





3 Slice of Life

4 NUpdate

5 Student SpotlightKristina Lafferty

6 Going Green

It's Not Easy Being Green? False!

8 Faculty Voice

Recycle and Obey, O Stewards of the Earth!

9 Student Life

Ringing In A New Tradition 10 Pop Culture

Love Thy Neighbor

11 Entertainment

Rare Sights of NU

12 Sports

Softball Girls Play Hardball

13 Entertainment

Take A Hike!

14 Editorials

Right to Write: Should The Talon

Lose Its Funding?

Northwest University's Student Magazine *The Talon* March 2014 Issue • Cover Photo by MZwicker Editor in Chief: Heather Karnes • Assistant Editor: Marlene Pierce • Adviser: Dr. Kara Heinrichs Layout Designer: Rachel Brewster • Web Manager: Austin Carney • Head Photographer: Matthew Zwicker Senior Writers: Peter McMurray - Kalynn Martell - Maritza Lino • Writers: Andrew Bonesteel - Mike Bowman - Gabriel Cline - Elisabeth Fonden - Siobhon McManus - Katie Powell - Joy Shin - Rachael Wood - Jacob Woodward • Photographers: Colton Brown - Mike Bowman - Kimberly Garza - Patty Karakas - Joy Shin - Olivia VanDlac



NUpdate Roomies. KEEP IT SIMPLE.

Roomies

Girls, are you ready? Roomies is coming up! On the days leading up to March 22 and 23, NU girls can ask guys to go to Roomies for their roommate. A campuswide event, Roomies is a time where you have the opportunity to hang out with your friends and just have fun! Some floors even make it a floor event where each girl asks a guy from her brother floor. Others go out in smaller groups with their friends. Don't hesitate to ask someone and make new friends! For more information, check nusgov.com and the NU Student Government Facebook page.



NUSG Elections

Let your voice be heard by voting for your next student leaders! The 2014-2015 student leader elections are around the corner. This year, due to the changing of the NUSG organizational structure, students will only vote for three positions: President, Vice President (Senate Chair), and Treasurer. On March 19, all candidates will give their campaign speeches in chapel after which students will have the opportunity to cast their ballots. NUSG will provide

more information on elections.nusgov.com as the election unfolds, so stay tuned!



photo credits: NUSG, RBrewster

Cultural Coffeehouse

Interested in meeting people from different cultures? Like free coffee? Then don't miss the 2nd annual Cultural Coffee House on March 6 at 7:30pm. Hosted at St. James Espresso in downtown Kirkland, the event features students sharing about different cultures through poetry, music, and spoken word. Simply come and watch your peers perform and enjoy the java. There will be free coffee for the first 50 NU students! Keep an eye out for more updates on nusgov.com and on the NU Student Government Facebook page.

BE THE BEST.

photo credit: NUSG

Kristina Lafferty Following Hon Future

Following Her Future

Kristina Lafferty, a junior psychology major, wears many hats: student, military fiancée, choir girl, psych major, and Caf worker. She displays skill and discipline in a multitude of settings.

Pursuing a concentration in marriage and family studies, the psychology student abandoned her dreams of becoming a forensic psychologist when she felt God calling her into the field of social work.

"I'm not exactly sure what I want to do specifically in that field, so it's up to God to lead me exactly where He wants me to go," explained Lafferty. "I've got a year to go before I graduate, so hopefully He shows

"It's up to God to lead me exactly where He wants me to go."

me soon. I don't want to work in the Caf forever!"

Valedictorian of her high school class, the studious scholar has excelled in university and maintains good grades all while being involved Choralons, the school's traveling choir, playing trombone in the jazz band, and acting as secretary in the newly-formed Northwest University Veteran's club.

While many pursue education to help them prepare for a future occupation, the 19-year-old Lafferty is preparing for more than just a job in her future. Engaged to a soldier, she is no stranger to having faith in what is to come.

Having met John Headrick, her fiancé, at a camp when she was 15, Lafferty soon found herself watching as he shipped off to boot camp to train for the U.S. Army.

"People always say, 'oh, it must be so hard!' when they find out that I am in a relationship with a soldier," the military fiancée mused. "In some ways it is, but in some ways it isn't. Yes, we miss each other every day. But we cherish the little time we get to spend together as a result of it."

