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CAMI MONDEAUX

Contestants for Mx. Westminster attend a rehearsal Feb. 4, the night before competition. Pageant contestants compete in activities such as formal wear and a talent show. The annual event raises money for the Rape Recovery Center just south of campus.

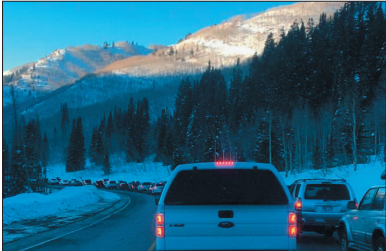
ADMIN & STUDENT GOV.



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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
STEPHANIE HELD

MANAGING EDITOR
MARINA MCTEE

PRODUCTION MANAGER
GABRIELLE BARKER

BUSINESS &
ADVERTISING MANAGER
SEBASTIAN DURANTE

VIDEO & PODCAST DIRECTOR
MOLLY GRAY

ONLINE & SOCIAL MEDIA
MANAGER
CAMI MONDEAUX

ADVISER
MATT BAKER

EDITORIAL
forumeditor@westminstercollege.edu

ADVERTISING
forumbusiness@westminstercollege.edu

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JOHN PERRI

Professor Hikmet Loe discusses the role of Native Americans in author Carleton Watkins' new book with the Environment and Space of Art Honors class in Converse 209 on Jan. 31. Loe is the adjunct faculty coordinator at Westminster College and said most adjuncts continue to teach despite low pay and commute time because they are passionate about teaching.

LONG COMMUTES, LOW PAY: SECRET LIVES OF ADJUNCT FACULTY

JOHN PERRI
STAFF REPORTER

Paula Collmar, a Westminster College foreign language adjunct professor of 11 years, was on her way to teach her 8 a.m. french translation class at the University of Utah. Traffic was bad that morning and at a standstill. Collmar accidentally rolled back into the car behind her.

Collmar pulled over into the next available parking lot to check the damage with the person she ran into. The woman happened to be having a bad morning. The woman got out of her car and started threatening to call the police. Collmar said there was little to no damage to either vehicle. The woman proceeded to call the police. Collmar and the woman waited an hour for the police to arrive.

Collmar was late to her 8 a.m. class and said she walked into class with tears in her eyes over the ordeal.

Only 12 students had waited for Collmar arrive for class.

Traffic, long commutes, and low pay are just some of the challenges

that face adjunct faculty.

Adjunct faculty are professors not on the tenure track. They are hired by a college or university to teach part-time and often have other teaching jobs and/or full-time jobs.

More than 30,000 adjuncts who are teaching part-time have a full-time job along with their adjunct teaching, according to the American Association of University Professors.

The majority of adjuncts at Westminster fall under this category said Adjunct Faculty Coordinator Hikmet Loe. Westminster faculty is made of 35 percent adjuncts Loe said.

Lack of job security, or not knowing if you will have a job in the future, is one challenge adjuncts face, Loe said.

"The anxiety of not knowing, from term to term, if one is going to be hired back," Loe said. "It's really a very short-term looking situation."

According to the American Association of Professors, an adjunct salary usually ranges between \$20,000 from \$25,000 working full time. On the most extreme scale,

adjuncts are getting paid as little as \$1,000 to \$5,000 per 3 credits, according to a survey reported on by the Houston Chronicle.

Westminster adjuncts are paid per credit hour each term based upon their former teaching experience. They are paid monthly throughout the semester for a total of four times Loe said.

Matt Mays said, on top of financial concerns, balancing life is another challenge that some adjunct face.

"Being an adjunct, it's obviously not your primary profession," said Mays, who taught at Westminster during spring 2018 and fall 2019. "It's not your primary means of supporting yourself or supporting your family. So, the balancing act [is] between your primary occupation also with family needs, throwing adjunct teaching into the mix and making sure you put in as much into it as it deserves."

Matt Riding, a five-year adjunct at Westminster, agreed finding balance with a full-time job can be difficult. Riding said he especially struggled his first year on the job.

