



OLACHI OLERU / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

UP FOR RENEWAL? | Sarah Brazaitis, director of the M.A. program at TC, said that the program is up-front about its scholarship policy.

## Bollinger weighs future of online ed.

BY CECILIA REYES  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

University President Lee Bollinger addressed undergraduate students' concerns about the future of online education and the quality of the courses offered in the Core Curriculum in his latest fire-side chat.

Newly elected University Senator Cleo Abram, CC '15, asked one of the first questions of the night, regarding Columbia's involvement in on-line education.

"The University has a great responsibility to share our knowledge with the world," Bollinger said. "You can learn a lot by watching someone online."

About 50 students from Columbia College, the School of General Studies, and the School of Engineering and Applied Science attended the chat on Tuesday evening, hosted at Bollinger's house onorningside Drive.

Bollinger pointed out that the SEAS already offers an on-line master's degree and that multiple courses within the University are available on the web.

Bollinger also asked students whether they thought online education could replace American universities "as we know them," saying that there was an underlying anxiety among academics that lower-tier institutions and small liberal arts colleges would be eliminated.

He likened the emergence of online education to the decline of print media, asking the room how many students read their news online as compared to how many pay a subscription to a newspaper.

"How many of you think that, for \$10,000 a year, with an institution that has the same array of courses that Columbia has, with good or even better teachers, you would rather use that than pay for Columbia?" he asked.

Three hands inched up into the air, with one audience member commenting that it is the name of the school that

SEE FIRESIDE, page 2

## TC students seek scholarship transparency

BY JOSEPHINE MCGOWAN  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

It was not until a week after last semester started that Alan Llobet, TC '13, realized the \$15,432 check that Teachers College had cut him the last two semesters did not carry over to his second year as a master's student.

"I really chose to come here because of job opportunities and that I knew that I was coming in with half of my tuition paid," he said. But the money TC gave him to subsidize the first year of his education, which Llobet understood to be a recurring scholarship, wasn't offered as he began his third term.

"From one semester to the next, it was a surprise of \$15,000. That's something you don't plan for, and when it falls on your lap, it is extremely shocking," he said, noting that he had

full scholarship offers to other schools. "This would have no longer been my first choice, and I would have considered other options."

Llobet and other master's students said that they were under the impression that these funds were scholarships, but administrators insist that their policy is crystal clear.

Senior lecturer Sarah Brazaitis, director of the M.A. program, said that the program is very explicit about the fact that it does not grant scholarships.

"Our program doesn't administer scholarships to master's students, though I wish that we had more money so that we could," she said. "It's on our website that we don't. I say it at every open house, every Admitted Students Weekend, and every student advising session when students ask me. I am very up-front about it."

Llobet has had a different experience. The financial aid office did not state non-renewal as a serious possibility as he was applying, he said. He knew that he would need to reapply for funding, but he was under the impression that the scholarship was merit-based. He thought that if he kept his grades up, his scholarship would be renewed.

James Gardner, associate vice president for external affairs at TC, stressed that information about the scholarship is made clear on the website and on the statements on students' bills.

"There is complete clarity in the way that the provision and availability of financial aid is articulated," he said. "Even in an acceptance letter, the important distinctions are always drawn and made so there isn't

SEE TEACHERS COLLEGE, page 2

## World Leaders Forum considers economic future of E.U.

BY QIUYUN TAN  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

How do you repair the European Union?

A panel that included former Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou, a new professor at the School of International and Public Affairs, and economics Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz tackled this question with varying degrees of optimism at Low Rotunda on Monday in a World Leaders Forum event.

Stiglitz, also a professor at SIPA, said that he blamed Europe's economic problems on its currency. "This is a man-made disaster, and it has four letters: the Euro," Stiglitz said. "We don't have adequate solidarity to make the Euro work."

Stiglitz suggested that it might be necessary to sacrifice the Euro and reform the "European framework." Kemal Dervis, the former Turkish minister for economic affairs and the treasury, echoed Stiglitz's sentiments.

"The Eurozone has to integrate much more," Dervis said. "Events have proven it that you cannot have a common currency without much stronger integration of overall economic policy, fiscal policy, budget-straight policy, and banking regulation."

George Soros, a Hungarian-American business tycoon and the founder and chairman of Soros Fund Management, said that he, too, believed the Euro

was flawed from the start, and criticized the changing structure of Europe.

He also said that he regretted the emergence of palpable class divisions, which he called politically unacceptable.

"Political and financial aspects are separate aspects, but they are intertwined," Soros said.

Anne Anderson, who has served as the United Nations' ambassador to Ireland since 2009, said that she believed Europe could fix its political and economic issues.

"I am a committed European, intellectually and emotionally," Anderson said. "At the same time, I don't consider myself any kind of a cheerleader for the European project."

Still, she added, "I genuinely believe that Europe will regain the momentum despite the current political difficulties, and I think my own country Ireland is going to contribute to that momentum."

