

THE CENTURY TIMES

Century College

Spring 2014

Issue #2

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Bond, Revenue Bond: Century Expands

Angela Garagiola | Staff Writer

Have you ever attended an event in the Nest, only to have the speaker disrupted by people walking by? Do you have trouble finding quiet study space on campus? If you answered yes to either of these questions, you are not alone. Many students at Century feel that space, especially quiet study space, is hard to find. That could be changing.

In the spring and fall of 2013, the Student Senate surveyed students on the East and West campuses to gauge if students would be willing to pay for an expanded Student Center and more study space, and how much they thought would be reasonable to pay.

The spring 2013 survey sampled 461 students. 71 percent said they would be willing to fund an expansion, with the majority saying that a \$3-\$5 fee per credit was feasible.

The fall 2013 survey sampled 365 students. Even more students said they would be willing to pay for an expansion; 79 percent, with the majority again saying the fee shouldn't be more than \$5 per credit.

Currently, enrollment is declining. This is a big issue for the college. How is an expansion within our means with budgets being cut campus wide? On the other hand, if Century doesn't make renovations to modernize, how much longer can the school continue to compete with other institutions?

Perhaps these questions were weighing on students' minds, because when a third survey was emailed to students in Feb 2014, the response was quite different. There were 609 respondents. 72% of online students were not willing to fund the expansion. 62% of traditional students were also

Continued on Page 2



MCTC student center

Photo By Jennifer Rassett

Writers, Writers, Hear All About It!

Crystal Anderson | Staff Writer

It's been two years in the making and now it's almost officially here. Not only will Century College be offering several more Creative Writing courses starting Fall 2014, but there is a plan to also offer a Creative Writing certificate in the future.

How or why did this happen? Teachers within the English department were not only interested in expanding the classes offered to students, but, as English faculty Beth Mayer said "we were also getting requests and inquiries from students about Creative Writing classes." This meant that not only did the faculty want to add Creative Writing courses, but students were interested as well.

The idea of adding new courses to Century College – as well as a possible Creative Writing certificate – was brought to Century's administration who was supportive and encouraging. Currently, the Creative Writing certificate is pending with MNSCU and is awaiting approval but "staff is optimistic about the outcome since other schools within the area have similar programs already," Mayer states.

Aside from expanding the classes offered to students, faculty also wanted to build more of a

community in the school for writers. This will also offer informal opportunities for writers to get together, such as at readings and poetry slams.

Speaking of faculty, wouldn't it be great to know a little bit about the teachers before you commit to one of these upcoming Creative Writing courses? There are currently three faculty who will be teaching classes: Cullen Burns, Rich Kuss and Beth Mayer. All three have published writings.

Burns is the author of two poems and is currently a finalist for a Minnesota Book Award in Poetry. She has both MA and MFA degrees from Western Michigan University.

Kuss has a B.A. in Print and Broadcast Journalism from UW-Madison, a Master's degree in English from UW-River Falls and from the University of Minnesota he has obtained several PhD program graduate credits. He has been at Century College for 24 years and currently teaches English along with being a faculty advisor for The Century Times.

Last but certainly not least is Beth Mayer. Mayer was a finalist for the 2013 American Fiction Prize for her piece entitled "The Story of the Cha Cha McGee"

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**Congratulations to Tessa Lorenz
for finding Woody on the 7th page
in our last issue.**

Thinking of Transferring? Talk to a Representative!

Casey Flannigan | Staff Writer



Photo by Aisha Ali

For students who are pursuing degrees that cannot be completed at Century College, making the transfer to another school can be a significant road block in their quest for an education. While there is generally a wealth of information that can be found on a school's website, some students prefer meeting face to face with an administrator of the school they hope to transfer to. Century College routinely hosts transfer representatives from schools around the state.

Jessica Migler, an Admissions

Continued on Page 2

Clearing Up the Confusion

Sophia Yunk | Staff Writer

In the last issue of The Century Times, there was a sentence in the article "Century Student Arrested for Organizing Militia" that was misleading.

The sentence, "although information has been obtained about Novak recruiting members for his militia, it is unknown or suspected, that any of the new members came from Century's Vets Club," should be clarified and made anew.

In place of this sentence should be put; "Although information has been obtained about Novak recruiting members for his militia, there is no information showing that the new recruits were from Century's Vets Club."

Registration: 10 Things you Should Know to be Better Prepared

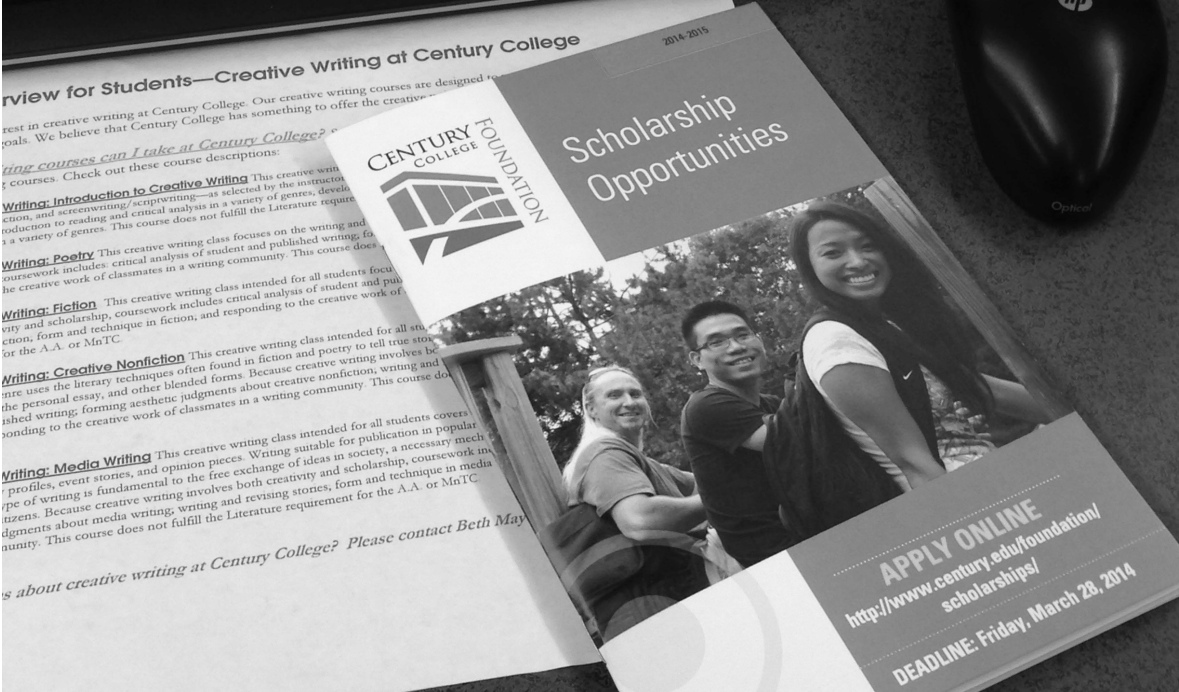
Drew Petersen | Staff Writer



- With Summer and Fall registration now open, here are 10 things you should know when registering for classes.
10. Register for your classes as soon as you're eligible. Classes fill up fast and when you need specific courses to fulfill requirements you will be glad that you registered early. You can always make changes later before the semester starts.
 9. Check out the Registration Guides that are now online. These guides are very informative and offer a great way to help you to choose between different options. Compare classes that are similar or maybe fulfill more than one goal.
 8. Decide what kind of schedule that you want to have. With all of the course delivery options out there, you can easily choose to take classes that work around your schedule. Most students are not actually on campus five days a week.
 7. Online course can be helpful. Having one or two online classes each semester, while also going to classes on campus, seems to really work for students with busy schedules. The curriculum for online courses are very

