

INSIDE

Email access

Many students unaware of U.'s right to search emails

Mali matters

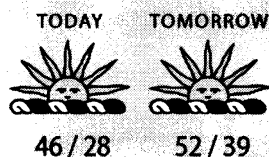
Speaker discusses hope to help Mali during civil war



Page 9

Phone a friend

Asian American admits will now receive phone calls



Life sciences prove more appealing as electives

Math expectations, lab requirements and teacher reputations sway students toward taking classes in life sciences for fun rather than in physical sciences

By **PHOEBE DRAPER**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

When it comes to introductory science courses, not all classes are created equal.

STEM 0010

Part 2 of 4

An examination of introductory science courses at Brown

In introductory physical science courses, such as chemistry and physics, a much larger percentage of students reported taking the course to fill a requirement than did students in introductory life science courses like biology and neuroscience, according to data from the Critical Review.

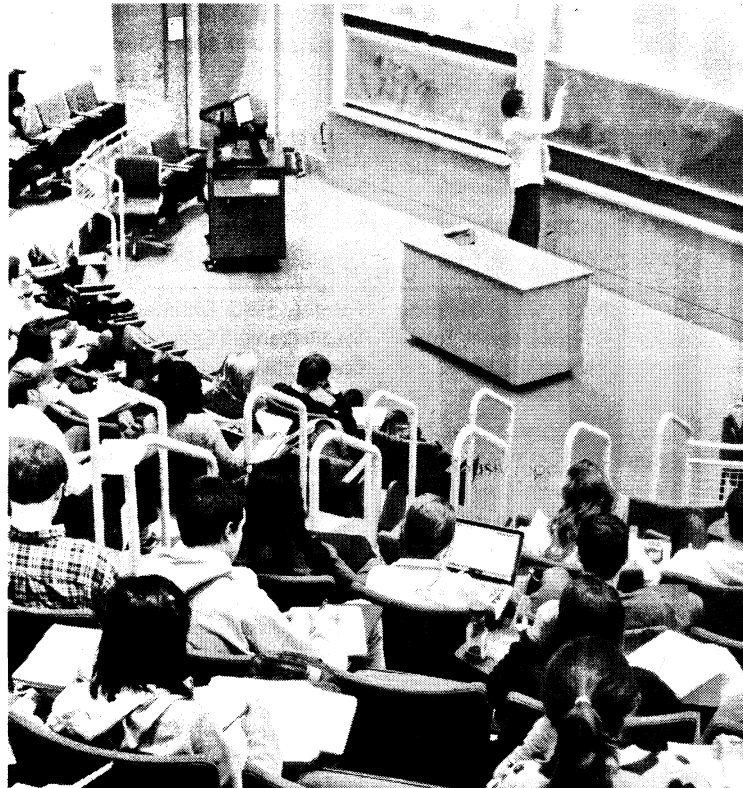
The divide results from a variety of factors, students, faculty members and higher education experts said. These include the level of math the courses call for, laboratory section requirements and

general student perception of the discipline's difficulty and applicability outside of academia.

Who fills the seats of lecture halls for introductory courses also depends on who is behind the lectern. In choosing which faculty members will teach introductory courses, departments are keenly aware that some professors create a more captivating lecture atmosphere, while others work more effectively in smaller, higher-level courses. Students said reputations of professors who teach introductory courses could sway students from discipline to discipline.

Unpacking the divide

In the fall of 2011, 48 percent of students who responded to the Critical Review survey for NEUR 0010: "The Brain: An Introduction to Neuroscience" reported they // **Divide** page 4



ALEXANDRA URBAN / HERALD

Ninety-four percent of students reported taking CHEM 0330 to satisfy a requirement in fall 2011, compared to 52 percent of students in NEUR 0010.

U. partners with hospitals to help market research

A new agreement with Lifespan health care system will expand its patent opportunities

By **SARAH PERELMAN**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The University's Technology Ventures Office announced a partnership with the Lifespan health care system March 25 that would help Lifespan commercialize new research discoveries. The TVO also expanded its existing partnership with Care New England to cover discoveries made in two more of the company's hospitals.

The TVO will oversee the process of obtaining patents for new biomedical discoveries made at these hospitals

and present the products to private sector companies that might license them, said Provost Mark Schlissel P'15.

"It's very much part of an extension of an existing collaboration," Schlissel said, referencing the University's close relationship with Lifespan. Lifespan is the main teaching hospital for students at the Alpert Medical School, and many members of the University's clinical faculty work in Lifespan hospitals.

The TVO will commercialize three to four of Lifespan's patents each year for the next several years, said Peter Snyder, vice president of research for Lifespan and professor of neurology at the Med School. Lifespan's research produces about six or seven patents every year, he added.

Lifespan has chosen three "key areas" of research — orthopedics, gastroenterology and liver research — to market first, Snyder said.

"Realistically, we're starting small," he said, adding that he "(looks) forward to hopefully expanding this relationship over time."

Heidi Meisenkothen, associate director of licensing and business development, recently joined the TVO to oversee the partnership with Lifespan, said Katherine Gordon, managing director of the TVO. The TVO and Lifespan evenly split the cost of her salary, Snyder said.

Though the TVO has already worked with Care New England's Women and Infants Hospital for a couple years, it will now also manage patents from Butler Hospital and Kent

Hospital — the other two hospitals owned by Care New England — according to a University press release.

Since products from both of the state's major health care providers — Lifespan and Care New England — are managed by the same office, "we can take all of our intellectual property and attempt to look for licenses in an efficient way," Snyder said. The abundance of discoveries yielding patents will make the University a more attractive destination for prospective buyers, he added.

"(Lifespan is) pretty good at detecting good ideas that are unique, unusual and should be protected with a patent," Snyder said. But marketing often proves to be a challenge, especially because the researchers are "not nec- // **Lifespan** page 2

Faculty promotion process revised

Associate professors may now stand for promotion after seven years instead of waiting 10 years

By **RACHEL MARGOLIS**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Faculty members voted to revise the timeline and standardize procedures for promotion from associate to full professor at Tuesday's faculty meeting.

About 80 faculty members took part in the deliberations, which resulted in the passage of two motions to amend the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

Faculty members also heard reports on strategic planning and University child care.

The first motion, which added language to the rules and regulations to allow current standards for tenure to also be applied to promotion, was passed without discussion.

The second motion revised the "10/5" timeline for promotion, which had mandated that associate professors be reviewed for promotion automatically after serving 10 years in the position and that, if not promoted the first time, they be reviewed every subsequent five years. Under the new procedure, an associate professor who has served for seven years will be assessed by the department and relevant dean to determine his or her "readiness to stand for promotion" to full professor.

Professor of Egyptology and FEC member // **Faculty** page 3

Special food nights spice up student dining

A few nights every semester, Dining Services serves unusual and exotic cuisine in 'food nights'

By **MEG SULLIVAN**
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

On any given week night, the Sharpe Refectory hosts a sizable crowd at peak traffic time, around 6:15 to 6:45

FEATURE

p.m. But two or three evenings a semester, the Ratty's dinnertime lines extend far beyond the tables offering baskets of fruit, and the soup and omelet stations are transformed into depots for exotic dishes for the special food nights hosted by Brown Dining Services.

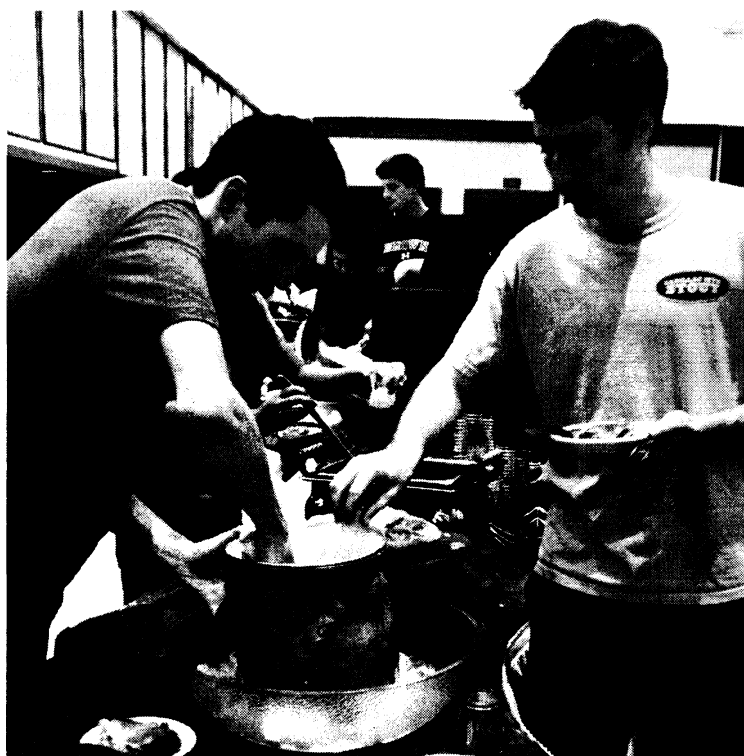
Setting the table

Last semester Brown Dining Services presented an Asian heritage night, a Cape Verdean workers ap-

preciation dinner, a local food night and a soul food night. Past academic years have also featured a Halloween "Fright Night."

These special food nights are inspired by staff "based on current trends or ideas we get from our colleagues at other schools," wrote Gina Guiducci, Brown Dining Services dietitian, in an email to The Herald. The result is the periodic transformation of the Ratty and Verney-Woolley Dining Hall into theaters for gastronomic celebrations of cultural heritage or ecological awareness through spiced up menus, guest chefs and themed decorations.

