



FACULTY STRIKE ENDS WITH CONTRACT AGREEMENT

Students joined the picket line outside Bliss Hall last Wednesday to support the YSU-OEA faculty strike. Faculty and administration came to a mutual agreement the following Thursday. Photo by Kamron Meyers/The Jambar

ABIGAIL CLOUTIER

At 2 a.m. Thursday, Youngstown State University and YSU-OEA announced the strike ended during the 9 p.m. negotiations session the previous day. The union and administration resolved issues related to shared governance rights, including the rights to meaningfully participate in academic program development, determine class sizes and elect department chairs, according to the union. The union also received retention of intellectual property rights and a final pay package of 4% over the next three years, with no raise the first year.

Below is the Jambar's day-by-day coverage of the strike.

Oct. 14, 11 p.m.:

Negotiations ended once again Wednesday afternoon without a resolution. An additional negotiations session began at 9 p.m. Wednesday. Though neither party released an official statement as of Wednesday evening, YSU-OEA spokesperson Mark Vopat said the union still planned to strike Thursday.

The newest contract proposal offered a 4% raise to faculty over the course of their three-year contract, according to the university.

In the release Wednesday, YSU President Jim Tressel said, "The terms of this offer, we believe, are such that we hope to resolve this

contract today."

In a news release on Tuesday, provost Brien Smith said, "We are very disappointed that the faculty union leadership is choosing to remain on strike while classes are in session, especially considering how few outstanding issues remain."

Director of university communications Ron Cole could not comment on what those outstanding issues were.

YSU-OEA president Steven Reale said, "In every news release from Administration since the strike began Monday, Administration has told the public that faculty are striking solely over money and benefits. This is untrue."

"The remaining two issues Administration does not discuss in its releases are equally important to the membership of YSU-OEA: Protection of our most vulnerable faculty and preservation of the decades-old principle that has been at the center of this university for as long as the YSU-OEA has existed — allowing faculty to have a meaningful say in the educational future of the university. What we are really fighting for is the soul of Youngstown State University itself," Reale said.

Under the latest proposal, faculty will have no input on the chairs of their departments and department operations. Full-time faculty would also have to teach "stacked" sections of classes, which would increase their class load and student-to-faculty ratio.

MODALITIES TO REMAIN IN SPRING

GABRIELLE OWENS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Youngstown State University created different class modalities to enable students to learn in new ways. As spring semester approaches, many students and staff members may wonder how classes will be held.

Brien Smith, provost and vice president for academic affairs, has a plan to keep all class modalities the same for the upcoming semester.

"We at Youngstown State would love nothing more than to have our students back on campus [attending] all face-to-face classes, but we were certainly hoping by now that for spring semester we'd have a vaccine available or COVID-19 would've gone away and we could've said starting in spring were all back the way we were before," Smith said. "But especially given that course schedules are due soon, I had to make a decision that we're going to go ahead and offer classes using the same modality that we used in the fall."

Smith and his staff worked together to create the five class modalities for the fall semester, which includes: agile-hybrid, traditional face-to-face, online, online-live and virtual modalities.

"The actual counsel for what modality exists came out of a task force that we had this summer that myself and associate provost Jennifer Pintar chaired together, but it was really the work of some great faculty and great administrators. After a lot of discussion, we realized that there are only five different ways

you can teach a class," he said.

Hillary Fuhrman, interim director of the institute for teaching and learning, and her staff cooperated with the department of cyberlearning and IT customer services to create the creative course delivery website, which involved a series of workshops to help prepare faculty for teaching in the different modalities for the fall semester.

"As a member of the committee that decided on the modalities and as a member of the ACT group and the office of teaching and learning, I went to the chairs across campus to discuss the different modalities and we had material to help faculty make decisions about which modalities to choose from," she said.

Fuhrman said the process for training faculty was to offer resources for students and faculty.

"Another thing we wanted to focus on was student success and how to design a course, but also, how can we help students be motivated or involved and to connect them with resources if they need them?" she said.

Brian Vuksanovich, associate professor of mechanical engineering technology, said he had a good semester while teaching in the different class modalities.

"So far, it's been pretty good. I have two sections of a lab that I do in person and then I have two classes that I teach online," he said. "The online classes and Blackboard Collaborate have been pretty good as well. I can share video with the students and it allows for interactivity, and I ended up with a lot of content online that they can use."

CAMPUS COVID-19 CASES JUMP

ABIGAIL CLOUTIER

COVID-19 cases jumped in the last two weeks. The week of Oct. 3 saw nine new cases, triple the number of the previous week. Eight of those cases were students residing off-campus and one was a staff member. Monday, YSU reported 13 new COVID-19 cases for the week of fall break, Oct. 10. One was a student living in a residence hall on campus, while the other 12 were students living off campus or in a campus apartment complex such as the Courtyards or Enclave. Last week, Mahoning and Trumbull counties entered the "red zone," indicating high levels of exposure and risk, according to the governor's office.

See Front Continued, page 12

FEATURES



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NEWS

- 3 Lifesaving Measures During COVID-19
- 4 Students Fundraise for Cancer Research
- 5 Student Nonprofit Group Pays it Forward
- 6 25 Push-ups 25 Days: Suicide Awareness
- 7 Resources for Academic Struggles
- 12 Page 1 Cont.

STUDENT LIFE / OPINION

- 8 Resurgence of Events Near Campus
- 9 Local Artist Paints Quarantine Portraits
- 10 Support Pets / Faculty Feature
- 11 Women in Mathematics
- 13 Editorial / Letter to the Editor

SPORTS

- 14 Staying Active While Staying Home
- 15 Tennis / YSU Sports History

SPECIAL FEATURE

- 16 Students Share Strike Perspective

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LIFESAVING MEASURES AMID COVID-19

To prevent the coronavirus from spreading, CPR mannequins are sanitized before and after each use. Photo by **Douglas M. Campbell/The Jambar**

DOUGLAS M. CAMPBELL

Alone in the yoga room, R.J. Markowitz, a coordinator of adventure recreation at the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center, carried equipment out from the storage closet and into the middle of the hall. For four years, Markowitz oversaw the yearly CPR training at Youngstown State University. The training is commissioned by the American Red Cross.

With the spread of the coronavirus increasing in the United States, the American Red Cross had to rethink the way classes were conducted. The new measures included limiting the class size to 10 people and wiping down equipment before and after each use.

“We are, as instructors, always cognizant of the fact we have a class of multiple people that are using our equipment other people use, so classes in general ... we always sanitize all of the equipment,” he said.

In addition, the CPR sessions are completed prior through a blended learning style. Online sessions teach users official terms and techniques before their skills are reviewed and checked in person.

The current chest compressions to breath ratio is 30 chest

compressions per two rescue breaths. Chest compressions and head-tilts were taught to students and faculty as was conducted in previous sessions.

However, rescue breaths had to be altered for CPR training. “When we are doing rescue breaths now, the participant has to say the word ‘breath’ instead of having to breathe into the disposable lungs of the mannequin,” he said.