- straight-forward, but remember that you can't just raise your hand with every question.
6. Blended/Hybrid classes are relatively new. They work really well for busy schedules as you don't spend as much time in class and for students who like to actually see their professors as their being taught. You get all the benefits that come with in-class discussions and lectures, while being able to turn in assignments and take quizzes online.
 5. Use the assessment testing to your advantage. You may have already taken the assessment but don't be afraid to re-test. If you didn't do so well in say math, maybe take some English classes and other requirements your first semester while brushing up on your math with the free online refreshers. Then re-take the assessment later to save yourself from possible unnecessary classes.
 4. Run your DARS report and stay on track with your major. With all of the courses that Century has to offer, it's easy to get off track and sign up for classes you may not need. If you follow the DARS report you could find elective classes that interest you and also may work for the various goals.
 3. Apply for Financial aid. This is a must for everyone and is super easy. Did I mention that it's completely free? Just visit www.fafsa.gov. Follow all of the steps online and it will submit all the information directly to the Century Financial Aid office.
 2. Arrange to pay for your tuition. There are several options available and the sooner you know how much everything will cost, the easier it will be for you to determine how you will make payments. After applying for financial aid you may even have grants applied directly to your tuition and loans available to you.
 1. Meet with a counselor. Stop by the counseling center and make an appointment to speak with someone that can answer any question that you may have. The counselors really seem to know the ins and outs of how everything works so don't be afraid to ask.
- Good luck with your registration and don't forget to register for The Century Times and get course credit while writing for the newspaper next semester!

Photos By Drew Petersen



Transferring continued from Page 1

Counselor with Metropolitan State University explains how she, and most other transfer representatives, can help students, “I can do anything from just quick questions all the way up to, this is unofficially how many credits you have left to finish your degree and these are the classes you have left.”

Students can go to a transfer representative with a variety of inquiries. “Students come in who have questions specifically about; am I taking the right classes to transfer? What classes should I be taking to transfer? Or they finished all their classes and want that affirmation that they are good,” said Migler.

Students who are unsure of what their past classes have done for them in regards to transferring may also find transfer representatives helpful. “If students want more in depth, like what classes they should be taking or what they have left, then I ask a student to bring either a transcript or a DARS (report) with them, so we can look over it,” states Migler.

Students can find their Degree Audit Reporting System report under the *grades and transcripts* tab of their e-services account. Students may also want to retain their syllabi from previous courses to help with the transfer process.

A transfer representative may also assist students in understanding how a specific class will transfer to a new school. “I can also use the u.select system. It's a little bit confusing for most students, so I usually walk them through it or do it myself and explain how those classes transfer,” explains Migler. The u.select is a multi-state data base that allows students to see information on classes they have taken and what courses they are equivalent to at other institutions.

For those students who want more information on campus life, clubs, sports, or other activities, a transfer representative is able to assist in answering those questions as well. “I always encourage students to ask questions beyond the academics,” proclaims Migler. “Admissions Counselors kind of know a little bit about everything at their institutions.” So whether a student wants to know if a certain school would be a good fit for them personally or if they have a query about their coursework, a transfer representative is always a good place to start.

Transfer representatives will usually be located in a common area, or

in the counseling center on West campus. Schools such as Metro State University, Concordia University, Northern Michigan University and many more still have appointments to be at Century College this semester. A full schedule of what schools will be sending representatives and when the transfer representatives are visiting Century College is posted in the hallway next to the counseling center. More information about the u.select system can be found at www.transfer.org.



Photo by Aisha Ali

Bond Continued from Page 1

against the project.

Tim St Claire, 20, of Hugo, Physics major and Vice President of the Student Senate attributes this to a misunderstanding. “It’s important to remember the context of who will be affected by this. The way the survey was worded led students to believe they personally would be paying for the expansion. In reality, there are several more steps that need to happen before fees would be assessed to students.”

The Senate has proposed that Century request a revenue bond to pay for the expansion.

If a revenue bond is requested, it would be a couple years before students see these additional fees, probably when construction begins in 2017. Few students who had a say in the expansion will still be at Century by then.



What exactly is a revenue bond, and how does it work? MNSCU describes it as an IOU; money borrowed from the state to build and remodel non-academic buildings. St Claire explains, “It’s a loan that students pay back over 20 years through student life fees. The college can’t touch the bond money for anything other than the expansion, and the revenue bond cannot be paid for by the college.”

By law, revenue bonds are only allowed to be paid back by students through fees.

Currently, Century charges \$18.08 per credit in student fees. The revenue bond would add to that; the current estimate is \$4.75 per credit, but that could fluctuate some depending on enrollment.

Revenue bonds have long been available to four year institutions, but two year colleges have only been eligible for them since 2008. Revenue bonds have been used at Anoka Ramsey Community College to build a wellness and fitness center, at St. Paul College to build a parking ramp, and at Normandale for a student union and wellness center. In the past, Century has used a revenue bond to pay for the parking lot.

On March 5, the Student Senate held an informational meeting regarding a possible revenue bond expansion project. The project would add an additional 10,000 square feet to the existing Student Center. The result would be a two story student center complete with a health services office, large multipurpose room and plenty of study space. There will also be funds allocated to the East Campus for a lounge and study space, to be located near the cafeteria.

Then, on March 12, representatives from the various student clubs met to vote whether or not to request a revenue bond to expand the student center areas. Before the vote, students addressed their various concerns about committing future students to paying back this bond.

Gao Vang, 23, of St. Paul, is currently majoring in Business Management. Even though she won’t be at Century when the fees kick in, she is mindful of future students’ money. “People come to Century because it’s more affordable than other colleges. Every bit of money added does count. If we cost as much as other schools, we may end up losing students.”

Anthony Carlson, 20, of Forest Lake, studying Secondary Education, views things in a different way. “This expansion is not for us. It’s for future students. It’s about attracting new students.”

The student clubs, as representative of the students, voted yes to the revenue bond expansion project. A recommendation will now be sent to the college president. If President Anderson approves, it will go to MNSCU for a final review, before a bond is requested from the State Legislature.

There is a rush to get this done, as St Claire explained, “The State Legislature runs on a biennium. Odd years are budget years, even years are bonding years. If we don’t get the proposal submitted, we will have to wait a couple years. During that time, not only will tuition rise, but so will construction costs. It is in the best interest financially to invest in this now.”

When making the decision to propose the expansion, St Claire said the Senate visited other community and technical colleges to compare their student centers with Century’s. “Although Century is the largest two year institution in the state, our student life center can’t hold a tenth of [enrolled students]. This expansion is needed to bring Century up to par with the competition and attract future students.”

You can see these pictures, and compare the student centers at other local colleges to Century’s online at www.thecenturytimesonline.com.

Writers Continued from Page 1

which will appear in American Fiction Volume 13 by New Rivers Press. She also has had a piece, titled “The Way to Mercy,” be named among “Other Distinguished Stories” by Best American Mystery Stories 2010. Mayer holds an MFA from Hamline University.

