On an obscure floor of a building you didn’t know existed they’re meeting, leveling political propaganda and philosophical quandaries, playing board games and eating junk food. Clubs and organizations provide a subculture to the rigorous academic setting Olivet offers through highly specialized courses taught by professors who excel in their field. The apparent secrecy surrounding extracurricular activities sets a number of students’ teeth on edge, but with grad school and cutthroat careers bombarding the horizon, many find solace in the collective conscious formed when like-minded students debate rather than argue, discuss rather than inform, and learn from one another in existential interlocution. Specialized programs form the roots of life at Olivet, anchoring a well-rounded education in a living, breathing academic community.
The main level of Benner Library is the social floor where students find friends, Lee, and the dragon vessel. The second floor is Ann Hugo’s domain where the volume is slightly decreased in comparison to the level below. The third floor is the epitome of silence, but the basement is a worthy competitor, exuding hush and a wealth of information in periodicals.

Coke and Christmas Trees

Freshman David Gardner has a familiar face to anyone who frequents the first floor of the library. He has been completing puzzles for his whole life, and the puzzle table on the main level of Benner has become a place for him to relax and take his mind off of work. He said that he thinks working on puzzles is a good way to build community. He has met many interesting people around the thousands of pieces which make larger images of Coca Cola scenes, Christmas trees, and the names of all 50 states made out of familiar brand letters. David takes great pride in completing the puzzles in Benner which he thinks the library makes appear “out of thin air.” When finished, he always takes a picture of his masterpiece and posts it on Instagram.
Now that she lives in Olde Oak, senior Amber Andersen doesn’t spend as much time on campus. When she is on campus, though, the “ULTRA QUIET AREA!” is her go-to spot for homework. “I come here because it’s quiet. Although, it’s fun to sit at the group tables in the stacks because you can get away with whispering. I usually end up laughing with this girl,” she whispers, pointing to her friend Morgan Nusbaumer. “It makes us laugh harder because we are supposed to be quiet... it’s like a curse.”
Q: What sparked your interest in journalism? How did you come to be executive editor of the GlimmerGlass?
A: I always enjoyed writing growing up. I used to think I wanted to be a fantasy novel author during my years of “Lord of the Rings” obsession.

However, I got into journalism in high school working for my high school newspaper and became the editor my junior and senior year. After that, journalism just made sense. The style of writing came naturally to me, and I liked the idea of telling real people’s stories better than the idea of writing about made up worlds.

When I got to Olivet I started off as a journalism major and have never had second thoughts. I started writing for the GlimmerGlass my freshman year, became an assistant editor my sophomore year, news editor my junior year, and senior year, it just made sense to run for executive editor.

Q: In your experience, what is the best and/or the worst thing about a career in journalism?
A: I think the best and worst part about a journalism career is how passionate journalists are. There’s this crazy ambitious attitude that anyone aspiring to be a journalist automatically possesses. It’s a hard and aggressive field, and journalists often put their story above everything else in life. The passion can drive you and kill you at the same time.
The GlimmerGlass increased its online presence this year. When asked about this shift, executive editor Nicole Lafond explained, “I want the GlimmerGlass to be relevant in the journalism world. That’s why we’ve been working so hard to build our online presence and expand our page count this year.” The change didn’t come at the expense of print though, as the staff put together several 20 page editions, the largest in the paper’s history.

Freshman Grace King accepted the challenge of becoming the paper’s opinion editor this year (1). (sb)

Taylor Provost pitched a story idea in a planning meeting. “The hardest part of journalism for me is trying to deal with people who don’t want to deal with you,” she said. “Some people that would have great information just don’t want to deal with reporters, and when that happens, you have to think on your feet about what to do next.” (2) (sb)

News editor Justine Espersen, assistant life editor Alex Ewers, executive editor Nicole Lafond, online editor Jake Neuman, opinion editor Grace King, and campus life editor Ashley Sarver attended the Illinois College Press Association, where the newspaper won three awards competing in a more competitive category than years past.
For their Christmas show hosted in the basement of Ludwig where fire-codes are just nice suggestions, Spoons 4 Forks performed to a packed audience. Santa’s summer job—he also a taxi driver in case you didn’t know—became a competition to drive cotton-balls and Christmas bears around town in the fastest time. There was a dating game with a cousin-in-law named Barbara—yes, cousin-in-laws are real and frequently named Barbara, sometimes even Barbara Bush—and a nauseous snail fighting for the love of one frank Texan.
Spoons 4 Forks is the comedy improv group on campus. They specialize in not knowing what is going on in a hilarious manner. But, remember, this stuff is serious. The group has games that they perform and it seems that the crux of the comedy comes from confusion. The audience is in on the secret, but some of the improvers don’t know, and that’s where the hilarity comes in.

By Garrett Corpier

Practice Makes Perfect

How do they do it? Well, after sitting in on a practice the answer becomes even more confusing. There are inside jokes, lots of tangents, and even a yo-yo master present. It’s a chaotic affair that involves flailing, office chairs becoming wheelchairs, and other grandmas not previously mentioned obsessively licking their lips.

Make ‘Em Laugh

Spoons 4 Forks is the comedy improv group on campus. They specialize in not knowing what is going on in a hilarious manner. But, remember, this stuff is serious. The group has games that they perform and it seems that the crux of the comedy comes from confusion. The audience is in on the secret, but some of the improvers don’t know, and that’s where the hilarity comes in.

By Garrett Corpier

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Q: What is your best memory of being in the Multi-Ethnic Relations Club?

Aaron Eubanks: Working with the Center of Hope. We were just rearranging cans in the Kankakee area, but I was able to see that there are people in need who are close to home. It brings me out of my element, but that's a good thing. You learn to help others.

Ariel Turner: Our kick-off party was definitely a great memory for me! The MERC kick-off party is a chance for students to come out and learn about MERC's mission and how they can be a part of it. There is something exciting about seeing new faces and meeting new students who also have a love of diversity. Our party was themed for Hispanic Heritage Month, so we served authentic Mexican food. In addition to this, we played a few games. Towards the end of the night, we had salsa lessons from one of our own students here on campus who danced in a professional group.

Q: Why do you think a group like MERC is important?

Aaron Eubanks: You don't think or talk about diversity much anywhere, but this group does. And it's helpful to transfer students and freshmen because it brings them into something where they can meet people and help out. We mostly do service events to help out the campus and community.

Ariel Turner: We are responsible for spreading a message of diversity and unity on ONU's campus. We recognize that we are all one in Christ, but that God has given us all different backgrounds, talents, gifts and abilities which will benefit the kingdom. MERC is a place to cultivate those gifts while learning more about one another.

Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast

This event invited local community leaders to remember Martin Luther King and his legacy and life, and all that he did for people all over the world. “We all came together to pray for our world, our society, and our future,” Aaron Eubanks explained.
Christmas Expressions was all about celebrating diversity during the holiday season. Students performed songs from different cultures and read stories about Christmas traditions from all over the globe. "Seeing Olivet students from different cultures, traditions and backgrounds come together as one to perform their talents was very exciting," member Trinity Evans said.
Jeff Gerstenberger, a freshman, was the Gentleman of Cleanliness to represent the spiffy and well-groomed men in Gentleman’s Quarterly, or GQ, magazine.