Each event is unique and "can take several months to plan," wrote Executive Chef John O'Shea in an email to The Herald. The preparation includes "researching recipes that can be produced in large quantities without compromising quality, repeated recipe testing and fine-tuning until we achieve the // **Food** page 2



TOM SULLIVAN / HERALD

Food nights held in dining halls are inspired by Dining Services staff members and often take several months of planning. Herald file photo.

TODAY	APRIL 3	TOMORROW	APRIL 4
4 P.M.	Reading by Poet Michael Leong 68½ Brown Street	7 P.M.	HIV/AIDS in Providence Panel Petteruti Lounge
5:30 P.M.	Gender and Sexuality Lecture Pembroke Hall 305	8 P.M.	Straight White Men Opening Night Leeds Theatre

SHARPE REFECTORY

Popcorn Chicken with Dipping Sauces, Vegan Nuggets, Sweet Potato Fries, Oreos Chocolate Chip Fudge Bar	Falafel, BBQ Chicken Sandwich, Mediterranean Eggplant Saute, Oreos Chocolate Chip Fudge Bar
--	---

Stir Fry Tofu Lo Mein, Fresh Hoisin	Salt and Pepper Jerk Chicken, Egg
Green Beans, Chicken Curry, Fried	Foo Young, Thai Basil Pork Stir Fry,
Tofu, Yellow Cake with Frosting	Yellow Cake with White Frosting

	1		4			2	5	
6					1	3		
8				2				
					7		9	3
	8	3				1	2	
4	9		3					
				5				4
		6	2					1
	5	1			6		7	

ACROSS

- 1 Pressured, with "on"
- 7 NASA citrus drink
- 11 Digital doc format
- 14 Cry from an oversleeper
- 15 Smokehouse order
- 16 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
- 17 "Career soldier"
- 19 Quaint curse
- 20 Yellowish green
- 21 "Gotcha!"
- 22 Small craft concern
- 23 End of a New Year's song
- 24 "1995 movie flop dubbed 'Fishtar' by some critics"
- 26 Word before chi or after mai
- 28 Long tale
- 29 "Much-sought-after celebrity"
- 35 Baker's 13
- 38 Campfire residue
- 39 Beijing-born, say
- 41 Madhouse
- 42 Green stuff
- 44 "Sun emanation responsible for the northern lights"
- 46 Unveiler's cry
- 48 British verb ender
- 49 "Petal pusher?"
- 54 Walrus feature
- 58 Dieter's gain?
- 59 Singer Erykah
- 60 Political channel
- 61 Word of repulsion
- 62 Brangelina, e.g. — or, in a way, each of the answers to starred clues
- 64 "... Big to Fail": 2009 account of the financial crisis
- 65 Gets to
- 66 Mourn
- 67 Clairvoyant's gift
- 68 Soft "Yo!"
- 69 Beginning bits

DOWN

- 1 Oscar night rides
- 2 "Our Town" girl
- 3 Too pooped to pop
- 4 Unworldliness
- 5 Sermon ending?
- 6 Deal-busting org.
- 7 Behind-closed-doors event
- 8 'Til Tuesday lead vocalist Mann
- 9 Cavs and Mavs
- 10 "The Pyramid" channel
- 11 29-Across chasers
- 12 Dryly amusing
- 13 Not likely to move
- 18 River valley formation
- 22 Disco adjective
- 24 Fingers-crossed thought
- 25 Angler's gear
- 27 Place to play "Space Invaders"
- 29 "Skyfall" director Mendes
- 30 Gif's hangout
- 31 Image-editing software
- 32 "... a pity"
- 33 Year abroad?
- 34 Fam. reunion attendee
- 36 Years and years
- 37 Bob of hope, maybe
- 40 Take a trip by ship
- 43 Congressional output
- 45 Triathlon attire
- 47 Vine yards?
- 49 Champagne glass
- 50 Java's coffee cup et al.
- 51 Stares stupidly
- 52 Latin cliffier
- 53 1921 robot play
- 55 Shoe top
- 56 Simultaneous weapons discharge
- 57 Off-patched clothing parts
- 60 Trite stuff
- 62 Humdinger
- 63 Software-driven film effects, for short

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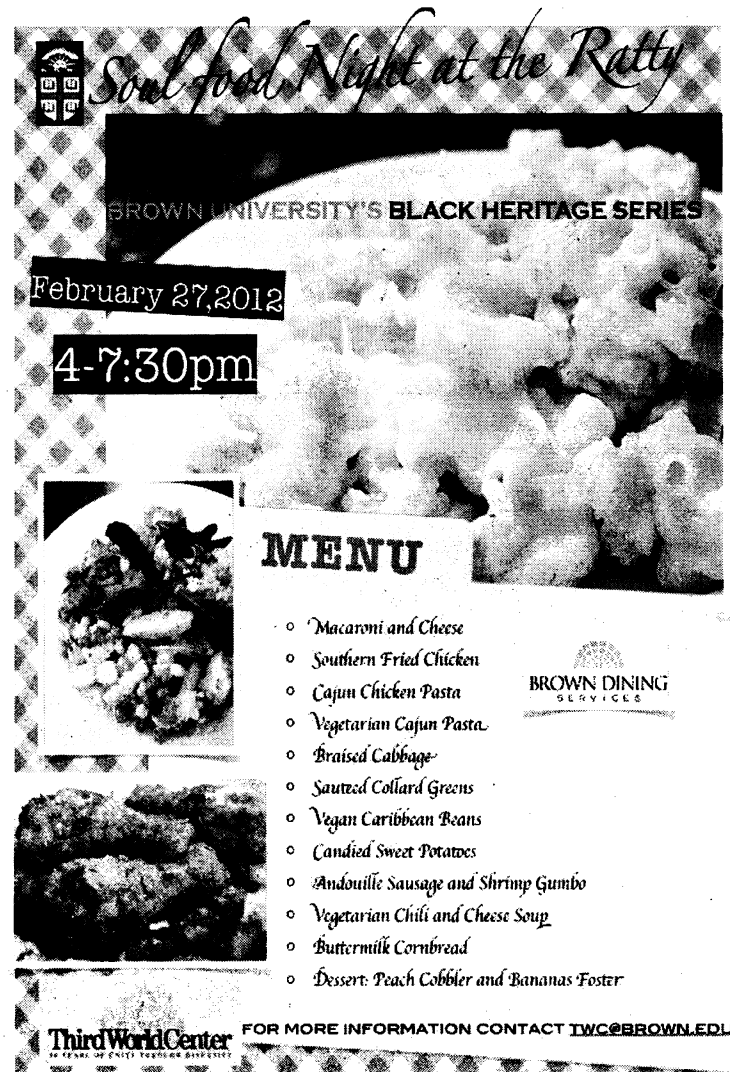
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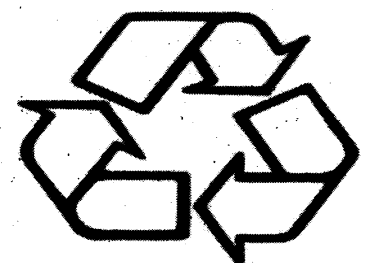
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As the TVO expands its work with the two health care systems, it does not plan to form additional partnerships at the moment, Gordon said.



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THIS WEEK IN
HIGHER ED

BY MATHIAS HELLER
UNIVERSITY NEWS
EDITOR

Yale formalizes online education program

Yale's President-elect Peter Salovey signed an agreement March 13 formalizing a partnership between Yale and an online education program to encourage "global education" and increase accessibility to international internships, the Yale Daily News reported Tuesday.

The program — named Universia — has more than 1,000 member universities in 23 Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking countries, the Yale Daily News reported. Yale Open Courses, which the university makes available for free online, will be translated into Spanish and Portuguese by Universia to expand Yale's outreach to Latin America. Universia will also work with Yale's career services for both undergraduates and graduate students to provide more internships abroad for Yale students, the Yale Daily News reported.

Selection of Tyga for Harvard concert sparks outcry

Harvard's Office of Student Life asked the student-run College Events Board and Concert Commission to reconsider its invitation to the rapper Tyga for its spring concert after the musician's selection sparked an outcry among students, the Harvard Crimson reported Monday.

Students who objected to what they deemed sexist and pro-violence lyrics in the rapper's songs circulated an online petition calling for the CEB and HCC to rescind their invitation to Tyga to perform at Harvard's annual Yardfest concert this month. But college administrators do not plan on forcing the student groups to change their choice, citing students' freedom of expression, the Crimson reported.

Prosecutors charge Wisconsin researcher with stealing data for China

Huajun Zhao, an associate researcher at the Medical College of Wisconsin, was charged with stealing cancer research data for a Chinese university, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported Monday.

Zhao was arrested Saturday, and prosecutors charged him with economic espionage, a felony that could result in up to 5 years in prison and a \$500,000 fine. Video surveillance revealed Zhao had accessed a colleague's office where research data related to a possible cancer-fighting compound was stored, the Journal Sentinel reported. The college's president, John Raymond, said the Medical College is cooperating with the FBI investigation.

// Faculty page 1

James Allen, who served on the ad hoc subcommittee on promotion, said the motion was intended to "replace the current 10/5 rule with something that's less onerous and seems actually more equitable." He stressed that under the new policy associate professors may choose when to stand for promotion "rather than have it be something that is imposed from above."