Creative Writing classes are a great idea for anyone – even those not interested or writing or who aren’t the creative types. These classes will help students develop stronger writing skills that will not only benefit them during their college years but also throughout life such as writing cover letters for job opportunities.

For those who are interested in Creative Writing for the creative writing aspect, getting a certificate is a great idea. It provides the skills and training to further those creative minds. Furthermore, these classes meet MnTC Goals. ENGL 1027, 2024, ENGL 2026 and ENGL 2028 meet Goal 6, and ENGL 2025 meets Goal 9. However, these courses do not fulfill Century’s literature requirement for the AA degree.

The certification is 16 credits and the previous class titled Creative Writing: Fiction and Poetry will count as Introduction to Creative Writing for those who have already taken the class. For more information about which classes will be offered, when they will be available, and what the classes are all about, please see the table below.

For more information, contact Beth Mayer at beth.mayer@century.edu or stop by her office, room W3391.

Code	Name	About	Available	Teacher(s)
ENGL 1027	Creative Writing: Introduction to Creative Writing	Introduces the major genres – poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, and screenwriting/scripting	Fall 2014 and Spring 2015	Cullen Burns Rich Kuss
ENGL 2028	Creative Writing: Poetry	Focuses on the writing and close reading of poetry	Spring 2015	Cullen Burns
ENGL 2024	Creative Writing: Fiction	Focuses on the writing and close reading of fiction works	Fall 2014	Beth Mayer
ENGL 2026	Creative Writing: Creative Nonfiction	Uses literacy techniques found in fiction and poetry to tell true stories about people and events	Spring 2015	Beth Mayer
ENGL 2025	Creative Writing: Media Writing	Covers the study and practice of forms of media writing including personality profiles, event stories and opinion pieces	Fall 2014	Rich Kuss

* The information within this table is subject to change.



Photo By Crystal Anderson

CALLING ALL CLUBS!

The Century Times is now accepting advertisements from Century College clubs.



Email us at centurytimes@century.edu or find us on facebook to submit your ideas.

The Art of Writing is Within You

Drew Petersen | Staff Writer

The 2nd annual student art contest in the Writing Center is calling for submissions. Here’s your chance to express yourself. If the Writing Center has helped you in any way and you feel like showing some gratitude, or you just want an opportunity to show off that talent of yours, then here’s your opportunity.

Like most other students taking composition, I spent almost my entire first semester of free time in the Writing Center staring at blank computer screens and looking to the walls for any type of inspiration. The suggestions that I received on my writing by the well-informed staff was invaluable. The staff really took the time to answer my questions and point me in the right direction whenever I found myself stuck.

The Writing Center is so very important to many students, from those who are just beginning to write, to those who have been writing for years because of the help that they can receive with their writing. The staff inside the Writing Center is comprised of the best from Century’s English department and they are there to help with all of your writing needs to make the Writing Center truly revolve around the students that use it.

Dee Klagstad, the Assistant Coordinator of the Writing Center, came to Century after spending years reading and grading high school exit exams. When asked what the most important thing about the writing center is, Dee replied, “Being able to comment on student’s writing and offer feedback. I see students from a vast number of different backgrounds and I really enjoy

reading all the various topics that they come up with.”

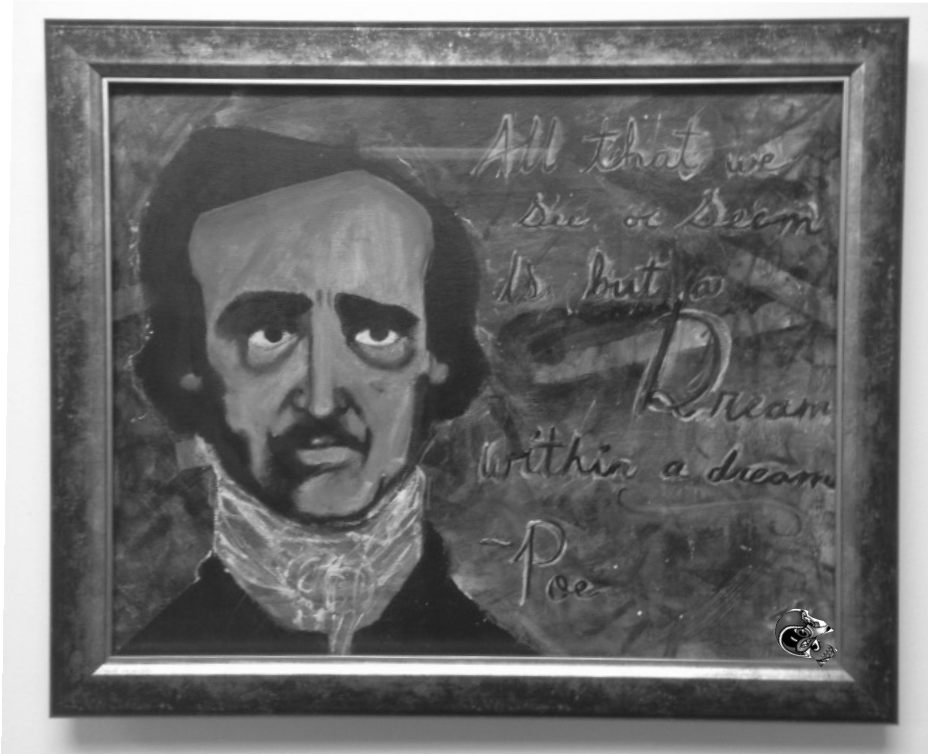
The Writing Center has been in its current location for about 4 years now and just recently had an expansion. With the new expansion however, Dee saw a problem. The walls were blank. So she came up with the idea of this art contest to not only bring the walls to life with student only art, but also offer opportunities to students interested in showcasing their art.

So on behalf of the Writing Center Dee asks, have you ever looked at the illustrations in your favorite book and thought you could do better? Well, here’s your chance! Enter the 2nd Annual Writing Center student art contest.

Win a prize, brighten the walls, and have your work displayed for generations of students to come. The piece must be your original work related to writing in some way, either to the process of writing itself or to an author or work of literature, and be suitable for public display in the Writing Center.

Judging will be by a committee representing the Writing Center, the English Department, and the Art Department. Entries must be submitted by Monday, April 14. Three prizes will be awarded: Century bookstore certificates of \$50.00, \$25.00, and \$10.00 respectively.