Q: What is your smoothie flavor?
A: It’s called "So Fresh, So Clean." It’s actually a hip hop song that my RA showed me. It’s really cheesy, so it was perfect.

Q: What talent are you going to perform?
A: I’m actually going to rap. Not a lot of people will expect that from me so it’ll be interesting. I’m going to have one of my friends come on stage with me who writes Christian rap songs. He wrote the one we’ll be doing.

Q: What’s the best part of being part of Mr. ONU?
A: Making the video and putting it into high definition was a lot of fun. I also got to put my friends and the other competitors in it.

Q: Are you nervous about the performance? Have you performed in front of an audience before?
A: No, so this is my first time. I’m a little nervous about it, but I’m also excited. It’ll be good.

Hyle Johnston, a sophomore, was the Gentleman of Homeschool and featured “Mama’s Special” for his smoothie entry.

Q: How did you feel when you first heard you were nominated for Mr. ONU?
A: I was really excited; this was my chance to go all out and have a lot of fun with it.

Q: How do you come up with material for the show?
A: I ask my friends and we kind of bounce ideas off each other. I always want opinions because I want to be funny without being obvious that I’m trying to be funny.

Q: What’s the best part of being part of Mr. ONU?
A: Getting to know the other guys and getting close with them. They’re all really cool, and I’ve had a lot of fun getting to know them.

Q: What do you hope to take away from the event?
A: I just want to make people laugh, and I hope everyone has a good time.

“The event was spectacular! Everyone in the crowd sounded like they were having the time of their lives; I totally had a blast and it is such a memorable night. All in all, congratulations to Kyle Johnston for winning Mr. ONU. He definitely deserves it! He has character and heart.” - Genesis Perez, junior
Levi Himes, a sophomore, was the Gentleman of Survival; a very outdoorsy title that Levi feels represents him.

**Q: How'd you feel when you found out you'd be in Mr. ONU?**
A: I was really excited; I was freaking out. I showed the email to my RD and all the guys on the floor.

**Q: What's your smoothie name?**
A: It's called the Berry Tundra and it was just supposed to be berries and mango and everyone loved it. It was selling really well, but they switched the ingredients somehow so it was raspberry and mango instead. It was still good though, people liked it.

**Q: Are you nervous about performing? Have you performed before?**
A: I've done a lot of videos with friends on campus, and I did the variety show for Ollies Follies, so I'm not too nervous about performing. I'm pretty content about it.

**Q: Is there anyone you want to win?**
A: I mean, I'd kind of like to win, but I don't really care who it is. I think we're all in it to have fun; none of us are competitive about it.

Jessica Palm is the Vice President of Women’s Residential Life at Olivet. She talks about her time being part of WRL and the events the group puts on.

**Q: What are all the events WRL puts on?**
A: We do the Homecoming Coronation, Sister to Sister, Appreciation Days, and Ladies’ Night In.

**Q: What’s the biggest event you put on?**
A: The Homecoming Coronation. There’s a lot that goes into it with the setting up and organizing. Mr. ONU is our most popular event on campus though among the students.

**Q: What's your favorite thing about being a part of WRL?**
A: I love watching the lasting relationships that form from Sister to Sister. Sometimes the matches don’t work, but the ones that do last for a long time where they make memories and encourage each other. I also love seeing the girls on stage during the Homecoming Coronation who have done so much for the campus, hearing all the good things their parents say, and getting to know them.
"The club is a reflection of what God has ultimately placed on our hearts in regards to what we want to do in the future. We each have a passion to help the poor, the oppressed, the needy, the lost; it's what God has called us all to do with our lives."

- Ashley Dettore

Social Justice Club

Complacency tempts in an academic environment, where theories and statistics and world problems are discussed pragmatically around classroom tables, supported with citations from history and current events as one would discuss a work of fiction.

The objective of the Social Justice Club is to put faces to statistics and theory and to raise awareness of worldwide social injustice, including child soldiers, human trafficking, poverty, and environmental crises. They are a team of action, working together with organizations such as the End It Movement, International Justice Mission, TOMS, and Invisible Children. The club is led by Ashley Dettore (president), Kelsey Fisk (treasurer), and Clara Ruegsegger (vice president) who meet weekly to discuss current and future projects.

SJC is not only a way to raise awareness and theorize about why social injustice exists, but a place where students can unite as the body of Christ to take initiative and do something about social injustice as a whole. They translate ideas into action.

"The club is a reflection of what God has ultimately placed on our hearts in regards to what we want to do in the future," Dettore said. "We each have a passion to help the poor, the oppressed, the needy, the lost; it's what God has called us all to do with our lives."

By Drew Leavitt
Students aren’t the only ones who helped out Habitat for Humanity this year. In March, Sodexo donated one dollar to Habitat for Humanity for each dining survey students filled out.

Habitat for Humanity

Students looking for a practical method of reaching out locally found a home in Habitat for Humanity. The club works under the larger organization of the same name who specializes in building houses for those who have nowhere to live. This organization acts upon what many Americans take for granted. One of the leaders of Olivet’s chapter described serving the needy in the Kankakee community as being the hands and feet of Jesus: an appropriate metaphor, as they specialize in manual labor. Habitat for Humanity does not require any prior experience, but works with many contractors, engaging in the physical labor of construction to create a warm environment and shelter for those lacking it. Most of the work that Habitat for Humanity does relates to the construction and maintenance of local houses in Kankakee, but they also assist the community in other ways, including tornado relief and assistance in health clinics. By Drew Leavitt
J.T. Cummings
Junior
Wesley Institute, Sydney, Australia

Q: Where did you go and why did you choose that location?
A: It had always been a dream of mine to go to Australia, so when the opportunity arose I took it. I was in Sydney Australia! The beach was literally a 30 minute train ride away.

Q: What was your favorite part about studying abroad?
A: My favorite part of living in another country was learning about a different culture firsthand. It is amazing how another culture can be so similar, yet so vastly different at the same time.

Q: Would you recommend studying abroad to other Olivet students?
A: Studying abroad changed my life. What I learned cannot be found in books, or taught by any college professor. If you have the chance, go.
Heather Terpenning
Senior
Taylor University, Greystones, Ireland

Q: Where did you go and why did you choose that location?
A: I have always wanted to go to Ireland.

Q: What was your favorite part about studying abroad?
A: My favorite part of living in a different country was experiencing a different culture, a different way of life, and a totally different pace of life.

Q: What did you miss most while studying abroad?
A: I really missed all my friends at Olivet.

Bethany Isley
Junior
NILI program, Quito, Ecuador

Q: Where did you go and why did you choose that location?
I chose Ecuador because I had the ability to travel to the jungle and meet a native tribe.