The original amendment would have required chairs and directors to submit a plan for how they and other senior faculty members would help prepare the candidate for promotion in response to complaints from associate professors that they did not receive enough mentoring, Allen said. But the clause was removed after some faculty members said the measure was "well-intentioned but misguided," arguing that the burden of preparing an associate professor for promotion should fall on the candidate and not on the chairs and senior faculty members.

A third motion, which was tabled due to time constraints, would "insert a new section detailing the procedures for the review of associate professors for promotion to professor." Allen said the proposed

process for promotion from associate to full professor was taken "almost verbatim" from that for promotion from assistant to associate professor, with a few key differences, including the stipulation that "the decision to stand for promotion should be the candidate's prerogative."

The proposed procedure stated that "the candidate's promotion dossier" must contain "whenever possible, no fewer than eight letters of reference" from other scholars in the field. Allen said the previously existing requirement of eight recommendations was softened out of concern for candidates in more esoteric fields, who might have difficulty finding eight willing referees.

While many faculty members expressed approval for the increased flexibility, about two-thirds voted to strike the qualifying phrase "whenever possible." Professor of Engineering Kenneth Breuer '82 P'14 P'16 said he was "troubled by the idea" that for some associate professors "there are not eight people in the world who are qualified" to recommend them for promotion.

President Christina Paxson presented a timeline for "wrapping up" the strategic planning process. The committees' final reports will be completed by the end of this week and

compiled into a draft final report.

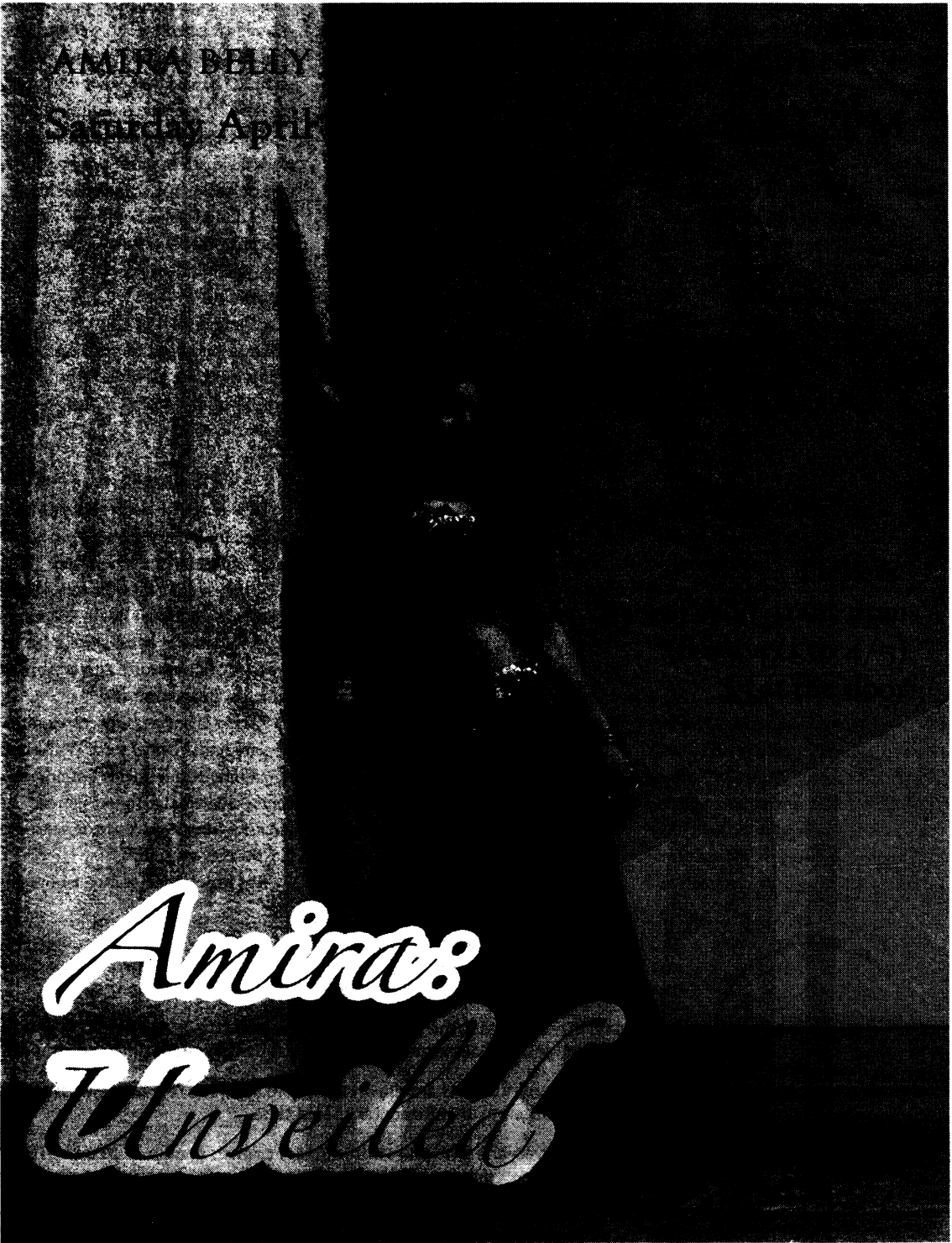
The administration will not "ask the Corporation for a vote up or down" in May, she said. Instead, the report will be approved in October after a summer of "budgetary analysis."

Provost Mark Schlissel P'15 spoke about the Childcare Planning Group, which will execute Paxson's decision to subsidize child care for faculty members, staff members, post-doctoral fellows and graduate students. The group will also work to expand Brown's network of affiliated child care centers and to create a website dedicated to informing families in the Brown community about available child care options.

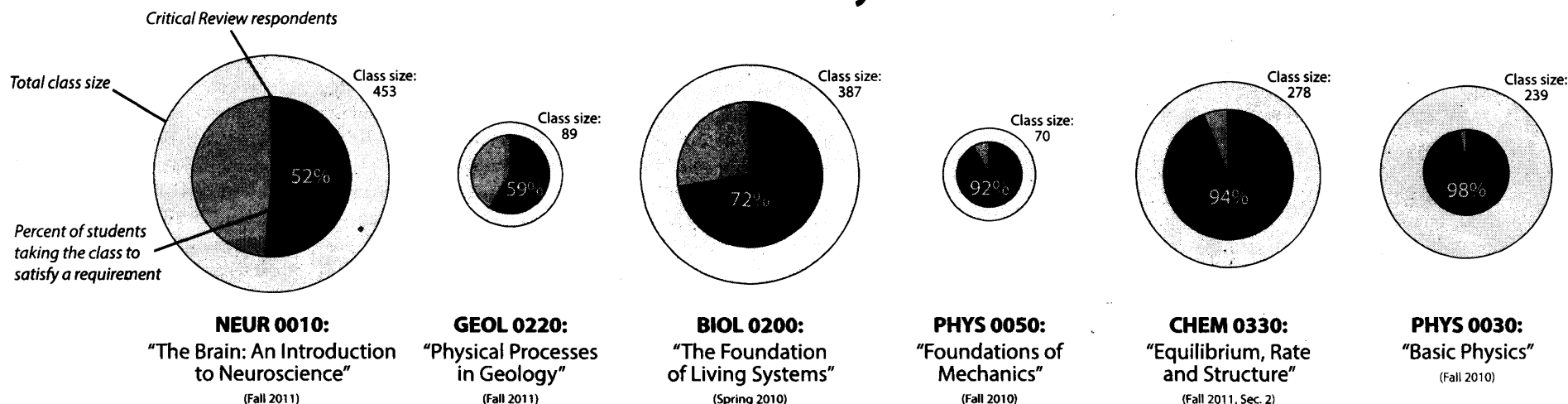
Schlissel also addressed the possibility of rescheduling Convocation from Wednesday, Sept. 4 to Tuesday, Sept. 3 to avoid clashing with Rosh Hashanah, which begins that Wednesday night. Dean of the College Katherine Bergeron will develop other accommodations for those observing the holiday, Schlissel said.

Paxson announced the first recipients of the presidential faculty award, which she created this year and will be accompanied by a "modest" research stipend. Professor of Literary Arts Carolyn Wright and Professor of Philosophy Charles Larmore will receive the award for this semester.

THE BROWN
DAILY HERALD



Enrollment in introductory science courses



GREG JORDAN-DETAMORE / HERALD

Students and professors pointed to math expectations and teacher reputations as factors that may lead students to take more life science than physical science courses as electives.

// Divide page 1

were not taking the course to fulfill a requirement. The semester prior, nearly one quarter of Critical Review respondents in BIOL 0200: "Foundation of Living Systems" reported they took the course without satisfying a requirement.

But introductory courses in the chemistry and physics department are filled with students who report taking the course as a requirement. A mere 6 percent of students in one section of CHEM 0330: "Equilibrium, Rate and Structure" reported they were taking the course as an elective in fall 2011. Only 2 percent of students in PHYS 0030: "Basic Physics" in fall 2010 took the course as an elective, while only one student out of 114 survey respondents in PHYS 0040: "Basic Physics" in spring 2012 reported taking the class for a reason other than fulfilling a requirement.

Students looking to take an introductory science class for fun may avoid chemistry and physics classes due to the "premium on competitiveness" caused by the number of pre-medical students, said Mitchell Chang, a professor from the University of California at Los Angeles who studies higher education trends.

The predominance of pre-med students in PHYS 0030 means "there are very few students who take physics 30 for fun," said James Valles, chair of the physics department and associate dean of the College for curriculum. "People who take our intro course because they are interested — they wind up in physics 70," an alternative introductory course, he said.

In addition to the threat of student competition, prevailing student interest affects which courses draw crowds.