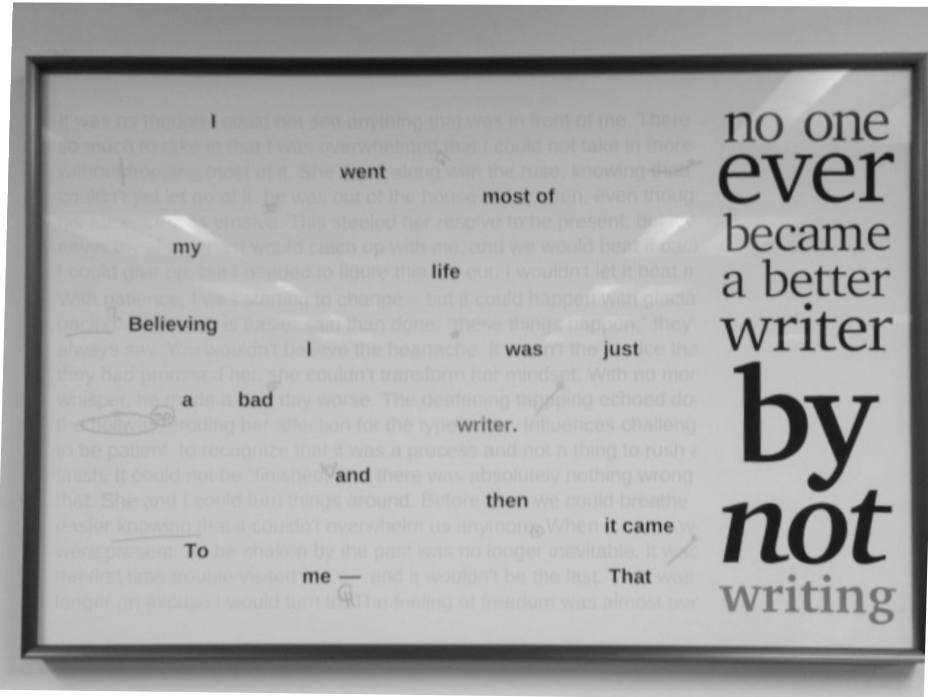
Come to the Writing Center at West 3280 for further information, to pick up an entry form and to check out last year’s entries. The Writing Center staff is really looking forward to seeing the wonders which arise from your imagination.



Jennifer Smith - A dream within a dream

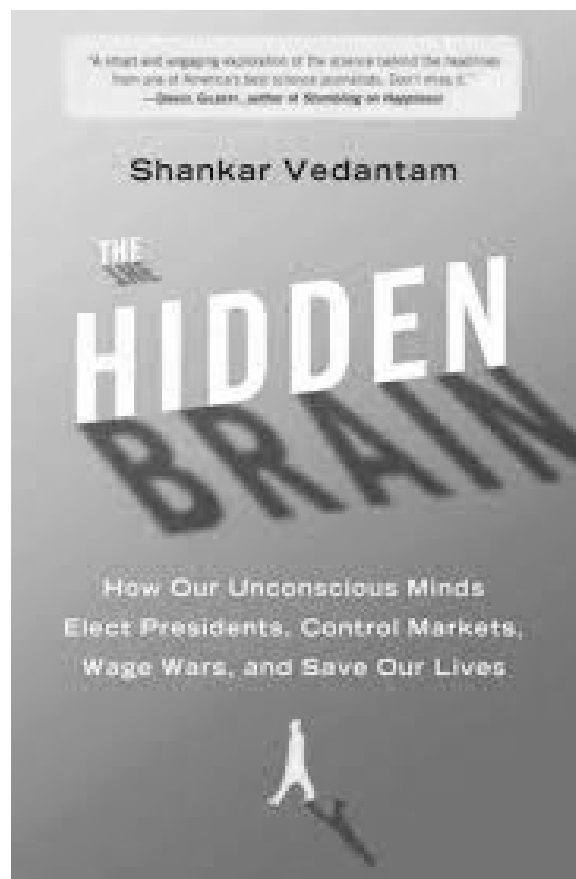
Brian Bourne - progress

Photos by Drew Petersen



The Racist Hidden Within Your Subconscious

Drew Petersen | Staff Writer



Following the recent presentation held here at Century, *The Hidden Racist in Your Brain: A Neuro-sociological Approach to Modern Racism*, we are able to explore and explain this provocative concept in further detail with greater enlightenment to those of you who were unable to attend the presentation.

Although there are multiple nuances to any particular aspect of the brains functioning, the “hidden brain” plays a role in affecting almost all of the brain’s higher functions such as your behavior and how you communicate.

Shankar Vendantam, writer of the new book called “The Hidden Brain,” describes the hidden brain within all of us “...as

anything that we’re not aware of that is influencing us.”

The idea is that our unconscious minds could have the potential to betray us and may even reveal racial biases that we wouldn’t even admit to ourselves. From the day we are born, our minds immediately start to make associations about everything. This is how we learn and develop as we grow up. It’s those very associations and how they are made that help to make us who we are.

In an online interview about his new book, Vendantam goes on to say, “People are always seeing A associated with B, and by the 1,000th time, that association becomes hard-wired in the brain. We need to learn to associate A with C.”

This is intriguing as evolutionary biology teaches us instinctively to form quick associations. Our brains are naturally very good at generalizing and even inferring information gleaned from momentary encounters, such as the avoidance of a dangerous animal that may be encountered in the wild.

These very quick judgments that our minds naturally make might have helped us to survive throughout history, but the suggestion is now they are potentially causing more strife in this ever changing and modernizing world.

“Speaking about racism in the age of political correctness is an unpopular topic,” says Iman Dadras, Ph.D. from St. Cloud State University and one of the two presenters for *The Hidden Racist in Your Brain*. “...is racism not a social disease?”

Why do we develop or have racial intolerance in the first place? Can we as a community simply justify racism due to our own individual brain’s cognitive conscious and unconscious processing capacities?

“Of course not,” says Dadras. “Because at the same time neuroscience has shown that our prefrontal cortex enables us to inhibit our irrationality and impulsivity, and grants us wisdom, empathy, and morality.” Although we may have an instinctive subconscious urge towards racism, we also have the ability to know better.

“But why are we sometimes driven by the amygdala to shutdown our powerful prefrontal cortex?” asks Dadras. “Research has indicated that the amygdala affects those neural networks involved in attachment, decoding facial expression, appraisal, and expression of emotion, implicit memory, and negative bias. It internalizes information unconsciously, causing some things to be perceived as negative and threatening. The amygdala reacts to fear and fear is an emotion which emerges in the relational context.”

Dadras offers us an example to explain this in further detail. On February 4, 1999, four New York City police officers knocked on the apartment door of a 23-year-old West African immigrant named Amadou Diallo. They intended to question him because his physical description matched that of a suspected rapist. Moments later Diallo lay dead.

The officers, believing that Diallo was reaching for a gun, had fired 41 shots at him, 19 of which struck their target. The item that Diallo had been pulling from his pocket was not a gun but his wallet.

The officers were charged with second-degree murder but argued that at the time of the shooting they believed their lives were in danger. Their argument was successful, and they were acquitted.

This incident sparked the research of Social neuroscientist, Joshua Correll, who one year later would recruit college students to participate in a computer game study. In the simulated situation white and black actors held either a gun or a nonthreatening object like a cell phone or wallet. Participants were required to make fast decisions to “shoot” or “not shoot” by pressing buttons. Participants were more likely to shoot unarmed blacks compared with whites. Their deadly response also occurred faster for blacks compared to whites when both were carrying a weapon.

“We have to acknowledge that our brain is susceptible for carrying a hidden bigotry and being a racist,” says Dadras. “But at the same time it is a very flexible organ in terms of learning and changing behavior and adapting. Prejudice and discrimination have always been a part of societies. Ironically, prejudice and racism are more prevalent today in our modern society.”

Most individuals are not even aware of their own hidden racism and prejudice toward minorities. Simply acknowledging the possibility of the existence of unconscious and hidden prejudices could allow the neuro-plasticity of our brains and higher functioning potential of our cognitive or prefrontal cortex regions to make the best decisions when interacting socially with those from various socio-cultural backgrounds.

Simply put, one must be mindful of the “lens” through which we use to view others. Although the real hot button issue here is racism, these same issues related to how our minds make associations could relate to other issues that may or may not be hidden within our own minds.