"I was underestimating the

time of the commitment into it," Riding said. "I was working a lot in the job and then transitioning and changing my mindset into teaching was pretty challenging. Preparing lessons, discussions, writing assignments, developing the curriculum."

Despite the challenges that adjuncts face, many said they teach because it gives them freedom and flexibility Paula Collmar said.

"I love what I do," Collmar said. "If you don't like what you do then life is miserable."

Adjuncts going into this position know they are not going to be well paid they do it for the love of teaching Loe said.

"The reason people are here, and they are adjuncting, is because they love teaching," Loe said. "That's it that passion is a good thing that overrides."

Collmar said her students were the key to making her terrible morning better.

"The students were just delightful about it," Collmar said.

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JAY DASH

Jay Dash waits in bumper-to-bumper traffic up Little and Big Cottonwood Canyons to the ski resorts winter 2019. Dash said when he first moved to Utah, ten years ago, traffic was not nearly as bad as it is today.

CANYON CONUNDRUM: UTAH'S 'GREATEST SNOW ON EARTH' CAUSING TRAFFIC PROBLEMS TO RESORTS

DAVIS LENTZ
STAFF REPORTER

On Jan. 19 a local skier was accused of assaulting a police officer after learning the parking lot at Brighton Resort was full. The skier is currently facing two felony charges, according to The Salt Lake Tribune.

With an increasing overall population and growing numbers of people looking to ski on “the greatest snow on earth,” Wasatch local and professional photographer Jay Dash said it’s no surprise that traffic has increased in the canyons.

“When I moved here 10 years ago, people didn’t really know about Utah, and now it’s one of the more recognized places to ski,” Dash said. “One of the main attractions to living here is how close you are to world-class skiing in all of the different canyons.”

Westminster College students are among those dealing with the growing amount of long waits in bumper-to-bumper traffic on the way to or from popular ski areas.

“Usually any Saturday or Sunday I get up [to Brighton Resort] around 12 or 1 p.m. and traffic always delays me at least an extra hour,” said 22-year-

old environmental studies major Jordan Romero. “A couple weeks ago we actually got stuck up there on a Sunday, just bumper-to-bumper traffic all the way from the Brighton parking lot down to the S-Turns. We couldn’t depart until 6 p.m. and didn’t get down until 9, it was insane.”

Patrick Marrian, a 21-year-old outdoor education and leadership major, said he and his friends have even tried to bribe the parking lot attendants with beer, whiskey, or Juuls but they were not down for either,” Marrian said. “We parked up Guardsmans Pass and grilled for an hour, then finally made our way into the lot. It was crazy full but we finally made it on the lift so it was worth it.”

Some students said they take a more aggressive approach, looking to beat the peak crowds. “When there’s a big storm coming in, myself and friends will leave for the canyon around 5:30-5:45 a.m. to beat the road closure, depending on the timing of it that day,” said 22-year-old economics major Jay Burrows.

According to Brandon Ott, director of marketing at Alta Ski Area,

the resort has had no increase in parking since the 2002 Olympics despite continued growth.

“We’ve seen an explosion of growth at both ski areas and in the backcountry community,” Ott said.

Some places blame on local officials for not addressing the problem sooner.

“The lack of foresight from officials in the last 10 years has left us with this problem, and now we are likely going to be stuck with it for the next ten years,” Jay Dash said.

Some look to mass, public transit as a potential solution but that plan also comes with downsides, said Jamie Kent, board member and past president of the Wasatch Backcountry Alliance.

“Mass transit could be a solution, but the mountains might not be able to hold it,” Kent said. “Think of a restaurant. You have a safe capacity, only a certain amount of people can fit. You can’t just keep packing people in, you have to have a limit. It’s hard for the community to give up their cars, if there’s an option to drive, people will drive.”

Brandon Ott said part of the challenge is encouraging people to change their behavior and encourage them to

carpool or take public transit.

