



## Andrew Yang '92 Runs for President 2020

By ANNE BRANDES, OTTO DO,  
MOUHAMED GAYE  
and CHIEKO IMAMURA  
Staff Writers

Artificial intelligence, robots and software: symbols of the technological age and, according to alumnus Andrew Yang '92, a threat to America's jobs. During assembly on Friday, Feb. 8, Yang explained his campaign for the 2020 Presidency, stating his priority of implementing a \$1,000 universal income.

Born in 1975 to Taiwanese parents, Andrew Yang grew up in Schenectady, New York as a first generation Asian-American child influenced by the American Dream. After graduating from Exeter, then Brown University, he pursued a variety of varying career options—corporate law, healthcare and, finally, business.

These interests and experiences culminated in 2017, when Yang launched his presidential campaign. After working primarily as an entrepreneur in the professional world, Yang became discontent with the political and socioeconomic realities around him. "Problems such as gerrymandering and fragmented media have caused Americans' lost faith in the government," he said. "Depression, financial insecurity, suicides and overdoses are all at record highs or near-record highs, and getting married, having kids, starting a business and moving for a new job are at record lows."

Tired of waiting for other politicians to take action, Yang decided to run for president and counteract growing divides. "For whatever reason, our political establishment is unable to

YANG, 2



Andrew Yang '92 discusses universal basic income. Eva Carchidi/The Exonian

## PEA Hosts Lunar New Year Dinner

By BONA HONG, EMILY KANG  
and AMY LUM  
Staff Writers

To celebrate Lunar New Year, both Elm and Wetherall Dining Hall served traditional Asian cuisine last Tuesday after parents anonymously donated the \$10,000 budget proposed by Dining Services via the Parents' Giving Department.

During the dinner, Dining Services staff distributed pamphlets describing various countries' celebrations of the holiday. While students acknowledged the Academy's efforts to be inclusive of multiple Asian traditions, many emphasized that there is still progress to be made.

The previous year, Chinese students celebrated Lunar New Year with a privately-funded trip to New Pine Garden, a local Chinese restaurant. They were joined by then-Academy Principal Lisa MacFarlane.

For other Asian-identifying Exonians observing the holiday on campus, however, the occasion passed quietly with no official recognition from PEA.

Exeter alumna Mary Le '18 recalled the exclusive nature of last year's dining hall decorations, which primarily focused on Chinese New Year. "There wasn't really an organized Lunar New Year event for [all] students," she expressed.

English Instructor and Asian Student Program Coordinator Wei-Ling Woo stated that the purpose of this year's celebratory dinner was "to have the whole school celebrate together in a manner that felt more equitable to all."

Senior and Asian Advisory Board member Jared Zhang described the dinner as a success in

NEW YEAR, 2

## EASA Proctors Winter Health Classes

By MOKSHA AKIL and LUCY WEIL  
Staff Writers

Exonians Against Sexual Assault (EASA) concluded a new two-week initiative proctoring prep and lower health class discussions about healthy relationships last Monday.

EASA formed in 2016 in light of sexual misconduct allegations surfacing both at the Academy and worldwide. According to senior Jane Collins, one of

four EASA co-heads, the club has since taken on a more educational role. "Instead of being reactionary, we are focusing on targeting younger ages and promoting healthy behaviors," she said.

Senior and EASA co-head Grace Carroll elaborated on EASA's goals to become more involved with the school curriculum and help students prevent unhealthy relationships before they happen. "Part of the idea of going into health classes is that EASA is now really focused on being

proactive and not reactive," Carroll said.

In these classes, EASA members taught students how to recognize the differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships, emphasizing that unhealthy behavior is not simply restricted to physical abuse. "We talk about the frequency versus recognition spectrum [in the context of verbal and physical abuse]," Collins said, giving an example of a student saying, "Because I love you, we should

EASA, 2

## Elena Gosalvez-Blanco Leaves Exeter Summer

By EMILY JETTON and FELIX YEUNG  
Staff Writers

In her twelve years at the Academy, Elena Gosalvez-Blanco has worn many hats. Beginning Feb. 22, she will be putting on a new one: Director of the prestigious Yale Young Global Scholars (YYGS) program for high-achieving high school students.

Gosalvez-Blanco, who currently serves as Director of Summer School and an Instructor in Modern Languages, is soon to depart Exeter for Yale University. A search is underway for her successor. Headed by Dean of Faculty Ellen Wolff, Assistant Principal Karen Lassey and Dean of Enrollment and External Relations William Leahy, the committee has restricted candidates to members of the Academy community. Principal Bill Rawson invited faculty to nominate themselves or their peers to the rotating position. The next Director will serve for a minimum of five years. Although Gosalvez-Blanco plans to depart before her successor is named, no Interim Director will be appointed during the transition.