If we were able to unconsciously form racist thoughts because we’ve associated “A” to “B” our whole lives, then why can’t we form new associations from “A” to “C” through these same hidden pathways within our brains?

But everyone is different from one another and will always continue to be so. Every single person is a culmination of everything they have experienced, from their culture to beliefs to core family values and even their individual behaviors thus far. Culture influences characteristic behaviors that in turn influence or reinforce the culture, especially that of future generations.

How we were raised greatly influences how we act today which will in turn influence how we act tomorrow. And not just as an individual. Every single culture in the world has changed and adapted in some degree over many years. The question is, what will we carry on and what will we leave behind?

On behalf of myself and the staff at TCT, I would like to offer a special thanks to Iman Dadras, MS, LMFT - Ph.D. and Corey Yeager, MA, LMFT - Ph.D., both from the University of Minnesota Family and Social Sciences Department for their excellent and thought provoking presentation.

Above image courtesy of npr.org

Image Courtesy of drrajivdesaimd.com



Showcase 2014: Century’s Got Talent

Dena Urbano | Staff Writer

Century College students exhibited a variety of talents for the local community this past weekend during the Theater Department’s annual Student Showcase. The show ran this past weekend, opening on Feb. 28th and running through March 1st. The showcase is both directed and performed solely by Century students. It is comprised of musical acts, one-act plays, and monologues.

Directing is an element of the theater that few students have had a chance to explore. Many take the opportunity for the showcase, because it is something they can try out on a smaller scale than an entire play.

“The best part about directing is being able to contribute to the theater, to see how my directing would impact the theater,” explained Aaron Holt of Taylors Falls who directed Doctor Faustus by Christopher Marlowe.

While Holt enjoyed his directing debut, he conceded to having some complex issues with the play he chose. “The toughest part was the way the language was structured. I realize it is the language from that time period, but it’s very hard to learn. You have to really slow down and work out the words that you are actually saying. It’s really taxing.”

He also performed V’s Introduction from “V for Vendetta” and a dance number which included a combination of juggling and clogging.

When asked about the unique choice of performance, Holt replied, “This is my last showcase before I transfer, and so I thought since I am doing one more clogging piece, I wanted to end it with a bang and leave it above the bar that I have usually done by several notches. I like Disney, I like clogging and I just learned how to juggle so I thought why not combine all three of them? I’m dressing up as Tron and dancing to the song, “Derezzed,” by Daft Punk, and I have designed my costume to glow in black light.”

The clogging and juggling combination had its rough moments for Holt, but he felt triumphant in the end. “There is a part where I take off the discs and juggle in the black light and that’s been very difficult. In black light it’s very hard to see, but it’s really cool and I have gotten a lot of positive feedback on it.”

Abreanna Koller of Minneapolis was delighted to be able to add her own ideas to her role of “Waitress” in “Philadelphia.”

“Don’t be afraid to speak up. If you want something to happen, tell the director and they can work with you. Half of my costume was my idea,” Koller advised.

Pretending to be someone completely different from one’s everyday self is a fun aspect of performing in the showcase for many students. “I like how opposite of me she is, because I’m very happy and I hug everyone. When I play the waitress, (I have the attitude like) I just don’t want to be here right now,” said Koller.

Scott Sebesta of Maplewood also enjoyed stepping outside his usual personality in his role of Mark in “Philadelphia.”



“When I first got the part, the director described him as sort of a Woody Allen, kind of loser character. Nothing goes right for him, because he’s stuck in this zone where whatever he wants he can’t get. Everything just goes wrong for him. He is usually kind of a roll with the punches guy, but eventually the punches get to him, especially during this scene of the play. It’s less self pity and it’s more of “I’ve done it all, I want to go home, I need to go home,”” Sebesta said.

“It’s fun to just take it and go over the top with it,” he added.

One of the more humorous segments of the showcase included “Duet for Bear and Dog,” performed by Patrick McCarthy, Alex Sharpley, Becca Neumann, Will McCarty, and Casey George. McCarthy’s portrayal of “Dog” was energetic, hilarious, and downright fun to watch. Sharpley’s portrayal of “Bear” was sassy with a sharper wit. All in all, this was one of the best and most entertaining acts in the showcase.

Century College’s Student Showcase displayed the culmination of the team work of students who love what they are doing. It’s an annual event which helps to give students the independence to use their creativity in the theater and let their talents shine.

Century College Theater Department’s next event is “Company,” written by Stephen Sondheim the April 18, 19, 20 and 25, 26, 27. It is a show not to be missed!

Above: “Philadelphia” performed by (from left to right) Mike Obert, Abreanna Koller, and Scott Sebesta Photo by Brittany Borgan



Duet for Bear and Dog” performed by Will McCarty, Becca Neumann, Casey George, Patrick McCarthy, and Alex Sharpley. Photo by Brittany Borgan



“V’s Introduction in V for Vendetta” performed by Aaron Holt Photo By Dena Urbano

NEWS & FEATURES

Issue 2

Century College

Anime-niacs: They Came, They Saw, They Ate

Lanie Carter | Staff Writer

On March 12, Century's Anime Club held their first Cosplay Café and Contest Event in the Nest. Staff and Volunteers dressed in costume as their favorite anime characters.

First, what is Cosplay? Cosplay, short for costume play, is when people dress as a character from anime, comic books, video games or films. Cosplay Cafés are a theme restaurant or pub, usually having a theme like a Maid or Butler, and serve food and drinks.

The Anime Club served Japanese-style food like Okonomiyaki, which is a cabbage based pancake fried with ground beef and topped with okonomiyaki sauce (similar to steak sauce), Japanese mayonnaise, green onions and cilantro, or Gyoza, which is a Japanese fried potsticker.

Sophia Yunk, 20, who dressed as Mami Tome from an anime called "Puella Magi Madoka Magica" said, "This anime is part of the genre of 'magical girl anime' which sounds exactly like what it is. All the girls have magical powers and save the world from evil. This series is different than most magical girl animes though, due to it being a dark anime rather than a bright



Above: The first and last page of the Menu
Below: Members dressed up at the event



and sunny one that most magical girl animes are."

During the café, the anime club held a Cosplay contest where contestants prepared a 3-5 minute performance in character. Contestants sang, and danced for the chance to win. First place was Louis Pei, second place was Tracy Leemon, and Lani Vang took third place.

There was a large turnout for the club's first big event. Blake Tomlin, dressed as a teacher from the anime called "Kill la Kill" said, "With this being as successful as it is, I would be baffled if we didn't ever plan something like this ever again."

After the event, Lani Vang, anime club's public relations executive, said "As a club we learned a lot about organization, preparation, and time management. I personally enjoyed the fun chaotic environment." Later added "I got the chance to socialize with a lot of different people!"

The Anime Club did a great job for their first major event and TCT is looking forward to future events.

Photos By Lanie Carter

Ready for Another 300 Movie? Yeah, Me Neither

Matthew Hoemke | Staff Writer

300: Rise of an Empire – F

This is the filmic equivalent of explosive diarrhea. If you enjoy watching geysers of digital blood, plenty of pointless nudity (often featuring the rape of women, while children are forced to watch no less), clearly green-screened sets posing as actual locations, and too much testosterone, then this is the movie for you.

300 2: Electric Boogaloo works on a parallel timeline to the first film, offering context to those too dim to understand the “complexity” of the original *300*. At times, it offers glimpses into events leading up to the first film, as well as showing you what happens after Xerxes defeats the Spartan army.