The American Red Cross also offers “compression-only” CPR classes that focus more on the chest compressions and completely omit rescue breaths.

Upon completion of the course, participants will be certified in adult CPR for two years.

Jesse Wright, a sophomore nursing student, went through a separate CPR and Basic Life Saving (BLS) training over the summer.

“They are putting even less emphasis on mouth-to-mouth and anything that can cause droplets to fall into the other person, they are providing face shields for you to breathe through, but there’s more emphasis on that,” Wright said.

Face shields are used in rescue breaths and prevent body fluids such as vomit and mucus from entering the mouth of the person applying CPR.

“They say that you don’t need the mouth-to-mouth to

actually save someone’s life. The heartbeat is more important. The face shield just gives you an opportunity to fully complete the life-saving techniques and ensure a greater chance of survival,” Wright said.

Giovanni Bruno, a senior nursing student, also completed separate CPR and BLS trainings over the summer.

He went through the upper-division of lifesaving training called Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) which entails airway and cardiac management.

“What the CDC and World Health Organization are saying is COVID was transferred through droplets but now is airborne. Every time you do chest compressions particles are coming out of their airway. If they have no pulse and you need to do compressions, you have to cover their face with a paper towel, otherwise particles will expel out,” Bruno said.

He advises any student faced with a life-or-death situation to immediately call 911, check the pulse of the person who might be suffering air loss, cover their face and do compressions until help arrives.

“The problem is, you never know when you are going to use it or need it, but I feel compressions is the one thing everyone can learn how to do effectively,” he said.



STUDENTS RAISE MONEY FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Guins Against Cancer continues the tradition of playing “bra pong” to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Kilcawley Center. Photo by **Kamron Meyers/The Jambar 2019**

KELCEY NORRIS

According to breastcancer.org, one in eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer at some point in their lives. Every member of Youngstown State University’s Guins Against Cancer has an affected family member in mind inspiring them to work year-round to raise funds for cancer research and treatment.

Newly re-imagined Guins Against Cancer, formerly known as Relay For Life, organizes fundraising events for the American Cancer Society and other local groups helping cancer patients and families.

Julia Helke, a junior social work major, is an event leader for Guins Against Cancer. She said for the month of October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, they’ve set up a table in Kilcawley Center for donations and activities.

“We switched our name to Guins Against Cancer because we want to be more broad on campus and help out other organizations,” Helke said. “This week, we’re tabling with Zeta Tau Alpha and helping them with their pink week. 100% of our proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.”

Daniel Yoder, a sophomore computer information systems major, manages the group’s social media accounts and website. He said one of YSU’s most iconic couples will also be partnering with them Oct. 27.

“We’re actually getting Pete and Penny, and they’re going to be wearing bras, and people can stuff the bra with money that they want to donate to breast cancer,” Yoder said. “We’re also doing ‘bra pong,’ and there’s plinko. Starting this week, we’re making cards and care packages for the breast cancer center in Youngstown.”

To celebrate Halloween, Yoder said they are also selling some spooky apparel to “Boo! your friends.”

Guins Against Cancer prepares all year for their biggest event, the Relay for Life, held in the WATTS Center in the spring. Last spring, the event was held virtually, which didn’t hamper the organization’s ability to raise over \$30,000.

“Last year was my first Relay,” Yoder said. “Just raising over \$30,000 was a real huge impact that I saw just because I was there throughout the whole thing, and I got to see every dollar of that raised. It was a huge impact, it was incredible ... All of this goes to a great cause and really it just takes people who want to show up.”

Caitlyn Risley, a junior criminal justice major, is an event leader for Relay for Life. She explained how participants are able to raise the funds as a community.

“It’s eight hours ... and we walk around the track to raise money to help fund research for ACS. It’s just supposed to be a lot of fun and we have some serious moments in there where

we do some stuff for survivors and those fighting now,” Risley said. “But we just raise awareness all year round and fundraise until the event.”

Risley said their other fundraising efforts come from selling Handel’s Ice Cream pint cards, T-shirts and gift cards. The organization is planning to hold Relay for Life April 13, either fully virtually or in the WATTS Center with livestream options available.

“We do what’s called a luminaria ceremony, and that part will be online no matter what, because we want our online viewers to be able to see it, and we know a lot of survivor’s are not going to be able to come to the event because of their immune systems,” Risley said. “So, we’re going to still have a lot of it online through our Facebook page, which is Relay For Life at Youngstown State University.”

Guins Against Cancer is more than just an organization for its members. After losing her aunt to breast cancer, Helke said she turned to the group for support.

“A lot of people, pretty much everyone, who was involved has been affected by cancer. So it was really nice to have them during that time and relate to them,” she said. “Then, the more I got involved, the more I really enjoyed it. I really enjoy raising money for a good cause and I hate to see people go through what we went through.”

25 PUSH-UPS 25 DAYS SUICIDE AWARENESS

KRISTA RITZ
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

The Andrews Wellness Recreation Center at Youngstown State University challenged students to complete 25 push-ups for 25 days to raise awareness for National Suicide Prevention month, which was in September.

Anne Lally, assistant director of counseling services at Youngstown State University, said research is just beginning to show the influence of COVID-19 on mental health issues.

Since many students suffer with anxiety, depression and other mental health issues, Lally said, YSU's counseling services office is very busy.

Lally said the requests by YSU students for counseling services remains steady this year, and the chief complaint is anxiety.

Veterans, along with students, suffer from mental health issues as well and seek services to provide additional support.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, veteran suicide rates have increased from 10.5 per 100,000 in 1999 to 14.2 in 2018.

Sung Do is the suicide prevention coordinator for the Veterans Health Administration. He oversees the veterans' centers in Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana counties.

"With COVID, we've definitely seen a broader range of reasons why people are coming [to the centers]. We're seeing an increase in people with anxiety. Loneliness is a huge issue for the fact that what keeps people safe is what keeps people isolated," Do said.

Many veterans, he said, come to the VA for primary care or mental health.



Fitness group, F3, meets in downtown Raleigh, North Carolina, to participate in 25 Push-Ups for 25 Days. Photo courtesy of Noah "Bean" Barilaro

"The VA, as a whole, has gone through a whole health approach. We're not just looking at the condition, we're looking at the whole person," Do said.

He recommends the veterans' crisis line for veterans and student veterans suffering from thoughts of suicide and depression. The hotline can be reached at 1-800-273-TALK.

Ryan McNicholas, associate director of campus recreation, oversees fitness and wellness programs. McNicholas found this challenge helpful to people looking to stay active while supporting people suffering from mental health issues.

Staying active not only improves mental health, McNicholas said, but also helps improve physical health.

"Chemicals in your brain are released when you're doing exercise that helps make you feel better; that makes you happier," McNicholas said. "I am a full proponent of 'a body in motion stays in motion,' so you'll be active longer, which will improve your quality of life."

Students should visit ysu.edu/student-counseling-services for more information.