Papandreou, who started teaching at SIPA this semester, presented possible solutions to Europe's economic problems, including a stimulus plan, reducing unemployment, and democratizing the European Union.

He said that economic recovery was possible—so long as European citizens focus on addressing the difficulties, rather than finding a source of blame.

Nicolas Zaharya, SIPA '13, said, "It was especially

comforting to feel that there was a good deal of pessimism about Europe."

"It is not underestimating the problem," Zaharya added, calling Europe's issues "very complex."

Zaharya, however, said that he would have liked to hear more about the incentives of politicians and the people to engage with the European Union.

"There was not much of a

## On 125th Street, a changing facade

Business developers bring new shopping complexes to street

BY EMMA CHENG  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Along 125th Street, a bustling horde of locals and tourists swarms by, weaving between newly constructed scaffolding and gleaming glass shopping complexes.

Just a decade ago, this now-busy commercial street with brightly lit signs and retail stores lining the sidewalk would have been unrecognizable, and business developers say that these changes are for the better, ushering in the second century of the historic Harlem street.

Since the establishment of Harlem USA in 2000, one of the largest shopping centers along 125th Street, retail development has flourished.

Similar shopping sites continue to spring up along the street, including two complexes under construction at Frederick Douglass Boulevard and Lenox Avenue, as well as Grid Properties' One-2-Five LIVE project, a smaller retail site next to the Apollo Theater.

"I think Harlem USA was really the catalyst of the Harlem Renaissance of retail development of 125th Street," Scott Auster, managing director of Grid Properties, said. "When we built the site, no national retailers were in the area. We realized early on that it was a very underserved environment."

Auster and Kenneth Knuckles, president and chief executive officer of the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone, which collaborated with Grid Properties previously, both believe that the neighborhood has benefited from

the recent development.

"We did a demographic analysis, and we realized that a lot of the locals were not doing shopping in the neighborhood," Auster said. "It made a lot of sense to open stores closer to where these people lived."

Barbara Askins, president of the 125th Street Business Improvement District, said that she is working to maintain the balance between preserving Harlem's heritage and helping businesses grow.

"It made a lot of sense to open stores closer to where these people lived."

—Scott Auster,  
managing director  
of Grid Properties

"We know what we want it to look like, but how do we make it happen?" she said. "We have to bring property developers together and get them to buy into the vision."

The developers also stressed their efforts to accommodate the needs of local community members and help them adjust to the development changes. "In all of our projects, we provide local retailers space for a low market rent," Auster said, citing the 4,000-square-foot local African-American bookstore that they supported in their Harlem USA project.

Development often leads to increased housing

SEE 125TH, page 2



DOUGLAS KESSEL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

EUROTRIP | Former Prime Minister of Greece George Papandreou (left); Anne Anderson, permanent representative to the United Nations for Ireland; and Hungarian businessman George Soros at the forum.

### OPINION, PAGE 4

#### Argo's disappointment

Wilfred Chan on why happy-ending movies win in the end—but shouldn't.

#### Funding AIDS

Sequestration threatens AIDS funding in government.



### SPORTS, BACK PAGE

#### Lacrosse faces strong Lafayette squad in Pennsylvania

The Lions, who won their first game over the weekend, will take on the 3-0 Leopards—who they beat last year at home.

### EVENTS

#### Sacred Texts in the Core

Student panelists will discuss how religious texts should be taught in the Core.  
Roone Arledge Cinema, 6:30 p.m.

#### Jubilation! Study Break

Enjoy free snacks and music by Columbia's Christian a cappella group.  
Lerner Hall C555, 10 p.m.

### WEATHER

#### Today



59°/41°

#### Tomorrow



52°/36°



TC students critical of financial aid office

TEACHERS COLLEGE  
from front page

any expectation raised without a basis or foundation.”

Jake Tuber, TC '13, is a second-year master's student within the same program who underwent the same ordeal. He signed the petition as well, but did not get in touch with financial aid, as others urged him that the efforts would be anything but fruitful.

“Legally, yes, we knew that we had to reapply, but it seemed like there would have had to be some reasonable issues around one's merit to deter them from renewing the scholarship. I don't know of anyone who has had their scholarship renewed,” he said. “I think that the idea of having it be renewed is technically an open possibility, but the word on the street, so to speak, among students here is that nobody really does get it renewed.”

Samar Aijaz, TC '14, a first-year master's student in the same program, was concerned when she first saw Llobet's initiative and worries now that her financial aid, which covers half of her tuition for one year, will not be renewed for the following year.

“I find it very concerning that if you are in a two-year program and you come in as a first-year student, you can be offered a high financial aid package that doesn't carry over to your second year,” she said. “You start wondering why, if you have a 4.0 GPA.”

Brazaitis emphasized the fact that she informs students that there are no scholarships or fellowships for master's students. She noted that there is open faculty advisement and that students have access to faculty resources to ask questions and express their concerns.