Q: What was your favorite part about studying abroad?
My favorite part of living in a different culture was that I made new friends immediately. My roommate and I became close really fast and we still keep in touch and plan to remain friends.

Q: What did you miss the most while studying abroad?
I really missed food. The cuisine is so different there that I had a hard time adjusting.

Q: Would you recommend studying abroad to other Olivet students?
Going to another country is challenging, but it was the best experience I have ever had.
Club members share an admiration for horses and riding them. Whether they own their own horses or the extent of their experience is from reading books and watching movies, a mutual affection is all that is required to enjoy each others’ company and spend time with their favorite animal. (RH)

"/ˈkwɛstriən/ adjective: of or relating to horse riding."

What is the difference between English and Western style riding?

"The saddles are different; English style is for jumping. We compete in (and prefer) English style,” said Christina and Danielle. Western is more commonly used for trail rides."
His name is Barron, and he is spoiled. This 11-year old thoroughbred is owned and adored by Danielle Hays, president of the Equestrian Club. He lives at Sunrise Farms outside of Aroma Park, IL, where some club members like to ride English-style and practice jumping instead of sticking with the tamer trail rides.

The Equestrian Club is not only for experienced riders like Danielle, who has ridden horses for five years. Treasurer Christina Di Monte admits, “Most of the people who sign up don’t know anything about horses. They just think they’re pretty.” Members are encouraged to get involved by taking lessons and learning more about horses, but the highlights of the Equestrian Club which bring everyone together are the trail rides held each semester at the Kankakee State Park.

In the fall, seven horse lovers made their way on a crisp evening to the state park for a trail ride. They rode on horses with names like Luis and Cherokee, and they were given the basic instructions of how to handle a horse, just in case they didn’t already know: “Pull back with a ‘whoa’ to stop, heels in the side and clicks to move forward.” Their trail leader assured them that the horses knew how to do their job, and trees changing colors set the backdrop for a laidback adventure. In light of such ride, club member Jacquelyn Rhea appropriately gave an open invitation for anyone to come to her room for movies. “I have almost every horse movie ever created,” she said with a laugh.

By Katharyn Schrader
1. What is the best part of Tabletop Games Club?

“The energy. Board games usually bore the heck out of me, but here, the energy is great. It gets crazy.”
–Brenda Jones, member

2. Why do you think this club has grown so quickly?

“It’s an easy community. Everyone can just come, play, relax... There’s no pomp and circumstance.”
–Nathan Roberts, treasurer
Glen “Merlin” Hinkley, president of the Tabletop Games club, apologized for the yelling and boisterous laughter. “That’s just the atmosphere here,” he explained, offering a warm handshake. Walking around the large SLRC room where the Tabletop Games club is usually held, it’s easy to see what he means. All of the members seem relaxed and happy, lounging on tables and roaming from group to group. People sit in rough circles, laughing, chatting, shouting, and, of course, playing all sorts of games. The Tabletop Games selection includes classics like Life, Clue, Risk, and Settlers of Catan, along with some more obscure titles, like Fluxx. Magic the Gathering is a popular choice, as are Apples to Apples and Ticket to Ride. There’s a great variety, and the selection changes every week. Board games, card games, and even a few interactive computer games are all shared and enjoyed by the members. The club was founded last year, and it has since doubled in size. There are about 150 members, and about 40-60 people show up to play every Friday night from 7 p.m. to midnight. Nathan Roberts, treasurer, attributes the club’s popularity to the laid-back atmosphere. Anyone with a love of games is warmly welcomed.

By Alex VanDehey

The games are provided by the SLRC, and the selection changes every week to give variety to the members.
Dr. Jay began a spring Associated Student Council meeting with a devotion on confronting those in leadership, giving tips on confrontation and correction when both giving and receiving it. He then led with a word of prayer.

At meetings, ASC covers everything from business to student life. This particular meeting discussed the Finkbeiner Fast, globalization, and fund petitioning. But the biggest conversation centered around that weekend’s big event: Avalanche. It is no secret that the Olivet student body benefits from ASC’s hosting of campus-wide events, which seem to get better every year. Avalanche was a success, offering the games and free food that students have come to love.

Meetings often end with students expressing concerns. This time, they discussed food portions in Nesbitt, lack of hot water in dorms and apartments, rumors of Dr. Bowling retiring, parking, and an excavation near Oak Run that either has to do with pipes or dinosaur fossils.

By Garret Corpier
VP for Women’s Residential Life and Men’s Residential Life Jessica Palm and Lucas Fritch helped out at the Block Party (1) (lf). Francisco Ramirez and Michaela Maris helped plan the sophomore class events (2) (sg).

An Olivet Christmas party!! — with Shelby Thein, Jon Herndon, Eddie Williams, Grace Amponsah, Emily Blake Downing and Daniel B. Going.
It's no secret that females outnumber males on campus by almost three to one. However, through the creative and passionate mind of Lucas Fritch, VP for Men's Residential Life, events like “Bro’s Night” offer ONU men a safe haven for manliness. As one of many Manvember events, guys played dodgeball, appropriately dubbed “wacky ball,” and partook in an epic nerf battle with PVC pipe blowguns for extra shooting power. A massive turnout of more than 300 guys showed up, partly due to Lucas's dedication. He made sure every man on campus received notice of the event by emailing them and even going door-to-door in each of the dorms to spread the word. The passion that Lucas has for his job is evident in his excitement about future possibilities for MRL. He firmly believes that part of his role is to “push the envelope.”

By Drew Leavitt
While nerf wars are traditionally fought with toy guns, PVC pipe blowguns took the Manvember nerf war to the next level. (1) (rh) The traditional test of manliness, tug-of-war, tested Robert Gaines on his strength. (2) (rh) Spike Ball was a new addition to the Manvember line-up this year. (3) (rh)

“Without the supportive community Olivet has, college life wouldn’t even be happening for me right now.”

Among the other “Bro’s Night” festivities, the winner of the much anticipated “Manvember” was crowned in the form of freshman Luke Baker. The trials that earned Luke the title included growing an epic beard, surviving a mock zombie apocalypse, and eating an obscene number of pancakes in Ludwig. Brought to Olivet by a random internet search for colleges, Luke has realized through MRL and events like “Bro’s Night” that “without the supportive community Olivet has, college life wouldn’t even be happening for me right now.”
Legacy of a Missionary

significantly more than a tragedy behind him when he left this world in November. He left behind motivated students who are excited about their degrees as well as challenged to uphold the kind of character he exuded. He left behind a department about to enter the realm of cutting-edge technology and engineering opportunities that have never before been possible at Olivet. Most importantly, he left behind hearts full of hope merely because they had the opportunity to have known him.