While Headrick was deployed, the woman whose

heart he held waited anxiously for news of his safety. "I worried about him every day, and when I received word that there were fallen soldiers, my heart dropped until I heard from him," she recalled. But instead of letting worry and anxiety control her, Lafferty used the deployment to strengthen her faith.

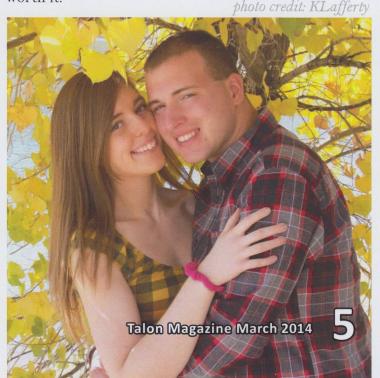
"His deployment basically forced me to put my faith in God, to know that His will would be done, and that no matter what happened while John was gone, God would bear the weight of my burdens," she explained with wisdom beyond her years.

With graduation and a wedding around the corner, no clear job choice yet, and a fiancé currently

serving in the army, many would find themselves overwhelmed. Not so with Lafferty.

Between God and Headrick, Lafferty knows that she will never truly be alone in her endeavors.

"I love him with all my heart, he cherishes me, and the obstacles his career has thrown at us have actually only strengthened our love and commitment to each other," she summarized. "Yes, while a military relationship has its challenges, the love you feel for each other more than outweighs the negatives. It's worth it."



Going >>> Green

It's Not Easy Being Green? FALSE!

On the sixth day of Earth's existence, God charged humanity with the care and stewardship of his greatest creation: a planet teeming with all manner of interesting creatures, environments, and yet undiscovered wonders. This ultimately begs the question: are we doing enough as Christians in honoring God's will?

While most Christians are raised with a 'stewards of the Earth' mentality, not all of them are doing all they can to act on it. Past generations have proven that many fall short of the responsibility of being dominant, intelligent beings.

As overseers of the Earth, humans have an inherent responsibility to create and maintain a sustainable living environment for both ourselves and the entire creation.

Humanity—with Christians included—has a tendency to forget that the world we

leave behind becomes the next generation's responsibility.

Proverbs 13:22 states that "a good man leaves an inheritance for his children." Christians are charged with caring for the world in a manner that promotes earthly longevity, and as our knowledge of Earth increases, so does our responsibility to preserve it.

Northwest University's culture has recently adopted a clean environment as a more important idea than ever before, as seen by the rapid increase in recycling bins around campus. Why the change? "Loving the environment is loving each other!" said Marmar Castro, chairwoman of the NU Science Society's Environment Committee, in relating our obligation to the Earth to our Christian faith.

Dr. Brad Embry, current NU theology professor, notes that "in this day and age [preserving the environment] is becoming less optional."

"Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 1:28

The rising population, progression of technology, and need to expand our living areas has taken its toll on the Earth in monumental ways. We now have an obligation to fix what we have damaged.

Embry himself contributes to the solution by setting limits on his resource consumption. "I actually set up a self-imposed policy where I only allow myself 20 dollars for gas a month." In order to enforce his limit, Embry frequently commutes to work on his bicycle and uses a gas-less lawn mower called a 'Reel Mower.'

Embry is only one of many at NU who commutes via bicycle, some professors even travel from across the 520 bridge on bikes.

Staff emails are sent out that encourage commuting and carpooling. While

"We are handed a responsibility to respect and conserve the great gift He has given to us."

the power of the student body produces a larger effect than that of the staff, Castro validates individualistic efforts, proclaiming, "Even though one may feel their efforts are similar to one drop of water in the ocean, the ocean would be less without that one drop."

While the NU staff has made a big splash, the student body has made recent efforts in this seemingly endless battle. Castro, in her time at Northwest, has successfully instituted an Earth day, as well as an Earth week.

Over the years, Northwest has partnered with many different eco-friendly organizations with the goal of making a change.

Recently Green Kirkland's efforts to plant over 500 trees in the local watershed were made a reality with the help of caring NU students.

Castro also mentioned that the NU administration even attempted to start a composting program

in the Caf, but it failed due to a lack of proper communication with the student body. Many students were not aware of the program, thwarting its effectiveness as students continued to throw their food away in normal garbage cans.

So what can students do to improve conditions on campus?

Clear communication between the student body and the staff and faculty are a must to avoid mishaps like the cancelled composting fiasco. Students need to make sure that faculty is aware of their desire to improve campus conditions, and the people in charge of making these changes need to advertise them clearly to students.

need to make

their desire

for a more

eco-friendly

campus part of their ministry, conserving the environment and embodying the meaning of carrying the call to the next generation.