PENGUIN NONPROFIT GROUP PAYS IT FORWARD

KIERSTON RICHARDSON
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

The Student Nonprofit Leadership Organization, or SNLO, at Youngstown State University is raising money to help local organizations in need through the Pay It Forward Program.

Trina Benson, Youngstown Promise Neighborhood director, said the SNLO grant helped her organization last spring.

"The SNLO grant assisted us in purchasing more than 100 culturally diverse books and educational resources to address early childhood literacy skills in underperforming communities," Benson said.

Jessica Weetman, junior political science major and vice president for SNLO, said the organization decided to raise funds through an apparel sale this fall.

"We are working with Sherman Creative, and we are doing a pop-up shop for students," Weetman said. "All of the apparel

was designed by students in the organization, and 100% of the proceeds go towards next semester's grant. We're selling masks, T-shirts, sweatshirts, crewnecks and hoodies all semester long."

Weetman said students raised \$3,000 last fall for a Pay It Forward grant they award to a local nonprofit organization. Weetman said the students who are part of SNLO benefit from the program as well.

"We get to create different connections with different nonprofits and SNLO alumni. It helps to build our resume if you want to go into the nonprofit sector," Weetman said.

Laura Dewberry, director of the Center for Nonprofit Leadership, has been the adviser for SNLO for 12 years.

"Pay It Forward awards a grant award to a nonprofit organization, and we bring awareness to 10 plus organizations each year," Dewberry said. "Students help solve organizational challenges and we volunteer at multiple organizations per year."

Jenna Binsley, senior marketing major and president of SNLO, said the organization designates different categories for organizations to apply under. Some examples are human trafficking, immigrant refugee support and K-12 education.

"We go through as a group and read all of the applications. We then select our top five, rate them, then we select our top four," Binsley said. "We do site visits to the selected four, and then we'll go back and decide which organization connects with what we're trying to do."

She said students can learn more about nonprofit organizations through SNLO and really appreciate them.

"Each member can have experience where they can say, 'I can decide this is what my major or minor is going to be.' There are a lot of inner workings that go into it that people don't see. It's good to be able to see how much of an impact a nonprofit organization can have with limited resources," Binsley said.



RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS HELP STUDENTS IN NEED

St. John's Episcopal Church on Wick Avenue holds a donation event the third Saturday of each month. Photo by **C. Aileen Blaine/The Jambar**

C. AILEEN BLAINE **JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

It can be hard for Youngstown State University students to know where to go for aid. Whether through food, fellowship or faith, there are several religious institutions in the Youngstown area willing to help.

Gayle Catinella is the reverend of St. John's Episcopal Church, located on Wick Avenue beside Meshel Hall. She said before the pandemic, students were frequent faces at the church. The church's campus ministry, Thinking Christians, hosted pizza nights, Sunday worship and other outreach activities. During the summer, masks were given to students, and the food pantry remained open.

"The hard thing about the pandemic is that you don't even know the need all the time," Catinella said. "All the remote learning means their needs can't get met because they're not on campus."

Catinella said the church provides food to students in need, makes donations to the campus food pantry and holds drives for self-care items. On the third Saturday of each month, the church holds a donation event. The clergy and members of the church are the main support providers.

Sarah Wilschek is the executive director of Congregation Rodef Shalom, located on Elm Street across from Wick Park. Her job is to ensure the mission and vision of the congregation is met. Some of her duties include strengthening the congregation's and community's relations.

"We're here as a community partner, and we're here to help any way we can," Wilschek said. "If there's a need that students have, we want to help out to meet that need."

Some of Rodef Shalom's congregants are faculty at YSU, and Wilschek said they direct students to seek support from the institution.

Recently, the congregation offered several events available to YSU students, including a voter registration fair, a flu-shot clinic and a COVID-19 testing site.

St. Columba Parish Cathedral also provides such things as food and fellowship to students. The church, which is located just west of Williamson Hall on Wood Street, provides a food pantry and donations to students, much of which is contributed to by parishioners. Recently, the Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown received a grant from the Sisters of Charity and donated \$1,000 of it to restock St. Columba's pantry.

Ursuline Sister Martha Reed, pastoral associate and director

of religious education for the parish, said some students are looking for someone with whom they can talk and explore their faith. She said more YSU students have been attending services at St. Columba in recent months.

"I like to chat with the students that come to the church, but with the social distancing, the masks, it's really hard to see facial expressions and to sit and chat, because you're six feet away, and trying to hear someone through the masks — it makes communication hard," Reed said.

However, since the pandemic, Rodef Shalom and St. John's have noticed a decrease in the number of students reaching out in search of assistance. Due to virtual-only services, the institutions also agree it's hard to know if there are more students attending services or not.

"There's probably a greater need, but they're just not asking for it," Wilschek said. "We want to be a partner for students and the university, and that we're here as a resource."

"I just hope [students] feel free to ask for help when they need it," Catinella said.

Reed offered some advice for students.

"With this pandemic going on, we all need to really take care of ourselves so we can take care of others," she said.



RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS STRUGGLING ACADEMICALLY

Students struggling with academics this semester can take advantage of campus resources, like the Center for Student Progress. Photo by **Ethan Snyder/The Jambar**

ETHAN J. SNYDER **JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

Halfway through the fall semester, instructors were asked to flag any students experiencing academic difficulties. If a student isn't attending class regularly, or experiences mediocre or failing academic achievement, they'll be referred to the Youngstown State University Center for Student Progress.

The CSP provides students with academic coaching, tutoring and online learning resources, as well as disability services.

Becky Varian is the director of the CSP. She helps connect students with potential academic advisers, potential tutors and can even help students find jobs through career advising. If a student is referred to the CSP due to poor academic performance, they are connected with an academic adviser.

"Students are required to meet weekly with an academic coach," Varian said. "If they hadn't attended any meetings, they received a reminder letter to schedule an appointment with an academic coach."

The job of an academic adviser is to help students explore their academic interests and identify resources for additional information and support. Advisers also help students develop

plans to study appropriately for their classes and improve their grades. Students are free to request an academic adviser for any reason at any point during their college career.

When a student applies for their next semester at YSU, they must go over all available information and determine if they are eligible. The first information most students need to figure out when applying for their next semester is whether or not they have the required GPA.

YSU academic requirements state, "Students must have a grade point average of 2.00 or higher on a 4.00-point scale." Students also are expected to maintain a GPA above 2.00 throughout their college career. Failing to maintain an adequate GPA can lead to holds on a student's financial aid or even expulsion, if a student is a repeat offender.

"Federal and State of Ohio regulations require that Youngstown State University review the academic progress of students," Patrick Hoffman, the director of the YSU Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, said. "The purpose of this review process is to measure whether a student is making satisfactory progress towards their educational goals."

If a student doesn't make satisfactory academic progress, they're placed on academic probation for the remainder of the

semester. This leads to the Office of Financial Aid placing a hold on the student's financial account. Students with a hold on their account will not be able to access financial aid offers or scholarships. However, they may submit an appeal to have their financial aid restored.

"Students with extenuating circumstances may submit an appeal," Hoffman said. "They are instructed to appeal by completing the form, attaching any documentation and returning the form to the Office of Financial Aid."