“I think that one of the issues that has gotten confused is the word ‘renewed,’ and I know that when the Office of Enrollment Services offers our best and brightest students a scholarship, I'm excited for them, and the letter says that this is your scholarship for this year, and that it is not renewable,” she said.

Andrea Lira, a second-year master's student in TC's communication, computing, and technology in education program, signed Llobet's petition, not because she is undergoing the same situation, but because she sees how doctoral students rather than master's students

within her program do not get funding. Though she has a scholarship from her country, Chile, to attend TC, she said that she has not found scholarship information to be readily available.

“I'm applying for a doctoral program, but I have as yet received no information concerning scholarship offers,” she said. “I'm not sure whether I will get that information if I am accepted, but all I know is that the financial office says that you can apply for a scholarship on the website. But they don't really explain what that means.”

Llobet expressed concern for incoming students, as he wishes that they not go through the same thing he did.

“There's got to be 30 kids right now in my spot who are going to have this shock during the summer as they get ready for their second year,” he said. “I think that it'd be really cool to give those guys a heads-up, because I don't think they know what's coming. If I could talk to incoming students who are thinking of applying here, I'd make sure to bring it up if the financial aid office doesn't do anything about it.”

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Students question major requirements, TA training

FIRESIDE from front page

gives it value. Bollinger acknowledged this, and engaged in a back-and-forth discussion about whether the decision would be simplified if the hypothetical online institution also offered financial aid, or whether it would be complicated by the fact that it is more difficult to meet people in the workplace than in school.

“This is a joke, but I like to say that we're a dating service masquerading as an educational institution,” Bollinger said, eliciting laughter and nods from the audience.

Discussion about the role of online education gave way

to the other topics of the night: the relationship between STEM and liberal arts degrees, as well as the possibility of modifying the Core to include more rigorous science requirements.

“The data does not show that we have fewer students go into science because of the two-year emphasis on the Core,” Bollinger said. “But the question is whether we have skewed it too much on the humanities, and we're all struggling with that. I would not set out to change it.”

Alan Zhao, SEAS '14, also brought up the disparity in coursework between the humanities and science,

commenting that “it's extremely hard to major in, say, chemistry and biology than it is English and comparative literature.”

Michael Rady, CC '13, addressed the question of faculty and teaching assistant training at the fireside chat, a topic Bollinger avoided in saying that all the faculty members he had met were extremely devoted to their students. At his suggestion for ideas, a member of the audience mentioned open course evaluations.

“I'm in favor of that,” Bollinger said, “but maybe you should tone the reviews down a bit.”

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COLUMBIA.EDU | At Tuesday's fireside chat, University President Lee Bollinger discussed the future of online education with a group of about 50 students from CC, GS, and SEAS.

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SHOPPING SPREE | The surroundings of the Apollo Theater, a cultural staple of 125th Street in Harlem, have evolved over the years to include new businesses and shopping centers.

Developers say 125th changes supporting locals

125TH from front page

prices or possible displacement. Knuckles said he doesn't think that's been a big problem.

“There is probably some displacement, but it's a unique situation, since it's not the kind of displacement where a site that was several years ago for lower income residents suddenly has people of affluence moving in,” he said.

Knuckles said that often, new buildings are constructed on vacant avenues, and that there is still ample public and residential housing from rehabilitated older buildings that are tailored

to lower-income residents. City subsidies have also forced many developers to provide affordable units to buyers with a median income or less.

Carolyn Thomas, who has lived in Harlem for most of her life, said that she witnesses people being evicted from their apartments every day due to the rising cost of living in the neighborhood.

“We're not 34th Street. We're not downtown. We're not next to Bloomingdale's,” she said. “I came to New York at the age of nine and loved it then—I don't like it now. They're moving out a lot of businesses that can't

afford the rent. They're changing Harlem from river to river, but they're not being conducive to people who live here.”

“I can imagine what it is going to be like in the future. The people that are here now are not going to be here anymore because of housing prices, and this place will be like 34th Street.”

But Brother Cee, a minister and vendor in Harlem, said that he didn't mind the development.

“There should be a mixture of people in the neighborhood,” he said.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

MARVELLOUS IHEUKWUMERE

Senior Marvellous Iheukwumere (left) was awarded two Ivy League titles in the 60- and 200-meter runs at the 2013 Ivy League Heptagonal Indoor Track & Field Championships, helping the women's team place third overall. At the championships last year, Iheukwumere lost to Princeton's Eileen Moran in the 60-meter dash by only four one-thousandths of a second. This year, Iheukwumere improved her time by 11 hundredths of a second to secure first place at 7.51 seconds. Iheukwumere also won the 200-meter dash for the second year in a row and finished in 24.46 seconds, gaining two impressive victories over the weekend.

—Mollie Galchus



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Superstitions appear strange, but help players

FENG from back page

assign a cause-and-effect relationship between the two.