While doing something as simple as throwing a bottle in a different bin or composting food may seem arbitrary, every effort produces real change in the lives of the community and individuals.

Being green and recycling can tangibly change people's lives. Castro, in a heartwarming story, explained how recycling soda tabs helped pay for a little boy's chemotherapy, allowing his low-income family to enjoy his presence for just a little longer.

As stewards of God, we are handed a responsibility to respect and conserve the great gift he has given to us. Each time you can't quite finish a hot plate at the Caf, find yourself in possession of a few empty cans, or just feel like driving to class, consider the cliché: "What would Jesus do?"

Faculty Voice Dr. Brad Embry

Recycle and Obey, O Stewards Of The Earth!

Though yet wasteful, the Western world has improved in managing world resources both culturally (the norm and not the exception) and technically (how it's done). Historically, "environmentalism" (as an "-ism") formed one part of the social fabric, and a liberal part at that. This has changed in recent years and, for many, environmentalism is no longer a social option, but rather a required, human activity.

Although Christian communities can adopt social movements, they often do so slowly if at all. It seems that most in today's Christian community have become supportive of environmental stewardship. This does not mean that the Christian community is free from anxiety about the issue, perhaps because Christian communities often arrive at changes in one of two (related) ways. In the first, accepting a social movement like environmentalism results from shifted exegetical conclusions. We read the Bible differently than we did. But, because interpretation can be notoriously intertwined with cultural convictions, suspicions about the authenticity of such conclusions can linger.

Another path is some acceptance (at times tacit) of certain aspects of the culture's identity. This acceptance can be enacted without a fully-formed exegetical platform. The change just feels right and resonates enough with one's understanding of God's community that internal conflicts are bearable. Tensions can arise because Christianity so often represents a counter-cultural view of reality that to accept a secularly-endorsed position can seem like a loss of Christian identity. As a result, communities work on piecing together a biblical defense of the social position. This can lead to awkward exegetical maneuvers, but it also illustrates that a Christian community does not long survive without an exegetical basis for its actions.

It may seem odd, but the biblical text has quite a bit to say about environmental stewardship. The reason I think that you may find it odd is because the Bible's environmental concerns occupy a different orbit than its secular counterpart. Environmentalism,

although supported by ideologues, is largely concerned with mechanical issues. A healthy biosphere requires that all of its constituent elements, from glaciers to snails, function in proper mechanical relationship with one another, a relationship biologists endeavor to uncover.

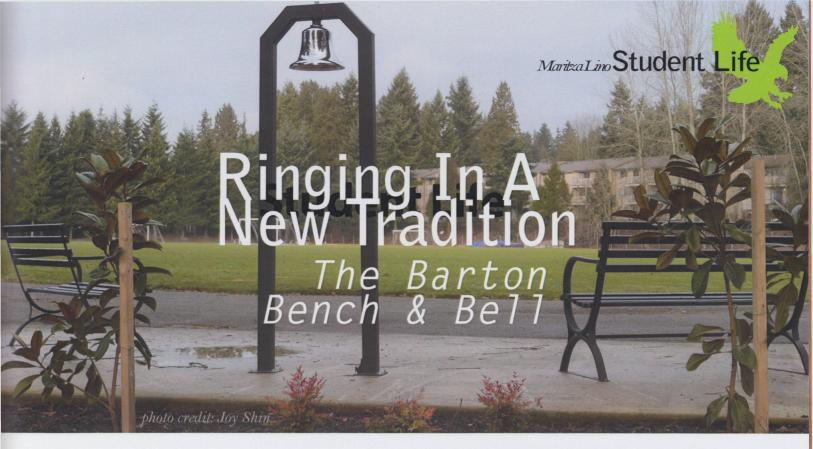
The biblical authors, aware of the mechanical nature of the created order, think of its stewardship in different terms. Stewardship is an ontological and functional matter (humans are created to manage the environment – Gen 2:5 and 15), but is also connected to covenantal relationship with God. A striking example of this last point is found in Hosea 4:3, where the prophet suggests that covenantal infidelity leads to the death of the "...beasts of the field, birds of the air, and the fish of the sea" (a triad found in creation texts such as Gen 1:21-24 and Psa 8:7-8). Apart from the possibility that Hosea was a hippie, this combination of covenantal fidelity and environmental stewardship is compelling. Stewardship of the created order is linked with stewardship of the covenant.