Extenuating circumstances include any situation beyond a student's control. This could refer to anything from a death in the family to an unforeseen illness.

"Federal financial aid for a subsequent semester may only be approved when the student is maintaining satisfactory academic progress according to Youngstown State University's Satisfactory Academic Progress standards," Hoffman said.

The Center for Student Progress is located at Kilcawley Center and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays. Their phone number is 330-941-3538.



WHAT TO DO THIS WEEKEND: A RESURGENCE OF EVENTS NEAR CAMPUS

Residents of Youngstown pick their own sunflowers and pumpkins at White House Fruit Farm, which continues to be a popular destination adapting during the pandemic. Photo by **Emily McCarthy/The Jambar**

EMILY MCCARTHY **JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

Local businesses try to make the best of fall events despite COVID-19 concerns. Many of these places are not far from Youngstown State University's campus and are offering various fall activities on weekends.

Tara Mady, assistant director of the Mahoning County Convention and Visitors Bureau, said many businesses are announcing last-minute events.

"Since so many events have been canceled due to COVID-19, I feel that the events that are taking place are more popular this year. Mostly likely because there is not as much to do," Mady said. "As the weather gets colder, the Stambaugh Auditorium virtual events will be more popular, as well as the drive through holiday light displays. Every event is looking a little different this year and organizers are trying to make the best of it."

Jamie Marshall, marketing and design manager at Stambaugh Auditorium, said in order to keep the public involved, the venue created a free app offering virtual experiences.

"We are going to be doing behind the scenes videos, some questions and answers with the cast. So then each category

[in the app] has different videos in it. We are going to be free streaming the silent film that we do every year," she said. "Concert highlights ... we are going to be doing more highlights of past performances we had ... also, there's a hub."

Stambaugh Auditorium also produces podcasts with various actors and performers.

"We do, like, different themes. One is performances, so we'll do, like, a performance preview. We do interviews with people who either have performed here or interact in performing arts," Marshall said. "We did one actually with a music therapist so she came in and I asked her questions about knowing the benefits of music therapy and everything. It's our top episode."

Most of the app's content is free to the public, and there is an option to sign up for content downloads. While most content doesn't have a fee, the annual opera is a paid event.

"Right now the only thing we have that's going to be paid is 'The Taste of Traviata,' that's this year's opera," she said. "So, the opera typically is, like, a \$75 ticket and since we are not actually able to do a full stage opera, we're doing the video and it's \$19.99."

Debbie Pifer, the owner of White House Fruit Farm, said they will be making pumpkin doughnuts all month and make

fresh apple cider every other day. White House had to cancel many events for the year, including the berry festivals, musical performances and a scarecrow competition. Events for the winter are still being determined. There are many fall activities drawing visitors.

"Our weekend events through October ... are horse-drawn wagon rides, budgie bird feeding barn, walk-through petting zoo, feeding the fish at our lake, pumpkin pavilion and our gift barn," Pifer said. "We may or may not host our Christmas on the Farm [event] the second weekend of December — it will depend on COVID."

Visitors to the sunflower field posed for photo shoots and picked their own bouquets to bring home. The Cozé Coffee Bar is also offering fall drinks outside the building for the remainder of the Fall Festival Weekends.

Weekend exclusive events in the Youngstown area are also taking place through the end of October, such as Nightmare at the Canfield Scaregrounds, Maze Craze corn maze and spooky movies at Elm Road Triple Drive-In Theatre.



LOCAL ARTIST PAINTS PORTRAITS DURING QUARANTINE

Artist and YSU alumnus Susan Jacobs painted 19 portraits in a series called "The COVID-19" which she displayed in her own driveway. Photo by Zach Mosca/The Jambar

ZACH MOSCA

The COVID-19 pandemic gave many people the opportunity to get in touch with their creative side. Now, Susan Jacobs, an artist from Cortland, is displaying her artwork right in her community.

According to her website, Jacobs is an artist who graduated from Youngstown State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in art and education and a Master of Arts in Teaching secondary degree. She has since gone on to teach art as well as paint her own works in her spare time.

During the lockdown in March, all of Jacobs's art classes were canceled. She had to find a way to keep herself busy.

"It was just me in my studio, and I found a good reference of David Bowie and I painted him, and I got a lot of reactions and I sold it on Facebook," Jacobs said.

Jacobs continued painting portraits of musicians such as Mick Jagger, as well as Hollywood icons like Audrey Hepburn. Once she'd completed nine portraits, Jacobs had the idea to

paint a total of 19 and call the project "The COVID-19."

When it comes to the people whom Jacobs chooses to paint, she usually looks for those with a strong, vibrant personality or notable facial features.

"I've had suggestions for some that aren't a really strong personality, so I try to find ... some feature that sticks out, like glasses or really strong cheekbones," Jacobs said.

Because Jacobs' art received positive feedback on Facebook, she decided to host a public showcase of her art at her house. One guest, Gregg Cancelli, said he feels like Jacobs has a unique style compared to other artists.

"Art is subjective, and I think this style that she's using just grabbed my attention. I think it's something really different and really interesting," Cancelli said.

Another guest, Michelle Long, said she noticed no two paintings by Jacobs are the same. Long's favorite work is the portrait of rock singer Tom Petty.

"I'm a huge fan of Tom Petty anyway, but I just love the

vibrant colors. I think she captured him well, and it suits the music that he created," Long said.

She said she respects Jacobs not only as an artist but as an art teacher. Long believes art students can learn a lot from her.

"She's not only an amazing artist, but she's also an amazing instructor. She brings out the best in people who are trying to learn to create," Long said.

Even after "The COVID-19" project, Jacobs continues to make portraits and has even taken some requests from friends. These portraits will be part of a series she's dubbed "Beyond 19." She began with Paul Stanley from the band KISS and has even more portraits coming soon.

"I've got a list of people that people asked me to do, and I have a couple orders, so I'm going to keep on going and have another show someday," Jacobs said.

All of the paintings shown at Jacobs' showcase are for sale. The full list of paintings, as well as prices, can be found on her website, www.susanjacobsart.com

FACULTY FEATURE: CHET COOPER, PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

GABRIELLE OWENS
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

This is the first in a series of features on faculty members intending to dive into their careers, educations and what they were like in college.

Chet Cooper, a professor of biological sciences, has been teaching at Youngstown State University for 20 years and uses each of his experiences to prepare students for their future endeavors.

Cooper said in order for him to be a professor, he had to achieve the right credentials and experience to be successful in the field of biological sciences.

Cooper said he grew up in Western Pennsylvania and attended the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown to receive his bachelor's degree in biology. For his master's and doctorate in microbiology, he attended the University of Texas.

As an undergraduate, Cooper majored in pre-med. While attending the University of Texas, he had the opportunity to work with a fungal biologist for research experience and this led to his discovery of his passion for biology and his primary field in studying fungal diseases.

