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## Kenyon Collegian - April 27, 2017

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# The Kenyon Collegian

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## Border wall demonstrations hit Middle Path

EMILY BIRNBAUM | NEWS EDITOR

Those walking down Middle Path this past week encountered a series of demonstrations, including images and facts about the border between the United States and Mexico, a model of the Israeli/Palestinian border wall with a sign reading “The borders crossed us! Latinxs against Israeli apartheid” and a gathering of 20 tents on Ransom Lawn for DivestKenyon’s overnight demonstration during the spring meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Some displays were planned to complement one another, and others overlapped coincidentally. Adelante, Kenyon Students for Justice in Palestine (KSJP) and DivestKenyon — the groups behind the Israeli/Palestinian wall and encampment — collaborated with one another throughout the week in solidarity. The group behind the U.S./Mexico border displays, Associate Professor of Sociology Jennifer Johnson’s “Borders and Border Crossings” course, did not officially coordinate with the rest of the groups, but several class members voiced support for the ways in which the displays came together.

On April 17, the students in “Borders and Border Crossings” presented facts about the U.S./Mexican border and pictures of the border wall on trees lining Middle Path, and hung up an artistic representation of the U.S./Mexico border wall in the Borden Atrium of Peirce Dining Hall as part of a project required by the course. In the course, which involves visiting the U.S./Mexico border over spring break, students must communicate what they learned at the border to the campus.

“We got the idea to do the wall section of it because we found that, while we ▶ page 4



COURTESY OF MADDIE MORGAN

## Equestrian team sees cut in funding

Claire Barbehenn '19 is a member of the Kenyon College Equestrian Team, which will lose horses and two shows next year.

BFC allocates \$5,954 to equestrian team instead of usual \$16,000.

EMILY BIRNBAUM  
NEWS EDITOR

The future of the Kenyon College Equestrian Club (KCEC) is uncertain after the Business and Finance Committee (BFC) drastically cut KCEC’s allocation for the fall semester.

The BFC told the equestrian team on April 24 that they would only receive \$5,954 this upcoming semester. This marks a significant

decrease in funding: Since its inception, the KCEC has received an average of \$16,000 per semester from the BFC, the Student Council body responsible for allocating the student activity fee money to student organizations. This cut means KCEC will not have the money for four of their usual six horses and two of their three competitive shows.

“We’ve been given funding for the cost of two horses; however, two horses is simply not

enough for our program to function,” KCEC co-captain Katie Jimenez-Gray '18 wrote in a statement to the *Collegian*. “We have upwards of 20 riders, many of whom take lessons weekly. Horses cannot be safely used in that many lessons per week.” KCEC declined to comment further on this topic.

The amount KCEC has received on average during previous semesters — \$16,000 — was significantly larger than the ▶ page 3

## Students march, support science

A *Collegian* staffer recounts her experience.

NATALIE TWITCHELL  
NEWS ASSISTANT

“What do we want?”  
“Evidence-based science!”  
“When do we want it?”  
“After peer review!”

That was one of the most popular chants at last Saturday’s Columbus March for Science, a gathering of 5,600 protesters — twice as many as the organizers expected — that began at the Ohio Statehouse. The Earth Day event was one of more than 600 marches worldwide occurring that day to protest anti-science rhetoric and policies in U.S. politics, such as climate change denial and the Trump administration’s promises to cut funding for science.

K-STEM, a Kenyon organization that supports the sciences, offered transportation to marches in Mount Vernon, Mansfield and Columbus.

I’ve been a member of the official March for Science Facebook group since its formation, shortly after the Women’s March in January. The group evolved into a forum on which people shared ‘Why I March’ stories, debated ideas and discussed catchy sign ideas. I was excited to attend the event, especially since the New Zealand march began just before I went to bed the night before.

The March was important to me because I, like many other attendees, am concerned about the growing divide between scientific research and public perception of science. I am also concerned about the impact funding cuts may have on vital research, especially basic research, which focuses on growing understanding rather than creating practical or marketable results. Basic research is an investment in the future, and is often too long-term to be profitable in the private sector. As a result, much ▶ page 4



JACK ZELLWEGER

## Camping Out for Divestment

Last Thursday, DivestKenyon camped out overnight on Ransom Lawn to demand the College divest from fossil fuels and pledge to never invest in private prisons.



# VILLAGE RECORD

April 19 - April 24

**April 19 to April 22** — No incidents reported.  
**April 23, 2:11 a.m.** — Drug/paraphernalia present while responding to noise complaint near North Campus. Items turned over to the Knox County Sheriff’s Office (KCSO).  
**April 24, 1:47 p.m.** — Drug paraphernalia confiscated near North Campus. Items tested positive for marijuana.

## CORRECTIONS

In the April 20 issue, the *Collegian* misprinted Alexa McElroy’s name. The *Collegian* wrote that Ian Burnette had 30-40 parking citations. Only about seven are from the College; the rest are from the Village. The *Collegian* also misstated that Rosse Hall was named for Lord Kenyon’s wife; the building was named for Lady Jane King Parson, Dowager Countess of Rosse. The *Collegian* wrote that Colin Boyarski died in 2007; Boyarski died in 2005. The *Collegian* regrets these errors.

# BRIEF

## Betas donate instruments to East Knox

After months of fundraising, Kenyon’s chapter of the fraternity Beta Theta Pi (Beta) donated 20 musical instruments, worth a total of \$3,800, to the East Knox Local School District.

Beta Vice President Wyatt Ernst ’18 first thought to start a jazz program at Knox County schools last spring break. He spent those weeks volunteering at New Orleans’s Preservation Hall, an organization that teaches jazz in schools without music departments. Many of New Orleans’s public schools lacked music programs due to a lack of funding, Ernst said, and he saw a similar situation in Knox County.

“If the Preservation Hall is doing this in New Orleans, why can’t I do this in Knox County?” Ernst said.

The Betas raised about \$1,000 from a fundraiser at the Village Inn over Family Weekend, in mid-October. The rest of the money came from nearly 20 outside donors Ernst knew from his work with Preservation Hall. In total, Beta bought five flutes, five clarinets, five trumpets and five trombones for the East Knox Music Department.

“The school was overwhelmed with this generosity,” Jessica M. Busenburg, treasurer of the East Knox Local Schools, wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. Busenburg said the instruments would allow low-income elementary and middle schoolers to participate in the school band.

Ernst said the Betas’ involvement will not end here. As a next step, the fraternity plans to get the greater Kenyon community involved in East Knox’s music program. Ernst is coordinating with Professor of Music Ted Buehrer to bring the Kenyon Jazz Ensemble into East Knox classrooms next fall. There, they will help East Knox Band Director Elijah Henkel teach children to play the instruments.

“We’re hoping once we help these students learn instruments,” Ernst said, “we can reignite the jazz program at East Knox.”

-Frances Saux

# Android phone users receive perplexing spam notifications

GRACE RICHARDS  
STAFF WRITER

Students with Android phones connected to the “Kenyon Devices” wireless network may have noticed spam notifications appearing on their phones since last fall. Android phones use a Google-designed operating system.

A November 2016 update to Google Play services enabled “remote control” notifications for all Android devices; they are manufactured by companies including Samsung, LG and Google. Now, anyone with an Android phone connected to Kenyon Devices receives a push notification whenever anyone else with an Android phone connected to Kenyon Devices uses a Chromecast or Google Home, according to Helpline Manager Brandon Warga. This update was designed for a home wireless network with a small number of cell phones, Warga wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. It’s intention was to simplify the process of controlling smart home devices. At Kenyon, where hundreds of devices are connected to one wireless network, the update had unintended consequences.

These push notifications notify users that media apps like Spotify, Netflix, Pandora and YouTube are casting to devices such as a Google Home named Master Bedroom Home or Chromecasts, including one named Jorge’s Magic and another named Mr. Poopybutthole, based off of the character from *Rick and Morty*, an adult cartoon show. Google Homes are voice-activated smart home devices that can search for the answers to questions on the internet, play music or control the lights. Chromecasts connect to HDMI television ports, allowing users to display their smartphone screen on the television, or play music or videos from apps like Netflix or YouTube.

Notifications in the past month included “Spotify is casting to Master Bedroom House” and “Spotify is casting to Lions Den Stereo” on April 19 and “YouTube is casting to PGC Chromecast” on April 22.