300 Harder is directed by relative newcomer Noam Murro, presumably because *300* director Zack Snyder is too busy effing up the *Batman/Superman* movie. Unfortunately, Murro doesn’t have a strong vision (or even any real chops as a filmmaker in his own right) and merely tries to adopt Snyder’s look from the previous film. What ends up happening is you get a major movie with an epic scope that looks like it is being shot for the *History Channel*. This could be in large part because, Murro’s only previous film is 2008’s dramedy *Smart People*. How this man got the gig, I will never know. Seriously, who saw that film and said, “this guy needs to do action”?

The best thing in *300er* has going for it is Eva Green. I dug her approach to the villainous Artemisia, and it is only her character that has any real development. That said, she and the film’s lack-luster star, Sullivan Stapleton, share one of the most bizarre and off-putting sex scenes in recent memory. It’s really more of a sex battle, as both characters are trying to choke the other out during the pointless scene.

Though I wasn’t a huge fan of the original film, you couldn’t deny the impressive screen presence that Gerard Butler had in that movie. Stapleton, and really no one outside of Green even comes close to have any screen presence in this film. You really need a large personality to drive a picture like this, and Stapleton simply doesn’t have it in him. Sure, he is beefed out to the max, but he lacks the chops to sell it.

The other thing the original film had going for it was that it was undeniably beautiful. It may not have had much to offer in the way of plot, or characterization, but it did look damn good. But just because something is pleasant to look at, doesn’t mean it is necessarily worth watching (think Megan Fox). *300 2: Judgment Day* fails to even capture the gorgeous cinematography of the original, as mentioned earlier in my review. You can tell that everything in the picture is digital matte paintings. The one stylistic thing Murro adds to the film is digital dust particles, which surpasses J.J. Abrams’ digital lens-flairs as the single most distracting/annoying thing to watch in a movie. Seriously, every single damn shot of the movie has digital dust particles floating in the air; day or night, it matters not. It’s one of those things that once you see it, you can’t un-see it.

While we are on the subject of digital annoyances, let’s discuss the use of digital blood geysers. Maybe it’s because I grew up with *The Evil Dead* trilogy and the films of Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino but, if you are going to do excessive amounts of blood, at least make them practical effects. It always looks better. The effects in this film made it look like a highly rendered *Fatality* from *Mortal Kombat*.

Lastly, let’s discuss one of the worst lines in recent memory; “You fight



Image Courtesy of cinedelphia.com

harder than you f***,” said by Artemisia during the final battle scene. The line completely took me out of the movie, not only because of how mind-numbingly dumb it was but also because it is the only real swear that is uttered during the length of the picture. I guess the line was supposed to make me laugh (?) but all it left me doing was howling “Nooooooo,” like Vader at the end of *Sith*.

After all is said and done though, there is an audience for *300! Part Deux* out there, and that is an audience who doesn’t examine what they are viewing. They see all kinds of slow-mo action, beefed up men or dominatrixy looking women and they will walk out with a smile on their face. I wasn’t one of those people. I walked out of the theater praying there won’t be a *300 3: The Search for Spock*. Actually, a little bit of Spock could have benefitted this film.



Image Courtesy of itskindacool.com

Call of Duty: Ghosts, The Specters of Modern Warfare

Drew Petersen | Staff Writer



You and a few members of the most elite Ghost team in the world are perched precariously high above a city that is blissfully unaware of your presence. As fireworks explode in the sky, you fire your zip-line launcher to a massive skyscraper across the street and begin your assault.

The games of tomorrow are starting to look better and better with the recent release of Call of Duty: *Ghosts*, on the PS4 and Xbox One. Year after year, the Call of Duty franchise tops sales lists and draws new fans of all ages.

Currently rated as the most advanced first person shooter thus far by Game Informer Magazine, *Ghosts* offers some small changes from previous versions that appear to make big differences with such things as the removal of straight lines from round shapes. Where a player once saw pixelation within games when zoomed in, *Ghosts* created seamless curves so players can see flawless circles within video games for the first time.

Most games now-a-days feature textures that present the illusion of depth, but Infinity Ward, the creators of *Ghosts*, took one step further by employing a system that automatically adds geometry to flat surfaces. For instance, in-game trees have been lined and detailed with individually articulated bark. Thanks to displacement mapping, these trees and the ground you're walking on, gain three-dimensional geometry as you draw nearer.

Besides graphics alone, the online battlefield within *Ghosts* has been tweaked to offer gamers all new experiences while keeping the most beloved features of the previous versions. There is also a new dog companion that can follow you around to sniff out explosives, attack enemies, and much more. The dog was implemented to hit an emotional chord with gamers, with suggestions that films like *I am Legend* may have been the inspiration.

If you're like me and haven't made the upgrade to the next generation of consoles yet, don't worry too much. While the PS4 and Xbox One versions of *Ghosts* feature some very impressive lighting and sharp imagery, you won't be at a major loss. The PS3 and 360 versions still look sharp, and they include all of the same features and modes of their next-gen counterparts. However, the versions are not compatible online. So 360 players cannot play online with Xbox One players as of yet.

Yet with all the recent intrigue into gun violence that has plagued our nation, we are forced to ask ourselves: is this a game worth purchasing or are the costs of this first person shooter far more abysmal than the \$60 retail value?

The question that seems to be creeping up in the minds of parents these days is whether or not the violence within these video games is leading to, or rather, directly influencing increased aggression outside the world of the video game? Does video game violence cause real life violence? By allowing our children to play these types of games, are we training them to settle their problems with guns?

With implementations of new elements in the multi-player arena such as "following orders," we could also wonder if this game is more like a recruiter's wet-dream than a mass murder's training aid. In this new game variation, players must work together as a team and follow orders to complete objectives.

"Following orders" works like this: when you kill an enemy, sometimes a briefcase may rise out of the corpse. This is a field order, and only one is active

at any point in a multi-player round. It may task you with stabbing an enemy in the back, killing an enemy while prone, or any number of other objectives. Complete it, and your team is granted a care package drop. Get killed, and the orders are dropped once again.

Ghosts is fun to play thanks to Call of Duty's polished and reliable game base that has been established over the past decade. It's been refined over the years to give players what they have asked for in a first-person shooter. With the idea that anyone can serve the nation as an elite ghost member, *Ghosts* tries to carry the player deep into the game like never before.

"To further draw players into the game, there is no more character switching as seen in previous versions," says executive producer of *Ghosts*, Mark Rubin in an interview with Game Informer Magazine. "Players assume control of 'Logan' for the duration of *Ghosts*. To help gamers experience the story from their own perspective, 'Logan' is never given a voice or shown onscreen. This helps the player to feel more directly involved in the outcome of the game."

We now see TV commercials for *Ghosts* that show people from every walk of life fighting closely together in small elite squads to bring our nation out of the Tyranny that is imposed in the game. This directly represents what is happening right now in the online community. Could this fictional world that is the *Ghosts* online multiplayer be a link to something greater and more patriotic than what merely lies on the surface?

If players from all over the world are able to put their petty differences aside to fight back to back with one another in order to save our nation, then why should we prevent our children from learning those same values? Regardless of the game being only a fictional simulation, the principles are universal. Simulated reality can be much safer (and way more fun) than experiencing the real thing anyway.

So for those of you who are returning to this dynasty or if you have never played a game of this type before, embrace the new technology and answer the Call of Duty.