“He infected everyone around him by being very energetic... Whenever we were around him, we believed we could accomplish anything because he believed in all of us so much.” Jessie Eckerley, junior, Mechanical Engineering

“He repeatedly reminded us that when we all graduated and were out working in the industry, our ethics and love for Christ would be the most vital part of our careers.” Cory Engel, senior, Electrical Engineering

“He had the uncanny ability to see a good thing and make it great. He passionately sought to guide us towards the possibilities of merging Christ with our professions.” Loren Crawford, junior, Mechanical Engineering

“He took the time (even when he did not have it!) to make sure we always got the help we needed.” Zane DeBeck, sophomore, Electrical/Mechanical Engineering

“If I become half the man he was I will consider my life well lived.” Ben Prude, senior, Electrical Engineering

“He let God direct his adventures, and as a result God was able to use him and his abilities to change countless lives. It is my dream to be just like him...to be selfless and willing to serve, to be loving and wise and passionate, and to be every bit as fun and as radiant of Christ as he was.” Montana Caise, sophomore, Mechanical Engineering

“His song was one of joy, one of hope, and one of belief; and no person could enter his life without truly realizing the full melody of his heart. Dr. Johnson redefined the impact that I thought any one person could have on the world. He inspired me to believe that there is always reason to hope, to care, and to strive.” Michelle Spencer, senior, Electrical Engineering

Dr. Johnson’s students unanimously spoke about his childlike enthusiasm, his constant availability, his humility, his willingness to get to know his students personally, and his inspirational coining of the term “Missionaries” as a description for Christian engineers. Michelle Spencer, who knew Dr. Johnson personally, concludes his impact best:

“The ultimate mark that Dr. Johnson was and will always be unforgettable is by the amount he is missed. His passing is still a shock, and he has left so many with a gaping hole that can only be filled by his incredible legacy. He left this world without desperation, but with his song echoing in the hearts of the hundreds that he changed; he passed so that he may live on in us. And my life is forever changed by his melody.”

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One undergraduate’s year drastically changed in November. When Dr. Johnson passed away, Camilo Grisales (right), who had been serving as his T.A., was asked to teach the class for the rest of the semester. “Please give me one day to think about it,” was his shocked but honest response. After he accepted, Camilo loved the experience. “One year ago, I was planning on being an industry man,” he said. But when reflecting on his new experience with teaching, Camilo smiled and said, “I really, really like it.” Camilo did such a good job that he became an adjunct professor for the spring semester.

Engineering students gathered after Dr. Johnson’s funeral for the opening of the new Engineering Technology Center. (1) (sb). Students hung Christmas lights at the Johnson’s house in December (2).

Female Engineers

Kendra Maxon, a junior mechanical engineering major, was way underdressed when she attended her first Society of Women Engineers conference as a freshman in college. However, since this first encounter, she has been to two national conferences, two regional conferences, and even visited the home of Stacey DeNecchio, the president of SWE. Her dream is to have an official section of SWE at Olivet by the start of the 2014-2015 school year. Of the roughly 150 ONU engineering majors, there are fewer than 20 women. “It’s all about getting exposure to see what we can do as female engineers,” she said. “At a conference with thousands of woman engineers, you realize that if they can make it, I can make it too.”
"I've greatly enjoyed my time in Phi Alpha Theta," said Paul Wright, president of Phi Alpha Theta. "The ability to discuss any aspect of history and receive feedback and criticism for our theories is encouraging." Phi Alpha Theta is the national honor society for history majors, dedicated to the study of history and the exchange of ideas among historians. They currently have approximately fifteen members in the Olivet chapter, Nu Zeta. Founded in 1967, Nu Zeta is Olivet’s oldest honor society. To be inducted, history majors must have over twelve hours of history credit and a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Paul explained the purpose of the club, saying, “We seek to bring students and teachers together for intellectual and social exchanges, which promote and assist historical research and publication by our members.” Phi Alpha Theta also hosts a guest speaker every semester for a campus-wide lecture; this year, they welcomed Paige Cunningham, who spoke on the topic of bioethics. By Alex VanDehey
Everyone knows the old saying: “If we don’t learn from the past, we’ll repeat it.” Certain people dedicate their lives to the pursuit of learning about and interpreting the events that have brought humanity to where it is today. Here at ONU, we call them history majors. Olivet’s department of history and political science focuses on preparing young people to take on the future with an educated understanding of the past and the consequences of human choices, as well their effects on our current culture. The department’s highly qualified professors ensure that scholarship and faith are integrated into the curriculum as students form their Christian worldviews, so that whether they go on to teach, research, lead, or do something else, students of Olivet’s history department are able to take their critical thinking into the world to make sure that humanity heads in the right direction.

Passionate about teaching students to learn from studying the past, history professors such as William Dean teach classes like World Civilization, American Civilization, Developing World China, and Blood at Little Big Horn (1). (ah)

Members of Phi Alpha Theta from left: Alex Pollock, Colton Parker, Paul Wright, Troy Schultz, Zachary Dunbar, Ashley Dinneweth (2). (sb)
For a university that does not officially have a school of law, there are many Olivetians who are interested in pursuing law, creating their own pre-law pathways to prepare them for whatever law school interests them. The self-proclaimed goal of the Law and Politics Society is to fully equip these students to pursue further schooling and an eventual career in law, hoping to serve as a preparation for the troubles of law school to dull the horror stories of grueling tests and thousands of pages of reading. Addison Newall the president of the group is a Junior who dreams of going Ivy League himself. He committed himself to preparing other students to address the details of the LSAT test as he prepared this year to take it himself. In Addison’s eyes, the best thing about LPS is “The fact that we get legal minded individuals amped up to focus on where Christ is in the world of law and how they can change a corrupted profession that can do so much good for the kingdom of God.”
Politics is a topic of conversation that most tend to shy away from, since it ignites passionate ideals and thus controversy. Among the larger political battles of the nation and the world, it is important to have a place in which subjective political beliefs can be expressed without judgment. Attempting to step away from a nation divided politically, the Capitol Hill Gang seeks to provide a place to develop politically through discussion and debate. The club, led by Brandon Allison, is the only official place on campus that students can get together and talk about important political issues. CHG not only offers a refuge for politically minded students, but also opens itself to the campus of ONU and any student remotely interested in current political issues by hosting campus events like debates. These debates can range topically from recent governmental decisions to the legalization of marijuana and often include the assistance or participation of both students and faculty. By offering a fellowship for the politically minded students of ONU and even pointing them toward opportunities to get involved in local politics, Capitol Hill Gang provides a significant place for students to discuss and to learn from one another.
Three to four times a semester, the computer science club meets at exactly 6:53 p.m. to hold what they call a LAN party. The club begins the evening by going to Royal Buffet Chinese Food and then playing computer games until two or three in the morning. Then, they make a late night visit to Steak ‘n Shake for burgers and shakes, only to be found back in the lab playing more computer games until well after sunrise.
Alex Reiter accepted first prize for best in show at the annual Computer Science Open House in December for his work on a Windows tablet GPS tracking app for his employer, RacoWireless. The award celebrated the department’s 25th anniversary. (L-R) Larry Vail, Alex Reiter.

“What makes this program and this department stand out and different from other programs at Olivet would be the fact that we are the innovators of the world. We are programming the future right here at Olivet and will continue to strive for greatness in the future of technology and programming innovation.”