Google does not allow users to protect their Chromecast or Google Home with a password, which allows anyone on the Kenyon Devices wireless network to connect to any Chromecast or Google Home on the same wireless network, regardless of proximity. Anyone with an Android device can also remotely play and pause music or video on any Chromecast or Google

Home, adjust the volume through the Google Home app or end the cast of video or music all together.

Justin Martin ’19 received a Google Home as a surprise Christmas gift in 2016 and was further surprised when the device started turning on by itself at seemingly random intervals. Early this semester, his Google Home began playing an Arcade Fire song very loudly at 3 a.m., waking Martin up. Bleary, he assumed his roommate’s alarm was going off, until he realized the Google Home was playing music.

“I just start yelling, ‘Okay Google, stop! Okay Google, stop!’ but it’s going so loud that it can’t actually hear me, so I’m yelling at this inanimate object half-asleep,” Martin said.

Since then, Martin’s Google Home has startled him by turning itself on three or four times. He initially suspected his housemates were pranking him. Martin joked that he felt he was living in Stanley Kubrick’s film *2001: A Space Odyssey* with a malevolent piece of technology ruling over him.

Martin said the songs have been random, ranging from rap to “weird Renaissance chanting,” and never play for very long.

“Nobody that projects stuff into my Google Home has my same musical taste,” Martin said. “If these were all random wandering Mountain Goats fans, I don’t think we’d be having this conversation. I’d just be like, okay, God loves me, and is projecting the Mountain Goats into my speakers.”

The update has only affected students with Android devices. Students annoyed by notifications can go to their phone settings, select Google from the settings menu, select “Google Cast” and toggle “Show remote control notifications” to off, according to an article on howtogeek.com.

But for students like Martin, the random musical interludes — whether accidentally or intentionally caused by other students on the Kenyon Devices network — will continue for the foreseeable future.

“If you don’t want other people to cast to your Chromecast when you’re not using it, the simplest solution may be to unplug it when you are not using it,” Warga wrote. At this time, Helpline is unable to offer any other solutions because the issue stems from Google’s operating system design for Chromecasts and Google Homes, not a technical issue.

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# Future of equestrian club uncertain after BFC reduces funds

Continued from Page 1

average amounts allotted to other club sports. Per semester, the Ballroom Dance Club receives \$4,000, men's Ultimate Frisbee receives \$3,000, Men's Rugby receives \$1,800 and Club Soccer receives \$200, according to the BFC. Overall, club sports rarely receive more than \$7,000, according to BFC co-chair Guillermo Garcia '17.

The BFC's money comes from the student activities fee, an amount of money that every student is required to pay as part of their fees each semester. The student activities fee is \$150. This money adds up to a total of roughly \$180,000 to distribute for semesterly allocations and \$15,000 to \$20,000 to distribute throughout the year in supplementals funding. This means the equestrian team's funding has accounted for approximately eight percent of the total money allotted to student organizations.

"This money comes out of the student activities fund, which means that every student is paying out of their pocket for these activities," Garcia said. "We didn't think it was fair for the equestrian club to receive such a disproportionate amount."

Although the BFC and Student

Council have long considered decreasing the equestrian club's funding, Garcia said, they were previously unable to cut the club's allocation due to a rule in the BFC's bylaws that required the BFC to fund "90 percent of KCEC's per horse expenses for up to six horses." Nobody on the BFC is sure where this rule came from, Garcia said, but it restrained their ability to question the amount KCEC received each semester. When Student Council revised its constitution in February, they agreed to remove the bylaw after lobbying efforts by Garcia and other members of the BFC.

Garcia emphasized his belief that KCEC's activities do not benefit people outside of the club.

"It's a tough situation because the equestrian team is one of the best organizations in terms of how they present the budget and all the fundraising they do for the student group," Garcia said, "but it still doesn't justify giving them this amount of funding."

Jimenez-Gray considers the potential loss of the equestrian team to be harmful because the group is a major attraction for prospective students.

"We get frequent emails from prospective students for whom our riding program is an important factor in



COURTESY OF MADDIE MORGAN

Brooke Kohn '18 bonds with one of the equestrian team's horses.

their college decision," Jimenez-Gray wrote in the statement to the *Collegian*. "Our show team represents Kenyon at intercollegiate competitions, and we've had several riders qualify for Regionals, Zones and even Nationals. By so drastically cutting our

budget, Kenyon will be losing a team that not only means a great deal to its members ... but also ... represents Kenyon in a positive light at interscholastic competitions."

Historically the \$18,000 allocated to KCEC has not covered their entire

expenses and the club hosts fundraising events throughout the year. Over the course of this academic year, the club has raised approximately \$3,200.

Though the budget cuts allow for two horses, KCEC members must consider the strain they put their horses under when they ride them; it is unsafe for two horses to carry the weight of twenty riders every week. To fund the cost of five horses — the number of horses needed to continue riding without harming any horse — KCEC would need to fundraise \$6,156 in one semester. "This is, unfortunately, not a feasible option," Jimenez-Gray said.

In the future, the BFC can allot any amount to the equestrian team.

"We're basically telling them this is the funding according to the committee that is in place right now," Garcia said. "It really depends how they can gather student support or justify their expenses and why the student body should care about funding that."

KCEC has contacted the BFC to see if they can appeal their budget allocation.

"We are looking into alternatives," Jimenez-Gray said. "However, at this point, our club will not be able to function with the funding that we've been given."

## Trustees address divestment, status of the capital campaign

Three trustees said the College will not pledge to divest, prioritizing endowment returns.

**ARMAAN MAHARAJ**  
STAFF WRITER

The Kenyon Board of Trustees arrived to a particularly vocal campus this past Thursday, April 20 for their annual spring meeting.

DivestKenyon put on the most visible response to the trustees' arrival when members pitched tents on Ransom Lawn to protest the College's suspected investment in fossil fuels and demand divestment from such corporations. DivestKenyon also led a demonstration of approximately 30 people outside of the Kenyon Inn, culminating in a conversation with two trustees, who expressed appreciation for the protestors' energy but said they did not agree with their message.

In an interview with the *Collegian*, Joseph Lipscomb '87, the chair of the budget, finance and audit trustee committee and vice chair of the executive trustee committee, explained that the College did not plan to pledge to divest from the fossil fuel industry.

Lipscomb said the trustees acknowledge the threat of climate change but added that divestment would not have an impact on the environment. Lipscomb sees divestment not as a way to actually effect change, but more as a way to raise awareness of cli-

mate change. He acknowledged that some institutions have aligned their investments with these issues, but said the College would not want to make investment choices that could lower endowment returns, thereby preventing people from attending Kenyon.

"The reality is, our mission first and foremost is making our education accessible to as many talented people as possible," Lipscomb said. "It doesn't mean I don't care about climate change."

Lipscomb runs Arborview Capital LLC, an investment firm that specializes in investment in energy efficient products and renewable energy. "I think it's awesome that students are really impassioned about it," Lipscomb said. He believes, however, that students should organize for a carbon tax instead.

"That will change things substantively," he said. "Divestment is not going to change things — it's just not."

The trustees also discussed the future of Sunset Cottage and Olin and Chalmers Library. At last year's spring meeting, the English Department negotiated with donor and architect of several College buildings Graham Gund's '63 H'81 architectural firm, GUND Partnership, over the construction of two new English buildings and the de-

molition of Sunset. This year's trustee meeting yielded no final date for Sunset Cottage to be demolished, according to Decatur.

"Its current status is actually it's not set to be demolished," Decatur said. "The key thing is we're still on track for a new cottage for the English department." The English department will still move out of Sunset to another facility when possible, but Sunset may be repurposed for another department.

Though the library will eventually be demolished, the details of the replacement plan are uncertain. "There's still work going on on two tracks: one is designing a building, and the other is raising funds to build the building," Decatur said. With the structure of the new library still unclear, the target date for beginning construction in the summer of 2018 is tentative and may be delayed.

In the past, some students and faculty members have questioned how much influence Gund has in deciding which construction projects the College pursues on Campus. Lipscomb said Gund can only decide on which priority projects he would like to pursue, but not determine which projects are considered priorities.

"Does Graham Gund come in and say 'This is what we are going to do'? No. He doesn't do

“Does Graham Gund come in and say 'This is what we are going to do'? No. He doesn't do that. We say, 'These are our needs.'"