The second reason is that human beings are always after a sense of control. We want to see ourselves as agents in the situation, even in cases when we are not influencing the situation directly. This could explain why superstition is so prevalent in professional sports—there's always a mixture of chance and skill that determines the outcome of a game. Especially in sports such as baseball and hockey, where a lucky bounce or guess can drastically change the outcome.

In this sense, superstition can be beneficial, giving a sense of efficacy and control that helps to relieve the psychological tension that inevitably arises from situations in which chance plays a role.

Schippers and Van Lange (2006) conducted a study on football players' superstitions, and found that they were most likely to occur in situations where both uncertainty and importance were high. For example, players were most likely to engage in superstitious

behavior when the opponent was equal or higher to them in the standings. This can be compared to how students may not go through an extensive pre-test ritual if they are taking a quiz they know they will ace or is not worth much of their overall grade.

It is essential to understand that players engage in these rituals only because they believe they will be beneficial, and rituals work because the person believes and expects them to. And the tension reduction may help in achieving an ideal performance state (Garfield and Bennett, 1984; Williams, 1986), or as the cool kids put it, being "in the zone." Neil (1980) likens the effect to a psychological placebo, one that works by self-fulfilling prophecies and confirmation processes.

The key to making superstitions work, whether for athletes or students, is to find a balance in which the ritual gives you a feeling of empowerment but is not so excessive that it hinders you physically or mentally. Take former Cleveland Indian Kevin Rhomberg, who had the compulsion to touch someone if they touched him. This resulted in

opposing teams constantly touching him and running, which, as you can imagine, sent him into an embarrassing panic. An umpire once had to halt a game because the Yankee players (of course) refused to stop touching poor Rhomberg.

Contrast this with Baseball Hall of Famer Wade Boggs, who attributed much of his success to a strict daily routine that included eating chicken before each game (leading to his nickname "Chicken Man"), always taking batting practice at 5:17, and running sprints at 7:17. These non-hindering actions gave him a sense of order and control and led to a prolific career in professional baseball.

So whether you're an NHL player growing out your fluffy playoff beard or an engineer putting on your lucky rainbow-striped socks before your stochastics exam, it's OK to be a little superstitious—but maybe not, as Stevie Wonder said, very superstitious.

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No sign of Princeton's dominance on the court ending

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL from back page

BROWN	71
HARVARD	77

With 29 seconds left in the game, Brown (8-16, Ivy 2-8) was down by only two points, but the Bears could not stop the Crimson (15-8, Ivy 6-3) run. Harvard's Victoria Lippert recorded a season-high 24 points, which included three three-pointers. Harvard was down early in the game, but the Crimson's Christine Clark and Temi Fagbenle collectively added eight points. Brown's Sheila Dixon's rebound and three-pointer that occurred toward the end of the game brought Brown within two points with a score of 71-69, but Clark helped Harvard secure the win.

CORNELL	40
PENN	67

Penn's Alyssa Baron scored three points to start the game and, within the first five minutes, the Quakers (14-9, Ivy 7-2) had an 11-4 lead over Cornell (11-12, Ivy 3-6). With help from Brianna Bradford, Courtney Wilson, and Renee Busch, Penn led 23-11 with 3:57 left until halftime. Though Cornell scored the first four points of the second half, Penn held the lead at 47-27 with 12:24 left in the game. Bradford's layup increased Penn's lead to 25 points before winning the game 67-40.

FEB. 23	
YALE	66
HARVARD	69

In Yale's loss to Harvard, guard Sarah Halejian almost broke the record for most points scored in a single game in the history of Yale's women's basketball, with 29 points on the night. At 5:39 left in the game, Yale's Zenab Keita's layup tied the game at 54. Halejian helped Yale rally in the second half to tie the game, leaving the score at 56-56 with 4:59 left. With six seconds left, Halejian diminished Harvard's lead to three points, but Yale could not force the game into overtime. Harvard's Lippert and Christine Clark combined for 39 points and 19 rebounds in the Crimson's 11th straight victory at home.

CORNELL	34
PRINCETON	59

In Princeton's (18-5, Ivy 9-0) defeat of Cornell, the Tigers recorded a new Ivy League record, winning 33 consecutive games. Cornell scored five points in the first 12 minutes of the game while the Tigers forced 10 turnovers during

RK (LW)	TEAM
1 9-0	<b>PRINCETON TIGERS</b>  The Tigers remain undefeated as they defeated both Columbia and Cornell this week, bringing them to 33 consecutive victories.
2 7-2	<b>PENN QUAKERS</b>  Penn defeated both Cornell and Columbia, showing its dominance this week.
3 6-3	<b>HARVARD CRIMSON</b>  Harvard won two close games this past week against Brown and Yale.
4 5-5	<b>YALE BULLDOGS</b>  Yale won by a respectable margin to Dartmouth but lost a close game to Harvard.
5 4-5	<b>DARTMOUTH BIG GREEN</b>  Dartmouth lost to Yale and was crushed by Brown, 59-39.
6 3-6	<b>CORNELL BIG RED</b>  Cornell did not have a good week, falling to Penn and Princeton by more than 20 points in each game.
7 2-8	<b>BROWN BEARS</b>  Brown lost a close game to Harvard, but dominated Dartmouth on the road.
8 1-8	<b>COLUMBIA LIONS</b>  Columbia failed to get a second Ivy victory, losing to both Princeton and Penn on the road.

those 12 minutes. But the Tigers also committed 21 turnovers, which allowed Cornell to score 11 points. Princeton's Niveen Rasheed, who now has a 22-game double figure scoring streak, scored a game-high 14 points in the first half. Princeton's Kristen Helmstetter had a game-high nine boards. A dominant Princeton squad led the Big Red by as many as 26 points.

