

# The Pace Chronicle

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## Charlottesville, Race, and Pace

ADIBA SIKDER

JACK FOZARD

*Features Editor*

*Features Writer*

Students and professors alike gathered in the Kessel multipurpose room on Thursday night for a discussion on Charlottesville, organized by Malcolm Reynolds, the Vice President of Unity and Social Justice.

The presentation opened with a brief explanation of why confederate statues are significant and why having those statues up can have some underlying racism and the facts on what happened at Charlottesville.

After this brief explanation, Cornell Craig, the Director for Multicultural Affairs and Diversity Programs, passed around the microphone to other

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The Pace community gathered in Kessel to discuss Charlottesville. Photo by Jack Fozard

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## New SGA President Has Big Plans

EMILY BRESNAHAN  
Feature Writer

Julian Alston, a driven business management senior, is now taking on the role as President of Pace University's Student Government Association (SGA).

Only a few weeks into the school year, Alston already has big plans for the upcoming school year, which include placing a solar panel tree on campus.

This solar panel tree is "a tree-like structure," equipped with solar panels that can attract sunlight and "actually power laptops, and even have outlets on them," explained Alston.

By converting unused spaces into something more useful, Alston



Julian Alston. Photo courtesy of Pace University.

believes it will allow students to have better places to congregate and enjoy campus.

One spot on campus

that Alston believes should be updated is Millar Lawn.

"It is one of the most highly populated walkways on campus," the SGA

President said.

He believes that by getting better benches, it will create a more user-friendly space.

As for external goals, Alston wishes to bring the Pace community closer to the Pleasantville community. By creating more partnerships with downtown businesses and having more representation throughout the town, it will promote a more cohesive relationship.

Alston often hears from students that there is nothing to do and he wants to make more students aware of all the events Pace and the town of Pleasantville have to offer.

Nonetheless, Alston hopes that when he leaves Pace University, he will be remembered as "someone who genuinely cared about the community, and left Pace better than when he found it."

## Charlottesville, Race, and Pace

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students so that they can share how they felt about the situation when they first heard about it.

Several students shared that they were angry because of the use of hateful rhetoric and stated they felt that this sense of aggression was caused by the president. Others were afraid for their lives and because they didn't realize how far racism would progress.

From discussion of Antifa and white supremacists to the presidency and its effects on the cur-

rent social climate, there was a lot to talk about regarding Charlottesville, however the input of attendees on larger ideas was what really shined here.

Craig, after posing the question of "What does make America Great Again mean to you?" asked whether "the again" of the 'great' yesterday of America was in fact these violent riots, which seemed to plague the U.S. in years past.

"It's something people don't typically want to talk about" said Ryanne Beatty, student

at Pace, of the discussion about violent clashes regarding race and history of America.

Several students raised concerns of feeling helpless and that there was nothing that they could do in order to stop the political climate from progressing to a point where they feel extremely uncomfortable.

But according to Tyler Kalahar, the Program Coordinator at Pace, there are many ways in which students can get involved and prevent this from happening.

Citing a bill that

would protect undocumented immigrants that was vetoed by Westchester Executive, Rob Astorino, Kalahar emphasized the importance of participation at the local and state level, rather than at just a national level every 4 years.

"I think sometimes Pace students don't understand how they can impact the political climate and the social climate outside of Pace," said Craig. "These conversations can help students to step up, speak out, and be politically active."

Several students at the end of the discussion offered alternative ways on campus for students to get active in the political climate and have these discussions. Some of the alternative ways included participating in food drives, joining Black Student Union, and participating in discussions.

"I am very politically conscious and I think having these discussions and really getting people to talk about it can help our situation," said Natalie Hernandez, sophomore at Pace.

## Bonjour, Hola, Hello

JOSIAH DARNELL  
Opinion Editor

How many of you have taken a foreign language class? Now how many of you remember more than half of the material you learned in that class? I'm pretty sure almost everybody that's reading this article doesn't.

It seems that no matter when we take foreign language, in high school or in college, the only time we retain that information is during the course.

In fact, a study recorded

by *The Atlantic* stated only seven percent of college students are enrolled in a foreign language course. Of that seven percent, less than one percent of adults in the United States are fluent.

Another study was done by the US Census Bureau, eight percent of Americans are able to hold a conversation in the languages that they learned in high school. Only eight percent. That's extremely low, especially since foreign language courses are offered in many, if not all, high schools and colleges in the United States.

Pace University requires you to take two semesters of foreign language. One class for the basics, which is the introduction to the course and the second would be the continuation to further progress. I understand they want us to take these courses to have knowledge in a language other than English but if it didn't work in high school, why try it in college?

Instead of it being free, it is now something we have to pay for and it takes up three credits per semester. Three whole credits that could've went to a more important class, mainly a major or minor one.

If we know we're not

going to remember pretty much anything after taking a foreign language course why take two semesters of it? One semester of the basics should be enough and I'm sure others would agree.

On top of that, many of the foreign language classes offered here at Pace require you to purchase an overpriced textbook that you really have no choice to get because of the code that comes along with it. That code is so you have access to the online assignments.