**Chair of the budget, finance and audit trustee committee Joseph Lipscomb '87**

that," Lipscomb said. "We say, 'These are our needs,' and he says, 'If it's one of those three things, that's what's most meaningful to me.'"

The trustees also discussed ways to increase scholarships and support for low-income students who want to come to Kenyon.

"What we want to do is create more opportunity for students," board member Matthew Winkler '77 H'00 P'13 said. "At every single trustee meeting I've attended, and I've attended most of them, every single meeting the discussion has been what are we doing to increase financial aid."

The College's capital campaign was also a focus of discussion. The campaign is still in its quiet phase, meaning the College is seeking out substantial gifts from donors before it makes the campaign public. The campaign has accrued \$90 million towards a goal of \$100 million by the end of the 2016-17 fiscal year, according to Winkler. The fiscal year concludes at the

end of June, meaning the board must raise another \$10 million in the next two months to meet their goal. The campaign will move into its public phase when approximately half of the \$300 million target has been raised. The campaign focuses on raising money for the endowment — specifically to fund financial aid — and funding elements of the Master Plan, the ongoing efforts spearheaded by President Sean Decatur to improve academic facilities and residence halls and modernize the Village of Gambier.

The Board of Trustees also awarded tenure to four Kenyon faculty members on April 21: Assistant Professor of Music Ross Feller, Assistant Professor of Philosophy Hans Lottenbach, Assistant Professor of English Rosemary O'Neill and Assistant Professor of Chemistry Kerry Rouhier. Beginning July 1, each of them will be considered Associate Professors. The board will next meet on campus on Oct. 26-27 for their annual fall meeting.



# Kenyon takes Columbus at Saturday's March for Science

Natural science professors Yutan Getzler and Drew Kerkhoff demonstrated at the event.

Continued from Page 1

of it is funded through universities or government grants.

In many ways, scientific research has bookended my life. Caring and well trained doctors, informed by basic science, gave me the ability to thrive at Kenyon. After graduation, I hope to develop treatments for rare mental and neurological illnesses classified as orphan diseases, meaning they affect fewer than 20,000 people nationwide. This research is often publically funded.

I drove down to the Columbus march with Sarah Dendy '19 that morning, April 22. As we made our way to the neo-classical Statehouse, we saw a few fellow marchers but worried about attendance.

As we drew closer to the official start time, the lawn steadily filled, many bearing creative signs. One of the most popular posters was the Hillary Clinton campaign slogan "I'm with her" paired with an image of the earth. Many protesters included quotations from the Dr. Seuss book, *The Lorax*, such as "I speak for the trees" and "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot/ Nothing is going to get better. It's not." *The Lorax* tells the story

of a small creature, called the Lorax, who is the sole protector of a forest of trees threatened by deforestation. It has long been used as a symbol of environmentalism.

Others chose to use their signs to advocate for a specific agency that is under threat from the Trump administration.

On the Statehouse steps in front of us, there was an older toddler playing with her sign. One side was printed, and the other had the word "SCIENCE" written on it in crayon with a drawing that was clearly her own work. She was just one of many children who populated the event, ranging in age from gradeschoolers whose signs had clear messages, to babies dressed for the brisk weather in tiny pink pussyhats reminiscent of the earlier women's marches in January.

The march kicked off with a written statement of support from Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown and speeches from Columbus City Council member Elizabeth Brown and multiple local scientists, who discussed the importance of scientific research, specifically citing their work, to cheers from the crowd. Although a call to save the bees drew one of the loudest cheers,



COURTESY OF NATALIE TWITCHELL

Protestors picketed in the streets of Columbus, calling for government support of scientific research.

I found Dr. Beth Liston's testimony about how her basic research later allowed her to cure a patient to be the most powerful.

We saw no counter-protesters. Even though many at the officially non-political event were clearly opposed to Trump, I picked out at least one of his trademark red ballcaps in the crowd.

After the speeches, we greeted Kenyon Professors Yutan Getzler and Drew Kerkhoff, who were also attending the march.

We marched about half a mile, ending in a park with march-sponsored Earth Day activities and food-vendors. The streets had been officially closed down, and the March had paid for security. I saw a few of the protesters and police officers cheerfully greet each other.

"It felt good to be trying to express the importance of science," Dendy wrote to me in a text message after the march. "It also felt good to be around so many people who value empiricism in decision-

making, and to know that they will all work to make their voices heard."

I sensed a strong commitment in my fellow marchers. After the event had ended, they were still posting to the Facebook group, and I expect they will for months to come — sharing action items, witty signs and their thoughts on our strange times. I have this faith because science, like social change, is a long process filled with setbacks and long stretches of inscrutability.

## Student eyes Village Council

Eva Warren '19 looks to represent students.

**BILL GARDNER**  
NEWS EDITOR

Eva Warren's '19 first experience with politics was in 2004, when she donated to John Kerry's presidential campaign at nine years old. Now, as a sophomore at Kenyon, she is running for a seat on the Gambier Village Council.

This summer, Warren will launch her campaign to potentially become the first student to hold a position on the Village Council. Warren plans to run on a campaign platform that presents herself as a facilitator between the Village and the student body. She will spend her summer and the beginning of next semester becoming more visible to the students and the greater community. Because Warren is enrolled at the College, she feels she can bring a new perspective to Village Council meetings.

"I'm in a unique position, because I do have ties to the community outside of Kenyon — I attend the local church, I volunteer locally so I know some of the non-Kenyon-affiliated Gambier residents," Warren said.

If elected, Warren hopes to make students more aware of the proceedings of Village Council. She believes the College is responsible for engaging students in politics, both local and nationwide. Right now, she feels that the Council is dominated by voices that do not directly represent the students.

"I think that sometimes Village Council gets stuck in a bit of an echo chamber, where only if you've lived here 30-plus years you get a voice," Warren said. "I think that a lot of decisions are made that affect us, and we're not always consulted on them."

Warren thinks her voice on Village Council will make it more representative of the town's



COURTESY OF EVA WARREN

Eva Warren '19 will run for local position.

population, although she did not speak about the specific issues she would address. She is especially interested in matters regarding law enforcement — Warren has spoken to Kachen Kimmell, the mayor of Gambier, about how the Council is pushing for the Knox County Sheriff's Office to equip their officers with body cameras. Kimmell did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Warren admits it would be difficult to balance the needs of the students and members of the town because there is a divide between the Village and the College.

"I want to see students consulted on the changes that are being made to the town, because ... we are members of the community we, pay our taxes, and to disregard our voice is unfair," Warren said.

Village Council members have four-year terms; Warren said if she were elected, she would leave her position at the end of her senior year. Elections will take place on Nov. 8 this year.

## Adelante, KSJP join forces

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were at the border, the most powerful thing to many of us was the actual, physical fact that the wall is there," Evie Kennedy '17, a student in Borders and Border Crossings, said. "We wanted to give a sense of the physical presence of it and what it's like to walk past it every day, like the kids we saw going to school."

These displays went up during the same week that KSJP hosted its annual Israeli Apartheid Week, a week of events about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict that features the "Israeli Apartheid Wall," a model of the wall between Israel and Palestine. The "Borders and Border Crossings" class discussed directly partnering with KSJP but ultimately did not because members of the class differed on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

The two demonstrations occurred in tandem and informed one another but they were not affiliated, Kennedy said.

"They complement each other," Adam Brown '20, another member of the class, said. "There's something really nice about how it's hard to designate between the two."

KSJP and Adelante's collaboration during Israeli Apartheid Week was more direct. Adelante co-sponsored two of the week's events: a talk by Ohio State University Professor of Law John Quigley entitled "Why Palestine Is A State" on April 20 and a discussion about the similarities between the situations in Mexico and Israel/Palestine on April 21.

"The main issue that we thought would connect us in this Israeli Apartheid Week was the militarization of borders," Adelante Co-President Edgar Martin '17 said. "Within the Israeli/Palestinian borders, there is a very heavy military presence, but we thought we could also use it as an opportunity to highlight

the militarization of the U.S. border."

Members of Adelante's executive board helped make the "Latinxs against Israeli Apartheid" sign that hung on KSJP's wall. Members of Adelante, KSJP and the Black Student Union (BSU) worked together to put up the wall on April 17. Israeli Apartheid week coincided with DivestKenyon's "tent city," the April 20 and 21 encampment organized by DivestKenyon to advocate divesting Kenyon's endowment from fossil fuels. KSJP coordinated with DivestKenyon as they planned Israeli Apartheid Week, ensuring their events did not overlap.