DARTMOUTH	39
BROWN	59

Brown defeated Dartmouth after a 16-3 run during the second half. Brown's Sheila Dixon's 14-point effort pushed her over 1,000 career-points. Though Dartmouth had an early lead, Lauren Clarke's three-pointers gave the Bears an 8-5 lead at 2:47 into the game. At halftime, Brown led 24-16, before an impressive 16-3 run to start the second half. Dixon made layups with both 3:10 and 1:22 left in the game, which brought her to 1,002 career points.

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# Can we really afford to cut AIDS funding?

BY MEL MEDER, MICHELLE DIXON,  
AND ZACHARY GLASSER

While many Columbians have been fighting to strip away the stigma, politics, and fear from HIV/AIDS for nearly three decades, the sequestration crisis—which will take effect this Friday if leaders fail to act—will lead to thousands of deaths worldwide when people lose their current access to treatment.

In his article in The Eye last September (“Fight On”), Will Hughes chronicles the beginning of Columbia’s fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The first reported AIDS-related deaths occurred in 1981. By 1985, both the admin-istration and counseling services realized the urgent need to take action. The Gay Health Advocacy Project (GHAP), as Hughes recounts, was born from this need to provide support to members of the Columbia community. Along with research, the advocates provided counseling services and education about healthy and safe sexual behavior. GHAP still flourishes on Columbia’s campus, providing HIV testing, support for HIV-positive students, LGBTQ advocacy and support, and a number of workshops.

But while Columbia students have access to compre-hensive support and treatment services, millions around the world are still denied access to HIV treatment due to political apathy. The sequestration cuts and the lack of political will that created them are unacceptable. Our

generation and our campus must take renewed action and pressure our leaders to work toward ending AIDS.

Unfortunately, Columbia students are no longer as en-ergized about HIV/AIDS today. The epidemic continues to take millions of lives around the world. Hughes talks about a time when HIV “was a grim reality. No drugs had shown any effectiveness against the disease, and the prognosis was invariably death.” Today, it is possible not only to live for years with the virus but also, with the proper funding, to end the epidemic. Research published last year—the HPTN 052 study—demonstrated that timely antiretrovi-ral treatment (ART) can reduce the transmission of the virus by 96 percent. Evidence is mounting that providing ART to HIV-positive people, in tandem with strategies like expanded HIV testing and prevention interventions, provides a light at the end of the tunnel for overcoming the heavy global burden of this disease.

## Our generation and our campus must take renewed action and pressure our leaders to work toward ending AIDS.

However, without necessary levels of funding for global health programs, this dream cannot become a reality in our lifetimes. Sequestration, which would enact enormous spending cuts in the budget, would spell heavy losses for

the AIDS fight: An estimated 37,000 deaths from AIDS will occur if our government doesn’t find the political will to stop it. President Obama has proposed a 5 percent cut to the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR); this decrease would reduce funding by over \$200 million for essential programs and services already in existence across the world. Instead, we ask that the House maintain last year’s PEPFAR funding at \$4.24 bil-lion and the Senate maintain the U.S. contribution to the multilateral Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria at \$1.65 billion. While these may seem like large numbers in a time when there is talk about debt ceilings and downsizing, they are investments to reduce larger costs and untold human suffering in the future.

Columbia students today, like their forebears, can play a crucial role in ending AIDS. However, we need to alter our perceptions and realize the impact we can have on ef-fecting positive change. HIV/AIDS is no longer the grim reality of the ’80s, but we are now at a critical moment in time in the history of the epidemic. We have the tools to end this disease, but political leadership has impeded our ability to use them. With advocacy, we can influence our politicians to support crucial HIV/AIDS funding and help to create a new reality the founders of GHAP could not have imagined. We call on our fellow Columbians to join the legacy of student AIDS activism on our campus and demand leadership to create an AIDS-free generation.

Mel Meder is a Barnard College junior majoring in history, Michelle Dixon is a masters’ student at the Mailman School of Public Health, and Zachary Glasser is a General Studies and Jewish Theological Seminary sophomore. They are members of the Columbia University Student Global AIDS Campaign.

# War, the Oscars, and American discourse

I saw Argo. It’s a good movie, and I’m not surprised that it won Best Picture. I thought it was either going to be that or Lincoln. The Academy likes movies in which America wins at the end, and so does America, I think.