"I became more fascinated with the science rather than the medical part. So eventually I was able to do some research with a faculty member and an undergraduate and I became fascinated

by fungi, and that's how I got started," he said.

Cooper said the type of disease linked to his fungal infection research is called Talaromycosis, which is caused by the fungus *Talaromyces marneffeii*. This disease is typically endemic to Southeast Asia and typically affects those infected with HIV.

Throughout Cooper's teaching career, he's worked at the New York State department of health identifying fungal infections. He also worked at Case Western Reserve University, and the University of Texas Medical branch before being hired by YSU in 2000.

According to Cooper, YSU created a great work environment for him to teach and he is happy to be a professor at the university.

"When I came to YSU, it was a nice fit, nice environment and the way my position was designed, I get to teach what I like to teach and I get to do research with undergraduate and graduate students," Cooper said. "Also, I'm involved in a lot of things and I really enjoy my job, so I'm happy here."

Cooper advises prospective professors to earn a doctorate and receive some extra training as a post doctorate.

"Being in academia is a wonderful life, but there are a lot of positions out there, you just have to find the opportunity. That's why I try to steer students to take additional courses other than their sciences — things like business courses or some writing courses to expand their skill sets," he said. "Students have to be

adaptable. They just can't set their sight on one particular goal. They have to be able to adjust to how things change."



As an undergraduate at the University of Pittsburgh, Chet Cooper discovered his passion studying biology and fungal diseases. Photo courtesy of Chet Cooper

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS HELP STUDENTS THROUGH COLLEGE STRESSES

C. AILEEN BLAINE

Whether it's a hamster, cat or dog, an emotional support animal serves as a companion and stress-reliever for many students. However, there are several things to keep in mind having a support animal, as the process can become complicated.

Rebecca Sandberg, a junior communications major, lives in the University Courtyards with her emotional support cat, Bella. Once issued referrals from her therapist and physician, she was required to register with campus disability services and her housing office. She said the process took about three weeks and many appointments.

"Emotional support animals are kind of like comfort pets, for people who need, like, a constant companion," Sandberg said. "They're good for keeping company ... I always know that I have someone here."

She said Bella is well-liked within her building.

"I have a sign on my door to get into my apartment that says, 'Be careful, don't let the cat out,' just so, like, everyone knows," Sandberg said. "I'll have random people knock on my door and be like, 'Oh, my gosh. Can I see your cat?'"

Gina McGranahan, associate director of disability services, said students should remember emotional support and service

animals are not pets.

"It needs to be something that a doctor or a psychiatrist, somebody, recommends. It can't just be something that they consider, it has to be a need," McGranahan said.

She said part of her job with the disability services is to ensure students follow rules and sensibilities regarding their support animals, such as the type and size of the animal, as well as how waste will be disposed of. Sometimes, the need for a support animal can open the opportunity for further assistance for the student.

"Sometimes, you know, when I have a conversation with [a student] ... that has the need for the animal, we find out that they qualify for disability accommodations," McGranahan said.

However, some students with support animals experience unforeseen and inapplicable actions taken against them.

For a student who wishes to remain anonymous, the three years she lived on campus with her emotional support cats have brought challenges, including false claims and property-damage charges.

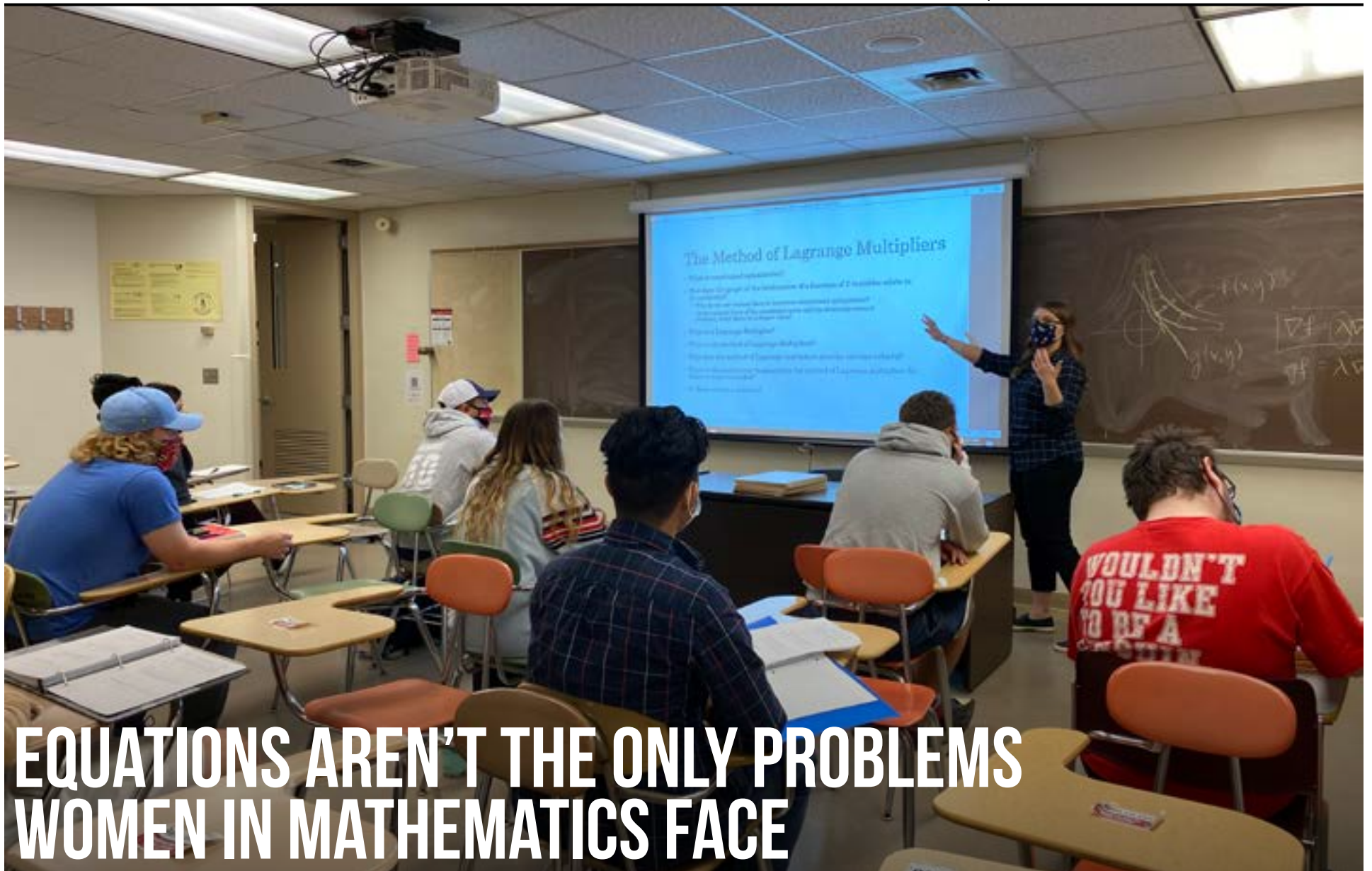
"I was left feeling discriminated against for my mental illness and for being neurodivergent, burdened with huge stress and anxieties, a sense of defeat for having been mistreated and

wrongfully accused so many times," the student said.