"We wanted [the wall] to be there when the divestment thing happened so that the week reflects the work we do with other groups," KSJP wrote in a statement for the *Collegian*. "KSJP was part of the divestment protest and had a tent there as well." During the encampment, Malik Ahmed Khan '19 gave a speech as a representative of KSJP; he pledged KSJP's solidarity with DivestKenyon and all social justice movements. DivestKenyon and KSJP did not co-sponsor any events, but they coordinated the times of their events to encourage members of both groups to attend each others' events, King said.

"Solidarity can only ever really be espoused when all actors truly commit to the causes of others," KSJP wrote. "As KSJP, we are committed to raising our voice for all oppressed and minority voices. And we have nothing but gratitude for our allies who chose to do the same for us."

KSJP's week of events also included a screening of "The Occupation of the American Mind," a movie about the U.S. media's relationship with Israel, on April 17 in Higley Auditorium and a presentation about boycotting Sabra Hummus and the Hewlett-Packard software company on April 19 in Peirce Lounge.



# Poetry reading addresses Cuban culture and personal life

Renowned poet Margaret Randall read from new anthology and original works, held Q&A.

**DORA SEGALL**  
ARTS EDITOR

"She's the original bada--," Professor of Spanish Katherine Hedeon said when she introduced poet Margaret Randall. Originally from New York State, Randall spent eleven years of her life in Cuba, where she drew inspiration from the country's many poets, including Haydeé Santamaría and Nicolás Guillén. In two events on Monday and Tuesday, Randall read selections from both her anthology of Cuban poets and a book of her original works.

On Monday in the Gund Gallery Community Foundation Theater, Randall read from her bilingual anthology of Cuban poetry, *Solo el Camino / Only the Road*, which features the works of more than 50 Cuban poets across the span of eight decades. On Tuesday in the Cheever Seminar Room in Finn House, Randall read selections from *She Becomes Time*, a compilation of her own poems that was published last year. The events drew students with a passion for Spanish and liter-

ature, as well as many faculty members, forming an audience of just over forty people each.

Randall's reading of her anthology on Monday stressed the diversity of perspectives among Cuban poets. She read one work by Gastón Baquero that was formatted like a drink recipe and included themes of culture and coming of age. She also read a poem called "Ancestral Poverty" by Georgina Herrera, an AfroCuban poet who came to Havana, Cuba as a maid. Other poems that Randall read addressed exile, a common theme in post-revolutionary Cuban art and literature.

At one point, Randall invited Professor of Spanish Víctor Rodríguez-Núñez, a distinguished Cuban poet, to read one of his poems. Written in Spanish, it told the story of a prisoner who logged his thoughts and experiences in a green notebook. After his reading, Randall followed up with the poem's English translation, which she included in her anthology.

On Tuesday, Randall read

from her own poetry, which touched on her fascination with Cuba, her distress following the U.S. presidential election and identity as a member of the LGBTQ+ community. One poem in *She Becomes Time* described Mexico, where she lived for eight years when she was young, as "always dying, always rebirth itself." It was not until her time in Mexico, Randall said, that she discovered she wanted to be a poet. "I knew I wanted to be a writer as soon as I could write," she said Tuesday. But writers of long, narrative poems like Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and William Wordsworth were taught poorly in Randall's school. At a party when Randall was twenty years old, that changed. "We'd all just been smoking pot and were very relaxed," she said. Someone took out a book of poems, which Randall thinks might have been Howell. "That's when I knew I wanted to be a poet," she said.

Today, Randall draws inspiration for her poems from a variety of sources, including the news, although she added



NORA MITTLEMAN

Margaret Randall reads selections from her book of poetry, *She Becomes Time*, in Finn House.

that she has less and less of a desire to read the news these days. Inspiration also stems from nature and love of all kinds, from romantic to familial. After a lifetime of liv-

ing in different countries and fostering relationships with a variety of people, Randall no longer suffers from the writer's block she once did.

"I just write," she said.

# Gospel Choir ends year-long hiatus with a spring concert

Musical group teams up with step dancing and spoken word for their first show of the year.

**SAM ACHTERMANN**  
STAFF WRITER

The Kenyon College Gospel Choir sang with resounding power on Sunday night in Rosse Hall, marking their first performance after a year-long hiatus. Benjamin Raji '17, who leads the choir and was abroad last spring, dubbed the performance, "a reunion show," which united the group one last time before Raji's graduation. Gospel Choir, which began in 2002, exhibits a strong presence with its fifteen members, including a four-piece instrumental section in which Raji played piano. Kenyon a capella group Colla Voce set the gospel mood, opening for the choir with the gospel standard "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot." The event was relatively well attended, with about fifty audience members.

The performance was entitled "Let Praises Rise" and included gospel classics like "Total Praise" by Richard Smallwood and "Alpha and Omega" by Erasmus Mutanbira, along with more contemporary songs like "Rise Up" by Andra Day. Raji arranged many of the featured songs, which the choir practiced for three hours a week over the course of three weeks.

Halfway through the performance, the choir pulled their equip-



COURTESY OF QUASHAE HENDRYX

Kyla Spencer '18 performs a solo during Gospel Choir's first concert of the year on Sunday.

ment off stage to make room for an original step performance, choreographed by Ar'Leon Watson '18, and two original poems by Brandon Davidson '19 and Raji that addressed the struggles of holding onto faith throughout life's struggles. An excerpt from Raji's poem conveys the group's strong spiritual power: "I am broken, I am weak, I have baggage, but I pack light like the Most High/ and will keep my foot firmly planted on Lucifer's neck/as the Son's heel crushes the serpent's head." For Raji, it is when times are tough that praises

should rise.

Every choir member approaches gospel music in their own way. Michaela Jenkins '19, who soloed during "Break Every Chain" by Tasha Cobbs, has been involved with gospel music since she was two years old. But gospel music lends itself to all skill levels, Raji said. The group learned most of this year's songs purely by ear; some members do not read music, which is typical of a gospel choir according to Raji. "In church rehearsal," Raji said, "half the time, once you start playing a song, you just expect people to in-

tuitively feel their part."

For Jenkins, gospel music is, at its core, based in intuition and feeling rather than technicalities — it is almost more important to her culturally than religiously. She enjoys bringing that aspect of her culture to Kenyon, and participating in Gospel Choir also staves off homesickness. "I can't bring my church to Gambier," she said, "but I can play songs that I used to hear at practices."

Jenkins believes that focusing on phrasing and gospel lyrics brings her closer to God. "[The lyrics in 'Alpha

and Omega"] are very simple, easy to say phrases," she said, "but when you are really investing time and thought into the way those words sound, it gives them a sort of sacredness." As long as one is open to the emotions behind the music, according to Jenkins, listening to a gospel choir can be a powerful experience.

Jenkins and Raji agree that, although it is important for the music to sound good, their main goal is to move people. "If we can nudge even one person closer to God through our singing," Raji said, "then we've succeeded."

Given the choice between a religious audience and one completely new to gospel music, they would prefer an audience unfamiliar with the music so they can fulfill their purpose: helping listeners love the gospel style and God.

"We want to see how much we can make somebody else's life better through what we do," Raji said, "to provide a sound people can hear God in."

Though this is Raji's last year at Kenyon, he said every member will continue the choir's legacy. Next year, the group hopes to make gospel choir a broader venue for worship and culture. It will hold smaller worship events and bring more people to their music, culture and message.





# Art of Exploration

by DEVON MUSGRAVE-JOHNSON

PHOTOS BY JACK ZELLWEGER

Visitors to the Senior Art Exhibition viewed Claire HarnEnz's work *Chicken Bits* as well as a wide variety of works on display by the 19 senior studio art majors.

Over the course of three hours on Monday, April 24, more than 560 people shuffled through the opening reception of the Senior Art Exhibition in the Gund Gallery's Buchwald-Wright Gallery, where the work of the 19 senior studio art majors was on display.

As part of the senior exercise in studio art, majors are required to participate in a public exhibition of their capstone project, write an artist's statement about their work and give an oral defense of the project to faculty members from the art department.