"Given student interests now, we are never going to have the numbers that neuro and bio have," said Robert Pelcovits, professor of physics.

"Intro biology sounds more accessible than analytic mechanics," said Will Stephenson '15, who enrolled in PHYS 0500: "Advanced Classical Mechanics" with no intention of fulfilling a requirement and later decided to major in the field.

The divide between the life and physical sciences may also be attributed to a

"conscious tailoring" of physical science courses, said Wesley Bernskoetter, assistant professor of chemistry, who taught CHEM 0330 in the fall.

Classical physics is an older field than neuroscience, so the material students must learn for physics has significant depth and breadth, he said. "It's a bigger challenge to tailor a class of that nature to an audience of students simply looking for this as a for-interest only class."

Matthew Zimmt, professor of chemistry and chair of the department, said introductory chemistry courses had similar objectives.

"There are very few ... 'one, fun and done' courses in chemistry," he said. "There are people who would like to have a course where they can just learn a little about something," he said, but the objective of a course like CHEM 0330 is for students to both understand the basics of the subject and to see how those facts connect to the world.

Further disparity between student interest in the life sciences as opposed to in the physical sciences may be attributed to student perceptions of different fields.

"Something like neuro seems shiny and new," said Richard Stratt, professor of chemistry, who has previously taught CHEM 0330. "(Students) don't realize the parts of chemistry that are new and exciting."

While chemistry and physics may sound archaic to students, biology is also more readily apparent in the world, Zimmt said. "You see birds, you see animals. ... How many times have you stopped to look at something and thought about its chemicals?"

Professor of Biology Ken Miller '70 P'02 said biology is key to understanding current issues.

"Look at how many political questions in the public sphere right now have biological content," he said, citing climate change, energy, genetically-modified food and stem cell research. "These things are more easily dealt with if you know something about biology, so I think that's part of the attraction," he said.

Limits and logarithms

The quantitative aspect of the physical sciences may also deter students from taking introductory chemistry and physics

courses.

"Perhaps the most important distinction between the life sciences and the physical sciences at the intro level is the level of quantitative expectation," said Katherine Bergeron, dean of the College. "How much math has to be in hand to begin to address the fundamental questions and to do hands-on research?"

Students who enroll in physics without a solid math background find themselves "struggling to learn two things" at once, Stephenson said.

The math requirements of introductory chemistry, physics and engineering present a challenge for professors and students alike. Stratt said the "heterogeneous" nature of students' math and chemistry backgrounds was the biggest challenge he faced teaching CHEM 0330.

"It's hard to constantly be in such a one-room schoolhouse," he said.

Stephenson said much of the material of CHEM 0330 overlapped with his high school Advanced Placement Chemistry class. "People who haven't taken AP get screwed," he said. "It's either too easy or too hard. There is no middle ground."

The engineering department recognizes the math in introductory courses will be easier for some students but hopes design projects and the necessity of teamwork will help level the playing field, said Kenneth Breuer, professor of engineering.

"There is a lot of effort to help the students who need to catch up ... that brings most people to more or less the same level" by the end of their first semester, he said.

Clocking lab time

Labs may also deter students from taking introductory science courses, students and faculty members said.

While making introductory science courses lab-optional might encourage more students to enroll, losing the lab experience is not worth attracting more students, Stephenson said.

"There is a general perception that labs are hard," Miller said. With additional time requirements but not extra course credit for laboratory courses, "an intensive laboratory course never seems like the easy way out."

But if designed well, a laboratory

component to a course actually has the potential to increase student interest in the subject, said John Stein PhD'95 P'13, senior lecturer in neuroscience. Faculty members constantly redesign labs to best engage students, striking a balance between "cookbook labs" in which students achieve predictable yet reliable results and "open inquiry labs," which lend more insight into actual scientific discovery but are difficult to execute with large classes, he said.

"To really understand science, you have to get your hands wet," Miller said.

All about the reputation

A pivotal factor influencing whether students enroll in introductory courses is instructor reputation, students said.

The introductory biology and neuroscience professors have extraordinary reputations, said Zack Winoker '13. "There is a well-justified culture at Brown for taking classes that have really good professors just for the sake of taking them, and I think that culture spills over into science classes," he said.

Jake Moffett '15, who left the pre-med track, agreed the teaching in BIOL 0200 was enthusiastic and effective but said the teaching in the chemistry and physics courses he took was "disgraceful."

"We pick up when you don't want to be there teaching us," Moffett said. "It's not even that we don't want to learn — we're making you do this job that you hate."

But professors said they don't necessarily see teaching introductory courses as a negative assignment.

Bernskoetter said he asked to teach CHEM 0330 last fall because he thought it was important for him to develop the "teacher scholar model." He said the chemistry department's strategy of rotating professors through introductory courses gives the course a continued "fresh flavor."

Stratt echoed these sentiments. "I like teaching intro," he said. "It's the hardest thing I do, but ... I get to be the person who tells (students) for the very first time about the way the universe works ... and if you can't be excited by that as a teacher, then what are you doing?"

Miller has taught introductory biology since he came to Brown in 1980.

Miller, who was hired to teach a higher-level course on cellular biology, volunteered to teach intro and said he "pretty much had to pick (the department chair) off the floor, because it's not a course most people volunteer for."

Miller said he teaches BIOL 0200 to "convert" students to the field of biology.

"I can't understand for the life of me why any young person in 2013 would want to study anything other than biology," Miller said. "Everyday when I go the classroom or when I visit laboratories in the afternoon, I want to convince every student that biology is the most interesting and exciting thing in the world, because that's what I think it is."

Teach me how to intro

Departments' methods for selecting who will teach introductory courses vary, with some — such as engineering, physics and chemistry — rotating the duties, while the same professors of introductory biology and neuroscience tend to teach the courses every year.

Valles said deciding teaching assignments in the physics department is a "parameter problem of optimization."

"We do it carefully," Valles said. "Our faculty typically don't teach a course more than three years at a time, so we are constantly swapping courses around."

When professors don't volunteer to teach, departments have to "give them a little push or a little shove," Miller said.

Bernskoetter said a "wealth of resources" exist to help teachers, including workshops hosted by the Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, informal faculty gatherings and peer mentoring within departments.

"If there are colleagues that have taught the intro course in your department and they've done well," professors should capitalize on their knowledge, Stein said.

Professors can pique student interest by giving students a "professional level view of what science is about," Stratt said. A professor actively involved in the field of study gives "a different perspective than books and a different perspective than high school."

"People do vote with their feet, and you have to respect that," Stratt said regarding student interest in a course. "It's my job to make them aware of why it's exciting and interesting."

While many students enroll in introductory STEM courses near the beginning of their academic career, often eyeing pre-med or engineering tracks, the numbers of students on these tracks drops steeply after the introductory level. The next part of this series will explore attrition rates within these tracks, examining who drops them and why.

-Additional reporting by Jessica Brod-

STEM 0010

An examination of introductory science courses at Brown

This series will investigate introductory science courses at Brown, examining what draws students to a field, why they lose interest and how classes at Brown might change as the nation experiments with different styles of teaching science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). You can read the entire series online at thebdh.org/stem.

Yesterday: In recent years, the University has identified the quality of STEM courses as a priority. Class sizes can pose pedagogical challenges, and departments use many strategies to maximize the impact of introductory lectures.

Today: While many students are drawn to the life sciences, few take electives in the physical sciences. This story explores what draws a student to an introductory STEM class.

Thursday: Not everyone who takes introductory courses continues to take STEM classes. This article examines the reasons students change their minds and claims of "weeding" in pre-medical and engineering courses.

Friday: The final story in the series examines pedagogical experiments undertaken at Brown and recommendations for future changes made by the Committee on Educational Innovation.

U. maintains right to access student and faculty emails

Many students remain unaware that their emails can be searched for legal proceedings

By **EMILY PASSARELLI**
STAFF WRITER

University policy allows administrators to request searches of student and faculty email accounts for life and safety issues, legal affairs and court orders or urgent University business, but many students are unaware of this provision of the University's email policy.

Who checks, and when?

"Brown email addresses belong to the University and, in the event of a legal proceeding, all email sent over these addresses is discoverable," Dean of the Faculty Kevin McLaughlin P'12 wrote in an email to the Herald.

But David Sherry, chief information security officer, said when administrators approach him asking to search a student's or faculty member's email, they must have "an urgent or business need" to do so.

Derek Shay '16, who was previously unaware of the policy, expressed discontent and said he did not think many students were aware their emails could be searched. But Matt Ostrow '16, who was also previously unaware of the policy, said he thought it was fair.

"We agreed to it when we signed up for our accounts," he said.

In the case of a court order, subjects are not notified that their email account will be searched to prevent tampering with potential evidence. But in business matters, administrators must approve the access to University emails, Sherry said.

"The policy is absolutely in line," said Lauren Clarke, faculty and stu-

dent affairs manager. In general, email privacy should not be expected for any business email address, she added.

How it's done

Three student email accounts have been searched in the five years that Sherry has worked at the University, he said.

All three were cases regarding safety issues — two students did not return after spring break, and one went missing, he said.

In these cases, student accounts were only checked for activity, and email correspondence was not read. "We don't go on fishing expeditions," he said.

Cecilia Cerrilla '16 said she thought that in the case of a missing student, the policy was fair.

Administrative accounts are searched a few times each year, Sherry said. In the past, most of these cases have involved University business in which information was needed and the person with access to the information in the email account was unavailable to access it.

Professor of Sociology David Lindstrom said though he is very protective of his privacy, he does not see anything unfair about the policy as long as he is notified in advance. "I don't write an email without thinking people will see it," he said.