She experienced no issues when documenting her cats with her landlord, and her then-roommates agreed to have the animals within the apartment. It wasn't long before one roommate began showing hostility towards the cats, accusing them of causing excessive noise, destroying property and defecating outside of designated areas. The student was able to confirm these claims as false, but the leasing office became involved and filed eviction notices if the "behavior of the animals did not improve within 10 days." With the help of a lawyer, the student was able to get the claims dropped due to lack of evidence, though she struggled with inflated fines for damaged property. She said the experience didn't leave her unscathed.

"My advice to anyone out there who is looking to get an ESA is simple — know your rights and be prepared to fight for them," the student said. "Go over any new lease with legal counsel to take note of anything that could impede your right to your ESA, so to not let yourself go through hell at the whims of a housing company."

She has since moved from the apartment and no longer lives on campus.



EQUATIONS AREN'T THE ONLY PROBLEMS WOMEN IN MATHEMATICS FACE

Alexis Byers, a mathematics professor, said the Association for Women in Mathematics empowers women to feel confident in their field. Photo by **Jessica Stamp/The Jambar**

JESSICA STAMP JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Discrimination and lack of diversity are the most common problems women in the mathematics and sciences fields encounter. However, the Association for Women in Mathematics at Youngstown State University comes together to support, encourage and promote equal opportunity and treatment of women in these fields.

Alyssa Leone, junior astrophysics major and president of AWM, said the group helps support women in math and is made up of math majors and anyone supporting the cause.

"A lot of people underestimate what we can actually do. I think the hardest part is showing that we do know what we are doing," she said.

There are two advisers who assist Leone in AWM.

Alexis Byers, mathematics professor and an adviser for AWM, said she offers help to Leone by giving advice on how

the association should be run or if advertising is needed.

What Byers sees the most with women in mathematics is the lack of support.

"Women are not as encouraged so much to go into [mathematics]. I think there is some kind of bias there that women necessarily are not encouraged to do it," Byers said.

She said because of the bias issues, lack of representation and lack of confidence, women have a harder time than men picturing themselves in the mathematics field. Despite these problems, there has been a growing number of women joining the field.

Alicia Prieto, mathematics professor and second adviser of AWM, said there are many things women can do with a mathematics degree.

"Most of the time women lack confidence or they don't know what to do with a math degree. A lot of women really like math. They just have been told that they're not good

because they are women or that all they can do with a math degree is teach," Prieto said.

Both Byers and Prieto said they've worked in groups alongside men, but when they've voiced an idea they were talked over and ignored. Furthermore, they said one of the men would give the same idea and everyone in the group would praise the man and give him all the credit.

"Women are overlooked. Nobody really knows how to act with a woman in the room," Byers said.

Byers and Prieto are working to get grants to help them get more minority students involved in math.

"[We] have a lot of ideas to increase diversity with people of color and stuff like that," Byers said.

Currently, 36 women are members of AWM.

Faculty Strike, Cont. Page 1

After recent negotiations, the university will no longer include both the ownership of intellectual property rights clause and the “act of God” clause in the new contract.

Oct. 13, 11:05 p.m.:

YSU-OEA released a statement confirming the strike will continue into Wednesday after little progress during Tuesday’s evening meeting. Earlier Tuesday, the provost emailed students and said, “Classes will be covered by part-time faculty, full-time faculty who have chosen not to go on strike, other qualified instructors or via other educational formats. Students should continue their assigned work.”

Smith’s email also stated students would hear from their department chairs about the status of individual classes.

In a Q&A released by the faculty union Friday, the union assured students they “will not be held responsible for any coursework (for example, as assigned by a substitute) while the strike is in progress.”

This does not apply to courses taught by part-time faculty, administration or professors who did not go on strike.

Oct. 13, 5:00 p.m.:

Negotiations drag into Tuesday evening. YSU-OEA released a statement Tuesday at 4:50 p.m. and said an error resulted in the lengthening of negotiations. Both parties plan to return to the table at 9 p.m. with the hopes of closing the deal before classes resume Wednesday.

“We had left Monday’s meeting optimistic that we were much closer to finalizing a tentative agreement before classes restarted Wednesday. Unfortunately, this mistake cost both parties time, but the good news is we seem to be back on track and we are hopeful that Administration will bring us a deal this evening that all parties can agree on,” Reale said.

According to the union, the contract proposal document reviewed in Tuesday’s negotiation session was different than the one sent to YSU-OEA following Monday’s negotiations. YSU Administration states this was an internal miscommunication error.

Oct. 13, 7:30 a.m.:

Youngstown State University’s chapter of the Ohio Education Association and supporters filled Wick and Lincoln Avenues Monday in its first strike since 2005.

Vehicles on Wick Avenue honked in support as picketers stood in front of YSU President Jim Tressel’s home and academic buildings. The strike will continue today, and further negotiations are set for this afternoon.

Faculty and students alike carried signs reading “Supporting YSU Faculty,” “YSU-OEA On Strike” and “Teachers Over Turf.” Negotiations continued Monday, and both the university and union stated they made progress on details of the contract.

Students like Elainie Huncik, a senior astronomy and physics major, and Abby Sharpless, a sophomore forensic science major, stood in support of their faculty Monday.

“Without faculty, you can’t really have students,” Huncik said. “The faculty endlessly supported us as students so we want to give back to them. We’ve been pretty frustrated, at least in my department, with how the administration has treated the faculty since the pandemic started.”

She said several faculty in her department were laid off.

“We saw a strike happening and we know that we can make a difference,” Huncik said. “Some of the [faculty] who were laid off are really important to us, they provided us with opportunities to go to conferences, work on cool research projects, and without those faculty, we would not have the opportunities that we have here. We wouldn’t have

the programs that we have.”

Sharpless said she worried if the strike continues after fall break, she will struggle in classes with substitutes.

“My chemistry professor goes above and beyond the call of duty as a teacher,” she said. “He doesn’t have to be as forgiving as he is ... All this talk about substitutes coming in, I’m already struggling in chemistry with this brilliant teacher that I have. If they have to bring in a substitute, I’m going to fail the class. Teachers are the reason any progress happens because we wouldn’t be here without the teachers that fought for us the way our teachers are currently fighting.”

Business economics major Daniel Naples, freshman Grayson Gruber and junior exercise science major Dylan Rendes spray-painted the rock with “Student Solidarity” in light of the strike. Other students and alumni showed support via social media, using the hashtag #SupportFacultyYSU.

According to YSU, the latest contract proposal includes a resolution towards intellectual property rights “consistent with other state universities,” a 0-1-2 pay raise scale over three years and a health care agreement consistent with the university’s other staff union.

“We’re encouraged by the progress made today and are optimistic that YSU-OEA is moving closer to a tentative agreement on a fair contract for our members,” Reale said in a press release Monday evening. In a video message emailed to students Monday morning, President Tressel said the university will remain open if the strike continues after fall break.