Though the space is also shared by two other exhibitions — *Zapatista: Imagery of the Peasant Revolutionary* and *Marcella Hackbardt: True Confessionals* — the seniors' art dominated the gallery.

The exhibition explores a wide variety of art

mediums; there are Morgan MacDonell's large concrete sculptures, Emily Tillitt Balber's floor to ceiling crochet project and Drew Meeker's animation entitled *The Butterfly Effect*. Despite the wide range of media, the exhibition feels united by themes of identity and intersectionality, social pressure, culture and environmentalism.

For each of the 19 majors this year, this exhibition challenged their time management skills and stamina. Jessica Ferrer said she spent 15-20 hours weaving together strands of paper for just one of the five pieces in her series *Common Threads*; Claire HarnEnz commented that her project *Chicken Bits* was the only thing she could focus on for the past five weeks.

Gabe Avis mentioned the hours spent setting up his project in the gallery, 44° 53' 36.402" N 86° 0' 20.898 W, a huge box that visitors enter to view the work. "It was pretty stressful this weekend to

just do the installation," Avis said. "If I clocked in and clocked out it would have shown that I've been in here for 30-plus hours straight." It can be difficult to get a feeling for what the final project will look like before it is actually put together in the gallery, according to Avis.

With all the long hours behind them, students were able to take a breath and admire their hard work. "It's very transformative having it on the wall and not in my messy studio," Ella Jones said of her three large graphite and oil paint pieces. "It's a thrilling experience to see them as no longer works in progress."

Daniel Olivieri contributed reporting.

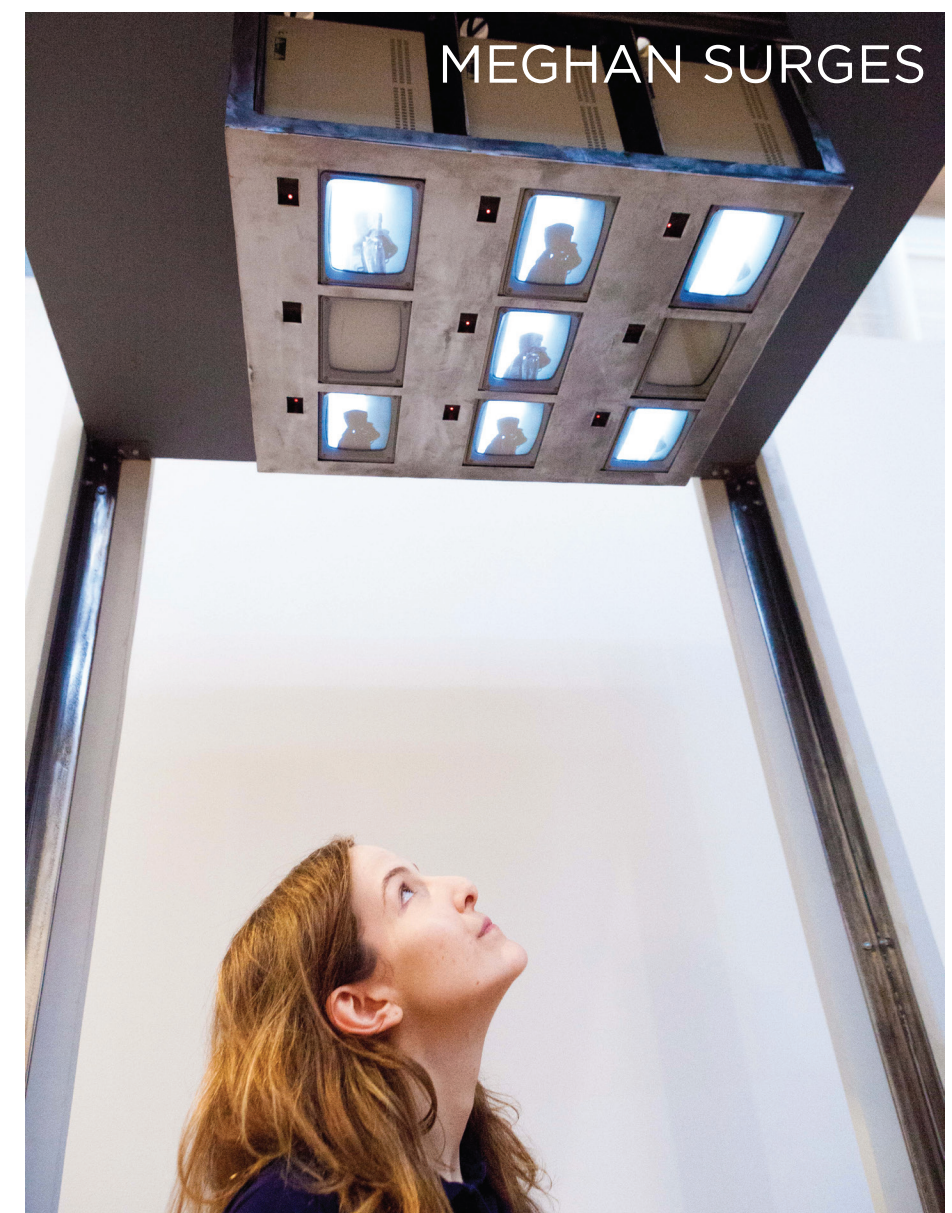
The exhibition will be open through May 20. For a more detailed look at each artist's work, visit [kenyoncollegian.com](http://kenyoncollegian.com).



TRUDA SILBERSTEIN



MORGAN MACDONELL



MEGHAN SURGES



EMILY TILLITT BALBER



MARY LAULETTA



EMMA HARRISON



HANNAH GILMAN



# Comparative World Lit Week promotes fledgling program

In CWL week keynote talk, Rebecca Walkowitz evaluates the English language’s global role.

**ARMAAN MAHARAJ**  
STAFF WRITER

Google-translated Italian, faux Old-English and Latin Winnie the Pooh — each of these and other linguistic oddities featured in the keynote speech of the first annual Comparative World Literature Week.

The series of Comparative World Literature (CWL) events ran from April 17 to April 22 and was organized by the student-run Comparative World Literature Society. The aim of the inaugural event was to promote awareness of the relatively new CWL program founded in 2014. It also sought to raise questions among students and faculty concerning the role and importance of translation and global perspectives on literature in the world today. Earlier this month, the CWL department raised awareness of the program with an essay competition exploring the otherness of the self. The events of CWL

Week were aimed at a broader audience of Kenyon students, and included a lecture by Associate Professor of English Carol Fadda-Conrey from Syracuse University, a panel talk with CWL seniors and a show at the Horn Gallery.

Professor Rebecca Walkowitz, director of graduate studies for the English department at Rutgers University, delivered the keynote lecture of the week. The lecture, “English As a Target Language: Comparative World Literature and the Contemporary Novel,” investigated the consequences of English being the dominant language into which novels of other languages are translated.

“The moment works are being produced, novelists are thinking about them as translated works,” Walkowitz said. “The speed and fluidity of communication in today’s globalized world obliges writers to be more aware of their work’s migration across languages.”

“The way our departments are structured didn’t enable people to do the kind of comparative work, and the kind of work on world literature, that they were eager to do.”

**William P. Rice Professor of English and Literature Jesse Matz**



CAMERON PETERS

Professor Rebecca Walkowitz of Rutgers University delivers the Comparative World Literature Week keynote speech.

Though part of this means that English has grown to be the world’s lingua franca, or common language, it does not mean that other languages are crushed beneath it. In fact, it means the opposite.

“I would actually say that in most communities in the world, there’s more than one language being used,” Walkowitz said. “In fact, those of us who think we only speak one language are actually speaking fairly different varieties of that language in different parts of our day.”

Students and faculty are using the CWL program to engage with these issues across departments, including English, Modern Languages and Literatures and the Integrated Program in Humane Studies.

Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and Humanities Kate Elkins is the chief faculty member in charge of the CWL concentration. Because she is on sabbatical, William P. Rice Professor of English and Literature Jesse Matz has been informally managing the program in her stead.

“I think that faculty and students discovered that the way our departments are structured didn’t enable people to do the kind of comparative work, and the kind of work on world literature, that they were eager to do,” Matz said. “This work couldn’t really fully be done in the departments and the majors that we currently have.”

Matz hopes that CWL Week will raise awareness for the program, considering the academic diversity of the audience — students and faculty from English, Modern Languages & Literatures, American Studies and History — it seems to be working.