– Caleb Brewer

Computer science is a tough program of intricate codes, complicated math, and seemingly impossible labs. Nonetheless, it is an incredibly rewarding major full of opportunities. “Computer science means staying in the lab all night to finish code. It means giving up weekend plans to finish a lab you thought would take a quarter of the time. Computer science is the dopamine kick that goes through you brain when you finally finish a lab or eliminate a bug,” senior Alex Reiter (left) said.

While many students spend their evenings and weekends enjoying what Olivet has to offer, the computer science department spends them working hard. Some even put their skills to the test in programming competitions, spending hours cracking codes and solving every problem thrown at them. “Programming competitions stretch your understanding, but much more importantly they stretch your ability to work in collaboration,” Hannah Miller said. “Hour of Code (left) was a national event to promote computer science awareness and, particularly, advocate for better education standards in K-12. Ours was a one-hour event sponsored by the computer science club for students from all over campus to come experience very simple programming for the first time. We had over 100 people trying it in three different Weber classrooms, assisted by volunteer students from the CS department. The web apps we offered were provided by Hour of Code and were very similar to those used in our first-time programming class.”
Members of the Spanish honor society Sigma Delta Pi Chi Omega: Cristina Gomez, Allyse Groover, Hannah Miller, Emily Arnold, and Dr. Wilfredo Canales.

Q: What is your favorite thing Sigma Delta Pi Chi Omega has done this year?
A: The induction ceremony is always an exciting time where all the current members come together with the incoming members and conduct a private ceremony. We pass out the society’s elements and share peaceful moments with a language we all love.

Q: What do you appreciate about the honor society?
A: It provides excellent opportunities for all the members, including a chance to interact with other Spanish majors and also scholarships and grants for those who want to continue their education in Spanish.

Q: How has the society benefited you this year?
A: Being president has been rewarding, but it was also a lot of work. This responsibility helped me create a balanced schedule of classes, drumline, and Sigma Delta Pi. I was privileged to work with Professor Canales, our awesome sponsor.

“The professors want to help us succeed in our study of language and in life too.”

- Erin Stephens
Students walk in bewildered at the frosting scented, brightly decorated room that is normally the plain Fishbowl in the library. One guy walks in from the stairwell, glances around at the decked out room and then slowly shuts the door, returning to the dim stairwell. A few other students coyly walk by, some with absolute confusion while others can’t help but grin at the small party. All admire the Alice in Wonderland drawings on the windows and stare hungrily at the junk food spread out on a table. A few more students come in and stand right at the threshold as if there’s an invisible barrier that won’t let them join the party with all the kid-orientated crafts from a favorite fairy tale.

Two brave souls make their way into the room with large grins. They immediately grab some birthday cake, cookies and punch while looking around at the decor. “This is awesome!” the tall guy says with a mid-fist bump to the air to show his enthusiasm. After those two broke the barrier more students began to flood into the room and try out the different Alice in Wonderland themed crafts like making un-birthday hats, coloring pictures of their favorite characters, and getting their photos taken as the Cheshire Cat smiled from behind.

“Some of my best memories are from setting up the Dr. Seuss and Alice in Wonderland parties during banned book week,” said Katelyn Oprondek, a junior and member of Sigma Tau Delta. “It was really fun to come together and create something everyone could enjoy.”

By Doni York
Prepare to Serve

Set a ways from the street and surrounded by an open field stands the towering, aged red brick of Fortin Villa. Shouts and stomping are often heard here, and forced early risers pull on camouflage fatigues and boots to march and work out at a time when most students are soundly asleep in their dorm rooms and apartments, or debating sleep amongst stacks of homework and discarded, empty coffee cups. Students gasp in horror at the time that cadets work out, but many of them do not understand the work that goes into being a part of Olivet’s Army Reserve Officers Training Corps. Physical training is three times a week around 5:30 am which entails the usual running, arm workouts, and abdominal workouts reminiscent of the tests in pushups, sit ups, and running that all cadets must pass to stay in the program. Besides routine PT, cadets will often engage in labs and exercises, turning Fortin Villa into an enemy headquarters and going through the motions of a building raid while an umpire dictates reality and calls someone out if they are dead.

Contrary to popular belief, Olivet ROTC is not all about working out. The classes are structured like a minor and are mostly located within Fortin Villa, ranging from Basic Soldier Skills to Military History. ROTC cadets have a class every semester and look toward the character building determination necessary of an American soldier. At the end of their junior year, cadets are required to take a Leadership Development Assessment Course, an assessment of everything they have learned in the program. After the program, cadets go on to basic officer training, where they are trained for the jobs they will have as officers and sent to their respective posts, whether active duty or not.

The reasons for joining the ROTC vary from a love of the training or the atmosphere to a true feeling of being called to serve. Most cadets, whatever their reasoning, will walk away with a more structured outlook on life and a willingness and ability to be in leadership positions. The doors of Fortin Villa house not just hardened future soldiers, but a community of dedicated workers and leaders preparing themselves to serve their country.
New Leadership

Major Karen Crocker is not what many would expect when envisioning a Director of Military Science. Her devotion to those brought into her life through a decision to serve distinguishes her as a leader well aware of her capabilities and the impact that she has on others. Her smile and willingness to be involved in the lives of her cadets is evidence that she is a dedicated and dynamic addition to Olivet's Department of Military Sciences. Her job has taken her all over the country since her enlisting in the Army in 1992, and she has also served in Germany, Korea, and Egypt. Having never worked in an academic environment before, she has been presented with new challenges, but is more than willing to rise to the occasion. She says of her new placement at Olivet, “It’s fun and takes a lot of energy. The fast pace is a challenge, but it’s fun because the cadets have energy and imagination. I learn from them, too.” Her willingness to learn is what makes Major Crocker fit into the academic environment, and her appetite for leadership makes for a fitting role model for any young soldier.

“The cadets have energy and imagination. I learn from them, too.”

Helping Hands

Every August, ROTC members assist freshmen as they move in to campus. (RW)
Haley Carroll attended the SEA teacher panel event. “We asked questions of how they had to adapt their classroom lesson plans to the common core standards, what is the most difficult part of teaching, and much more. It was really great to hear teachers talk about their classroom to help encourage us in our studies,” she said.

Q and A with Thomas Sanders

1. Since you will be graduating, how well do you think the Education department has prepared you for your future?

   I would say that the Education department prepares its students well for student teaching. The highly qualified professors and high expectations make sure that we learn information that will be useful when we go out into the field. When it comes time to student teach, there are lessons that a college course cannot provide, and that’s where much of our growth as professionals really begins.

2. What have you enjoyed the most while student teaching?

   Student teaching has been a wonderful experience so far. It has been wonderfully helpful in showing me exactly what it will be like for me as a teacher in the fall. There is so much that goes on behind the scenes that simply cannot be talked about in our college classes, yet is incredibly important in the day-to-day workings of the educational system. Of course, the dynamics with the students are different, as a college student turns into a student teacher. There’s quite simply a feeling that we are, as the tagline of the department goes, “professionals influencing lives.”
Jessica Dieken took notes during lecture. “My favorite part of the education department is how obviously the professors care about not only the students in their class, but also the students that we will someday teach,” she said.