While this may sound abstract, Hosea's vision forces us to think about our worldview in ways not exclusively driven by pragmatics but rather by ideals. This is an advantage, not a liability. It's a utopian vision, but what a delightful consternation! Would that the lion would lie with the lamb! What makes stewardship of the environment Christian is not that Christians do it (fine environmentalists are built from non-Christian material), but rather that being Christian is to accept stewardship of the environment. Hosea allows us to boast that we do this by virtue of

taking communion. Oh, my. Recycle and obey, O servants of God!

- Dr. Embry is a College of Ministry professor with a PhD from the University of Durham, England.





Curiosity has been circling around NU about the significance behind two items that are new to our campus: a bench and a bell.

Located next to the parking lot by the Barton building, both of these are sure to catch anyone's full attention. What few people know is that there is a touching story behind it. More than just an aesthetically pleasing cosmetic change, the Barton bench and bell represent much more than a place to sit between classes.

At Northwest University, back when the school was still Northwest Bible College, a love story began that still continues to this day.

It was in the early 1930s when Professor Delbert L. Cox fell in love with a student named Ross. Eventually they married.

While in today's day and age, this type of relationship is typically frowned upon, it is important to remember that the times and convention of that era were vastly different to what we know today.

A teacher of music, Cox continued to teach and serve Northwest well into his old age, all with Ross by his side.

When the love of her life passed on, Ross had a great idea.

Prior to his professorial role at Northwest, Cox had been a firefighter. His wife wanted to give back to Northwest University's campus and decided to provide the bell from the fire truck that Cox had driven. This very bell now resides just outside the Barton Building.

This March, a large commemoration service will take place on campus to honor the man who dedicated so much of his life to serving this school.

The bell and bench will be dedicated to Professor Delbert L. Cox.

The date is still to be determined but the effort is being made to make of this a memorable celebration.

In the meantime, Dustin Shirley, NU alumni director, will continue all of the preparations. A large plaque will stand next to the bell and bench, engraving the story behind the metal into history.

The bell is to begin a new tradition at home soccer games. Every time that our team scores a goal, the bell is to be rung.

If anything, the Barton bell and bench represent so much more than simple seating and a device to ring out. Next time you find yourself on your way down to class or heading up to Barton, take a seat, rest awhile, and remember those that came before you.

Pop Culture Jake Woodward & Katie Powell

photo credit: UGM

Love Thy Neighbor The Need Next Door



Do you ever feel like NU is its own little world? Do you want to break free from the isolated community we've built? There's nothing wrong with living in a close community, but sometimes it can be nice to step outside of the bubble and experience the surrounding world.

One great way to experience and take part in the greater Kirkland community is to do volunteer work.

Two of the largest areas of volunteer work around Kirkland are environmental protection and preservation and public safety. The city of Kirkland hosts park renovation days every week through a project called Green Kirkland Partnership. These take place at Cotton Hill Park on Wednesdays and Juanita Bay Park on Thursdays from 10 am-noon. There are also special events hosted throughout the year targeted towards park restoration. If park renovation isn't your thing, volunteer to help plant and maintain city parks and facilities, or maintain traffic circles. For a park, ensuring that crosswalks have pedestrian more information or to register to volunteer, visit

The Kirkland Police and Fire departments work with many volunteers in order to protect the community and educate people. One option to aid the police

> department is to volunteer to monitor the speed of vehicles in known problem areas. The fire department relies on not only

those who actually fight fires, but those who educate the community as well. Volunteering to educate youth on proper fire safety is a great way to support the fire department and create a safer community. For more information, visit www.kirklandwa.gov.

If you're more interested in personal relationships, then KTUB is the place for you! The Kirkland Teen Union Building, affectionately known as KTUB, is a safe haven for youth between the ages of 13-18. Run by the YMCA, they are always looking for volunteers to help set up workshops, serve food, and build relationships with the teens who call this place a haven. For a volunteer application, email Dlawrence@ seattleymca.org or visit their location in downtown Kirkland.

Volunteer work doesn't have to be as involved as monitoring vehicular speeds or teaching fire safety classes. It can be as simple as clearing weeds from flags available, or hanging out with teens for a few hours. There are many opportunities to help the community of Kirkland, but finding them can be tricky. One of the best ways to find volunteer work is to simply ask around. Try talking to church leaders, e-mail professors, or just ask peers that are connected to the community. You never know what amazing opportunity is in store for you!