We're talking about a \$200 textbook that has to be new, just for you to not remember most of what you learned a couple of weeks

after you have taken the class.

Let's be real here, do we really need two semesters of a foreign language? I don't think so.

The only other reason I can see why foreign language classes are important is to communicate with people coming from other countries or studying abroad. But who's to say any of us taking foreign language in college will get a chance to study abroad or want to?

And the individuals that migrate over here from other countries speak English fairly well anyway, so it stands one semester of foreign language is enough.

## The Pace Chronicle

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## Letters to the Editor Welcome

The Pace Chronicle encourages responses to the opinions expressed herein, and welcomes letter and comments. The Pace Chronicle cannot guarantee publication of letters to the editor, press releases or unsolicited manuscripts, and reserves the right to edit or comment editorially on them.

Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the administration or faculty of Pace University.

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## Pace Celebrates Constitution Day

ADIBA SIKDER  
Feature Editor

Assemblyman Tom Abinanti raised some politically controversial ideas on the Constitution and freedom of speech during the Constitution Day Celebration on Tuesday in the Kessel Multipurpose room.

The hour-long event was created by The Center for Community Action and Research, or CCAR for short, in order to get students to get students to raise any questions they may have and to inform them of the limitations on the freedom of speech.

During the first 15 minutes of the celebration, students were given a quiz containing questions from the citizenship test that are considered common knowledge for American citizens for the government.

"A lot of these questions are actually really hard and shouldn't be considered common knowledge," said Heather Novak, the Associ-



Students pose for a quick picture while asking Assemblyman Abinanti a few questions about his presentation. Photo by Adiba Sikder.

ate Director of CCAR.

After Assemblyman Abinanti was introduced, he explained that freedom of speech only becomes an issue to worry about when people see a cause that people care about.

"People who challenge that cause are considered bad people and can't recognize that you must bal-

ance the freedom of speech with the individual right to avoid becoming harassment," said Abinanti.

He began to further challenge common beliefs of students that live on college campuses and gave scenarios that they might not feel comfortable in. One of the scenarios that sparked a lot of controversial opinion was if white supremacists should be allowed to come in and have a discussion with students.

"Does a white supremacist have a right to speak at your campus? Would you allow that?" asked Abinanti.

A few students believed that although it isn't likely that a white supremacist would be able to speak on

campus because Pace is a private institution, they have every right to speak at a college campus.

However, other students believed that a white supremacist should not be able to speak if their presence is threatening other people's lives.

Abinanti continued to raise curiosity by asking more controversial questions about freedom of speech.

"Does one speak differently to a woman? Do they speak differently to a stranger than they do to a friend? What about to a gay person? Or does it only matter how they perceive what I say? Does circumstance matter?" asked Abinanti.

The room fell silent for a few minutes while these questions were being asked. Abinanti asked the questions a few more times, however, many students avoided eye contact in order to show that they didn't want to be picked on.

Abinanti believes that having this conversation at Pace and other college campuses is a necessity in order to teach students to think of all the aspects of issues before making a judgement.

"Our best citizens are educated citizens. We need students to understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens and this is the time for students to have discussions and ask questions," said Abinanti.

*"Does one speak differently to a woman? Do they speak differently to a stranger than they do to a friend? What about to a gay person? Or does it only matter how they perceive what I say? Does circumstance matter?"*

New York State Assemblyman  
Tom Abinanti

Website: [www.pacechronicle.com](http://www.pacechronicle.com)

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# Do Professors Make Themselves Available after Class?

ABBY STUCKER  
Feature Writer

We're all finally settling into our classes for this semester and getting into the groove of a routine, but that doesn't guarantee that we might not run into a few problems along the way, here and there, regarding our different classes.

Whether a student is shy and nervous to ask questions in front of the class, a student has an extensive question that requires more attention than a normal in-class inquiry, or a personal conflict that should be discussed in private; it would seem to me that the natural course of action would be to talk to your professor. But are students in need of assistance actually given that opportunity?

So this raises the question, do Pace professors make themselves available after class?

In my opinion, the answer is yes. In my experience, all my professors have been more than willing to stay a few minutes after class. A majority of my professors have been or are a part of the adjunct faculty, so they don't have office hours; their only options are to take questions via email or to speak with students after class.

All of my adjunct professors have been happy to answer student questions after class even when it's after a night class and pushing 9:00 pm. I appreciate that and I'm sure my peers do as well.

Even professors that are full-time have had no problem staying after class,



A Pace classroom. Photo Courtesy of pace.edu

but they make sure to add what their office hours are if more help is needed or a particular problem persists.

To get an instructor's perspective on the topic, I asked Sociology and Anthropology professor, Berfu Aygenc Akman, her thoughts on how she handles after-class inquiries.

"I believe that it is important to carry the conversation outside of the class and discuss points that students are curious about. Students usually prefer face-to-face conversation if they have quick questions," said Aygenc Akman. "I usually make myself available before or after class for these questions. Exchanging emails also helps. A written conversa-

tion is useful if they want to revisit their questions."

Chelsea Shultz, a nursing student, told me she was also in agreement with my opinion.