“Our hope remains that over these next two days we can get this settled,” he said. “But if we can’t and the strike spills into Wednesday when classes resume, we are working on a plan that we will have in place.”



Faculty strike outside YSU President Jim Tressel’s home on Wick Avenue. Photo by **Kamron Meyers/The Jambar**



Students were instrumental in the faculty union’s strike efforts. Photo by **Kamron Meyers/The Jambar**

Modalities, Cont. Page 1

Jeanne Herman, university registrar, said registration for the spring semester will begin Nov. 2, allowing students to register for their classes by appointment only.

“On Nov. 2, the registration schedule is published on the Office of Registrar website and registration starts with graduate students and goes down the line, and it’s based on the hours students have completed,” she said.

Herman said when students apply for their spring semester classes, they have the option to change their class modality to one that goes with their learning style.

“So, if a student really learns best from a traditional face-to-face class, they should look for that modality, you have to click on your particular CRN and the instructional method will appear,” she said. “For example, I know a lot of students struggle with math classes online, maybe they need to look for those classes in the traditional face-to-face modality. I think it depends

on the student and it depends on the type of course.”

Smith said students should communicate with their professor if they need help with transitioning through the different class modalities.

“Be bold and reach out. For example, say, ‘My understanding of this modality is that we’re going to meet every Tuesday in person, is that correct?’ That would help. Also, the chairpersons of their college would be a good resource as well,” he said.

EDITORIAL: SICK OF COVID-19

Last week, Mahoning and Trumbull counties jumped to the “red zone” according to the Ohio Public Health Advisory System, signifying a large increase in risk and exposure to COVID-19. While Trumbull County is now in the “orange zone,” Mahoning County remains in red as cases in the county spiked in the first two weeks of October. The “red zone” is a Level 3 advisory, one step away from yet another lockdown.

At Youngstown State University alone, cases have tripled in recent weeks. Though free testing clinics every Thursday likely lead to an increase of reports, it’s a reminder the coronavirus continues to lurk under our noses. Now, we’re sitting at 13 cases as opposed to the prior average of two to three. Administration hasn’t yet said when, or if, the university will close due to COVID-19. But, should we really be in school at all? Every time we walk into an office, a classroom or even Dunkin’, we put ourselves at risk. As cold weather approaches, bringing with it all the typical sneezes, sniffles, colds and flus of years past, how will we differentiate between our yearly head colds and the

coronavirus?

We can wash our hands and wear our masks, but nothing’s foolproof. We can social distance and stay home, but these aren’t always the easiest things to do. As more people are tiring of the restrictions and the stay-at-home orders are lifted, many are no longer taking the necessary precautions. Those who have not caught the virus, or don’t know anyone who has, are lulled into a false sense of security: if I haven’t gotten it yet, maybe it’s not as big of a deal as people are making it out to be. This feeling of intangibility and security is leading us to lower our guard, which is likely the cause of the influx of cases.

It’s important to remember we are still living in the midst of a pandemic, no matter how much we wish we weren’t. This gives us a responsibility to not only ourselves but to others as well. However, it’s also important to remember not everyone takes precautions in the same way and just because people are handling it differently, does not mean their methods are any less valid than yours.

THE JAMBAR
EDITORIAL

DEAR EDITOR,

COVID-19 testing is important as the number of positive cases have not slowed down. YSU students should be well-informed on testing, especially since free testing is now being offered by the Youngstown City Health District and National Guard.

In terms of testing for an active infection of COVID-19, the Mayo Clinic explains that there are two different types of tests: the PCR test and the antigen test. The PCR test uses a lab technique called the polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which is a molecular test and considered very accurate when performed properly. On the other hand, the antigen test detects certain proteins from the virus and produces quicker results. These antigen tests are the “rapid tests” that people tend to go for because of the quick results. It should be noted that a positive antigen test is considered very accurate. Despite this, there is an increased chance of false-negative results. With this being so, depending on the patient’s situation, a PCR test may be conducted to confirm the negative result.

Considerations on who should get tested for COVID-19 varies, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The first reason for testing would be those who are symptomatic. The second reason are those who have come in direct contact with an infected person, within six feet, for at least 15 minutes. The third reason are those who have been referred by their primary care physician or health department. Additionally, it should be known to self-quarantine/isolate while test results are pending. Testing for COVID-19 will help our health departments with contact tracing and slowing the spread of COVID-19.

Sincerely,

KALI KERPELIS

THE JAMBAR

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



STAYING ACTIVE WHILE STAYING HOME

Campus rec employee Soriya Rezapourian demonstrates a series of stretches and exercises to try at home. Photo courtesy of Ryan McNicholas

SAMANTHA SMITH

Youngstown State University's Andrews Wellness and Recreation Center began to offer virtual fitness options at the start of the pandemic for those trying to stay active. Home workout videos, wellness videos, virtual intramural offerings and more can be found on their website.

Ryan McNicholas, associative director of campus recreation, explained the services they provide.

"Since the start of the pandemic, we started really focusing a lot on virtual fitness," he said. "We've done online Group X classes, and we've done some videos to explain how the equipment we have offered here at the rec center can be implemented in someone's daily workout routine."

Amanda Reardon, coordinator of membership and marketing at the rec center, said the rec center hosts virtual events for students, along with virtual workouts.

"We do have some great virtual programs that we're trying to get people involved in and give them something to do and still encourage social interaction, even if it has to be virtually," she said.

The rec center will utilize student comments and advice to make the virtual fitness option more successful and bring more students in to join.

"We've gotten some requests for some more diversity of classes, a variety of classes," McNicholas said. "So we've implemented a few of those to make sure we're meeting everyone's needs."

For those who still would like to work out in-person at the rec center, Reardon said the center has made sure all the equipment within the building is meeting the COVID-19 guidelines.

"We have everything spaced out so everyone can still come

in and work out," she said. "You do have to wear a mask, but we have taken lots of precautions and extra cleaning and things like that, so people can work out in a clean environment and safe environment."

The general cost for students to join or sign up for the rec center membership is a general fee that is tied-in with their tuition, meaning they can use the facilities provided as long as they have a valid YSU ID. There is a \$10 daily fee for students enrolled in online courses or the College Credit Plus program. A semester pass for online-only students is \$60, and \$70 for CCP students.

For more information on any of the virtual fitness options, visit YSU's virtual recreation webpage.

WOMEN'S TENNIS HOPING FOR A SEASON

KYLE WILLS

The Youngstown State University women's tennis team has yet to have a schedule put in place for this season. After the Horizon League announced the cancelation of the fall schedule, the Penguins have continued to practice in hopes of a spring season.

With the uncertainty the pandemic has created for the team, head coach Mickael Sopol believes having tennis clashes will lead to having meaningful practices. Tennis clashes will consist of four singles with two sets of five games and two rounds of doubles where there is one set of five games.

"It's a lot of practicing. There's a lot of time on the court where sometimes we felt [practices] lacked a lot of purpose, so that tennis clash that we're doing every other weekend has given some sense to what we're doing," Sopol said. "It's internal competition that we do between us."