This full article can be viewed online at www.centurytimesonline.com.



Top Left Image Courtesy of ubergizmo.com Above Image Courtesy of videogamer.com



Image Courtesy of bluecotton.com

Hateful Response to Coke Ad

Johann Hollar| Staff Writer

What does one expect from the Superbowl that comes every year? For many it’s not only the chance to see two of the nation’s best football teams compete in a titanic struggle for the Vince Lombardi Trophy but also for people to see the various Superbowl ads.

One of the ads that sparked controversy was the 2014 Coca-Cola ad, where “America the Beautiful” was sung in seven different languages. The languages spoken were: French-Senegalese, Hebrew, Keres (language of the Pueblo speaking people of the American Southwest), Hindi, Arabic, Spanish, Tagalog (spoken mostly in the Philippines) Mandarin, and lastly English.

What really sparked the controversy was the reaction to this particular commercial. Racist remarks were being spewed over the internet about how it’s Un-American to sing “America the Beautiful” in a non-English language.“America the Beautiful” was written in it’s final format by Katharine Lee Bates in 1913. Some, in there so-called patriotism, are refusing to drink coke again, while others made the ridiculous claim that those who were singing in their native language, were disgracing the national anthem. What these bigots fail to realize is that “America the Beautiful” is not the national anthem. The national anthem of America is “The Star Spangled Banner.”

Republicans spoke ill about this commercial, three of the most well known conservatives have voiced their hateful objections to the coke ad:

At mediate.com, Glen Beck said: “It’s an in your face and if you don’t like, if you’re offended by it; then you’re a racist. If you do like it, you’re for immigration, you’re for progress. That’s all this is, is to divide people.”

The Sun Sentinel, covered by Allen West, stated: “If we cannot be proud enough as a country to sing “American the Beautiful” in English in a commercial during the Super Bowl, by a company as American as they come — doggone we are on the road to perdition. This was a truly disturbing commercial for me, what say you?”

Finally, according to the Daily Current, Ann Coulter said on a Fox News interview said: “We live in America. We don’t speak languages from other continents – we speak English. If you’re the CEO of an American company, using Spanish and Arabic in your TV ads is giving aid and comfort to the enemy.”I’m not talking about vigilante justice. Let’s just put the CEO of Coca-Cola on trial for treason and then have a dozen of our finest Marines carry out his execution in public so the world can see what happens if you disrespect our language and culture.”

It’s truly sad to see that many Americans cannot appreciate the multiculturalism that comes with the Coke Ad, especially when America has been a melting pot of cultures since the founding fathers won the American Revolution. The 2014 Superbowl Coke Ad promoted what it truly means to be an American and has urged Americans to promote more in the way of racial equality, multiculturalism. So I ask you, the readers: what do you think?



Image Courtesy of breitbart.com

Easy Peasy Date Night Dinner on a College Budget

Dena Urbano | Staff Writer

Have you ever wanted to impress someone with a fabulous date night dinner that was easy, affordable, and tastes like you spent a ton of money? Here is one recipe that can make you a dinner host to remember!

For this recipe you will need:

- 1 jar of ready-to-heat pasta sauce (this can be any kind you enjoy)
- 1 lb. box of pasta (can be any shape or size; such as shells, spaghetti, linguine, farfalle aka bowtie pasta, or elbow)
- 2 Tbsp oil (Olive Oil is preferred if it is available)
- 1 Onion
- 1 pkg of mushrooms (if desired)
- 2 or 3 cloves of garlic, minced, depending upon taste
- 1 pkg of meat of your choice if you like meat (this could be ground beef, ground turkey, cubed sirloin, ground pork or sausage, etc.)
- 1 pkg of fresh Italian herbs (sometimes these come in a mixed package, sometimes you have to buy Basil and Oregano separately. I would go with what you can do on your personal budget, but try to at least have fresh Basil, as it can make all the difference)

Putting it all together:

In a medium sized saucepan, heat the oil and onions slowly over medium heat. The onions should eventually start to become clear in color. Once the onions are clear, add minced, fresh garlic and the package of mushrooms. Heat until you can smell the garlic cooking. Add the fresh basil and/or other herbs by tearing into strips and throwing it in the pan. Next, add the meat and cook all together until the meat is fully browned. Add the jar of pasta sauce and cover and simmer on low heat.

While pasta sauce is cooking, make the box of pasta as directed on the box.

Once pasta is finished cooking and drained, portion it out onto two plates. Spoon the sauce onto the pasta. Add parmesan if desired.

Additonal options:

Depending upon your budget and how much you are wanting or willing to spend on your sweetie, you can add some things to the dinner to dress it up.

- In keeping with the Italian theme, you can:
 - Buy a nice loaf of Italian bread to eat with the pasta.
 - Buy a Caesar salad-in-a-bag kit. These are super easy to assemble and add a nice touch without all of the hassle. They are sold in the produce section at your local grocery store. A person could even add other things to it, such as tomatoes, cucumbers, bacon bits, etc.
 - Add fresh mozzarella or parmesan to add a cheesy kick to the meal.
 - Buy some gelato for dessert. Sold in the frozen food section near the ice cream, gelato is a rich, Italian version of ice cream that is delicious and simple.

No matter how you choose to create your Italian date night dinner, rest assured that the recipe above is sure to please even the pickiest of eaters!



Photo by Dena Urbano

Towards A Sustainable Environmental Future

Debbie Johnson-Hill | Contributing Writer

In the aftermath of the Arab oil embargo of the mid-1970’s, Denmark, Norway, and Sweden realized the stability and future of their countries were inexplicably bound to reliance on fossil fuel, which left them not only vulnerable to radical swings in supply and demand, but also potential victims of the undesirable environmental effects of such dependence. Lack of alternatives, they realized, ultimately would lead to their collective demise (either way).

A similar discussion took place the Monday after spring break on the Century College campus. Students in Joy Cedarleaf’s Field Biology class—ironically on the 25th anniversary of the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Prince William Sound, Alaska—pondered and questioned yet another oil disaster off the coast of Texas.

What protective measures has the United States taken since the Exxon crisis or the BP spillage in the Gulf of Mexico? What can we do until our country heeds the environmental warnings these disasters illustrate? Doesn’t the Keystone pipeline create substantial risk to our groundwater aquifers, especially given our country’s poor record of maintenance? Isn’t the only answer to move away from our risky and expensive dependence on domestic and foreign oil?

These complex and exceedingly difficult questions point out why America may need to look to Scandinavia if we are to develop a sustainable environmental future for future generations of Americans. Denmark, Norway, and Sweden already have made a conscientious decision to create a blueprint—an ecological roadmap really—that will inevitably lead them from a culture of dependence to one of best practices in order to create a sustainable environment for their people: (a) efficient buildings and building codes; (b) green environmental policies; (c) green transportation policies (e.g., bicycling in high-density urban areas); and (d) infrastructure that would make green alternatives possible.

This new thought pattern actually led Denmark to embrace wind energy, which now is propelling—no pun intended—Denmark to its goal of becoming the first carbon-neutral country by 2025. Moreover, the leaders of all three Scandinavian countries were forward thinking enough to ask themselves questions like: (a) How do we protect the welfare of our citizens while promoting alternative energy? (b) How do we maintain the costs of this energy? (c) How do we work toward the goal of renewable

energy to minimize our ecological footprint?

