

DISCUSSION

Our Editor-In-Chief takes a closer look at breakdowns in communication on campus and what can be done about them.

P2

COMMUNITY

Recent alum Atlas Snarr covers last quarter's Fall Fest and reflects on our community.

P3

CONVERSATION

Our resident film critic Keegan Malan covers the 2001 Ghibli classic "Spirited Away" and Isaac Baek highlights a new faculty member Pablo Garrido.

P4

Fall Fest and College Days



Jiu-Jitsu club demonstration
Photo Credit: Nils Anderson

By Atlas Snarr

Fall Fest is an annual event held before the Thanksgiving break, and this year's festival was held on Sunday, November 3rd, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. A plethora of PUC clubs set themselves up at tables in the gymnasium, and for a while in the evening, the famous "covered wagon" was filled with themed merch, food, and a whole host of people. The dining commons even closes

early for Fall Fest, letting the students use some of their meal plans in exchange for funny money, which supports the clubs.

Our biggest College Days event also coincides with Fall Fest every year, where PUC invites high school seniors to come and stay in the dormitories over the weekend - from Friday through Monday - to experience PUC's campus, have a taste of college life,

and get all the questions they have answered before deciding which college to attend. These visitors are each given some funny money, so they can purchase their Sunday evening meal from whichever table they prefer, diversifying their dinner options and giving extra support to PUC clubs.

The Korean club, Biology club, Art club, Business club, the Black Student Union, and

continues on page 2

FROM THE EDITOR

As we close out a hectic Fall Quarter here at PUC we here at the Campus Chronicle hope that all of our readers have had a safe and fruitful first 11 weeks of the school year! As we ring in the new year soon we want to make it a priority to use the Chronicle as a means of student engagement and create a newspaper that everyone can pick up and read at least one thing that resonates and connects with them. We have a whole new team this year working on the newspaper and we all agree that we share the vision of creating a bigger and better newspaper than those of years past. We know that the Chronicle has lacked popularity among students in recent years and we want to rectify that this year! With that vision in mind, in order for it to work we need the help of everyone on campus.

Creating a press with the voice of students in mind we want to get more critique and feedback from the biggest demographic on campus. If you have any ideas or want to see anything featured in future Campus Chronicle issues, such as article ideas, announcements, or personal artwork please reach out to us! We are available through Instagram (@pucchronicle) or you can always find one of our staff members who will relay the message to the rest of the team. We are committed to bringing positive change to this campus and it starts with getting all of the students connected with the Campus Chronicle. We wish you all a restful and well-deserved Christmas break! Happy Holidays PUC!

Sincerely,
Khalid Pal
Editor-in-Chief



DISCUSSION

Reconnecting PUC: A Call For Change

By Khalid Pal

At PUC, there seems to be evident communication gaps when it comes to relaying information to students. There is a growing sense of disconnection felt among students. These issues were highlighted in a recent research project conducted by Adwoa Appiah-Boateng, Abby Suttan, Sebastian Alvarez, and Johnny Hoang, students in the JOUR 110 class. Their research explores how ineffective communication can affect campus life at PUC by hindering student engagement. The communication between the higher-ups and the students has been bridged through social media, bulletin boards, and emails. However, students still feel like they are left uninformed when it comes to updates on things such as tuition, prices, and events hosted by PUC. The student-led research has been backed up by interviews from all corners of campus. Students, faculty, and staff have all expressed their thoughts on the communication here

at PUC. The system of communication currently has both students and staff agreeing on how the system probably needs updating. There is a fundamental need within the campus community: effective communication. Students need to have a streamlined way to access basic information such as changes happening in the Senate, faculty hours, job openings, contact information, events, etc. The four students who led this research aim to hopefully get PUC's administration to reconsider how information is shared and to create a lasting change that will benefit not only the school, but the community as well.