CLASS CLASH

COMPILED BY OLIVER VANDENBERG

	Answer	Senior Class Total: 49	Junior Class Total: 48	Sophomore Class Total: 46	First-Year Class Total: 39
		Sam Larson '17	Harry Justus '18	Justin Martin '19	Liza Martin '20
Who will be the faculty chair next year?	Professor of Biology Chris Gillen	There is a faculty chair?	Chris Gillen	Nope	Kim McMullen
Who won the first round of the French election?	Emmanuel Macron and Marine Le Pen	Melvin Depencil	Macron and Le Pen	Le Pen and center moderate dude	Don't know
Harry Potter day was on April 24; what is Lord Voldemort's full birth name?	Tom Marvolo Riddle	Tom Marvolo Riddle	Tom Marvolo Riddle	Tom Marvolo Riddle	Tom Marvolo Riddle
In J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, what did Professor Umbridge make Harry carve into his hand?	I must not tell lies	I must not tell lies	I must not tell lies	I don't know	I must not tell lies
Weekly Scores		2	4	1	2



## STAFF EDITORIAL

## Trustees are more accessible, but not enough

There are undoubtedly many people on this Hill upset by the Board of Trustees' refusal to divest the College's endowment from fossil fuel corporations, the focus of an overnight encampment hosted by DivestKenyon on Ransom Lawn while the trustees were on campus. But this frustration may overshadow a glimmer of success in the form of increased accessibility to the trustees while they were in Gambier last week.

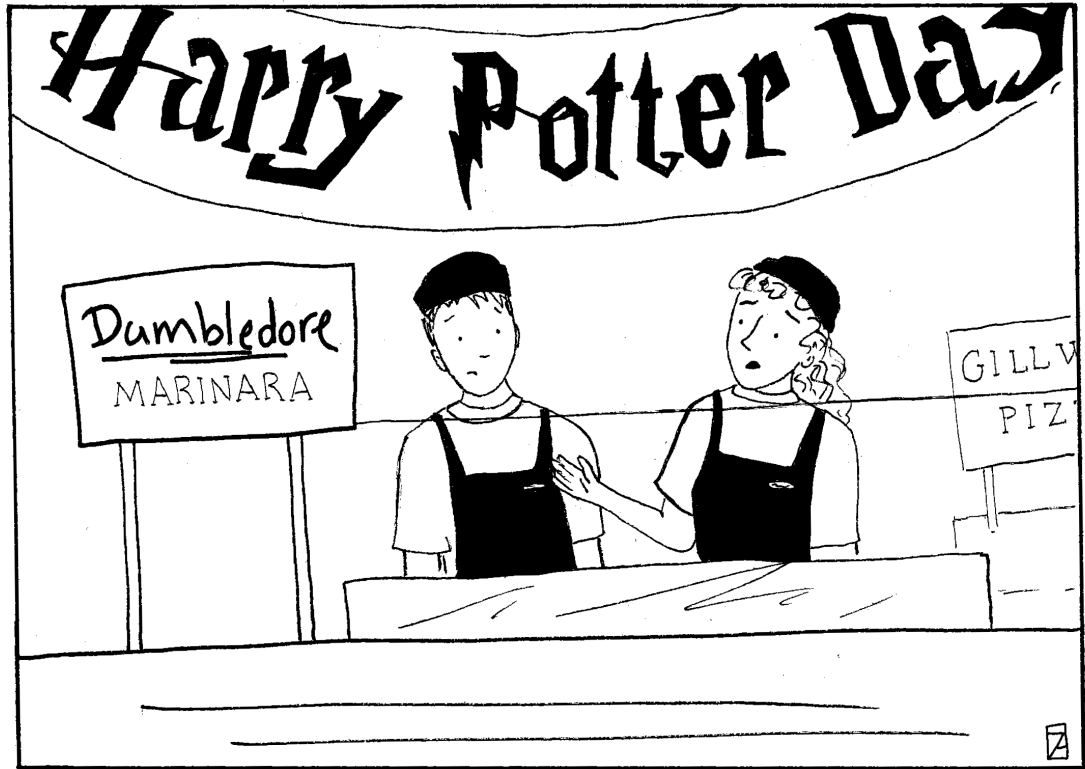
*Collegian* editors had the privilege of interviewing three trustees for an hour and a half last Friday; we included key points from that interview in our article "Trustees address divestment, status of the capital campaign." Other trustees met with members of the Kenyon Democrats and of DivestKenyon. Students may have felt their concerns went unheard, but we are glad the trustees gave students the opportunity to voice them. On the other hand, it is clear that students unassociated with specific organizations had little chance to interact with trustees.

During our interview, Judith Hoff Gilbert '91, Joseph Lipscomb '87 and Matthew Winkler '77 H'00 P'13 spoke freely with us about the endowment, increasing diversity and the prioritization of buildings for the Master Plan. These trustees were eager to listen to us, but one exchange on building plan was particularly memorable. One trustee remarked that, out of all the students this trustee had spoken to, not a single one had mentioned new housing as something they wanted to prioritize. The trustee suggested that only parents seemed to care about housing. When two *Collegian* editors countered that students definitely care about housing, this trustee indicated that it is difficult to access a representative sample of students.

We believe the board needs to make a more concerted effort to find that representative sample. Our meeting was an incredibly insightful look into the operations of the board. Every Kenyon student deserves to have that insight and the chance to ask questions. Students and trustees must develop more mutual understanding.

That should begin with a new survey. Several trustees tout a student survey whose results yielded the library as the top choice by students. But this survey was sent during the 2014-2015 school year. Come May 20, only one class of current Kenyon students will have contributed to this list of student wants. A new student survey would allow the board to hear what current students believe the College needs, to supplement what respondents in the 2014-2015 academic year want to prioritize.

We commend the board for their attempts at hosting lunches with students, but these groups are self-selecting because students must apply. Trustees would reap a greater benefit from a public panel with several trustees. Along the lines of the public Q&A between Graham Gund '63 H'81 and Winkler earlier this semester, such a panel would enable more students to engage with the trustees. These may seem like small measures, but would represent a significant step toward increasing understanding between students and trustees and effecting the change that the majority of campus — not just a select few — believes Kenyon needs.



"ERIC, THAT'S NOT WHAT WE MEANT WHEN WE TOLD YOU TO MAKE IT HARRY-POTTER-THEMED."

ANNA ZINANTI | COLLEGIAN

## Divestment is best plan for College's future

KATHERINE KING  
CONTRIBUTOR

On April 20, dozens of Kenyon students — and a few faculty, staff and alumni — rallied in front of the Kenyon Inn to tell the Board of Trustees that our campus supports divestment. This happened right after members of Kenyon Democrats and Divest Kenyon met with Chair of the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee and Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees Joe Lipscomb '87 to talk about the College's investments. Students demanded that the College remove its holdings in the top-200 fossil fuel companies (ranked by the potential carbon emissions content of their reported reserves) and pledge not to invest in the two largest private prison corporations (GEO Group and Corrections Corporation of America). Kenyon will not release its exact investments, but trustees have confirmed that seven to eight percent of our endowment is invested in the energy industry, which encompasses the fossil fuel industry.

While Divest Kenyon's petition received more than 800 signatures from students, faculty and alumni, some members of the community still have questions about the purpose of a divestment campaign. This piece serves to answer a few of these questions.

We frequently hear concerns that divesting won't financially affect the companies that we are targeting; if we sell our shares in a fossil fuel company, other investors will buy them, and there will be no net effect on the corporation. However, the purpose of a divestment campaign is not to hurt companies financially, at least not in the short term.

The logic behind divestment campaigns is that they are one way institutions with a lot of social power can mobilize against corrupt industries. While wealthy corpora-

tions can buy political leverage to a certain extent, they are not immune to the power of a mass movement. The goal of this divestment campaign is to stigmatize fossil fuel and private prison corporations. This will ultimately affect their ability to make a profit, but that is not the immediate goal.

