILE PHOTO BY ARIELLE BADER | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR
A spokesperson for the University said the athletics department is developing a return plan for its athletes that will abide by NCAA guidelines and the latest medical guidance related to COVID-19.

Symptom reports and temperature checks are required from student-athletes prior to participating in athletics. Plexiglass barriers have been added between training tables, and athletes must schedule a time for physical therapy to limit the number of people inside training facilities, Stu Durando of the St. Louis Post Dispatch reported.

Student-athletes also need to spend 10 to 15 minutes sanitizing any weight room equipment they used during training and need to change into fresh clothes before moving between the weight room and training room, Durando reported.

VCU

VCU's official reopening guidelines included testing when athletes came to campus, daily health screenings and temperature checks.

Noah Fleischman of The Commonwealth Times reported that the majority of fall programs returned to campus Aug. 17 after being tested for COVID-19. The decision to practice was left to each team, and field hockey opted to make an earlier return to campus Aug. 10, Fleischman reported.

In late August, a cluster of 44 COVID-19 cases broke out among VCU players, totaling nearly half of VCU's 93 cases as of Sept. 1.

St. Bonaventure

Student-athletes were required to quarantine for

two weeks, receive two negative COVID-19 tests and undergo an in-person physical before resuming athletic activities on campus.

Each sport must follow protocols ranging from face mask requirements, equipment and facility sanitization, social distancing and facility capacity limits. Student-athletes began in-person practices as early as this week.

Richmond

Richmond brought its student-athletes back to campus in waves. Football and men's and women's basketball players returned to campus on July 15. Field hockey, women's soccer and men's and women's cross country were slotted to return in the second phase in late August.

The Spiders outlined in a press release health guidelines for returning student-athletes like a self-quarantine period, pre-participatory medical exams and regular temperature checks. Masks and social distancing are also required and locker rooms are cleaned daily, the release states.

Davidson

Student-athletes returned to campus last month and began practicing in person. Officials at Davidson said its teams were following protocols, which include social distancing and equipment cleaning by the NCAA, WBTU reported. Training is also occurring outdoors, WBTU reported.

In late August, a cluster of COVID-19 cases spread among Davidson baseball players. A spokesperson said transmission likely stemmed from "social settings," and Davidson suspended all baseball activities for two weeks.

La Salle

The Explorers will follow a five-phase reopening plan to resume practicing for the fall. Face coverings are mandated when not participating in a workout and physical distance must be maintained while not in physical activity, according to the plan.

All athletes, coaches and staff must pass a health screening and temperature check before entering an athletic building. Student-athletes coming from "hot spot" areas and internationally will be required to quarantine for 14 days, the plan stipulates.

Massachusetts

After revising the university's initial reopening plans, Massachusetts said its athletic department is working with the NCAA, state and university to establish fall guidelines.

The Minutemen's football team, including coaches, coordinators and student-athletes, returned to campus before Aug. 2 and were working out at McGuirk Stadium, Richard Thompson of the Boston Herald reported. But Massachusetts opted to cancel its football season due to the pandemic.

Top GW sports moments: Men's basketball advances to 1993 Sweet 16

ROMAN BOBEK
STAFF WRITER

In lieu of fall sports, we're dusting off the history books and taking a look back on 10 of the best GW sports moments, ever. Here's to hoping some old-fashioned nostalgia can keep us going until the restart.

No. 3: Men's basketball makes Sweet 16 run

The 1992-93 men's basketball team sealed itself in the annals of GW athletics history, becoming the first and only squad in the program's 114 years to make it to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament.

Spearheaded by head coach Mike Jarvis and Sports Illustrated Freshman of the Year Yinka Dare, the Colonials made their deepest NCAA tournament run in team history. The squad charged into the tournament with an upset victory and a 10-point win in the second round before being eliminated by Michigan's Fab Five.

Five seasons before GW's run, the future of men's basketball looked

bleak as the team finished a program-worst 1-27. The '90s ushered in a new generation of GW basketball masterminded by Jarvis, who tallied a .628 win percentage in his eight years in charge.

The Colonials opened the 1992-93 season hot, riding a seven-game win streak. A 10-2 nonconference record propelled the squad into Atlantic 10 play. The squad battled Temple to start its conference slate, losing in a tight 64-62 overtime tussle at the Smith Center.