Rare Sights

At Northwest University

Rarely seen outside of the lab, these students are prone having no time and rushing to and fro. Consider it a rare occurrence to find one out in society without any obligations.

Double points if there are more than one. Triple points if they aren't studying.

The Rare Northwest
Single Male
Hunted to near extinction, only a
handful of this rare breed exists.
They are highly vulnerable to the
female of their species, who seems to
sense availability and pounce.

The Recycling Bin Few and far between, the recycling bin is a master of disguise on campus.

A master of cuisine, this student transforms the most mediocre of fare into a fine dining experience. It may not be pretty, but it can't make the food any worse.



Softball Girls Play Hardball

The Northwest University Women's Softball team is in their second year, and they are poised to have a solid season.

John Bacon, head coach, is enthusiastic about the season. The team returns just six girls from last year's squad, but that doesn't discourage Bacon one bit.

"We recruited well this summer," said Bacon. "We brought in a strong transfer and freshmen class to complement the skill sets of our returners."

Travels to the western states scouting out players that aren't just talented, but also fit into his style and the culture here at Northwest takes up a good portion of the coach's summer. He takes time to recruit players that are more than just good at the game, making sure they are a good spiritual fit with Northwest first and foremost.

Since the Eagles will be on the road all of February traveling down the I-5 corridor, the girls must also be solid students and team players.

While the Eagles are currently picked to finish 7th out of 8th, Bacon believes they will surprise some teams. They were beginning to turn some heads toward the end of last season.

Junior Katie Lewis, a player on the team, is just as enthusiastic as her coach. "We've been working extremely hard putting in countless hours; we're just ready to get out and play competitively against other schools," said Lewis. "I love the team chemistry, and we grow together as teammates in everything we do."

Coach Bacon is also confident that his pitchers, Kelli Peckham and Kierston Perry, will get the job done for the Eagles in the circle.

With this sport, fans can't help but get excited at the action. "Softball is a really fast-paced game; the field is one third the size of a baseball diamond," explained Bacon, "making the action a lot quicker."

The Eagles play their games at Everest Park, which is about a two-minute drive from campus. If the Seattle weather plays its tricks like it did last year, turf fields at Hartman Park in Redmond and at Cedar Park High School in Bothell are already reserved in case of inclement weather.

Come out and cheer on the Eagles this spring! Their hard work, talent, and determination will make it worth your time.





See NUEagles.com for the latest scores!

Whether it's now or over the Spring break that's right around the corner, chances are you're getting a bad case of cabin fever. At this point in the school year, please allow me to be the "take a break police" and inform you that you are in need of an adventure! You need a break from campus life, and the only remedy is the outdoors. Because we are college students, we have limited budgets, so after extensive research and personal experience, here are some free activities I recommend trying to cure the winter restlessness:

Marymoor Park

6046 W Lake Sammamish Redmond, WA. 98052

Enjoy soccer? Rock Climbing? Baseball? Need a place to polish off that book you've been working on for weeks? Desire to go out for a leisurely and peaceful walk away from campus? Stay close to your living quarters, but discover new territory. Grab some friends and go to Marymoor.

Idylwood Beach Park

3650 West Lake Sammamish Parkway NE. Redmond, WA. 98052

Need a quick romantic get-away for the day? Grab your swimsuit and swim at the beach, arrange a picnic, or frolic in the open field.

Coal Creek Parkway

Bellevue, WA - Coal Creek (hiking) trail (2.8 miles; 1-3 hours)

This is a beginner hike that takes you on an adventure through a historical mining region. Explore old coal mine shafts, learn about the history, and take in the beauty of the outdoors!

Lake to Lake Trail

2102 Bellevue Way SE Bellevue, WA (About 9 miles)

Near Weona Park, this is one of the simplest yet more beautiful walks in Bellevue. Just a very short drive from campus, this is the one trail I most highly recommend. Right in the heart of Bellevue, joined with birds and various other wildlife, this trail will take you along a small creek from Phantom Lake to Larson Lake, and also by a well-maintained blueberry farm.

Poo-Poo Point via Chirico Trail
(4.7 miles; 2-3 hours)

Are you kidding me? The name alone should be cause enough for you to grab a group of friends and make your way over to Issaquah for a part of the day to explore a land that's new and exciting!