Right now, students at PUC do not agree that they are being kept in the loop when it comes to being notified about things happening around campus. Sophomore Aria Ward says that she is not even aware of things that are happening to PUC. Isaiah Johnson, a junior aviation major, has

the same issues. "I'm constantly finding out about events or deadlines at the last minute. It makes it hard to stay organized and plan my day. Whether it's about career fairs, class changes, or social events, it's frustrating when I miss out just because I wasn't informed." Another issue that students seem to have is that they do not feel that their voices are being heard. A lot of students feel that the administration is not doing enough to keep students informed and involved regarding changes and decisions across campus the general consensus is, no. When asked about ideas on how to make this communication better Aria suggested, "Voting polls, open discussion, and holding meetings with students telling them about the changes happening throughout campus and actually making these changes happen." Isaiah suggested having something like a dedicated app or website where students can easily check for announcements, which

continues on page 3

DISCUSSION

continued from page 2

would benefit everyone on campus. It is evident that the student body wants to be involved in campus life, but currently, the communication from the school is not being relayed to all of the students as it should.

Some of the staff agree with the student's sentiment that communication needs to be worked on to become more streamlined. When asked about the increase in single occupancy residence hall prices Dean Gena Philpott says that single occupancy rooms have gone from a 50% discount to a 20% discount, but these recent changes were not necessarily announced to everyone, only the ones who were requesting to room alone or who asked to see it in their Award Letter. Announcing pricing changes would be beneficial to students. It seems as if every year things get more expensive, not only at PUC but around the community in the Napa Valley as well. The students interviewed all say that prices are going up, but they are not being made aware of it. It is not only the dorms that are skyrocketing in prices. Prices in the Dining Commons and The Grind have steadily increased meaning that

students are paying more to their tuition to be able to eat. More staff such as Assistant Athletic Director Daniel agree that there should be a streamlined integration across the different organizations under Pacific Union College. "The biggest issue is that there's no integration across departments. Different groups (athletics, academic departments, and student organizations) are all using different methods to get messages out, and students aren't always sure where to look for the info they need." Creating a one-stop easy way for students to figure out where all the information is being put will create a positive effect on student engagement. Head Basketball Coach Landon Banks confirmed that he noticed a drop in his athletes' engagement when they were not getting enough information. "If they're not in the loop, it messes with their motivation. It's hard for them to stay engaged or give their best effort when they're unsure about what's going on. Sometimes, they even miss out on opportunities to bond as a team."

It is clear that both staff and students would like to see some changes when it

comes to relaying information from the higher-ups to the students. Hopefully, this research project conducted by the students in the JOUR 110 can bring to light the ongoing issues and help bring some change to our campus for the better!

PITCH IT!



Are you taking a class that more students should know about?

Have an idea for a campus story that must be discussed?

Make your voice heard in the PUC community — send your pitch to the Campus Chronicle!

Contributing writers are always compensated for their work and receive a publication credit in the issue.

COMMUNITY

continued from page 1



Fire Department selling kettle corn
Photo Credit: Nils Anderson

continues on page 5

CONVERSATION

Spirited Away (2001) Review

By Keegan Malan

Hayao Miyazaki's "Spirited Away" is a cinematic treasure. The film follows a young Japanese girl, Chihiro as she and her parents are trapped in the spirit world. Her parents are cursed and Chihiro is cut off from them. In order to survive in this world, she works for the witch, Yubaba, who cursed her parents. Aided by newfound friends such as the boiler worker Kamaji, bathhouse employee Lin, and the witch's apprentice Haku, Chihiro journeys to save her parents and return to our world.

This film is one of those rare treats where every aspect of filmmaking comes together perfectly. Visually it may be the greatest animation ever put to film. Like all Miyazaki's work, the 2D animation is crafted so intricately that if you go frame by frame, you can look for hours and still find something new. This grounds the film despite the fantastical Wonderlandesque world where almost anything can and does happen. This film could not be done in anything but animation. If you attempted to film this in live action it would not work because the real-life actors would clearly be acting against apparent CGI that could not capture the magic of the animation that is seamlessly sewn together and suspends our disbelief as its fantastical nature.

"By putting you in Chihiro's shoes you are privy to her wonder & amazement..."