Imaan Hassim, senior biology major, said the clashes keep the team competitive and interested, despite not being able to compete.

"Obviously it's been very hard on everybody not able to compete because everybody enjoys that," she said. "But at least coach Mickael came up with this idea of still letting us have that competitive aspect and being able to play against each other. I think we're doing it in a very fun and interesting format."

Despite not knowing what kind of season the YSU tennis team will have, the Penguins continue to stay optimistic.

"[We've been] very positive. We've been very happy with how everyone has handled themselves. It's not easy, it's different," Sopol said. "There's a lot of uncertainty out there. Especially for all of my players who are international at the sport, it adds even more on them to not know if they can even

go home or if you can come back if you go home."

With new COVID-19 guidelines for all sports at YSU being put into place, the women's tennis team has since become better adjusted to the changes.

"It's been a little challenging at the beginning, for sure. We had to play with a mask and practice," Sopol said. "Not all of it is easy, but we understand it's necessary and it's what we have to do. At the end of the day that's what we have to do and we adapt to it. We've been doing a great job doing that."

Hassim agreed adjusting to wearing masks can be difficult, but needs to be done.

"[The biggest challenge] I think is probably having to wear a mask all the time," she said. "It's not something that's easy to wear, it's nothing that anyone has had to do before. So I think that was the hardest, especially to practice and condition with it."

THIS WEEK IN YSU SPORTS HISTORY: YSU BOWLING'S INAUGURAL SEASON

BEN LULI

This week in YSU sports history, we feature the bowling team's inaugural season. The program began in 2016 and competes in the Southland Bowling League. They became the 19th sport sponsored at Youngstown State University. The team had nine members on their roster for the inaugural season, eight of which competed in the Penguins' first tournament in school history.

YSU traveled to Reading, Pennsylvania to participate in the Bud Whitman Memorial at Berks Lane Oct. 15, 2016. The Penguins fielded a very young roster for the tournament. Sophomores Rachel Ellis and Mackenzie Olesky were the only two non-freshmen on the team, and both were Ohio natives. The other four Ohioans on the team were Rachel Darrow, Michaela Edwards, Kirsten Ensminger and Alexis Grim. Rounding out the eight-women roster was Emily Dietz, Ashley Kolb and Nikki Mendez. Dietz and Kolb were both from Michigan and Mendez hails from Illinois.

The Penguins had an impressive showing in their first tournament of the season. They finished with a two-day record of 7-3. The signature wins of that weekend were a 912-883 win over Adelphi, the 19th ranked team in the

National Tenpin Coaches Association (NTCA) Preseason Poll, and a 906-876 victory over preseason #17 Kutztown. YSU finished as one of five teams in the 19-team field to win at least seven matches. The Penguins also finished sixth in total pinfall both days of the tournament.

YSU's next tournament was the New Jersey Jamboree at Parkway Lanes in Elmwood Park, New Jersey. The event was hosted by Fairleigh Dickinson University. The 27-team event was stacked with quality teams, over half of the tournament field was ranked in the top 25 of the NTCA Preseason Poll. On the first day of the competition, the Penguins picked up their third top-20 win of the season, defeating #17 Kutztown for a second time. The second day of the tournament saw YSU win three of five games, including an 893-870 win over #6 Sam Houston State. The Penguins finished the competition in 12th place following an 1-2 performance on the tournament's final day. The lone win of the day was against #15 St. Francis (PA).

The spring schedule for the Youngstown State Bowling team began Jan. 20 at the Kutztown University Invitational at Hiester Lanes in Reading, Pennsylvania. The Penguins went into the tournament as a fringe top-25 team according

to the January NTCA poll. YSU finished 5-7 and began bracket play in 12th place. All seven of their losses came against top-20 teams while two YSU wins came against top-25 opponents, including a 955-935 victory over #11 Sacred Heart. YSU finished the tournament in 11th place after a 2-1 record on the final day. The Penguins' wins came against #18 Adelphi and #22 North Carolina A&T.

Following their effort at the Kutztown Invitational, the Penguins entered the Top 25 of the NTCA poll for the first time in program history, quite the feat for a team in their first season. After impressive performances at the Stormin' Ladyjack Classic and Crusader Classic YSU Bowling climbed one spot in the polls to 23rd, their highest ranking of the season. The Penguins would finish the season as the 25th ranked team in the nation.

The impressive inaugural season of the bowling team paved the way for future iterations of the team. The program has continued to grow and is garnering national attention. The team is ranked 10th in the 2020 NTCA Preseason Poll and hopes to build off last season's success.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE ON FACULTY STRIKE

As the student voice of Youngstown State University, we let the students speak for themselves about their experience and impressions during YSU-OEA's strike. The Jambar workshop class took to the streets to ask YSU students the scoop during the last days of the faculty strike. This is what the students had to say:

Q: Do you, personally, support the strike? Why or why not?

A: I, personally, support the strike. I was actually out on the picket line earlier today. Reason being, I mean, Youngstown is a city with a long history of labor organizing. I mean, we really pioneered for a lot of the rest of the country in how unions operate. In Ohio, Youngstown was the first university, Youngstown College, to have a chapter of the Ohio Educators Association. The union that is striking now started in Youngstown. I think from a historical standpoint it makes sense that we have strong ties to labor. Personally, I think it is incredibly important to students and student's success that there is shared governance with the university.



Michael Factor, junior political science and philosophy major. Photo by **Ethan Synder/The Jambar**

Q: What is your overall impression of the strike?

A: I feel that as students of YSU, at YSU, it is our turn to give our faculty members the support that they have given us. The demands that YSU-OEA are making are very reasonable but YSU is being very stubborn with their compromises. YSU has always operated as a business before a school and, in this case, it's no different. The way the strike is talked about is also very sad with Tressel himself saying, "It's certainly disappointing and unfortunate that it's come to this point." And people like Brien Smith also saying that he has disappointment with the faculty in their leadership and in handling the situation. It's very disheartening.



Patrick York, junior computer science and information systems major. Photo by **Ethan Snyder/The Jambar**

Q: Do you personally support the strike? Why or why not?

A: Yes, I support the faculty. Some people argued that by going on strike the faculty cared more about their paycheck than their students. I don't think this is true. I think it's possible for them to care about us while also fighting for what they deserve. Luckily the strike didn't affect any of my assignments or classes because most of my professors are considered part-time, and one of my professors chose not to strike.



Hallie Renda, junior human resources major. Photo by **Taylor Fronk/The Jambar**

Q: What is your overall impression of the strike?

A: I felt bad for the teachers because they're getting underpaid because most places are giving people raises during COVID-19. They are risking themselves everyday and then they were out there in the cold all day and that made me feel sad. It made me happy for them to hear everybody honking for them. We can hear it here in the library and they had the signs that said honk for the teachers. They had a lot of honks throughout the day.



Lindsey Malcolm, senior psychology major. Photo by **Jessica Stamp/The Jambar**