Gosalvez-Blanco's colleagues expect the new director to continue the Summer Session's tradition of excellence. "The new Director will have to work hard to maintain enrollment levels and bring in additional funding for scholarships," Viviana Santos, Associate Dean of Summer School and Instructor in Modern Languages, said.

In her time at the Academy, Gosalvez-Blanco has been eager to immerse herself in professional development opportunities. English Instructor Mercedes Carbonell organized summer Harkness lessons in which Gosalvez-Blanco took part. "In that space, she was alight with possibility, with the joy of discovery, with the contemplation and flight of surprise," Carbonell said. "I appreciate the ways in which her enthusiasm has a critical edge to it."

Gosalvez-Blanco's background, however, is not in high school education. While she taught courses in graduate school, before Exeter, Gosalvez-Blanco served as literary editor at a publisher in Spain, working with notable authors such as Mario Vargas Llosa, Camilo José Cela, Ana María Matute, Javier Marías and Antonio Gala—many of whose pieces are in the Academy's curriculum. "My department thought outside the box, and they took a teacher

GOSALVEZ-BLANCO, 2

## Faculty Votes Against New Driving Policy

By JACK ARCHER  
and ANNE BRANDES  
Staff Writers

The faculty have voted to veto, at least for the time being, a new day student driving policy that would allow licensed day students to drive boarders with parental permission.

Although Student Council (StuCo) has been pushing for this policy over the course of three academic years, 92 faculty members opposed the policy, while only 42 voted for it at faculty meeting on Monday, Feb. 4. Those opposed find the current E Book policy—allowing boarding students to ride in motor vehicles with faculty members, licensed drivers at least 21 years old and day students over 18 with appropriate out-of-town permissions—to be more fitting for the Academy's needs.

"The risk of fatal accidents may be small, but young drivers are more accident-prone and especially when driving with several other teenagers in the car," Biology Instructor Townley Chisholm said. "I know three seniors from a previous school who died in car wrecks and I don't want to know any more."



Upper Alisha Simmons and senior Olivia Ross dine on Asian cuisine. Paula Perez-Glassner/The Exonian

Vice President of StuCo Michaela Phan noted that, despite the faculty's opposition, "out of the 32 parents that StuCo interviewed, 80 percent were in support of the policy."

The student body has invested much support into the policy. "Two falls ago, a few council members drafted up a proposal and talked with relevant adults on campus," StuCo President Elizabeth Yang said. "There was a lot of momentum behind the proposal because this was something that a lot of students wanted to have seen on campus. When StuCo voted on the final draft that was presented in front of the faculty, there was unanimous support."

Yang attributed the faculty's opposi-

tion to safety concerns. "I think there was a pretty strong faculty sentiment that this policy would push adults past their ability to be able to take care of those to the students in the best of their ability," she said.

Spanish Instructor Mark Trafton agreed with Yang, saying, "I sense that the faculty opposed the proposals to change the student automobile use policy due to concerns about liability of the school...due to the unmeasurable administrative headache of tracking drivers, passengers, locations and vehicles that would fall to the Dean of Students' Office," he said.

Implementing such a policy would require significant faculty planning as well, Trafton expressed. "It seems to me that as a

DRIVING, 2

## INSIDE

### CORRECTIONS

The Exonian inaccurately reported last week that 26.4 percent of male-identifying Exonians believe Exeter's current sexual education curriculum is adequate. The correct figure is 75.6 percent. The Exonian apologizes for this error.

### OPINIONS

Lower Emmanuel Tran comments on Presidential Candidate Andrew Yang '92. 4.

### SPORTS

Read about alumnus Avery Reavill '12. 8.

### LIFE

Read about Faculty of the Week Classics Instructor Matthew Hartnett. 7.

Read about upper Dacha Thurber's win at PEA's Concerto Competition. 5.

## WEB



Visit our website for exclusives.  
www.thexonian.com



Follow our Instagram.  
www.instagram.com/thexonian



Like us on Facebook.  
www.facebook.com/thexonian

# Gosalvez-Blanco to Serve as Director of YYGS

Continued from [GOSALVEZ-BLANCO, 1](#)

who was a little bit less experienced in the classroom but had life experience,” Gosalvez-Blanco jokingly said. Armed with immense literary knowledge, she ventured into the classroom.

Gosalvez-Blanco soon felt that her work in the classroom was not as impactful as she had hoped, however. When a position as Associate Director came up, she seized it. “I felt the power to transform our summer program had. There, students were opened up to a new way of learning... They were opened up to how big the world is,” she recalled. Three years later, she was appointed Director—the first female to serve in the role.

In her capacity as Director, Gosalvez-Blanco emphasized diversity, affording more students the opportunity to engage with the Academy’s pedagogical resources

“I recruit a lot in the Native American lands, both in the Navajo Nation—like [my

predecessors] did for many years—and, now, South Dakota,” she said. “I started bringing in Syrian refugees, inner-city kids and focused on many [New Hampshire] schools, too.”