When investigating accounts, Sherry reads the subject lines of emails to know which apply to the demand of the person requesting the search. "I give it to the proper authority" after finding the information, Sherry said. "It's not my responsibility anymore."

"We operate on a need-to-know principle," said Beverly Ledbetter, vice president and general counsel.

Information from email is requested as part of a court order one or two times per year, and only in criminal



BROWN

Welcome to Brown University

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Brown University

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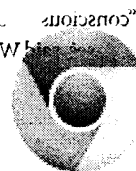
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Within the past five years, three student email accounts have been searched for safety reasons. Administrative accounts are searched several times a year due to University business issues.

cases or issues with national security, she added.

Sometimes the opposition in a court case asks for more information from an email account than the University is willing to provide.

This may include other incriminating information that is unrelated to the current offense or extra correspondence lacking relevant material.

Ledbetter said that it is a "big, big headache" when this happens because she has to make a case as to why she is withholding the information.

"We don't snoop, even when requested to do so," Ledbetter added.

Brown among the Ivies

Harvard's policies, which sometimes allow the investigation of emails to protect the university, recently received national attention following two scandals involving the leak of confidential information about student cheating, according to Harvard's website.

Columbia has an email security policy that assures "officials will not read email unless necessary in the course of their duties," and Princeton "reserves the right to access and copy files and documents (including e-mail and voicemail) re-

siding on university-owned equipment," according to the Columbia and Princeton websites, respectively.

Sherry said that while students should feel safe when they use their Brown emails, they should not expect 100 percent security.

"From a Brown perspective, we are not monitoring or scanning email," he said. But "it is inherent in the Internet that email is unsafe," he added.

"I'm always suspicious," Clarke said of the safety of information sent through email. "But do I think that my Brown address is safer? Probably," she added.

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Panelists discuss reauthorization of Violence Against Women Act

The panel focused on ways to expand VAWA, despite legislation passed last month

By KATE DESIMONE
STAFF WRITER

The Violence Against Women Act, reauthorized earlier this year after contentious national debate, spurred conversation in a panel discussion in the Stephen Robert '62 Campus Center Tuesday afternoon.

President Obama's signature on the legislation last month extended resources and added new provisions, but the theme of the discussion was "VAWA: There's still a lot of work to be done," said panelist Rachel DiBella, graduate clinical intern in domestic violence and sexual assault prevention at Newton-Wellesley Hospital in Massachusetts and graduate director of Boston College's Sexual Assault Network.

VAWA, originally passed in 1994, provides resources to support victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Its reauthorization includes new provisions specific to victims from LGBT, native tribal and undocumented immigrant communities, among other changes.

Vanessa Volz, attorney and executive director of Sojourner House, a Rhode Island center for domestic violence victims, opened the panel discussion with an overview of the effects of VAWA. In addition to creating the Office on Violence Against Women, through which many organizations receive funding, VAWA made police, community organizers and other resources "able to provide a coordinated



ZEIN KHEIF / HERALD

Panelists spoke about the Violence Against Women Act's effects on national trends in violence against women, as well as its new provisions for groups most prone to assault, such as Native American women and transgender individuals.

response" to instances of abuse. As a result of VAWA, more victims report their abusers, and survivors are better informed about places they can turn to, Volz said. Domestic homicide rates have declined, and all states have made spousal rape a crime, she added.

While VAWA's reauthorization passed without controversy in 2000 and 2005, its most recent extension met resistance from Republicans in the House of Representatives. Members of the opposition argued that it gave overly broad powers to the federal government and that it posed a threat to family values, a sentiment

Volz said was "intertwined" with backlash against Planned Parenthood and other services offered to women.

Erin Miller, coordinator for domestic violence and sexual assault prevention at Newton-Wellesley Hospital, said there are "lots and lots of things that we deserve ... that we didn't even dare ask for" during heated debate over women's issues.

The discussion surrounding VAWA became about "who gets to be a citizen and whose safety matters," which Miller called "a conversation that was way off in left field ... not the conversation we should have been

having."

"This, for me personally, was an eye-opener," said Michelle Nuey, manager of special services in the Department of Public Safety, who participated in the panel. Nuey formerly worked for a VAWA agency in the Mashpee Wompanoag tribe, of which she is a member. A new provision in the reauthorized VAWA gives native tribes authority to prosecute non-Native American offenders who assault Native American women, closing some of the gaps in jurisdiction between tribal and federal courts, Nuey said.

Some congressmen's resistance to the expansion of tribal court authority demonstrated a desire to provide more rights to the alleged offender and a "deliberate indifference" to injustices against Native Americans, Nuey said. Native American women are abused at rates far greater than the national average, Nuey said, citing a study from the Justice Department that found that over 86 percent of assaults were by non-Indian offenders.

The newest version of VAWA adds an LGBT-focused area to the grant program, authorizes states to fund their own LGBT-focused programs and explicitly prohibits VAWA services from discriminating on the basis of sexuality. DiBella said she is approaching these changes with "some excitement" and "a little bit of caution."

Research suggests rates of domestic violence are much higher in "gender-transcending communities,"

but offenders are reported much less frequently. DiBella cited a survey in which 64 percent of transgender individuals reported experiencing sexual assault, 28 percent said they had deliberately put off seeking care for an injury out of fear of discrimination and over half said they made efforts to avoid interaction with police and law enforcement.

Miller described VAWA's reauthorization as a victory but said the legislation is not an ideal solution to sexual assault and domestic violence. Criminal legal responses account for 70 percent of VAWA's spending, Miller said, but often "survivors don't want that response."

"There's a better VAWA out there," Miller said, though she said she does not know what it would look like.

In contrast to the recent controversy, VAWA originally passed in 1994 with bipartisan support. Grassroots organizations to support survivors of abuse in the 1960s and '70s spurred a movement to create laws against domestic violence, Volz said. This was a shift from traditional attitudes, which viewed domestic violence as a private matter that did not concern the government or society as a whole and did not account for the "very large economic impacts that are caused due to violence against women," Volz said. Domestic violence costs \$5.8 billion in damages such as mental health treatment and relocation of survivors and 8 million days of missed work, she said.

G w e n // VAWA page 8

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Mali civil war and health care needs dominate talk

Despite the conflict, the Mali Health Organizing Project brings health care to mothers and children

By **ALBERT ANDERSON**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Working in Mali during the country's ongoing civil war has been a "challenging context ... but also a fascinating one," said Kris Ansin, executive director of the Mali Health Organizing Project, in a talk Tuesday night.

Ansin said he hopes MHOP can take advantage of the unique timing to make an even more positive impact.

MHOP was founded by Caitlin Cohen '08 in 2006 with a mission to improve maternal and child health sustainability in Bamako, Mali's capital. Ansin spoke along with Assistant Professor of Economics Anja Sautmann to a small group of listeners in Wilson 105.

MHOP provides health care directly to children and mothers using funding from private donors and fundraising and advocacy groups like its Brown chapter. Though rich in natural resources, Mali has the second-highest infant mortality rate in the world, according to the CIA World Factbook, and suffers from widespread poverty and poor infrastructure. Many foreign governments cut off aid to the country after a March 2012 coup that saw a shift in power and a subsequent civil war.

Ansin's talk focused on how the situation on the ground has evolved over the past month and how the conflict has affected MHOP's efforts. He detailed the positive reception French troops received after their intervention enabled the liberation of several northern cities from separatist forces, and he described how his organization aided some families who fled from the north to Bamako after the war began.

After being forced out of the cities, the separatists have resorted to protracted guerilla warfare in Mali's mountainous regions, which may have consequences for MHOP, Ansin said.

"First and foremost, we have to pay more attention to security than we ever did," Ansin said, adding that the possible withdrawal of French forces is a looming concern for the organization. Nevertheless, he said Bamako has been untouched by the violence in the north so far.

Mohamed Traore, a community member born in Mali who still has family in the country's north and south, asked whether MHOP has any plans to extend its services to people in the north affected by the conflict. Ansin responded that it is certainly a possibility as long as the group's original goals can continue to be met.

After the event, Traore told The Herald he was pleased with the conversation, adding that he was "really glad to see that both the speakers have a good grasp on the reality of the north (of Mali)." He said MHOP's work is useful in that it addresses the people most vulnerable to health concerns: women and children.

For Sautmann, the civil war came at the worst possible time. She is currently in the midst of conducting a study on MHOP's efforts that she says will provide data on the effectiveness of free health care in economically depressed regions. She said her study was on track for funding from the U.S. government, but the civil war has delayed the process indefinitely.

"The motivation for (the study) is a really longstanding debate in health policy, which is: Should poor countries have health systems where people pay for the care, or where the care is free?" Sautmann described. The broadly accepted notion is that private health care is more effective than free care provided by poor governments, despite the hardship on poor families, she said. But an increasing number of health organizations are challenging this assertion, she said.

The first round of data on a group of Malians was collected last fall, before they received help from MHOP. The second round will be gathered this fall after they have received medical help. Despite the challenges the civil war has posed for her study, Sautmann said she is determined to continue anyway, saying the project "will get done, somehow."

Yuki Davis '15, co-president of the Brown chapter of MHOP, helped organize the event. She said Brown students should be concerned about the health situation in Mali because as such an impoverished nation, its people are in dire need of tangible support from organizations like MHOP.

Davis said she hopes some good can come of the civil war. "As unfortunate as the whole crisis is, it's definitely putting the media attention to Mali that otherwise would not be apparent in the area," she said.