“New this year, a huge portion of our Wildcat parking lot is dedicated to carpool parking (3+),” Ott said. “We’ve also seen some great wins with the ski bus this year, ski bus ridership to Alta is up 25% from last year. I definitely give huge props to [Utah Department of Transportation] to putting more bus routes in at the key times.”

To bring more awareness to the traffic issue, Snowbird is also putting together a new app. Designed to help reduce traffic and carbon dioxide emissions in Little Cottonwood Canyon, the app provides benefits and prizes to top users, according to Snowbird’s website.

Even though some measures have been taken, many say it is not enough.

“The reality is that Alta sits eight miles from a growing city with already over 1 million people,” Ott said. “For all of us as passionate skiers and winter enthusiasts, what ideas and thoughts do you have on how we can improve the situation? It’s on all of us to try and make it better than where it’s going.”

5 STEPS TO RUNNING FOR ASW OFFICE: WHAT CANDIDATES SHOULD KNOW BEFORE CAMPAIGNING



SEAN COLE

ASW vice president Maggie Regier, Gavin Dickamore, first-year honors student, and ASW events president Kenzie Campbell at the "I Love Female Organs" Taboo Talk in the Gore Auditorium on Jan. 31. Regier said students can learn a lot from being a part of ASW's student board.

SEAN COLE
STAFF REPORTER

ASW elections are Feb. 28-March 1 and so The Forum spoke with current ASW members and former candidates to discuss their experiences with the campaign and election process.

Prerequisites & qualifications

Students running for ASW positions must meet the prerequisites and qualifications.

According to the student election handbook, the prerequisites are maintaining a 3.0 GPA, be enrolled in at least six undergraduate or three graduate semester hours and must be in good standing with the college.

Students running for ASW positions must also declare their candidacy, passing a test on the ASW Constitution, attending all mandatory meetings, completing a personal profile and paying a campaign fee.

Step One: Deciding to run

Maggie Regier, current ASW vice president, said she was encouraged by past student board members to apply for her current position. She said she believed that the vice president position would provide new opportunities and help her network with other students on campus.

"If you're thinking about running, just do it," Regier said. "It's a great experience and you learn a lot."

Jazmin May, current ASW pres-

ident, said that like Regier, she was also encouraged by past student board members to run because they felt she would do great as president.

"It was scary," May said. "I felt like I've always done roles that I feel comfortable in, like there's a certain zone where I'm like 'this is what I know I can try and if I don't get it, then that's okay.'"

May said she would advise anyone deciding to run to meet with the current student board members and get an idea of what the position would be like.

Step Two: meeting with the election committee

May said students must meet with the election committee to learn about the process, as well as the Dean of Students office, if they are applying for the ASW President or Vice President position. After the meeting, the following week is allotted for campaigning.

Step Three: Campaigning

To campaign, candidates can create marketing materials like posters, banners, social media posts and stickers. Students also have time to table and talk directly to other students.

"Campaigning was interesting," said Mia Moore, current speaker of the senate for ASW. "It was a little weird because in the beginning I didn't know how to do it."

Moore said she felt there weren't many resources to help her figure

out the timeline of what was happening, however, she said focused on talking to talk to students.

Regier said her campaign week was "a weird occurrence of events."

"I was a little bit stressed, and a little bit confused because I thought I was going to have competition and then no one ended up showing up," Regier said. "I just kinda figured out in the middle of campaign week that I was next year's Vice President."

Step Four: The debate

May also said that after campaigning that there is a debate for student positions. She said her advice for the student debate is to ask questions to current board members before the debate.

Step Five: Election & aftermath

Once campaigning is over, the student board holds the election through Canvas, according to the elections handbook. Once the student body has voted, the winner are announced.

Kara Kornhauser, an environmental science major, was not elected but said she was happy with the result. She said she has had many opportunities since the election that she wouldn't have been able to accept as the ASW president.

May, who won the election, said that she is also happy with the results. She said that the position has challenged her in new ways and helped her get

outside of her comfort zone. She said her overall experience was positive and she values the skills she's gained.