But that’s a pity because the best film of 2012 is really Zero Dark Thirty. Whereas Argo and Lincoln are arguably linked by their pleasing portrayals of politics in the past, Zero Dark Thirty is a far more important commentary on the America of our generation.

The film is about 9/11 and the ruthless War on Terror that follows. The script follows Maya, a coldly focused CIA agent who is hell-bent on locating and killing Osama bin Laden. What unfolds is a disturb-ing, savage, and morally ambiguous American victory. Spoiler alert: We get Osama. But the crucial ques-tion that director Kathryn Bigelow asks is, do we lose something greater?

It’s unfortunate that Zero Dark Thirty’s purpose has been deliberately distorted through a manufactured con-troversy about whether its graphic interrogation scenes make it “pro-torture.” These criticisms miss the point: There is nothing celebratory about this film. The idea of Zero Dark Thirty is not to glorify our military victory. The real idea of Zero Dark Thirty is to show that America accomplished its goal—killing Osama bin Laden—yet something continues to feel very wrong.

This sense of ambiguous discomfort resonates with me personally. I remember the night we found out bin Laden was killed. Reactions on campus varied from stunned to riotous. On an impulse, some Columbia friends and I biked down to Ground Zero. We somehow knew it was an American moment that we wanted to witness.

What we found was an America gone mad. There were college kids in baseball caps crowdsurfing and moshing. The smell of marijuana hung thick in the air. Clenched fists and middle fingers were thrust skyward over screams of “We got him!” and “Fuck yeah!” A man in a military uniform climbed on top of a traffic light pole and dangled above the roaring crowd, singing the na-tional anthem. We joined in.

The next day, I woke up with a sinking feeling, as if coming off of a hangover. We just partied over the killing of a guy.

And then another thought: Osama is dead. But now what?

It was a disquieting end to an era that I barely under-stood when it began. I was 11 when the towers fell and 12 when I learned how to identify anthrax. I grew up haunted by bin Laden’s glassy-eyed stare, an indelible visage that I used to doodle on my homework assign-ments. I remember watching footage of the first bombs being dropped on Iraq. Now, here I am, about to graduate with a degree in international relations.

Only now do I realize how much of our lives have been shaped or colored by the War on Terror. In the same way that the Vietnam War altered the course of our parents’ lives, 9/11 and its two wars are the defin-ing conflicts of our generation. The difference is that we—even here on our campus just miles from Ground Zero—still don’t quite know how to talk about it. There’s a sense of repressed stress and buried trauma, a sort of hope that if we just stop mentioning it (and give the Best Picture Oscar to Argo) all the pain of the last 10 years will just disappear. But as Columbia stu-dents who live in New York, we cannot so easily look away from the gaping, empty hole in the sky where the towers once stood. Many of us continue to carry 9/11 with us in permanent, imperceptible ways, and Zero Dark Thirty gets that.

The way I see it, Kathryn Bigelow has done us a big favor by forcefully addressing this topic. I’m just disap-pointed by how the movie has been silenced by those in Washington and Hollywood. This is made apparent by Congress’ furious campaign to discredit the film and the obvious snub at the Oscars (the film won just one award, a tie for Best Sound Editing with Skyfall). But we should continue the conversation here in New York, here at Columbia. This isn’t just about politics and showbiz. It’s about our lives. Perhaps more than anybody else, we are the true children of the 9/11 generation.

And so, good job, Argo, for being inoffensive and en-tertaining while saying nothing. But to everyone else, go watch Zero Dark Thirty. America doesn’t necessarily win at the end. And that’s important to think about.

Wilfred Chan is a senior majoring in political science. He is the founder of the Student Wellness Project. Chan-neling Discourse runs alternate Tuesdays.



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CHAN  
**Chan-neling  
Discourse**



ILLUSTRATION BY ILANA SCHULDER

## Our Rumspringa

In conservative Amish communi-ties, adolescents are afforded a brief period when they are allowed to experience what we would call “nor-mal life”: technology of today, expo-sure to other groups of people, and even alcohol. Since the Amish are an Anabaptist sect, it is not until young adulthood that they are baptized. In the few years before this decision, the community turns a blind eye to their behavior and tolerates experimenta-tion. In Pennsylvania Dutch, this pe-riod is called Rumspringa, or “jump-ing about.” In the rest of America, we have a similar custom, but we call it “college.”

One of these colleges is Columbia University in the City of New York.

Columbia, like other colleges, is a place where young people come to be exposed to new ideas and new people. Students there are able to entertain these ideas without necessarily committing to them. Their peers and family—along with the community at large—tolerates experimentation. In his TED talk, Jonathan Haidt explains that people who regard openness to ex-perience as important typically vote liberal while peo-ple who favor order and stability typically vote conser-vative. So it’s not surprising that when American youth are “jumping about,” they overwhelmingly vote liberal.