ZEIN KHEIF / HERALD

The executive director of the Mali Health Organizing Project addressed students and community members at a talk Tuesday evening.

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// VAWA page 6

Bouie-Haynes, project director for domestic violence services and the rape crisis center program of Catholic Charities, said she was in Providence visiting her son and daughter who are exchange students from Tougaloo College and saw publicity for the event. "It's too important of an issue to miss a discussion that will yield benefits for the future," she said.

"I like the community here," Bouie-Haynes said, adding that the resources discussed in the panel showed a more coordinated response to issues than she has faced in her over 25 years of experience in the area. She said the discussion gave her ideas that she will take back with her to Mississippi.

Adele Levine '14 attended the panel and said she appreciated the "institution-led discussion" on issues omitted from popular media coverage of VAWA. "I'm glad someone was talking about it," Levine said.

"The Violence Against Women Act: Politics and Realities" was sponsored by the Taubman Center for Public Policy, the LGBTQ Center and the Sarah Doyle Women's Center. Gretchen Schultz, associate professor of French studies, introduced the event and spoke about Masha Dexter '06, for whom the annual memorial lecture is named. Dexter died in 2004 from Hodgkin's disease, and Dexter's mother, Natasha, was among the approximately 50 audience members in Petterutti Lounge Tuesday afternoon.

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Students volunteer to phone minority admits

Congratulatory calls in recruitment push will go to Asian American admits for the first time

By **MAGGIE LIVINGSTONE**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

All admitted students of color from the class of 2017 — including, for the first time, Asian Americans — will receive phone calls this week from student volunteers congratulating them on their acceptance.

Forty-five percent of the accepted 2,649 students from this year's admitted class identify as students of color, a group that includes African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans and Asian Americans, The Herald previously reported.

The event is organized by the minority recruitment interns from the Admission Office and will take place Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week from 4 to 9 p.m. in the Maddock Alumni Center.

This is the "third or fourth" time minority admitted students have been called after an admission cycle, said Elizabeth Hart, director of minority recruitment.

Asian Americans are now included because of increased numbers of volunteers and extended calling times. Native Americans were called

for the first time during last year's event.

"When we first began calling, we started out small with the populations that are less represented in our applicant pool," Hart said. "So we began with African Americans and Latinos."

Hart said she does not expect the event to expand to all admitted students in the near future simply because there are not enough resources at the Office of Admission to contact all accepted applicants. She added that the office is "already stretched thin" doing this event and that the Maddock Alumni Center is loaning the calling space.

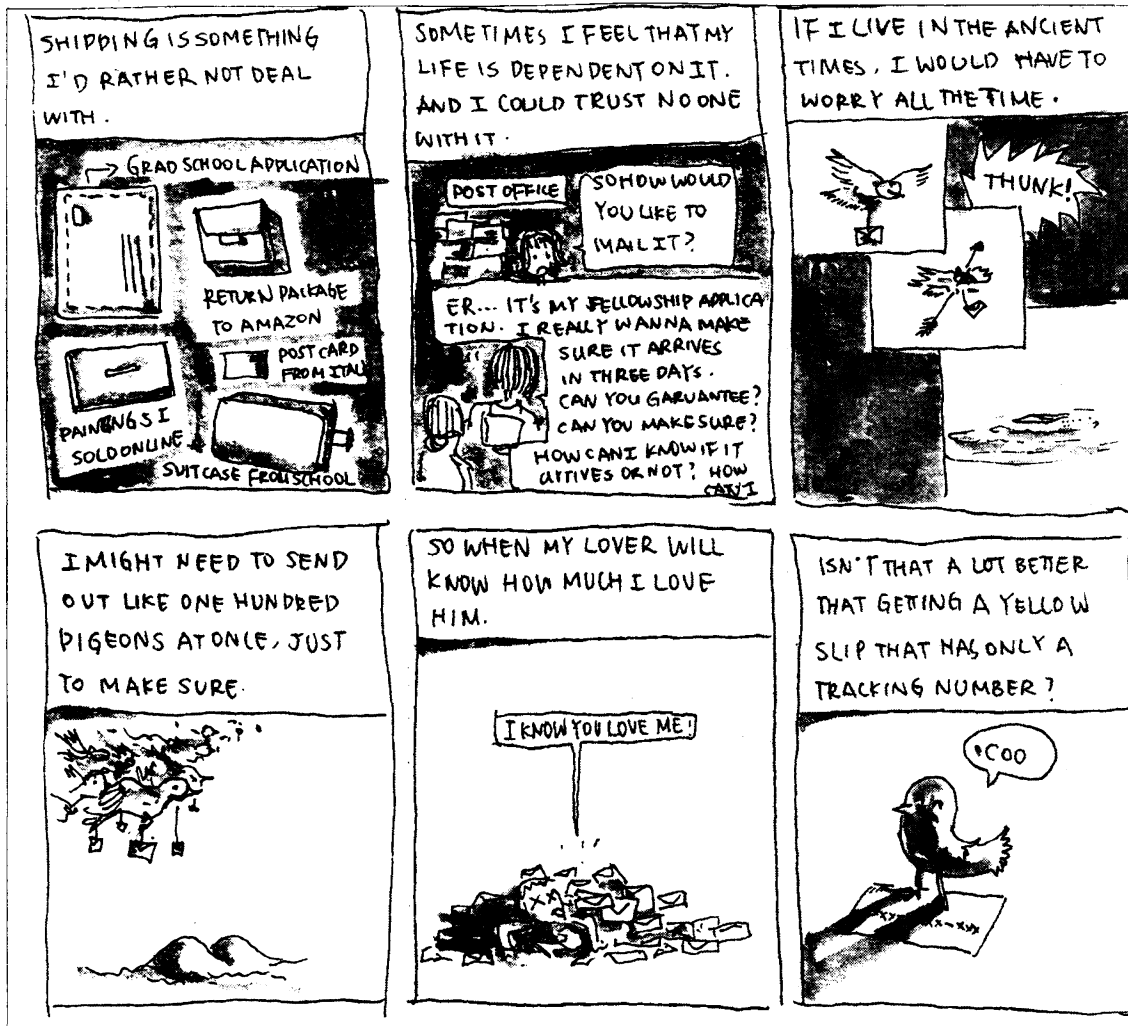
Student volunteers will call the admitted students using a rough format, which will include extending a "warm welcome" to the admitted students, explaining their own "Brown experience" and then allowing time for questions, Hart said.

"We want to show these students that we have a strong student of color presence on campus," said Manuel Contreras '16, a minority recruitment intern and one of the event's coordinators. He added that this event is key in attracting minority students to Brown because some of these students may have been unable to visit campus before the May 1 commitment date.

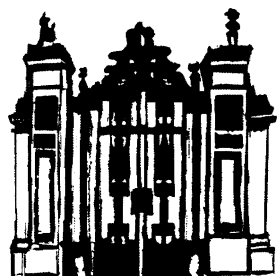
"Our first goal is to present Brown as a serious option to these students and answer additional information they might need," Hart said. "And then we hope they'll come."

COMICS

Ling-A-Ling | Ling Zhou



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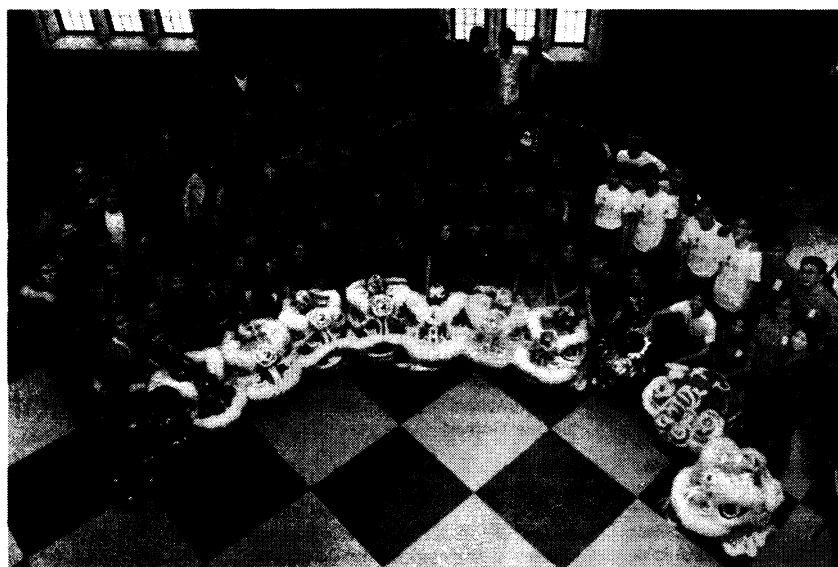


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EDITORIAL

The innovation institution

According to a recent Herald article, 58 percent of admits to Brown's class of 2017 "intend to concentrate in the physical or life sciences, with engineering, biology and computer science topping the list." This illustrates a rise in students interested in pursuing careers in the sciences — a trend President Obama highlighted Tuesday, when he unveiled the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies project alongside scientists like John Donoghue PhD'79 P'09 P'12 MD'16, professor of neuroscience. We are delighted to see federal support for scientific endeavors and attempts to stimulate growth for emerging scientists. We hope this initiative means the White House will extend its support to smaller but equally important research and development projects.

Funding research by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation among others, the BRAIN project, budgeted \$100 million for fiscal year 2014, shows great potential for cross-departmental work and public-private cooperation that will advance our knowledge of technology, biology and medicine. The project has been critiqued for emphasizing the development of technology prematurely. But after a decade without explicit government backing for a major scientific endeavor like the Human Genome Project, we laud this support of scientific knowledge and investment in the future.