Similarly, Moore said her position as speaker of the senate has taught her organization, dependability, time management, personal reflection and courage.

Expectations vs. reality

Regier, May and Moore all said that they came in with expectations that ended up being different from reality.

"I had never been in student government before so I was a little out of my element," said Moore, a business management major. "I knew it was going to be hard but I was expecting it to be a little less hard than it was."

Moore said that once she got into the groove of things, the position became easier over time.

"It's going to take time," Moore said. "It's a lot of commitment. You are a part of a select group of people that have a lot of influence over campus and it's an amazing opportunity and I would suggest that anybody that has an inkling that they want to do it, that they try."



RAFFAEL BREU

Students exiting Converse Hall on Jan. 30. In case of an earthquake, the closest emergency assembly area to Converse is the Foster Hall building parking lot directly to the east.

WHAT TO DO IF AN EARTHQUAKE HITS WESTMINSTER

RAFFAEL BREU
STAFF REPORTER

The ground starts rumbling, buildings start crumbling, students and professors seek protection under desks, an earthquake has just hit Westminster College.

Scenarios like this are possible because the entire earth's crust above the western United States is stretching. As a result, parts of the crust is cracking and this leads to earthquakes, said geology professor Dave Goldsmith.

"It's sort of like bending a ruler," Goldsmith said. "You can only stretch it so far before it cracks."

The Wasatch Fault, running north to south through Salt Lake City, is one of these cracks, according to the U of U Seismograph Stations.

"The really really steep part of 1300 S leaning to 1300 E, that's pretty much the face of the fault," Goldsmith said.

A major earthquake strikes the Wasatch Front region approximately every 400 years. The chances that a major earthquake occurs in the next 50 years are about 25 percent, according to the U of U Seismograph Stations.

"It is not a question of if, it is a question of when, it will happen,"

Goldsmith said. "It is just the question of whether it is going to happen in 10 years, 200 or 2000. I vote for 2000 if anybody asks."

Goldsmith said, in the case of an earthquake, the older brick buildings like Dick, Malouf and Bassis, are the most likely to collapse.

"I don't think I am as concerned as I should be because literally every year they were like it's about to happen and then it hasn't," said Molly Kade, a Westminster student and Salt Lake City local. "I have not heard anything about earthquakes since I got [to Westminster]. It would be good to know, but I am not super worried."

Westminster has several emergency plans in place for disaster scenarios including an earthquake.

"It is really difficult to say exactly what would happen on campus if we were to have an earthquake because there are so many factors that contribute to that," said Bri Buckley, director of Campus Safety. "Your best survival is going to depend on where you are in that situation."

Westminster's Emergency Preparedness webpage outlines three different earthquake scenarios and how individuals should act in each of them.

If you are inside a building, 'Drop, Cover, and Hold On'

- Get as low to the ground as possible.
- Avoid bookshelves or other objects stored at height.
- Take cover under a sturdy piece of furniture and cover the back of your head with one arm, while holding onto the furniture with your other hand.
- Evacuate the building after the earthquake, if it is safe to do so. Make your way to the nearest earthquake assembly point.

If you are outside during an earthquake

- Don't try to rush indoors while the earthquake is in process.
- Try to get into as open a space as possible.
- Drop, cover, and hold on, protecting your head and neck with both arms
- Wait for the earthquake to stop before trying to move, and be aware of hazards that may have been created by the earthquake (downed power lines, broken gas lines, etc.)
- Make your way to an assembly point and check in with the building guardians.

If you are driving during an earthquake

- Do not try to exit the vehicle.
- Stop driving as soon as it is safe to do so.
- Avoid parking near gas stations or under trees, bridges, overpasses, or power lines.
- Wait for the earthquake to stop before trying to move the vehicle. It may not be safe to continue driving. If you can drive, use extreme caution and avoid any areas of the road that appear to be damaged. Avoid bridges and ramps altogether.

There are also three earthquake assembly areas on campus. The Dumke Field covers the west side of campus, the Village Green for the area on the south side of the creek and the Foster Hall parking lot covers the east side of campus, Buckley said.