We tend to think that Columbia’s liberalism is a result of its demographics. The conventional wisdom is that Columbia is mostly comprised of suburban Northeasterners with educated parents. This may be true, but the liberal atmosphere is also institutional. By attending an organization that has the purpose of cul-tivating and spreading ideas, you have already founded a liberal institution. Liberals enjoy new ideas whereas conservatives prefer the familiar, according to Haidt. Writing off the liberal atmosphere of college as a “de-mographic fluke” as opposed to a vital component of the system doesn’t give credit where credit is due.

No matter how silly it will seem to us in a few years, I am convinced that, in addition to the liberal arts, we shouldn’t be shy about dabbling in the liberal virtues: fairness, compassion, diversity, questioning authority. It is ok to be a cliché. It is valuable to try out the college stereotypes. It is clear that there is some-thing about youth that seeks this liberalism. Like the



JAKE  
GOLD-  
WASSER  
**Thinking  
Twice**

quote misattributed to Winston Churchill, “If you’re not a liberal when you’re 25, you have no heart. If you’re not a conservative by the time you’re 35, you have no brain.” In order to progress as individuals, we have to be wildly open to new ideas, even if it is only for a few years.

Being a columnist for a college newspaper, I find it difficult to say anything of substance. I don’t think I’ve ever written anything yet that will be consequential for anyone else. And unless you have been published, this is probably true for you as well. Every other week, I sit down and try to say something that isn’t com-pletely a parody of a college newspaper column. But it’s actually really hard. This article, too, has probably been written dozens of times.

## Obviously college can’t prepare you for the real world. But maybe it can acquaint you with yourself.

But I have come to accept that this is a useful exer-cise. It is worthwhile to spend a few years being ideal-istic and open-minded. For most of us, this is not the time for brilliance or consistency. I am writing because I’m trying to figure out what it means to be a person. And so are you. This is the time to profit from being confused. When I am old, I will be able to look back on this and understand a little bit more about myself. There is no pressure for me to do anything of value to anyone else. Obviously college can’t prepare you for the real world. But maybe it can acquaint you with yourself so that when you get to the real world, you don’t just cry and shit your pants.

For this very short time, people are willing to laugh when we make fools of ourselves. We are currently playing hackneyed roles in a mediocre comedy we, ourselves, have written. Even the serious things are light-hearted, and the tone is a little bit sarcastic and a little bit drunk. If you are a Columbia student, it is because somebody thought you would be of use to society someday. But the key word is someday. Happy Rumspringa.

Jake Goldwasser is Columbia College junior majoring in Middle Eastern studies and linguistics. He is currently studying in Leiden, the Netherlands. Thinking Twice runs alternate Wednesdays.

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4	3	2	6	7	5	1	8	9
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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

1 Not interesting  
7 Real heel  
10 German exports  
14 Beau coup  
15 Eight-time Norris Trophy winner  
16 Bit attachment  
17 "Largest port in NW Africa"  
19 "Black Beauty" author  
20 Metric distances: Abbr.  
21 Athos, to Porthos  
22 Word with dark or gray  
24 "Warrior's cry"  
27 Hersey novel setting  
30 Rob Roy's refusal  
31 Four-time Grammy winner  
32 "Panic" side dish  
35 23-Down's div.  
37 As found  
38 Pupil surround  
41 Ft. Worth campus  
42 "Knocking sound"  
46 Australian slanders  
49 Punching tool  
50 "SNL" alum Mike  
51 "Delighted"  
54 Animals who like to float on their back  
55 Female hare  
56 "Hardly"  
59 Violin holder  
60 "Island nation in the Indian Ocean"  
64 A sweatshirt may have one  
65 Rocker Rose  
66 Sedative  
67 Overnight lodging choices  
68 Low grade  
69 Incursions ... or, phonetically, what the answers to starred clues contain

**DOWN**

1 With 2-Down, "Rio Lobo" actor  
2 See 1-Down

3 ... stick: incense  
4 Hagen often mentioned on "Inside the Actors Studio"  
5 Head, slangily  
6 Key of Beethoven's "Emperor" concerto  
7 Funnel-shaped  
8 Compass-aided curve  
9 Pulitzer category  
10 Like a spoiled kid, often  
11 Unwritten reminder  
12 Cab storage site  
13 Hunted Carroll creature  
18 Microwave maker  
23 Braves, on scoreboards  
24 Against  
25 Exactly  
26 Mauna ...  
27 "Whoso diggeth ... shall fall therein"; Proverbs  
28 Fundraiser with steps?

29 Thing taken for granted  
33 California's Big ...  
34 Not dis?  
36 Chow  
39 Avatar of Vishnu  
40 Wd. derivation  
43 Some Duracells  
44 Silly talk  
45 Foil maker  
47 Capsizes  
48 Neighbor of Isr.