Students participated in discussion, shared their ideas, and learned from others.

SEA held a question and answer session where teachers in the area came to discuss their experiences and students asked questions concerning their future careers.

Serving local schools in need is Kappa Delta Pi’s specialty. The education honor society provided opportunities to learn co-teaching strategies and hosted a service project to promote literacy in local schools this year. “Ultimately, Kappa Delta Pi helps give future teachers practical and meaningful experiences and resources,” member Jessica Manning said.

By Erin Taylor
Chad stands out from the rest of the crowd. He wasn’t born with a disability, but after the accident he was different than he used to be. Slower in speech, but a jokester nonetheless, Chad entertains the people at River Valley Church with his jokes and quick-witted comments.

Chad attends Manifest, an alternate church service for adults with physical and mental disabilities like Chad. “We take things for granted,” said volunteer Hannah Moyer. “It is humbling to spend time with them. They get so happy about just the little things.”

Young and old adults come to Manifest each week to learn about the Lord.

Hannah says the ministry was developed around John 9:1-3: “And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made MANIFEST in him.”

By Erin Taylor
"May I pray with you?" Dr. Ron Dalton smiles as he begins a Christian Scriptures 2 class. An engaging and welcoming aura fills the air as Dalton steps into the classroom, encouraging students to utilize his office hours in order to grow together as the body of Christ. The mentoring friendships that occur in the theology department are known throughout the student body. Senior Erin Evans has one of these mentoring friendships with another professor, Dr. Leon Blanchette. Their relationship grew out of a mission trip taken in 2012. Since then, they have continued to pour into their friendship.

Meeting twice a week, they chat about various topics, and he will even bring her coffee to class when she is having a rough day. "He is like a campus father in a way," said Erin, smiling as she remembered the times that they have spent together. The foundation of the theology department is firmly built on the relationships that are made between the professors and the students. Professors take the time out of their week to devote their attention to the students with whatever they may need.

“We all want to learn as much as we can, and the professors want to teach us the best they can, so that we can be better vessels for the Lord to use in ministry.”
-Bethany Chatman

Many years ago, a local church helped a Kankakee family of three that had no means of support. The only child, nine years old, whose life was considered a miracle, was called into ministry. Raised by two teenagers, she grew into a strong, well-educated and driven woman. This woman is Olivet’s very own Teresa Garner, youth ministry professor. After 21 years of ministry, she has made her way into the hearts of the students and staff in her first year at Olivet. Professor Garner is the only female professor in the department, but she is not intimidated by the men that surround her. During her first interview, she thought to herself “How am I going to do this?” Then she remembered that she was being interviewed because of who she is and what she’d done. “You are who you are because God has gifted you,” Garner said. “Everyone is wired differently, and that is a powerful thing.” One message that she gives to all women who are called into ministry is to not give up and to not apologize, because God is the one who has brought each person to the right place.
A Melting Pot of Personalities

The Student Education Association is a melting pot of personalities. Sarah Ready said, “When we look for new members, we don’t like to have people with the same personalities. We like a mixture of students so that all ideas can be brought to the table.” Their group consists of class clowns, jocks, introverts, and extroverts. In one interview, a girl was asked why she wanted to join SEA and Sarah said that she responded with “I don’t.” Once the council discovered that the girl thought it was a requirement to be a part of the organization, they all had a good laugh. The varying opinions and situations has created a council that has helped lead the association to one of their newest programs this year called Upward Ministries.
By Erin Taylor

From Science to Salsa

The Illinois Science Educator Conference in Tinley Park was an amazing experience for all of the members of the National Science Teacher Association. Dr. Aggie Veld not only provided the students with opportunities to learn but she also provided dance lessons. Morgan Nusbaumer learned how to swing dance one night. “Dr. Veld was our mother duck during the whole trip,” Nusbaumer said as she beamed with excitement about the science lessons and tips for swing dance. However, that was not the only time dance was incorporated at this event. Morgan helped teach the president of ISEC how to salsa dance and in turn was given the opportunity to seek him for future advice and guidance in her profession. “The connections made there were priceless,” said Emilie Janes, president of NSTA. By Erin Taylor
Q: As a future educator, how has the National Association for Music Educators helped prepare you for your future?
Lynnae De Jong: NAfME prepares me for my future as a music educator by connecting me with professionals who can share their knowledge and experiences and by giving me opportunities to serve music programs in the local area.

Q: What type of opportunities does the National Association of Music Educators offer you?
Selina Gaines: Being involved in NAfME allows us to have community with other future music educators and attend IMEA, which is an event that gives students and teachers the opportunity to attend lectures, workshops, and learn more about specific topics and exciting new things happening in the world of music education.

Q: What can you say about the growth of NAfME this year?
Andrew Moore: This year NAfME is trying to increase its involvement in off-campus activities, especially those related to education. We hope not only to gain experience for ourselves but make an impact in the educational community around Olivet.
Jessica Brown: I would say that NAfME has definitely grown this year. Since participation in this club is determined by being a music education major, we do not really recruit members. It is exciting though that there are more music education majors in the music department this year and I hope it continues!
According to Kelsey Steines, the Student Philanthropy Council “helps engage the campus and promote the welfare of others. We also fund projects and have events throughout the year. We do Free Tuition day in April which is when the 80% of our tuition is all paid off and the rest of the 20% comes from generous donors in the community. We put on an event to celebrate all the people who are giving to the campus.”

By Doni York
Zolar Entertainment

Zolar Entertainment might best be known for the handful of dances it has hosted for Olivet students, but founder and sophomore Sam Kwak says Olivet is only a small amount of the events in which Zolar Entertainment participates. In fact, Zolar Entertainment’s services have been used for weddings, birthdays, bar mitzvahs, and Quinceañeras.

According to Zolar Entertainment’s website, their mission is to “deliver a flawless, unique and creative event to customers worldwide.”

Kwak first started DJing his freshman year of high school for a secular company. Zolar Entertainment came out of his desire to have safe events free from the dangers of alcohol and other substances.

“We want people to have a safe alternative,” Kwak said of his events.

Under Kwak’s leadership, Zolar Entertainment has gone from hosting local events to flying out to the University of Virginia and California to put on events. Kwak’s vision is to have an international business in the next two or three years.

Kwak has hosted events for Olivet such as Classy Friday, a charity event to assist with Missions in Action trips. He’s also lent his talents to class and all-school events as an active member of the Associated Student Council.

By Christopher Peterson
One might wonder what the Math Club at Olivet does, but according to its members the club is a lot more than just running numbers. “We do several events every year such as Pi Day and math murder mystery, and then other smaller meetings where we do fun games and things related to math,” said Molly Peterson, a senior. “My best memory is from this last Pi Day when we ate pie and decorated pi-shaped cookies and had a cookie-decorating competition!”

As for the most anticipated event, most of the members are looking forward to the “Math Murder Mystery,” where students earn clues and try to solve a murder in the department. “It’s always creative and a lot of fun! We’re always doing something different,” Peterson said.