Buckley said, because the effects of a major earthquake are very unpredictable, campus security relies on people being prepared and familiar with the safety procedures.

"There are things that we depend on our campus community to do, which include keeping your contact information up to date for

the emergency notification system,” Buckley said. “You can do that by going to the self-service portal and making sure that your contact information in your user profile is up to date.”

Anne-Solene Bregou, psychology major and Wasatch Fault research assistant for the psychology and geology departments, said she agrees with Buckley.

“There is that [emergency] system, but it relies a hundred percent on student preparedness if an earthquake would happen,” Bregou said. “Westminster has its responsibilities when you know that only one building on campus can actually resist to some kind of earthquake. It is [Westminster’s] responsibility to let people know that an earthquake can happen.”

To raise awareness the Wasatch Fault research team is going to install a seismometer in Meldrum, which displays seismic activity.

Additionally, Westminster will participate in the the Great Utah ShakeOut in April 2019, a statewide earthquake drill, Buckley said.

“I have been working with some student groups who are interested in facilitating an educational event this semester,” Buckley said. “Probably at the end of February or beginning of March we are going to invite and promote [earthquake awareness] to as many people as possible.”

*Anne-Solene Bregou is on the Westminster College ski team with reporter Raffael Breu.



RAFFAEL BREU

Dumke Field in front of Westminster College and the Wasatch Mountains on Jan. 29. Dumke Field is the emergency assembly area for the West side of campus in case of an earthquake.

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JOSHUA MESSIER

A layer of snow blankets the scattered folk art and historic structures throughout the property of Allen Park on Jan. 26. The future ownership of the property is unclear but officials at Preservation Utah said many in the community are urging for its preservation.

FUTURE OF HISTORIC 'HOBBITVILLE' UNCERTAIN, COMMUNITY URGES PRESERVATION

JOSHUA MESSIER
STAFF REPORTER

A locked fence currently blocks the driveway that used to be occupied by roaming peacocks and trespassing teenagers.

After the death of the owner, residents of Allen Park, which locals commonly refer to as 'Hobbitville,' were evicted from their homes. With historic and artistic qualities throughout the property, there has been a push for preservation, although what happens next to this unique neighborhood is unclear, according to The Salt Lake Tribune.

Located across the street from Westminster College on 1300 East, Allen Park was founded in the 1930s by Dr. George Allen. The property began as a bird sanctuary and later formed into a small community of renters as Allen filled the property with relocated homes, according to an article from KUTV.

The property is filled with historic buildings as well as other architectural structures and artwork,

according to The Salt Lake Tribune.

Preservation Utah, a local organization that works with elected officials and administrators to promote and protect historic places across the state, said they had a lot of response from the community regarding the current situation of Allen Park.

"I would say, just anecdotally, that the number of calls and emails we've gotten here in the office are more than any other issue I've seen in the past few years," said Kirk Huffaker, executive director of Preservation Utah. "I think there is public sentiment for this place, even though maybe people don't really understand what's there. People still have appreciation for it, and are looking to us to help push some solutions that have preservation."

Huffaker said the future use of the property should continue to recognize its significant and unique qualities, although what happens next is up in the air. With no estate plan, it could be long before something gets settled, so the future of Allen park remains uncertain Huffaker said.

"It's a really complicated process," Huffaker said. "The property has to go through the court system, through probate, and the court and the judge determine who should be the next in line to own it, what the percentages of ownership are."

According to some Westminster students, there was a rumor on campus about the college having an interest in purchasing the land.

"We'd love to see it kind of connect with our campus," said Curtis Ryan, vice president of Finance and Administration at Westminster. "We're probably just not in the position to dedicate finances toward acquiring it, especially since we don't own the Garfield school anymore, there's less of that immediate connection."

Although Westminster is not interested in ownership, Ryan said the college is still curious about the future of the property.

"I hope we keep the character," Ryan said. "That's just my personal opinion, that we hold the legacy of Allen Park and what it was originally meant to be."

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