51 ... Minh  
52 Comparable to a March hare  
53 Words with lamb or mutton  
56 School sports org.  
57 Like Cheerios  
58 Half of sea  
61 Fire truck item  
62 G.I.'s mail drop  
63 Paul McCartney, for one

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

SCRAP	TBS	P	ERSE
ELATE	RAIL	LOPS	
GOTIT	URGE	LBOS	
STEEL	ERNATION		
PER	RITE	LOTS	A
STAMP	COLLECTION		
ASPCA	SEW	CRY	
	INGE	NEHI	
RAM	ELS	OATHS	
STATE	OF	THE	UNION
ATRED	AAAS	CIO	
STATION	BREAKS		
ASIS	LODI	COLTS	
TUNE	SHUT	ANIEL	
MEIR	ASPS	TEDDY	

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By Mark Hickman  
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02/27/13



A little superstition doesn't hurt

Former Yankee Jason Giambi wears a golden thong to break out of hitting slumps. Montreal Canadiens goalie Patrick Roy would skate to center ice before every game and turn back at the very last second, believing it made the goal shrink. UFC light-heavyweight champion Lyoto Machida drinks his own urine. Yes, you read that right.

These routines, whether strange, irrational, or just plain disgusting, are all examples of superstitions that top athletes religiously adhere to. Superstitions in their most extreme form may be commonly found among athletes, but they're just as prevalent with ordinary students, especially in a community full of high achievers like Columbia. There must be others out there who, like me, arrange their stationery in a certain composition before taking a test or print important papers from a particular printer (hello, Lerner 200a).

The odd thing about superstitions is that most of the time, we know full well that our actions have no logical effect on the result, yet we stubbornly repeat these same superstitions again and again, even when they fail us occasionally. Why do we, as highly logical and rational students, continually fool ourselves into doing things that don't really make sense?

In general, there are two main reasons why people have superstitions. First, this type of behavior can arise from conditioning, which those of you who have taken Intro to Psychology would have learned from B.F. Skinner's studies. If we are regularly rewarded with good results after doing some action, this action will be reinforced by the positive result, and we come to

SEE FENG, page 3



MINNIA FENG  
Mind Games



LUKE HENDERSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OLD AND YOUNG | The Lions will have the help of senior Kacie Johnson, who led all scorers in Columbia's game against Lafayette last year, and freshman Kate Murphy, who made a goal in Columbia's victory against Mount St. Mary's.

Lions to face 3-0 Lafayette on the road

BY ROBERT MITCHELL  
Spectator Staff Writer

The Light Blue lacrosse team (1-0, 0-0 Ivy) will travel to Easton, Pa. tonight to play a Lafayette team off to its best start since 1978.

The Leopards are undefeated at 3-0. The main concern for the Lions will be containing Addie Godfrey, who has netted 14 goals—along with five assists—to power Lafayette to its strong opening.



But Lafayette is up against a losing history when facing the Lions. It is down 9-3 in the all-time series, which includes a loss to the Lions in last year's meeting. Senior Kacie Johnson led all scorers with nine total points—four goals and five assists—to help Columbia cruise to a 19-11 victory at Robert K. Kraft Field last season.

Overall, seven different Lions put points on the board that day. All but one of those players will be returning to face the Leopards at Fisher Stadium. This time around, they'll also have freshman Kate Murphy, who has already made an impact on the team. In the team's home opener

last Saturday, she notched one goal in the 15-4 drubbing of Mount St. Mary's.

Both Johnson and junior Paige Cuscovitch, who recorded a hat trick in the match, earned Ivy League honors for their strong performances. Johnson has shown no signs of slowing down after a historic junior season, as she moved past Holly Glynn, CC '09, last Saturday to become the all-time school leader in points scored, with 187 total points in her collegiate career.

The game starts on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

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Princeton makes Ivy history with 33 straight wins

BY MOLLIE GALCHUS  
Spectator Staff Writer

The Princeton women's basketball team remains undefeated after defeating Columbia and Cornell this week while also recording a new Ivy League record with 33 consecutive wins. Penn is also proving to be dominant, having won its last two games and maintaining second place in the conference. The Tigers' Niveen Rasheed was named Ivy League Co-Player of the Week after averaging 14.5 points, 6.5 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 4.5 steals in Princeton's last two games. Penn's Alyssa Baron was also named co-player of the week after leading the Quakers in scoring, rebounding, and assisting over their last two games. The Rookie of the Week honor went to Harvard's Temi Fagbenle, who averaged 12.5 points and 8.5 rebounds over the weekend.



FEB. 22

YALE	66
DARTMOUTH	55

This Yale victory marked its fourth Ivy League win over the last five games. The Bulldogs (10-14, Ivy 5-5) were led by guard Megan Vasquez who scored a game-high 15 points and who is now seventh on Yale's all-time scoring list. Six minutes and 29 seconds into the game, Dartmouth (6-17, Ivy 4-5) led 23-15, but by halftime Yale was up 35-26. Though the Big Green came within six points of Yale twice in the second half, the Bulldogs maintained their lead to secure the victory.

SEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, page 3



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