“The best thing about the math department is that we are a family. The professors really take the time to get to know us.” —Gloria Jentz
During a Math Club meeting, students and faculty worked side by side flipping coins to learn about probability. (sb)
The Family and Consumer Science Department includes majors that range from dietetics to interior design. “All of these majors are very different from each other, yet they all work together in order to serve others,” Kira Litras said. Family and Consumer Science is an integral part of society that requires a vast amount of hard work and dedication. Stephanie Jansma said, “FACS is unique because it focuses on many things we take for granted: clothes, home, family, and food.”
“Dietetics is the study of all that is evil but tasty.”
-Cristina Gomez

“Dietetics is the study of foods that I should eat but probably won’t.”-Brianna Turner

“Is that a real word?”-Elizabeth Hackney

“It’s not quite anything really.”-Natalie McManus

“Dietetics is the art form and science of forcing people to eat right.”-Josh Johnson

“Dietetics is people who are on a diet?”-Luke Vihnanek

Fashion merchandise is a small and underappreciated major in the FACS department. Incorporating art, design, fashion, and merchandising, it becomes much more complicated than simply buying and selling clothing. “The faculty want you to become professionals in the fashion world,” Rebekah La Plante said. “I can identify any textile of clothing just by touching it.”

Familiar smells of turkey and potatoes comfort the Dietetics department. Member Kira Litras, who has been involved in SDA’s Thanksgiving celebrations since she was a freshman, is overjoyed to see the club has grown so much this past year. Students in Indian and pilgrim attire filled the room as they sat down to have a meal of fellowship and gave thanks for the things that God has brought them this semester. 

-By Erin Taylor
Psi Chi is the national honor society dedicated to promoting academic excellence in the field of psychology. Those in Olivet’s chapter organize projects and activities for psychology majors and minors.

“Some of my favorite moments have been socializing around a bonfire out at University Place, as well as our Christmas party in the alumni house,” Brianne Gallivan said.

Psi Chi also sponsored game nights and advising sessions for freshman psychology students. Psi Chi had 24 members and was led by Stephanie Miller as chapter president, Nathan Roberts as treasurer, Chantel Ulatowski as representative, and Brianne Gallivan as representative. By Alex VanDehey
As my retirement is fast approaching, I must admit that I am experiencing mixed emotions. On the one hand, I am filled with anticipation and excitement when I think about the home to which I am retiring in the rural hills of southern Indiana. I will be able to experience many of the wonders of God’s creation in my own backyard. On the other hand, there is a measure of sadness I am experiencing as well. For the past 27 years the Olivet community has been a huge part of my life. It has been a great privilege and honor for me to serve God in my capacity as a professor of psychology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences. And, without question, Olivet is a wonderful place to be for students, faculty, and staff. This place called Olivet really is holy ground. So, as I prepare to leave at the end of this academic year, I want to say a heart-felt goodbye to the entire Olivet community. To all of my students, past and present, and to my colleagues on the faculty and staff, thanks for the memories we have made together over the years. You have greatly impacted and enriched my life, and I will always deeply cherish the memories of our time together.

God Bless,
Ray Bower

Psychology and sociology students and faculty said a fond farewell to Dr. Ray Bower, who retired at the end of the year. He served as chair of the behavioral sciences department.

Fond Farewell

Goodbye Olivet Community,

As my retirement is fast approaching, I must admit that I am experiencing mixed emotions. On the one hand, I am filled with anticipation and excitement when I think about the home to which I am retiring in the rural hills of southern Indiana. I will be able to experience many of the wonders of God’s creation in my own backyard. On the other hand, there is a measure of sadness I am experiencing as well. For the past 27 years the Olivet community has been a huge part of my life. It has been a great privilege and honor for me to serve God in my capacity as a professor of psychology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences. And, without question, Olivet is a wonderful place to be for students, faculty, and staff. This place called Olivet really is holy ground. So, as I prepare to leave at the end of this academic year, I want to say a heart-felt goodbye to the entire Olivet community. To all of my students, past and present, and to my colleagues on the faculty and staff, thanks for the memories we have made together over the years. You have greatly impacted and enriched my life, and I will always deeply cherish the memories of our time together.

God Bless,
Ray Bower

Students enjoyed snacks, games like Apples to Apples, and the fellowship of their peers and professors at a game night in February.
Reed Hall of Science, known to most students as the location of general science classes and labs, is the home of those who are pursuing a major in Biology. These students, spending countless hours in this building, learn in a very hands-on environment. The labs, filled with microscopes, tarantulas, specimens and petri dishes help students prepare for a future of researching the natural world.

**Biophilic**

Dr. Gregory Long (left) sponsors Biophilic, the club for biology majors. In the past they have volunteered at a food pantries, visited nursing homes, cleaned the Kankakee River, and sponsored a donor registry through “Be the Match.”

Their mission statement is “To promote community and service within the biology department, the campus of Olivet, and surrounding areas as well as understanding of biology and the environment.”
The Science of Having Fun
Blake Spencer (3) became the first person to graduate with an interdisciplinary minor in leadership studies this year. "I've learned that one of the most important aspects of leadership is being able to look and plan for the future," he said. "If a leader only focuses on the present they will not be able to make strides and will become stagnant. The key to strong leadership is balancing working in the present and looking to the future."

The minor has come to life due to the efforts of Dr. Jay Martinson, communication department chair. "Olivet has been producing leaders for years, but vicariously, through sports or Associated Student Council. We wanted to develop coursework and a program to allow students to intentionally develop their leadership skills."

According to Spencer the program is worth the time he's invested. "The curriculum has helped me form my personal position of leadership," he said.
Dr. Heather Attig was a new addition to the communication department, starting during the spring semester. After completing her Ph.D. at the University of Kansas she moved to Bourbonnais to “encourage exploration” in Olivet’s classrooms.

While she was at the University of Kansas, and before at MidAmerica Nazarene University, she was heavily involved in production: making documentary webisodes, shooting video for weddings, and other freelance opportunities. “I still want to do production during the summer,” she says, “But I’ve always wanted to be a professor.”

As a professor, she likes to work mainly with hands on teaching of multimedia production. Attig says, “You have to the professional experience before you can teach it, and there are good resources here to do that.” She promotes the hands on approach along with the maxim “The real world is relevant.” Perhaps it is the combination of this “real world” know-how and her passions for education that makes Dr. Attig one of the most promising new additions to Olivet’s faculty.

By Garrett Corpier

Lambda Pi Eta members (L-R) Amy Bolton, Jessica Ellison, Hannah Williams, Ron Gamache, Mike Williams, Brittany Booth and Alana Krzyzak planned Comm Week in April (1). (sg)

Communication students pick from concentrations like film studies and theatre, with a common core of theory classes. Ron Gamache (left), president of Lambda Pi Eta, the communication honor society, participated in the fall play with a cast full of other communication majors (2). (hm)
1. What do you like about the nursing department?