Ebey's Landing

162 Cemetery Rd.
Coupeville, WA. 98239
(5.6 miles; 2 hours)

By far the most beautiful hike/walk I went on in 2013, this is a must! It is the farthest from school (about 1.5 hrs), but this day-venture will definitely be worth your time. Begin the hike near well-kept farm fields then make your way down to the Puget Sound with truly outstanding views that, on a clear day, leave you simply speechless.

Have a couple of bucks to spend? Try these nearby activities:

Rent - a - Kayak at Woodmark Hotel in Kirkland: \$10/hr - (425) 822-3700

Stand-up Paddle Boarding at Perfect Wave in Kirkland: \$20/hr - (425) 827-5323

Bowling at TechCity in Kirkland: \$11 All-you-can-bowl - Sun-Thurs 9pm-close

Look, I know that our college days are busy, but it's been proven that taking breaks, whether for a day or a few hours, actually helps your studies improve and prevents napping on textbook pillows!

My advice? Choose any of the above ideas or come up with some of your own; regardless, it's important for your own studies and sanity that you take a small break from your homework! It will undoubtedly help with your cabin fever!

Talon Magazine March 2014 13

Right To Write:

Should The Talon Lose Its Funding?

yes, cut it.

Over the past year, there has been serious discussion in the Northwest University administration on whether or not the *Talon* should continue to receive funding. It currently receives an annual budget to print articles and provide scholarships for staff writers each year. However, due to rising costs and current economic times, Northwest has been toying with the idea of canceling funds for the *Talon* and putting it online for volunteer writers.

I had the opportunity to speak with many students about their thoughts in relation to the *Talon* and what its fate should be. I received almost the exact same response from everyone I interviewed. Some were frequent readers, some didn't really care, and some even wrote for the *Talon*. However, they shared the common sentiment that the *Talon* should not lose its funding, but only on the condition that it improves in the future.

Although some felt that this last semester of the *Talon*'s life has been a step in the right direction, they all thought that the article topics as well as writing as a whole could be drastically improved. Some wanted more relevant articles, and many wanted more interesting or controversial topics. Some just wanted better writing. But they all agreed that the *Talon* was a great outlet for information and investigative journalism. However, they felt that both the previous and current staff have not done a good job at utilizing it.

Even though I'm a member of the *Talon* staff, I can't help but agree. There are plenty of relevant subjects and articles that students of Northwest University would love to read, but I think many of those articles aren't being written. The *Talon* gets preoccupied with cliché or outdated subject matter that is only interesting to the poor souls waiting to meet a friend in the Aerie and don't want to go through the hassle of pulling out their laptop.

photo credit: CBrown

Keeping in mind that I'm biased to some degree, I think the *Talon* should continue to receive its funding, but only if they set a much higher standard. They should be producing better articles. They should be bringing on the best writers they can find. Because if all they do is spit out the same information found on the average student's Facebook newsfeed, there's no point in wasting school funds on redundant "journalism."

- Peter







Since I am new to the *Talon* this semester, I have been able to view this question from a student's perspective as well as a writer's. I believe the Talon is a great opportunity for students to participate with their ideas as a creative outlet. The magazine is also a place not only for writers, but also for designers and photographers to grow. Even before joining the Talon staff, I was asked to participate as a model for the November 2013 issue. It was an amazing opportunity, and it's a big reason why I joined the class.

You might be asking this question to yourself: if there are classes created specifically for these creative outlets, why have a magazine? The answer is simply that it builds a great résumé. It also gives the writer, editor, or photographer experience in the real world. I'm sure I'm not the only student who gets excited when I see my articles published. It gives us hope to pursue our dreams.

Professor Peg Achterman noted, "If we are not informed, we do not participate well as 'citizens' of a community. Any form of news on a campus serves to ask tough questions of all in the community, not simply promote the agenda of the leadership (whether NUSG execs or administration)."

I believe that the *Talon* needs to stay. It gives students all over campus the opportunity to read about issues and realize, especially in the opinion pages, that it is okay to think differently about something. It isn't immoral; it's what makes you an individual.

- Lizzy



From the Editor:

Want your voice heard? Have criticism or praise? Send your comments to me through email at taloneditor@northwestu. edu, Facebook (/NUTalon), or Twitter (@TalonMagazine) then look for your letter in the next issue! I hope to hear from you soon!