But this animation would have all been for nothing if the characters were dull or uninteresting. Thankfully they are the opposite. In this film, you will meet some of the greatest and most endearing characters on film. They have deep and complex emotions that you understand and feel. They are real to you like all the great characters of fiction. By putting you in Chihiro's shoes you are privy to her wonder and amazement



at the world, her fear of it, and her desire to go home. Chihiro is a character that you love because she is so human and vulnerable. Because we would be exactly like her in this regard. Yet she has spirit and a will few of us have, and that we desire to make our own.

I cannot fail to mention the wonderful score that permeates the film and is just as integral to its success as anything else. It's always there, amplifying what is on the screen but doesn't make itself apparent as some scores do. It's organic to the film and flows through it fluidly, blending in with everything we see and hear.

"Spirited Away," like some of the best films, is both deep-cutting and can be enjoyed on merely a surface level. There is a key emphasis on memory in this film. The witch Yubaba makes all her employees sign a contract, and in doing so she takes their names, causing them to forget who they are, and so are unable to escape her clutches. This raises an interesting question. What is a person's name, and how is that connected with who they are? If suddenly no one called you by your name, does that mean you would forget who you are? No, it doesn't. But that

is not what this film means by this. It could be that the name is representative of both national and personal identity. Ever since WW2 demolished Japanese society, they have been trying to get back to what they once were, a nation brimming with pride and dignity; a nation unsullied by war. If you look at other Miyazaki films you will notice he takes pride in Japan as it once was, before the war. And isn't national identity a part of personal identity? Remembering who you are is key to unlocking what you can do; what you can accomplish. If you don't know yourself, then you're trapped as the characters around Chihiro are. And thus, a nation can be trapped in the same way if its people have forgotten.

"Spirited Away" is a film for all ages. It is just as powerful for children as it is for adults. Take this journey with Chihiro and discover a world so unlike our own, following a protagonist that you cannot help but become. And above all, dream and remember who you are.

COMMUNITY



continued from page 1

Music club were among those represented during Fall Fest. Other tables hosted groups outside the club category, like the ACA (Adventist Colleges Abroad), the fire department with their classic kettle corn, and PUC's Student Association selling college merchandise. This year, we even had a representative from Napa's "Upper Valley Disposal and Recycling Services" giving away free tote bags. One of the largest (and at times the loudest) attractions this year was the Jiu-Jitsu wrestling on a mat in the corner of the gymnasium, where students could challenge one of the club's members to a match, and battle it out for the crowd. There was a near-constant audience to the affair, and the cheering kept the energy high throughout the night. A horse-mask-wearing DJ showed off his mixing skills using giant speakers, a giant inflatable slide

and bounce house enveloped the center of the floor, and authentic cultural food was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Considering that this weekend was also one of the largest of the yearly College Days events that PUC holds, it is nothing short of a blessing that we hosted about 300 people, 270 of which were high school students. Here is some of the feedback that we received in regard to the occasion:

"A great weekend. You all crushed it. I'm proud to be a PUC alum and the vibe given from all the team was very strong."

"LOVED the orchestra and choir combo on Sabbath. Really showing off some of the best and it was great!"

"Thank you for putting this event together. Our students had a great time and got all their questions answered."

As someone who is finishing their last



continues on page 7

CONVERSATION

New Faculty Spotlight: Pablo Garrido

By Isaac Baek

Cross country can be tough. Athletes have explained the early running schedules and tough practices. Since it can be tough, a great motivator and coach is needed for success. Who better to do this than former Pacific Union College Alumni, Pablo Garrido. Since the start of this school year, he has been the cross-country team's head coach.

So how did we get here and what can we expect out of Head Coach Garrido's new tenure on the cross-country team?