But in its next meeting, GW would take down Temple for the first time in 10 years at McGonigle Hall. The Colonials routed Temple in a close 75-72 win, taking down a team that housed the eventual A-10 Player of the Year and future 1994 No. 17 NBA draft pick Aaron McKie.

The Colonials finished the regular season 21-9 with an 8-6 A-10 record. The squad opened postseason play on the wrong foot, bowing out of the A-10 Tournament

with an 86-75 loss to Rhode Island. But their efforts throughout the season didn't go unnoticed on Selection Sunday, and the Colonials were rewarded with a ticket to go dancing as a No. 12 seed.

The team hopped on a plane to Tucson, Arizona to play in the NCAA tournament for the first time in 32 years and only the third time in school history. GW started the tournament with a bang, upsetting No. 5 New Mexico 82-68. Freshman guard Kwame Evans came off the bench to sink a team-high 19 points, while Dare notched a double-double as a starter.

The team continued its run in the second round of play, defeating Southern 90-80, penciling GW for a trip to the Sweet 16. Five Colonials reached double-digit scoring, and the squad shot lights-out, shooting at a .467 clip from deep and a .515 clip from the field.

In a game summary after the Colonials' win over Southern, New York Times reporter

Tom Friend wrote that GW narrowly squeaked into the NCAA Tournament but "hardly looked overwhelmed" after entering the Sweet 16.

"GW, by all indications from the tournament committee, was the 62nd team invited to this 64-team field, although they hardly looked overwhelmed," Friend wrote in The Times.

GW would need to keep the same level of composure as it took on No. 1 seeded Michigan. The Wolverines, led by one of the strongest recruiting classes in the nation dubbed the "Fab Five," entered the tournament No. 3 in the nation with a 26-4 record.

The Colonials started off slow, missing their first 10 shots of the night and falling behind 15-2. Jarvis switched up the team's strategy to a full-court press and freshman forward Vaughn Jones provided valuable points off the bench to stage a comeback. The Colonials earned their first lead of the

game with under 11 minutes left, but Michigan would not go down easy.

With 1:20 remaining, GW pulled within a basket down 65-62. But the Wolverines outscored the Colonials 7-2 in the last 80 seconds, advancing to the Elite Eight and sending GW home early. Evans, who shined off the bench during GW's run, led the team with 13 points and six rebounds on the night.

Despite the loss, GW's memory of the 1993 NCAA Tournament was sweeter than Michigan's. The Wolverines vacated five seasons worth of victories - including the 1992-93 season - after a booster was caught giving money to several players.

The 1992-93 squad landed GW basketball under a national spotlight, and the program would go on to return to the tournament four more times before the turn of the century. The team's success even contributed to a boost in admissions.

IN BRIEF

Women's basketball adds walk-on to 2020-21 roster

Piper Macke, a 5-foot 7-inch guard from Fort Thomas, Kentucky, will walk on to the women's basketball program, head coach Jennifer Rizzotti announced Thursday.

In her three years as a starter for Highlands High School, Macke averaged 12.2 points, 4.5 assists and three steals per game. She will be the fourth freshman addition to the squad after center Ali Brigham, guard Aurea Gringas and forward Caranda Perea signed onto the team last November.

"I'm extremely grateful to have the opportunity to play at GW and be welcomed so wholeheartedly by the coaches and such an amazing group of women," Macke said in the release. "Making the decision to take a chance and come to campus has already ended up being one of the best choices I've made in my life. I can't wait to see what this season will bring."

Macke started her high school career at Holy Cross District High School before transferring to Highlands High School. She helped her team to four consecutive district championships. In her senior season with the Bluebirds, Macke was named the district tournament MVP, and she nabbed All-District and All-Region honors for two straight consecutive years.

Rizzotti called Macke a "talented, scrappy and hardworking player," adding that she is "grateful" Macke took a chance on joining the Colonials.

"We are very excited to welcome Piper to GW," Rizzotti said in a release. "We are always looking for players that are eager to be part of our women's basketball family. In a time when things have been so far from normal, Piper took a chance on us and has brought the kind of investment and energy we want from all of our incoming student-athletes."

Macke will join a 12-member team full of new faces. Half the team will take the court for the first time as a Colonial this season, including a pair of transfers in graduate student guard Jasmine Whitney and redshirt junior guard Gabby Nikitinaite.

—Emily Maise