But we must note that many research projects have been put on hold or cancelled entirely due to a lack of funding — or lack of willingness to fund — from the federal government. Despite the rise in students studying the sciences, federal funding for research and development has been declining for decades. The Washington Post reported on a study prepared for the National Academy of Sciences showing that, between 1970 and 1975, federal funding for research and development "fell as a percentage of gross domestic product by 54 percent" in physical sciences. This is despite the fact that America is increasingly becoming a knowledge-based economy that requires development to stay competitive in the global market.

Investing more of the budget in scientific research — and not merely the so-called federally run "Big Science" project — encourages innovation, development and the creation of new technology. Obama's State of the Union address this February called on the nation to cease cutting investment in scientific research and "reach a level of research and development not seen since the height of the Space Race." Though space and military technology boomed during the Cold War, funding during this period also led to other projects that have tangible effects today, such as the development of large-scale radar equipment and the use of isotopic tracers in the biological and geological sciences.

Funding research and development is not only imperative for future participation in a globalized world, but expanding scientific opportunities will also provide significant employment prospects for the many students engaged in STEM studies. Developments like federal budget cuts to NASA — \$900 million from the sequester alone — signal a disturbing lack of appreciation for scientific development. When a major government agency is reduced to crowdsourcing part of its funding on Indiegogo, as NASA did this week, federal investment priorities must be reexamined.

Federal support for scientific initiatives like the BRAIN project is an excellent development in terms of research and development for the future. With so many students at Brown and other colleges embarking on careers and academic trajectories that involve this kind of research, it is imperative that individual institutions, researchers and projects are given a greater chance to innovate. Our collective future — not merely in scientific knowledge, but also in economic and international terms — depends on it.

Editorials are written by The Herald's editorial page board: its editor, Dan Jeon, and its members, Mintaka Angell, Samuel Choi, Nicholas Morley and Rachel Occhiogrosso. Send comments to editorials@browndailyherald.com.

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EDITORIAL CARTOON BY ANGELIA WANG

WHY NO BROWN ALUM HAS BEEN ELECTED PRESIDENT



Angelia W.

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

“We don't go on fishing expeditions.”

— David Sherry, chief information security officer

See EMAIL on page 5.



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ADVERTISING POLICY

Coming out of the marriage closet



MATT BRUNDAGE
OPINIONS EDITOR

I value marriage. I do not believe it is for everyone, I think too many people blindly accept it as a way of life, and I don't think it is the only sort of relationship that the government should recognize, but I still value it. I say this because over the last month in particular, we have seen just about everyone on the Internet taking sides on the issue of marriage equality, including a unique brand of gay rights advocates who oppose the movement toward marriage equality on the premise that marriage is a neoliberal, oppressive institution.

The first issue I take with most marriage equality skeptics is the way they mock the consumerism associated with marriage. This consumerism is a problem with the silly manner in which some individuals choose to commit to one another and with cultural representations of marriage, not a problem with marriage itself. People who drop a small country's net worth on a wedding are also likely to throw other absurdly expensive parties, buy three Coach purses and consider Kim Kardashian relevant. The problem isn't marriage. It's consumerism. The two are completely separate, and reducing recent steps toward marriage equality to underlying consumerist desires ignores every individual, like myself, who appreciates the values associated with marriage but does his best to re-

ject consumerism.

This brings me back to my central point: I believe the values associated with marriage are beautiful. Over the last three years, I have stood by as both of my sisters vowed to their husbands that they will be there for them in sickness and in health and that they will spend their lives together until death do them part. Perhaps if we could all drop our sense of irony for a moment — though certainly this is too much to ask of plenty of Brown students — we might recognize what

There is something even more fundamentally wrong with these assertions than that I am a white upper-middle class homosexual who deeply values marriage — and I am no conquered mind — or that assigning a race and class to the values associated with marriage is unfair considering the range of religions, ethnicities, classes and races across the globe that value everything associated with marriage. The more gaping issue with these claims is that negating the value of something because it historically has been associ-

circumstances. Need I point to imperialist interpretations of indigenous peoples' culture?

The point that Zacks and other marriage skeptics tend to make is that marriage equality isn't enough. The government needs to recognize other forms of relationships people may choose to have when it comes to questions of, say, health insurance. I wholeheartedly agree, but if society is not with us on this point yet, I would certainly rather compromise for the moment and accept what progress I can, instead of ridiculing the steps forward as not enough.

Furthermore, if we are to value all progress on the basis of whether it brings us directly to the place we want to be, then by these standards we have never made progress at all in LGBTQ issues. Keep in mind the police raids of gay bars, the incarceration of individuals for simply being in one of these bars and the overwhelmingly popular belief that homosexuality was a mental disease only two generations ago. Now, we are on the brink of marriage equality.

If we cannot recognize this achievement as progress, and if we can only scowl at the conservatives joining the movement for all the wrong reasons, then what are we but doomed cynics? There's nothing wrong with asking for more, but it becomes a problem when it comes at the price of devaluing what progress we continue to see. Marriage equality is the right step forward.

Matt Brundage '15 will not be thinking about government oppression and control on his wedding day.

Marriage is far more than a "long, boring life in a double bed," and reducing one's most deep-rooted cultural values to something like this would not be acceptable under most other circumstances.

a great moment it is in a human's life to devote him or herself to the life of another. It doesn't have to be a sexist or oppressive devotion, even though it sometimes is and more frequently was in the past.

The conversation about marriage among those who consider it a socially conservative institution speaks to their limited imagination of what a marriage can be. In a Herald opinions column, Mika Zacks '15 ("I don't," Feb. 26) calls it "one of the most oppressive patriarchal institutions known to mankind," based in "white middle-class heterosexual values."

ated with oppression is nonsensical. Should we negate the value of the democratic process since it was once limited to white, property-owning men? Certainly not.

I further wonder why it is that Zacks feels comfortable mocking everything she associates with marriage, while I am certain that any condescending remarks concerning other varieties of relationships would be completely unwelcome coming from me. Marriage is far more than a "long, boring life in a double bed," and reducing one's most deep-rooted cultural values to something like this would not be acceptable under most other

Economists need ethics



ANDREW POWERS
OPINIONS COLUMNIST

Present in any discipline is an overarching goal that drives the research and application of the field. In some specialties, these goals are generally uncontroversial. But in others, societal effects have far-reaching ethical implications. A paradigmatic example of this is biological weapons research, in which a purely scientific objective comes into conflict with moral values. Similarly, economics plays a role in the well-being of society. Thus, it would be prudent for the Department of Economics to require that concentrators spend at least one semester studying ethics.

Personally, I've always found the traditional debate over economic policy to be painfully fruitless. Each party proposes a different plan, with each claiming that its plan is superior and that the opposition's is misinformed. But it seems misguided to debate the details when the fundamental goals of the policies are completely different. It's like debating whether a fork is superior to a spoon. Just like objects, policies are evaluated on a context-dependent basis — with the relevant objective being the appropriate context.

Of course, plenty of disincentives discourage politicians from ever actually bringing up these underlying issues. The less a politician commits to a stance on any issue, the more he or she can appeal to the entire electorate.

But economics concentrators at Brown aren't running for office just yet, and they could certainly stand to benefit from questioning their assumptions every now and again. To give a student the tools to understand and actively support some economic progress is dangerous without first ensuring his or her careful contemplation of what that progress ought to entail.

The ability to problem-solve presupposes a knowledge of the desired outcome. All the construction personnel and equipment in the world are useless without a blueprint to guide them. The mathematical tools learned in an economics classroom

Without such an end, there could be no goals of consequence, as there would be no standard by which one could assess outcomes as good or bad. There is no point in improving the design of a mechanical heart if there is no evaluative difference between the outcomes of keeping patients alive and well or letting them suffer or die. It is only through moral ends that we can derive such value. For the sake of meaningful argument, I will assume that objective moral facts exist and that we can obtain some understanding of them. Assuredly, these are controversial assumptions to make, but without them, the entire dis-

that's your measure of value, you have to understand and accept all the implications that go along with believing in such a normative system. You'd almost certainly be committed to supporting torture if it could save lives. You might even have to believe that the clinically depressed should be medicated against their will — or even exterminated.

Considerations such as these give us pause and make us wonder if we really have the correct goal in mind. But no matter how you want to justify your positions — economic or otherwise — some backing must exist and the foundations of your system cannot be taken for granted.

The argument I have presented so far would suggest that everyone should take an ethics class — which everyone definitely should — but this doesn't explain why economics concentrators in particular should be required to do so. It's because of both the significance and undecided nature of the topic. Whatever the ultimate ethical goal, economic policy probably plays an enormous role in moving either toward or away from it. Additionally, if people tended to agree upon specifics, there would be much less of a practical need to know which goal was correct since most of them necessitate similar policies.

Questioning basic beliefs is quintessential to the Brunonian ethos, and given the vehement disagreements inherent to economics, addressing ethics would seem especially necessary.

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allow students to solve artificially created goals on their tests, just as our weapons researcher has the ability to solve the artificially created goals designated in his government contract. But artificial objectives are just that — artificial. They serve as surrogates for what would be thought of as morally desirable goals, such as increasing power-efficiency in a mechanical heart as a proxy for improving a patient's quality of life.

Such artificial goals are always a secondary — a means to an ultimate end.