Let's first see the journey that led to running Pacific Union College's very own cross-country team. As previously mentioned, Coach Garrido is an Alumni. In 2024 he graduated from Pacific Union College and had the opportunity to come back and lead cross country. When asked about this, Coach Garrido describes it as, "more than just a professional opportunity—it was a chance to give back to a place that shaped who I am." He further elaborated on giving back to the community before explaining his motivation, "My years as a

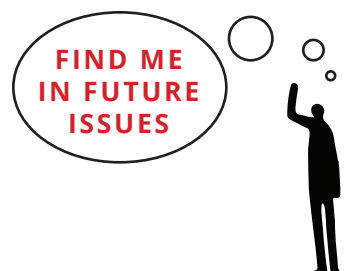
student-athlete on the PUC cross-country team left a tremendous mark, teaching me lessons in resilience and life that I carry with me forever." To show that it was altruistic Coach Garrido said, "There may not be tangible perks, but the rewards include connecting with this community and being able to contribute to a program that has meant so much to me. It's always been bigger than running." He is really living out Pacific Union College's motto of living lives of useful human service and uncompromising personal integrity, while also focusing on Christ centered. That all sounds great, but what can you expect if you were to join the cross-country team? Coach Garrido has a motto, "Seek Beauty, Work Hard, and Love Each Other." How does that apply to running you might ask? Well in his own words, "I encourage students to find beauty, both within themselves and in the world around them, and to let that inspire them to fill their spirit. I emphasize the value of putting our best effort into everything we undertake, knowing that hard work leads

to growth and fulfillment in this life. Most importantly, I promote compassion and kindness through love, reminding students to love one another as Christ loved us by demonstrating that through my character as a coach and teacher and hopefully inspiring those around me to do the same in their own journeys."

I interviewed a student that had interacted with Coach Garrido during his time at Pacific Union College. They described Coach Garrido as very friendly and welcoming as they were a new student. He even offered help in some of the classes that the student did not quite get. Not everyone is like that and to find someone with those good qualities is very rare. Now you can experience that through the cross-country team led by Coach Pablo Garrido. He will integrate his philosophy of "Seek Beauty, Work Hard, and Love Each Other" to your team and you. And at the same time, you can get better at cross country. A win-win situation for everyone involved.

This Week's Comic

Artist: Soren Nelson



COMMUNITY



Mysterious masked DJ
Photo Credit: Nils Anderson

continued from page 1

quarter, and who has experienced the Fall Festival both as a high school student visiting for College Days and as a PUC student attending every single year, I am so glad that it has continued to be such an influential weekend, withstanding even the break Covid-19 forced upon the world. Fall Festival is one of the best memories I have and will remain with me even leaving PUC, and expanding my borders. I encourage you to attend these social events yourself, invite all of your friends, and keep the community of this campus alive and thriving, even as I depart and journey elsewhere. God bless you all, and I will miss you, PUC.

Photo credit: Atlas Snarr and Nils Anderson



Waffels
Photo Credit: Nils Anderson

UPDATES

FIND THE ANSWER, WIN FREE COFFEE



Find the answer hidden somewhere in the paper. The first person to DM us on Instagram @pucchronicle will win a free drink at the Grind!

This week's question is:
How many high school sponsors were present for Fall College Days?

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor-in-Chief
Khalid Pal

Assistant Editor
Nils Anderson

Copy Editor
Gaby Rodas
Dominique Nerecina

Journalist
Atlas Snarr
Isaac Baek
Keegan Malan

Social Media
Anna Ramos

Layout & Design
Jarvie Russell
Sawyer Nash

Illustrator
Soren Nelson

Faculty Advisor
Emily Logan

UPCOMING EVENTS

Men's Volleyball vs UC Merced
January 19th, 6:30pm

MLK Day, No Classes
January 20th, All Day

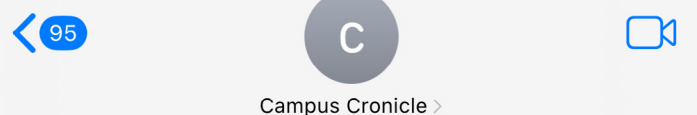
Student Week of Worship Begin
January 21st, All Day

Academy Basketball Tournament Begin
January 22nd, All Day

Academy Basketball Tournament End
January 25th, All Day

Student Week of Worship End
January 25th, All Day

Basketball - PUC vs La Sierra @ La Sierra
January 25th,



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