A related concern we often hear is that divestment is arbitrary. Why should we divest from fossil fuels and private prisons if we don't divest from other immoral industries? Pretty much everything we invest in could be considered "unethical" in some sense. While this argument would make sense if divestment were merely about ethical investment, the function of this divestment campaign is actually to unite political organizers around the world and build a movement to challenge fossil fuel and private prison corporations. Its power comes from the fact that thousands of universities, faith groups, corporations and even countries have participated in similar campaigns, and many (including Pitzer College, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and the city of Oslo) have won. Together, these groups are promoting awareness of the devastating effects of fossil fuels and private prisons and building political energy to challenge these corporations' financial power. Divestment is not an end in itself but rather a tool. Therefore, we do not ask that Kenyon make all of its investments based on "ethics" but that it join these two specific campaigns. When the College decides to divest from these companies, the statement will inform public opinion, thus advancing the international movement against the fossil fuel and private prison industries.

Another frequent question is whether or not fossil fuel divestment would ultimately hurt our endowment, thus hurting students and limiting our financial aid options. This is a very valid concern. Luckily, this is not a choice that the College would have to make. Recent research by major

financial organizations has suggested that divestment does not hurt financial portfolios. A 2013 report ("Responding to the Call for Fossil-fuel Free Portfolios") by Morgan Stanley Capital International, a provider of financial indexes and analysis tools, stated: "Fossil fuel divestment has the potential to reduce overall portfolio risk because of Energy Sector volatility," and found that divested portfolios closely tracked non-divested portfolios in simulations. Thus it is extremely unlikely that removing our holdings in the top-200 fossil fuel companies would affect our endowment.

We are not currently invested in GEO Group or CCA, so private prison divestment would not affect our endowment while still allowing us to stand with the prison divestment movement. Furthermore, divestment will likely make Kenyon more attractive to alumni donors and prospective students. *Rolling Stone* quotes Stephen Mulkey, the former president of Unity College in Maine: "After we divested, we started receiving donations online. We've seen an uptick in our inquiries from students. I think that will transform into an improvement in enrollment. That's not why we did it, but it's a fact."

Finally, many people wonder if divestment will "work." There, the proof is in the pudding. The divest movement against South African apartheid, active in the 1980s, played a large role in the system's ultimate demise. Kenyon refused to divest from South Africa several decades ago. This time, let's be on the right side of history.

Katherine King '19 is a sociology major from Wilder, Ky. Contact her at [kingk@kenyon.edu](mailto:kingk@kenyon.edu).

To read a counterpoint on this topic, visit [kenyoncollegian.com](http://kenyoncollegian.com).





ELLIOT JAFFE

Last Sunday, KSJP erected a wall alongside Middle Path.

# Thoughts on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Every year since 2014, Kenyon Students for Justice in Palestine display a wall in protest of the Israeli-constructed West Bank barrier. This is done in conjunction with the international event Israeli Apartheid Week.

## Palestinians are refugees in their own land

**QUSSAY AL-ATTABI**  
CONTRIBUTOR

The wall on display near Middle Path is a sad but necessary reminder of the injustices that exist in the world — injustices that we all must condemn and seek to stop. The wall symbolizes the Israeli West Bank separation wall, sometimes referred to as a racial segregation or apartheid wall, being built along the Green Line and in the West Bank. “This apartheid wall,” a Palestinian colleague once told me, “has made us refugees in our own land!”

The wall is illegal and immoral.

The International Court of Justice declared the Israeli wall goes against international law. A staggering 85 percent of the separation wall is, or is planned to be, built inside Palestinian territories not along the Green Line, the border between Israel and the Palestinian West Bank that is recognized by the international community. This further land grab accounts for nearly 10 percent of the West Bank. In fact, at one point, the wall cuts 11 miles deep into the Palestinian territories, isolating nearly 25,000 Palestinians from the bulk of the West Bank. The illegally grabbed land includes prime agricultural land and strategic water reserves.

Today, there are some 250 settlements and outposts built on Palestinian land. More than 600,000 Israeli settlers live in these colonies, according to figures from Israel’s population registry. The wall annexes Palestinian land on which the majority of Israel’s settlements have been built. The separation wall ensures that 80 of the most sizeable and significant settlements will be on the Israeli side of the wall. The international community, specifically

the United Nations, considers these settlements illegal. However, since 1967, successive Israeli governments have encouraged building colonies on Palestinian land.

But there is more than just the land grab. The wall isolates the West Bank’s major cities from Jerusalem, which is the Palestinian cultural, spiritual and economic capital. The wall increases Israel’s restrictions on Palestinian freedom of movement in the West Bank, already limited and controlled by a system of checkpoints and road restrictions. It has become daily practice

for many Palestinians to go through prolonged checks and searches at checkpoints and experience humiliating treatment by Israeli soldiers. The

checkpoints also separate some Palestinian landowners from their livelihood. For example, farmers who live on one side of the wall but have land on the other side have to apply for special permits to access to their land through designated gates — they can only do so during specific hours, and some permits only allow weekly or seasonal access to land.

The illegal wall separates families, fragments communities and disrupts education. It makes humiliating the most casual practices like visiting family, attending a place of worship or going to school. It collectively punishes civilians. I thank the students who put the symbolic wall on Middle Path for reminding us of the injustices imposed by the wall of separation, which does seem to make Palestinians refugees in their own land.

*Qussay Al-Attabi is an assistant professor of Arabic. Contact him at [alattabi1@kenyon.edu](mailto:alattabi1@kenyon.edu).*

## SJP oversimplifies Israel-Palestine conflict

**BEN REINGOLD**  
CONTRIBUTOR

The Middle East is an incredibly complex region. American college students, who live halfway across the globe, often hear one claim or read one story and make sweeping assumptions about what life is like there. Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) is the group that coordinates the annual “Israeli Apartheid Week” on campuses across the country. Their movement takes advantage of students’ tendencies to jump to conclusions and vastly oversimplifies the conflict in Israel and the Palestinian territories.

SJP paints Israel as an imperialistic regime that uses apartheid policies to systematically oppress Arabs and favor Jews. Through colorful art displays and impassioned statements, SJP generates sympathy for their cause and hatred and contempt for Israel.

In reality, Israel is not an apartheid state. Arab-Israeli citizens have the same rights as Israeli Jews — rights to education, health care, employment and voting, among other rights. In fact, Israel is one of the few true democracies in the Middle East in which citizens can actually vote for their own leaders. The Knesset (Israel’s parliament) and the Israeli supreme court both have Arab representation. All citizens of Israel are free to practice their religions peacefully, and there are strict protections against discrimination, such as the Employment Law of 1988. The assertion that Israel is an apartheid state is false. It does not contribute to productive dialogue, and it is insulting. It seems meant to criminalize the Israeli identity.

SJP also takes issue with Israel’s policies in the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In a statement emailed to the student body, Kenyon’s chapter of SJP claimed that the border wall “inhumanely limits the freedom of movement of Palestinians.” However, they neglect to mention why Israel’s checkpoints and border crossings exist in the first place. During the “Second Intifada” (2000-2005), more than 1,000 Israeli citizens were murdered in terrorist attacks according to B’Tselem, a human rights in-

formation center based in Israel. Palestinian terrorists could easily cross into Israel armed with bombs, guns or knives. This led to increased tension in the region and more aggressive Israeli policies. Thousands of Palestinians — many militants, but also civilians — were killed as a result. Since the security barrier was constructed in 2006, the number of terrorist attacks in Israel has decreased significantly, and both Israelis and Palestinians are now safer. Security checkpoints are a nuisance, but they are not manifestations of some evil Israeli system of oppression, as SJP would have us believe. Palestinians can enter Israel if they follow specific security protocol. In most cases, this process is as easy as going through customs when entering the United States. To me, that’s a small price to pay for saving lives.

Constructive criticism of Israeli policy is fair game. Educated and respectful discussions about Israel’s domestic politics can improve the country and contribute to the quest for peace. My pro-Israel stance does not mean that I’m entirely supportive of every policy brought forward in the Knesset. It does, however, mean that I support Israel’s right to exist as a secure and democratic state.

My vision for the region’s future is a two-state solution in which citizens of both Israel and Palestine can live peacefully, side by side, and enjoy equal freedoms, honoring both peoples’ right to self-determination. Unfortunately, we can reasonably suggest that SJP’s goals are contrary to this. Many SJP chapters align themselves with people who are fundamentally opposed to Israel’s existence and security (see Rasmea Odeh), and SJP will continue to attack Israel’s policies as long as Israel exists. SJP garners support by claiming to speak for an oppressed and vulnerable minority, but their primary goal is not “justice.” Their main objective is to speak against the state of Israel behind a “human rights” façade. Their work only escalates tensions, propagates falsehoods and makes peace in the Middle East less likely.