Having asked the hard questions most governmental leaders in countries like the U.S., China, and India simply ignore (for the most part), all three Scandinavian countries relied on new and comprehensive taxes to “put their money where their mouths are.” In other words, these countries are diligently striving to move their countries in the right direction one kilowatt at a time.

Despite such environmental progress, harsh realities remain to counteract the positive advancements these countries are making. For example, Denmark—despite all its progress—still “has the baggage of a wealthy, consuming nation with a per-capita ecological footprint that tops that of the United States.”

Similarly, Sweden, which boasts one of the lowest fossil fuel usages, continues to embrace wood fuels and nuclear power, which many consider an environmental tossup. Whether the rate of consumption of wood for energy in Sweden meets sustainability objectives is still undecided. After all, one of two major employers in this region of the Smaland forests is the forest industry; and this industry bears a striking resemblance to the “clean coal” industry in the United States. The jury thus remains out.

Regardless of these obstacles---or perhaps because of them---all of us must question (and freely debate) the environmental issues we face; just like Professor Cedarleaf’s students were called upon to do last week. We also must ponder the agendas of these countries. One seminal fact remains, not unlike the 8,000 pound elephant in the room: Our global community is faced with environmental challenges that can no longer be put on the back-burner, regardless of differences in global initiatives as to “how to get there from here.” So, why aren’t we following Scandinavia’s lead RIGHT NOW?

Time is of the essence. While we may debate the pros and cons of policies instituted by our Scandinavian counterparts, if we as Americans choose not to react in an equally urgent fashion, we will find ourselves left with alarming environmental challenges, which undoubtedly grow more stark and hopeless by the hour. To do nothing is our gravest risk. In Minnesota, at least, it’s high time we paid attention to our Scandinavian ancestors. A sustainable environmental future for our posterity may well depend upon it.

Century Celebrates America’s 19th Poetry Month

Aisha Ali | Staff Writer

During the month of April we have an exciting event here at Century College: National Poetry Month. So pull out your calendars, because it’s open to everyone (especially you!) and also free to attend are the following events:

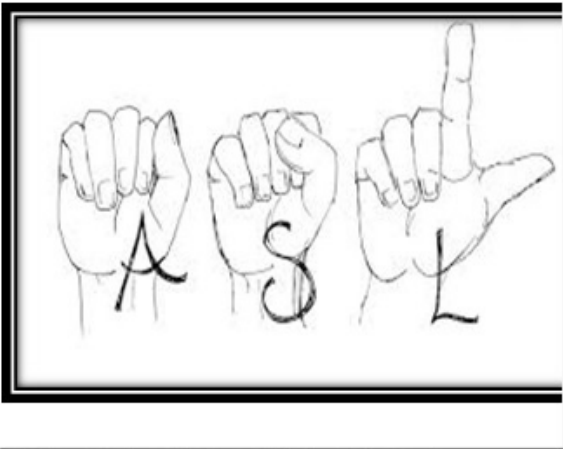
Poetry Slam Training Workshop featuring Cynthia French
When: Tuesday, April 8th, from 12:45-2:00 pm
Where: West Campus, Room W3430

Poetry Slam featuring poet-coaches Franny Choi, Miles Walser, & Cynthia French
When: Tues, April 22, from 12:45-2:00 pm
Where: West Campus, The Nest

Poetry Reading & Q & A featuring publishers & poets from Broadcraft Books
When: Tuesday, April 29th from 12:45- 2:00 pm
Where: West Campus, The Nest

Poetry Reading featuring students from Century College’s Creative Writing Class
When: Thursday, May 1st, from 1:00 -2:00 pm
Where: West Campus, The Nest

For more information, please contact Beth Mayer—beth.mayer@century.edu



CENTURY ASL CLUB CONTEST

LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

- **What do we need?**
A logo for our club
- **Who can enter?**
Students, staff and faculty
- **What’s in this for me?**
The winner gets a \$50.00 visa gift card.
- **Where can I get details?**
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TELL US WHAT INSPIRED
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LOGO FOR SHIRTS,
POSTERS, ETC...



CENTURY ASL CLUB

Email: asl.centurycollege@gmail.com



It's a Hard Life

Sophia Yunk | Staff Writer

"Look at the head on that! I hope you enjoy it," I say smirking. It might be a little flirtatious but I know the guy likes it. If I keep it up, I know he'll probably give me more money at the end.

Every day it's like this. Trying to feel out the people I'm with to get more money. All day long I can hear the girls nag.

"After I clean up the pig's mess HE made, the guy only gave me an extra \$10. That was a \$200 total! I did EVERYTHING for him and his friends," Trixie will usually complain.

"This guy is SO thirsty," I can hear Anita moan.

My personal favorite to overhear is, "Whatever makes him happy, I guess. I don't care what the guy wants so long as I get paid better for it." This is usually said by those of us who have been doing this business awhile.

I don't hear too many good stories unless someone got more money than they expected.

Yes, it's difficult to do this everyday considering how emotionally and physically draining the everyday grind is. Some days we

want to quit but we know we can't make this kind of money anywhere else. So we stay.

What's worse is that the man in charge who used to be in our shoes, makes sure we do everything in our power to have our visitors leave happy. He's always saying things like, "Make sure you make that gentleman want to pay you extra for going above and beyond his expectations." (We get groups and ladies all the time too, but men seem to be more susceptible to giving us more money for doing things extra.)

Going above expectations is what I'm doing right now; I'm saying and doing things that are making this guy happy he came in. The boss is right, the happier this guy is, the better I get paid.

My favorite people to take care of are the regulars. Doesn't matter if it's Dale, Jimmy, or Walter and Janet, I know exactly what they want.

New people sometimes throw me off. Either they have a ton of questions that I'd rather not be the person to answer, or they have weird tastes that I judge them on the inside for.

The more dedicated of us stay up 'til 1 or 2

or in the morning to get extra money while the rest sleep, exhausted from the long day. There's only a few of us who are up to the task though, considering it means cleaning up after everyone.

The end of the night is when I'm starting to feel the most nervous and guilty. I never know if I've made enough to give the 20 percent I owe Dylan. He is the whole reason I get business at all, but a girl has to eat. At the same time, I don't want him hunting me down for money, or worse, not help me clean up after my guests.

Yes, the everyday life of a server is pretty difficult.

Photos by Keano Vang

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TCT Wants You!

Drew Petersen | Staff Writer

Do you have what it takes to be a part of *The Century Times* (TCT) family? If you would like the opportunity to express your creative side, then we have a job for you! We are looking for photographers, print and web designers, writers, and team leaders to fill senior staff positions.

Are you tired of being told what to write about? When writing for TCT you have complete choice over your topics, within reason of course, as long as they relate to the Century student body in some way. When joining TCT, you will experience a very laid back atmosphere that makes earning credits fun. We are an independent, student-driven newspaper that can be taken as an online class if you so choose.

All of the TCT staff works on their own elements then

collaborate to make the very newspaper that you're now reading. Teachers do not make TCT happen, students do. The teachers are there for guidance and to teach everyone in a very hands-on learning experience. They do not control the paper. So we need students to keep the newspaper moving forward.

We currently meet Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1:10-2pm in the Student Club Center (W1215). If you are interested in joining the paper next semester, come to a meeting now to see what we're all about for yourself. We will also be meeting next semester on Tuesdays from 12:05-12:55pm and Wednesdays from 1:10-2:00pm in the Student Club Center as well. Shape your own future, be heard, and join the paper!



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