The nursing department is full of superb advisors that I can just sit down and talk with, and not just talk about my schedule but about my life and family. Talking to people with more experience than I have really opens my mind to a whole other view that I wouldn't have seen on my own.

2. Why are nurses important?

Nurses are the link between the patient and doctor. I like to think they make the life of a doctor less hectic. Nurses are very important because of the job they've been called to do. A world without nurses would definitely be very bleak. It is a serious job in the sense that nurses are responsible for human lives; people trust nurses to take care of them when they are sick or injured. Not just anyone can be a nurse.

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"Serving as a team to help our nursing community grow closer is my favorite part of the Nursing Student Association," Emily Picklesimer, the president of the NSA, explained. In an effort to get students closer, the Nursing Student Association throws two parties each semester. These events are meant to get all of the nursing majors together and foster friendships within the community. At the NSA Christmas party, nursing students enjoyed an Elf-themed celebration complete with seasonal snacks and games. Game prizes included nursing-themed items. At this party, NSA’s goal of bringing students together was a success.

By Alex VanDehey
While the Nursing Student Association is selective, consisting of only thirteen members, those who are voted into NSA work hard to serve and connect nursing majors across all levels of the program. The NSA holds biweekly meetings, organizes biannual fundraisers, and orchestrates the ONU blood drive each semester.
//Stretch Those Muscles
Most students are used to worrying about what the future holds, and members of the Exercise Science club are no exception. The club’s purpose is to ease the stress for students who are studying to become physician’s assistants, athletic trainers, or physical or occupational therapists as they explore their post-graduation options. Members support and educate each other throughout the process of either applying for grad schools or searching for jobs. Meetings often include speakers in a field related to exercise science, and the club also has occasional social gatherings, like their Christmas party.

by Alex VanDehey
Sherri Denault presented her graduate thesis at Governor’s State University titled *Chaos Intercepted*. The mixed media pieces features India ink soaked canvases and another element. “It’s thread,” Denault said. The pieces focus heavily on the formal element of painting, but Denault started with concept of chaos. The business of life prompted Denault to create these pieces: “It’s process art, and the white spaces are visual resting places.” The process comes with Denault’s own search for peace and rest through art.
HeArt partnered with the Evangels to travel to Our Lady of Victory Nursing Home in Bourbonnais to spend time with residents. The inclusion of HeArt meant that the students went to the nursing home prepared with watercolor paints and art supplies. Although the residents were happy to have visitors to interact with, the idea of painting was daunting to some. One woman said, “I used to draw when I was young, but I don’t know if I’ve still got it.” Others, however, picked up their brushes and were reluctant to put them down. The art created an atmosphere where college students could connect with an older generation.

Students in Basic Oil Painting were assigned to take an artist and mimic his or her style. Bethany Meyers chose Edward Hopper. “I like the empty feeling in his work,” she said. “They’re all very realistic.” Meyer’s interest came from the disconnection the people in Hopper’s paintings have. “This was before cell phones or the internet,” Meyers said. “I wanted to show how disconnected we still are, especially with technology.” Jordyn Nettleton was working on a painting inspired by Wassily Kandinsky. “I had never liked abstraction before, but I liked this,” Nettleton said. Another student Natasha Hojnicki was mimicking a piece by Virgil Stephens. “He’s a cowboy artist,” Hojnicki said, “He has an unfinished style, but you can tell that there’s more to the story.”

By Garrett Corpier
Behind The Mask

Criminal justice students have the opportunity to learn in multiple ways, from field trips and mock trials to live classroom demonstrations. These opportunities tend to be unforgettable. Senior Ashley Glover explained, “Professor Stroud was discussing eye witness accounts and how sometimes false information is accidentally given, but that it is not purposeful and it’s not really a fault of the witness. In the midst of that explanation, someone in a mask slammed the classroom door open, limped in, handed Professor Stroud a piece of paper and then just walked out.” The students soon realized the encounter was a demonstration on how eye witness accounts can be inaccurate.

Sometimes the department’s planned events don’t go as intended. Junior Lucas Limberg shared, “The first time we went to the jail for a field trip everyone found it pretty entertaining when the inmates who saw us on the other side of the glass were trying to show off and get the girls’ attention.”

Popping The Bubble

While preparing students to deal with people completely different from the Olivet community, the criminal justice department strives to equip them to do their best when given the worst. Senior Faith Cavender shared, “We are preparing to go out into a field that is the polar opposite of the Olivet bubble. We are being prepared to live in the world while still standing firm in our faith in Christ.” Junior Ashley Dettore agreed, “The most unique part is that everything I’m learning is teaching me how to be a light in a very non-Christian environment.”
Many majors teach the fundamental skills needed to be a successful adult in the work field, but social work teaches and challenges students to be more than just successful. “Social work teaches you how to do life, how to love, and how to make a difference in the lives of individuals and society,” Katie Reed said. The students strive to better their own lives and the lives of everyone else. “Social work is a broad major that encompasses many different careers, but most importantly it is relationship-driven and people-oriented,” Shelby Moreland said.

The social work professors bend over backwards for their students every day. While dealing with a schedule problem, Senior Taryn Dahlquist said, “When I walked into my professor’s office, fairly distraught about my scheduling crisis, he had hot chocolate ready and graciously helped me figure out the best solution. The professors in our program are no ordinary professors.” Sophomore Katie Reed said, “The social work professors are quite possibly the most incredible people on the face of this earth. Every single conversation I have with any of them better me.”
Geology is typically thought of as the study of rocks, but the geology students are adamant that it is much more than that. “We learn all about the earth in our major. It’s not just rocks, though there are a lot of those. It’s hydrogeology, natural hazards, chemistry, and physics,” junior Julia Ross said. Ben Agan agreed, “Geology is a major that deals with the wonderful planet we live on. It gives us a window into the past. We are involved with many different aspects of daily life that most people may never even realize.”
How To Hide a Dead Body

Chemistry professors and students find very unique ways to interact and bond. Edward Saliba shared, “Once I was making a chemical called trans-dichlorobis(ethylenediamine)cobalt(iii) chloride. I had what I had made in a beaker. While I was facing away from my product, Dr. Larry Ferren switched my product for charcoal. I was very confused as to why my product had suddenly turned from a chunky green solid to a fine black powder.” While the professors are playing pranks, the students are actively planning their revenge. Junior Sarah Beecher says, “We often go from debating how to hide a dead body in detail to accusing Dr. Ferren (jokingly) for putting water as our unknown.” By Kassie Spinnie

Laughter In The Lab

The chemistry students spend most of their waking hours slaving over test tubes in the lab. Senior Lauren James said, “We spend a lot of time in Reed Hall of Science, and we joke that we can just drag mattresses into the classrooms and sleep there because it is like a second dorm.” Though labs are a fundamental aspect of chemistry, the students know how to turn routine experiments into a mad science party. “This semester in Instrumental Methods of Analysis we have spent entire lab periods debating who is the best Disney villain or who has the highest score on Flappy Bird,” junior Emily Sheldon said.