*Ben Reingold ’20 is undeclared from Highland Park, Ill. Contact him at [reingold1@kenyon.edu](mailto:reingold1@kenyon.edu).*

## HAVE OPINIONS?

We want to hear from you!

Submit op-eds and letters to the editor to [collegian@kenyon.edu](mailto:collegian@kenyon.edu) by Tuesday at 4 p.m. the week of publication. Op-eds should be 500-600 words in length.

Letters to the editor should respond to a *Collegian* article from the previous issue and must be 300 words or fewer.

The *Collegian* is accepting applications for new columnists. Please contact [collegian@kenyon.edu](mailto:collegian@kenyon.edu) for more information on how to apply.





CAMERON PETERS

Maggie Grabowski '20 competes with a Denison defender for possession of the ball in the Ladies loss.

## Kenyon sports near end of season

**NOAH NASH**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The final week of North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) regular season play was not overly kind to the Lords and Ladies, as several teams were eliminated from postseason contention due to poor play.

The Ladies lacrosse team suffered a tough loss to the Denison University Big Red on Wednesday night, falling 17-5 in the penultimate game of their season. In the loss, Kat Englert '18 led the Ladies with four goals while Mary Grace Detmer '19 scored the Ladies' other goal. The Ladies fell to 7-8 over-

all and 3-4 in the NCAC with the loss and will play the final game of their season on Saturday against Wittenberg University.

Lords baseball snapped their eight-game losing streak on Wednesday night by sweeping Wilmington College in a doubleheader. In the two wins, the Lords hit eight home runs, a College doubleheader record. Infielder Matt Contreras '19 cracked two long balls with six runs batted in in the second game's 20-7 victory. Short-stop Phillip Nam '17 hit two of his own in the first game to extend his team-leading season total to six. The Lords will finish their season with two games against Witten-

berg University on Saturday afternoon at home.

Softball was eliminated from postseason contention with their two 1-0 losses against Allegheny College on Tuesday. In the first game, the Ladies were no-hit by Allegheny sophomore pitcher Kala Mahen. The Ladies were last held without a hit in April 2005. With the loss, the Ladies fell to 13-25 and 5-9 in the NCAC and were mathematically eliminated from playing past Saturday, when they will host DePauw University in a doubleheader to conclude their season.

To read more sports news from the past week, visit [kenyoncollegian.com](http://kenyoncollegian.com).

## Upcoming Events

Baseball and softball wrap up their season this weekend with home doubleheaders. The baseball team will host Wittenberg University while softball will play against DePauw. Golf will also play the second part of the NCAC finals, and hope to improve on their fourth place positioning behind Wittenberg, Allegheny and DePauw.

**FRI.**  
**28**

Women's Tennis vs The College of Wooster  
9 a.m. | Granville, Ohio

Men's Tennis vs The College of Wooster  
12 p.m. | Granville, Ohio

Women's Track at Big Ten Invitational  
5 p.m. | Granville, Ohio

Men's Track at Big Ten Invitational  
5 p.m. | Granville, Ohio

**SAT.**  
**29**

Golf at NCAC Championships  
All Day | Granville, Ohio

Women's Lax at Wittenberg University  
12 p.m. | Springfield, Ohio

Baseball vs Wittenberg University  
12 p.m. and 3 p.m. | Gambier, Ohio

Softball vs DePauw University  
1 p.m. and 3 p.m. | Gambier, Ohio

Women's Track at NCAC Multi-Events  
12 p.m. | Wooster, Ohio

Men's Track at NCAC Multi-Events  
5 p.m. | Wooster, Ohio

## Golf plays half of NCAC finals

**PETER DOLA**  
STAFF WRITER

Kenyon's golf team played the first of two weekend matchups in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) championship tournament last weekend at Allegheny College (Meadville, Pa.), finishing the first series in fourth place behind Wittenberg University, Allegheny College and DePauw University.

The Lords entered the NCAC finals after a season of ups and downs. The ups included two first place finishes, with one below par tally in the BSN Fall Invitational, while the downs consisted of a disappointing 26th-place finish in the Jekyll Island Collegiate Invitational, just one month before the finals.

"We were playing some solid golf at the end of the fall semester with a couple first place finishes, but the break seemed to disrupt our game," Sadiq Jiwa '18 said. "We have struggled to find our groove this spring."

On the par 72, 6,687-yard course in Meadville, the Lords found themselves struggling to find their groove again, with no member of the team finishing par and two shooting an 80 or higher.

"Our first round was not our best," Jiwa said, "but we needed to put it behind us and focus on our golf and finding our game."

The second day of the weekend saw Kenyon shoot six strokes better, and move up the score sheet from fifth to fourth. Mason McCool '17, who shot an even par with three birdies and three bogeys, finishing

nine strokes better on his Sunday scorecard, led the overall improvement effort. Patrick Kawakami '20 and Jiwa also improved their scores on the following day, shooting two strokes and one stroke better, respectively.

Individually, the Lords have their work cut out for themselves to move up the leaderboard. Wittenberg, which is in first place, has all five of their scoring players in the top-10 for total score and is occupying the first, second and third place slots. In these three slots are the only players, of the pack of 45, who are below par for the tournament. Kenyon, on the other hand, finds themselves in the middle of the pack, with a spread from their best performer, Ryan Muthiora '18, ranked T-11 to Kawakami, ranked T-27. Each player for the Lords needs to shoot better next weekend for their desired top-two finish.

As a team, the Lords find themselves trailing first place Wittenberg by a distant 40 strokes, but within striking distance of Allegheny and DePauw, which are both just eight strokes ahead of Kenyon.

"We can't focus on the other teams right now," Jiwa said. "We just need to put our heads down, focus on our game and chip away at the lead. If we focus on our game, then anything is possible, even first place. I mean, the Patriots did beat the Falcons."

The Lords look to emulate the Patriots' Super Bowl comeback this weekend, April 28 and 29, when the final rounds of the NCAC championship continue at rival Denison University.

## Lords lax wins final game

**ADAM SCHWAGER**  
STAFF WRITER

The Lords' lacrosse season ended at Hiram College on Saturday, despite the fact that the Lords produced their greatest winning margin of the decade, defeating the Hiram Terriers 36-9. Coming off their worst loss in three years against the Denison University Big Red on Wednesday, which officially eliminated the Lords from North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) playoff contention, the Lords bounced back to finish their season 6-7 and 4-4 in NCAC play.

The Lords started fast, taking the 7-0 lead just 10 minutes in. The Lords did not give up a shot until 4:05 remained in the first quarter, and ended up outshooting the Terriers 77-19. The game was put out of reach relatively quickly: The Lords ended up scoring more goals after 20 minutes than Hiram would for the remainder of the game.

Seniors Alex Lopez and Robert Jacobs led the Lords in their final games with nine and six goals respectively. Starting goaltender Gabe Avis '17 played the first half, giving up two goals on three shots, and then returned with three minutes left in the game to cap off his first and final year as a starter.

"It was nice to contribute a little in my final season, and I'm so proud of my defense as they continued to get better each day and each game," Avis said. "The season had a lot of ups and downs but I am happy to have spent it with my closest friends."

This season, Lords lacrosse fell short of their goals and their standing in 2016, when they finished fourth in the NCAC and qualified for the NCAC tournament. The season could have ended differently, as close losses to Ohio Wesleyan University and The College of Wooster this month hindered the Lords' record and left them with the unlikely task of having to upset Wittenberg University and Denison University to salvage their season.

The season was not without individual accolade. Avis finished first in save percentage during the regular season among NCAC goaltenders, stopping 54.9 percent of the shots he faced in 518 minutes this season. Jacobs finished second in the points among NCAC field players with 70 points, second in assists with 35 and fifth in goals with 35. Face-off specialist Will Swain '19 finished second in face-offs, winning 112 of the 190 he took.

The Lords' future looks bright as the team plans to learn from their mistakes for next season. The team has been really improving, "specifically regarding our training, conditioning, and practice planning," Avis said.

Now that the Lords are finished for the season, the team must say goodbye to seniors Noah Gurzenski, Andrew Weinert, Daniel Maffezzoli, Avis, Jacobs and Lopez. But the crop of rising seniors, juniors and sophomores is ready to step up.

"Next year's team will be a force to be reckoned with," Avis said.



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