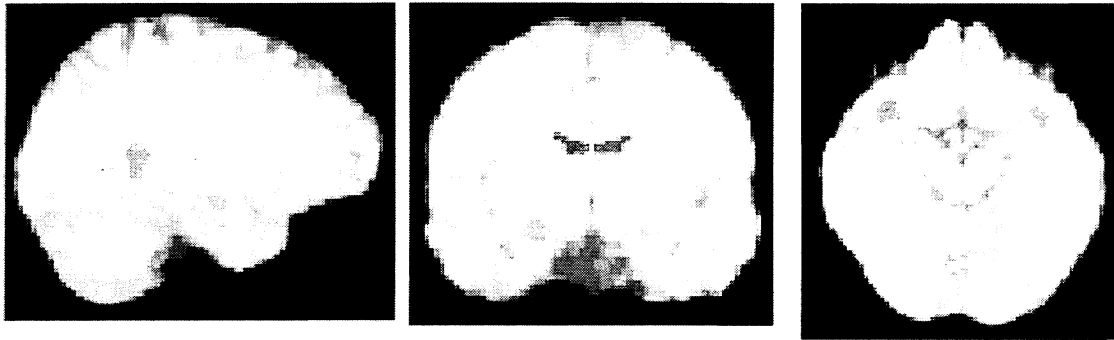
cussion is moot.

So what is the proper end? Maximizing total utility? Protecting individual property rights? Taking an ethics class almost certainly won't give you a definitive answer to this question, but that doesn't mean the answer isn't worth pursuing or that nothing can be gained from the pursuit.

Let's say you justify progressive taxation via utilitarianism — i.e. a dollar in the hand of a homeless man provides more happiness than it would were it to remain in Ebenezer Scrooge's bank account. If

Decreased right hippocampal neural activity during social tasks among children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) vs. adults with ASD

(Dickstein DP et al. J Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 2013).



COURTESY OF DANIEL DICKSTEIN

New research found that the neural differences associated with autism vary as individuals age. The team of researchers compared functional brain images of 535 children and 604 adults in the study.

Study finds age-related differences in autism

A professor's meta-analysis found that neural markers of autism change with age

By CHANELLE ADAMS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Autism disorders affect children's brains differently than they do in adults' brains, according to new research led by Daniel Dickstein, associate professor of psychiatry and human behavior.

The study, published in the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry last month, is the first large-scale data analysis concerning age-related changes in brain activity that are associated with autism, he said.

For his research, Dickstein analyzed data from previous studies through a meta-analysis, which he

described as "a statistically sound way to pool large sets of data." This technique allowed Dickstein and his team to compare functional brain images of 535 children with and without autism to a similar set of images of 604 adult brains.

"This type of meta-analysis allows us to specify criteria for comparison," said Matthew Pescosolido GS, a neuroscience graduate student who worked on the study.

The study found that the neural differences associated with autism may change as individuals age. The data showed that areas of high brain activity in children diagnosed with autism are different from the areas of high activity in adults diagnosed with the disorder.

"When people think about autism, they think about kids — but these kids become adults," Dickstein said.

A better understanding of autism could lead to more effective treat-

ments for both children and adults by targeting specific areas of the brain, Pescosolido said.

In the past, Dickstein's research has mainly focused on bipolar disorder, ADHD and anxiety disorders, but he has always been interested in studying autism, he said.

After working at the National Institute of Mental Health, Dickstein returned to Brown, where he started the Pediatric Mood, Imaging and Neurodevelopment Program — Pedi-MIND — at Bradley Hospital in 2007.

"Dr. Dickstein is at the absolute forefront of conducting neuroimaging of children with psychiatric disorders," Pescosolido said.

Dickstein, who is a trained pediatrician and child psychiatrist, said he hopes Pedi-MIND can help lead the way in identifying biological and behavioral markers of psychiatric illnesses in children to improve diagnoses and treatment of these conditions.

Lecture reveals Adam Smith's take on justice

A George Mason professor delivered a 'Talmudic' approach to the famed economist

By ABIGAIL SAVITCH-LEW
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The 18th-century philosopher Adam Smith is frequently described as the father of capitalism and is well known for praising what he called the market's "invisible hand." But he also developed complex theories of justice, said Daniel Klein, an economics professor at George Mason University, in a lecture Tuesday evening.

"My approach is very Talmudic," Klein said, promising to deliver an "exegesis of Smith." He gave the approximately 30 attendees in MacMillan 115 handouts filled with graphs, block quotes and analytical notes to guide attendees through the presentation.

Klein argued that Smith identified multiple facets of justice beyond the well-known idea of "commutative justice," which was Smith's term for "rules against not messing with other people's stuff," Klein said.

One of the handouts included Smith's definition of "distributive

justice," which instructs individuals to "conceive for (your neighbor) all that love, respect and esteem, which his character, his situation and his connection with ourselves, render suitable and proper for us to feel."

Another facet, which Smith never named and Klein called "estimative justice," explained justice as making an estimation that fully recognizes an object's value, Klein said. Smith also wrote of a fourth kind of justice stemming from Plato's theories that is a kind of "comprehensive estimative justice," Klein said.

"The rules of commutative justice are like the rules of grammar," Klein said, comparing the other justices to what Smith called "the rules which critics lay down for the attainment of what is sublime and elegant in composition." In other words, it is clear when one has violated commutative justice but more "loose" or "vague" when one has violated distributive or estimative justice, Klein said.

If Smith were to apply his theories in practice, he would not support a welfare state but would endorse taxation for purposes beyond the protection of private property, Klein said. Smith had ties to his government and for practical reasons might not have wanted to endorse great changes to the status quo, he said. Smith's writings did not extensively discuss the "poor laws" instituted in his country

at the time.

Smith believed that, with certain exceptions allowed to the government, no one should be "messing with other people's stuff" and thus infringing on commutative justice, Klein said.

An action is unjust only when it violates commutative justice or, in terms of distributive justice and estimative justice, "falls below the point of propriety" — what Smith saw as a middle ground of acceptability, Klein said.

During a question-and-answer session following the presentation, Matt Mettler '13 raised concerns that Smith's complex theory of justice and his belief in human equality could be used to justify economic redistribution and "all sorts of things that it seems Smith is not necessarily for."

Adam Shur '14, president of Students for Liberty, the student organization that hosted the event, said he understood Mettler's question. The ambiguity of "the point of propriety" makes putting Smith's theories into practice challenging, he agreed.

Members of Students for Liberty, a group that aims to promote discussion and education on freedom and rights, invited Klein to speak because they thought he could provide a unique perspective on the "different ways people come to the ideas of libertarianism," Shur said.

SCIENCE & RESEARCH ROUNDUP

BY KATE NUSSENBAUM, SCIENCE & RESEARCH EDITOR

BRAIN initiative to include U. faculty

President Obama announced the launch of the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies Initiative Tuesday, stating that the federal government would devote around \$100 million to the project in fiscal year 2014, according to the White House blog.

Professor of Neuroscience John Donoghue PhD'79 P'09 P'12 MD'16 and Professor of Engineering Arto Nurmikko traveled to Washington, D.C. to attend the announcement, according to a University press release.

Donoghue will serve on a team of advisers to help National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins oversee the direction of the initiative, according to the press release.

Donoghue was part of a team of scientists who submitted a proposal to the government for a project that would map the neurons in the human brain, The Herald previously reported.

The goal of the team's proposed project was to fill "the gap in our knowledge in understanding the brain," Donoghue previously told The Herald.

In his announcement, Obama named the organizations that will lead the BRAIN project, which include the National Institutes of Health, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the National Science Foundation. Private-sector partners will also contribute to the project.

"As humans, we can identify galaxies light years away. We can study particles smaller than an atom. But we still haven't unlocked the mystery of the three pounds of matter that sits between our ears," Obama said in his speech.

Study finds increased minority enrollment in PhD programs

The University's Initiative to Maximize Student Development — a program to improve enrollment and performance of underrepresented PhD students in the life sciences — has proven effective, according to new research published in the journal CBE-Life Sciences Education last month.

Andrew Campbell, associate professor of medical science who served as the lead author of the study, began developing the program in 2006, according to a University press release.

Part of Campbell's strategy to attract underrepresented minority students to Brown involved creating partnerships with colleges with high populations of underrepresented minority students, according to the press release.

In addition to recruiting students from these colleges, Brown professors also analyzed their curricula to identify potential gaps in these students' knowledge bases. They were then able to develop graduate courses to help students gain missing skills, according to the press release.

In the 2007-08 school year — the year before the initiative began — only 17 percent of University doctoral students in the life sciences belonged to underrepresented minority groups. By the 2011-12 school year, that figure climbed to 23 percent, compared to a national average of about 10 percent, according to the press release.

The academic performance of minority students has also improved in the years since the program's implementation, the study reported.

Exposure to meth alters stress response

Researchers at Brown and other universities discovered that toddlers whose mothers used methamphetamine while pregnant may have reduced responses to stress.

Their study will be published in the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs next month.

To determine toddlers' response to stress, researchers left them in a room without their caregiver for three minutes. Such separation typically invokes stress in young children, according to the study.

Researchers then analyzed saliva samples from more than 120 2-year-olds who had gone through the procedure in order to measure their levels of cortisol, a hormone typically released in response to stress.

They found that most toddlers who had both been exposed to meth in utero and had signs of "strife" in their lives had "blunted" responses to stress, according to an article on the Medical News website.

"It's not the meth alone," said Barry Lester, director of the Brown Center for the Study of Children at Risk and senior author of the study, in the article. "It's the combination of meth exposure and adversity after birth. We see other things coming into play — the mother's psychological health, alcohol use, exposure to violence at home or in the community. The postnatal environment is hugely important."