"I definitely think teachers are always available after class, I rarely have any questions myself but I see other people asking my professors questions and they pretty much always seem receptive to it."

Do Pace professors make themselves available after class, or do they rush to leave and have their students hanging?

I think the majority of Pace professors are making themselves as available as they can. I am thankful for that, it makes the

learning environment I am in that much more enjoyable because I feel com-

fortable and that is the best kind of environment to be learning in.

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*"I believe that it is important to carry the conversation outside of the class and discuss points that students are curious about... I usually make myself available before or after class for these questions."*

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*Sociology and  
Anthropology Professor  
Berfu Aygenc Akman*

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# The Pace Chronicle

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## PACE FOOTBALL

# Football Team Gains New Offensive Identity

**KWADAR RAY**  
*Feature Writer*

Pace's football team defeated American International College (AIC) on Sep. 15 at Pace Stadium, improving its record to 2-1.

For the first time since 2008, Pace's football team has won multiple games in a season. However, the Setters' new offensive identity has been a significant piece to the team's recent success.

"We brought in a new offensive philosophy this year and it's been a system of accountability," says first-year offensive coordinator Andrew Dresner. "Guys understand when they're doing the right thing, when they're doing the wrong thing, what things they need to improve and they bought into that whole formula throughout camp and it has translated for us every Saturday and Friday night."

After winning the opening game of the season against Millersville University, the offense was shut out the next week in a 56-0 loss against Assumption College.

However, unlike the 2015 team,

which also won its first game of the season but went on to lose every game thereafter, the 2017 team showed composure and bounced back after their first loss with a thrilling 24-23 win against AIC.

"You really take the positives out of a loss," Dresner said. "There were some good things that we did in the loss and it was more about finishing things that we did that looked good on film. We knew if we focused on those things and if we could get those things done, it would put us in a better position to win the game. And we did that."

Unlike past teams, the Setters showed poise in the clutch by scoring a pair of touchdowns with five minutes reaming in the game.

"There was no poor body language, no looking at somebody else asking, 'Who's going to make a play?' The guys looked at each other and said, 'We got this,'" Dresner said.

After the game, Pace President Marvin Krislov appeared in the locker room to ecstatically celebrate the win with players and coaches.

"For the president to be there



**Coach Dresner has helped change the offensive identity at Pace. Photo courtesy of Pace Athletics**

to experience that with us, it's a really cool deal for them to be in the locker room to see him and see the type of support that he gives on a daily basis, so that was awesome," Dresner said.

Seeing President Krislov's and the entire university's support for the program reminded Dresner exactly why he came to Pace in the first

place.

"When you come here on an interview, you see how much dedication they put towards athletics and how much support they put behind it with the new facilities and the staffing," he said. "The program is close to being turned around here and you could see that right away when you walk in the door."

Because the 2017 football team has been winning as many games in a three-game span as the 2012-2016 teams won combined in a 53-game span, it would be beyond understandable if the coaches and players began to sing their own praises.

However, Dresner says he and the players are remaining humble and taking the season week by week.

"We put the film behind us and by Sunday, that game is over and we move on to the next week because now it's going to be a different opponent, different personnel, different things that we need to do to prepare to win the football game," he said. "So, come Monday morning these guys are ready to work for the next week and we're able to move on pretty early after a win."

## This Week in Pace Sports

**September 30, 2017**

Field Hockey at Molloy College

Football vs. Bentley College

Soccer at Merrimack College

## **Just One Week Until Westchester Family Weekend October 6-8!**

**Each year, Family Weekend is a wonderful opportunity for families to visit with their students and celebrate their accomplishments. This weekend provides the chance for students' relatives to experience Pace University firsthand and to interact with faculty, administrators, and other Pace families.**

***This year's activities will include:***  
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**Nature Center Tour**  
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**Cheers to Senior Year**  
**Casino Night**  
**and, more...!**

See <http://www.pace.edu/family-weekend/westchester/schedule> for details.



Pace Women's Volleyball went 2-0 this week against Mollow College and the College of Saint Rose. Photo courtesy of Pace Athletics.

## Pace Athletics Update September 20-23

KWADAR RAY, *Feature Writer*

**9/20-9/23:** Pace Field Hockey defeated American International College 1-0 at home, with the one point being scored by Jenna Sanossian. However, their unbeaten season was halted after a 2-1 overtime loss to Saint Anselm on the road. They are now 6-1.

**9/22-9/23:** Pace Women's Volleyball went 2-0 this week. They first defeated Molloy College 3-0 in a major upset and then defeated College of Saint Rose 3-0. The team is now 4-8, with all four wins coming in the past six games.

**9/23:** Pace Women's Soccer Team improved their record to 4-4 this week after a 2-0 victory against Stonehill College at home.

**9/23:** Pace Football fell 21-20 on the road in a close loss to University of New Haven. The Setters opened the game with a 14-0 lead, before New Haven scored 21 straight points. A touchdown pass from the Setters in the fourth quarter cut the game down to one, but a blocked extra point and missed game-winning field goal cost the Setters. They are now 2-2.

[More Sports on page 7](#)