This cultural diversity has been critical to the experience of summer alumni. “Ms. Gosalvez-Blanco’s speeches at morning assemblies fostered a very welcoming and inclusive environment. Having come from a different cultural background herself, her words of wisdom allowed me to embrace my own identity,” lower Scarlett Lin said.

Gosalvez-Blanco also pushed for the summer program’s name change. “I thought it would help to take out the word ‘school,’” she said. “Sometimes, in other areas of the country, students think summer school is something to do if you’ve been bad... Instead, it’s definitely a program for high-achieving students that are very academically motivated.” This rebranding has drawn more high-achieving students in.

Instructor in Health and Human Development

and Summer Session Dorm Head Michelle Soucy appreciates Gosalvez-Blanco’s flexibility. “As a Director, she’s very open to trying new things and to listening to different perspectives,” she said. “If you bring an idea to her, she’ll let you try it. If it works, great. If it doesn’t, then at least we tried it.”

For Gosalvez-Blanco herself, personal life at Exeter has consisted of trying out new things. “I had never lived in a dorm in my life,” she said. “I went to a day school growing up in Madrid. In college, [I lived] at home.” After serving as a Dorm Affiliate at Hoyt Hall, she found herself the Dorm Head of both Hoyt and Merrill Halls.

Former residents remember her fondly. “She was like the ‘Merrill Mom’ when I was there,” said Carissa Chen ’17. With Gosalvez-Blanco’s assistance, Chen was able to dive more wholly into the Exeter experience.

A knowledgeable presence, she further helped to address student concerns. “She was really good at giving advice,” senior Niko Am-

ber, a former advisee, said.

Other students credit Gosalvez-Blanco’s Exeter Summer tenure as a driving force behind their decision to apply to the school, as it granted them a glimpse into the life of an Exonian. “I came to love the Harkness style, which is one of the reasons I chose Exeter,” lower Haruka Masamura said.

Gosalvez-Blanco’s impact has not gone unnoticed. “Under Elena’s watch, Exeter Summer has seen record numbers of applications from around the world,” Rawson said. “Elena and her team have masterfully welcomed thousands of students to campus who otherwise would never have had the opportunity to experience Exeter and the Harkness method of instruction. In short, Elena has made the Exeter Summer program a leader in summer secondary school experiences.”

As the search for her successor continues, Gosalvez-Blanco departs with a legacy of lasting and meaningful change.

# Academy Celebrates Various Lunar New Year Traditions

Continued from [NEW YEAR, 1](#)

its promotion of inclusivity, noting how his peers were excited to share their countries’ traditions. “Almost everyone I talked to, regardless of their cultural background, was excited about the food and the opportunity to try something new,” Zhang said.

Lan Lu, parent of senior Sarah Lu, first proposed funding a Lunar New Year celebratory dinner in a WeChat group with 289 domestic and international Chinese parents before Thanksgiving. “When I introduced this idea to the group, I got lots of support from the parents,” she said.

Director of Student Activities Joanne Lembo added that this was an opportunity for students to learn about various traditions associated with the Lunar New Year. “We thought it would be a fun way to ring in the new year and also educate folks about

the many cultures we have represented on campus,” she said.

While many responded positively to the dinner, others felt that there was still room for improvement. According to lower Rachael Kim, despite the school’s efforts to be equitable, there was still lacking awareness that the Lunar New Year is not a holiday exclusive to China. “Everyone still called it ‘Chinese New Year’ and they put up decorations unique to the Chinese way of celebrating, like the red posters and red envelopes,” Kim said. “I think they should make more of an effort to try and popularize the fact that this is a big holiday for so many countries in Asia.”

Students unfamiliar with the holiday did find the celebratory dinner to be educational. “I wasn’t aware that other countries outside of China celebrated it. I noticed all the posters they put up on Korea and Japan and the

different foods that were served. That was where I learned that this isn’t something that is just Chinese,” lower Jack Puchalski said. “I think that was a good job on the school’s part.”

Nevertheless, lower Meredith Thomas hopes the Academy will offer more insight into the New Year traditions of different countries going forward. “It would be really cool to learn the modern aspects of it and how people are celebrating around the world. [Exeter] sort of just stuck with the traditional way that schools would celebrate it, by showing us the animal years, so I would really like to know what this holiday means,” she said.

Upper Morgan LeBrun, who has been celebrating the Lunar New Year since middle school, believes the occasion deserves more recognition than one dinner. “I was very appreciative of the opportunity to celebrate the holiday and have everybody on campus

recognize it, but I think that the downfall of having the dinner was that people only recognized the holiday for the food rather than what Lunar New Year really means and what it means to individual people,” she said.

In the future, Lu hopes the Academy will incorporate more student input in the planning process to promote greater inclusivity. “I think it would be nice to have more student involvement in the planning and organizing of this event,” she said. “We can definitely improve on the inclusivity of all cultures.”

Woo agreed, but expressed her appreciation for the Academy’s notable progress this year in comparison to past years. “I would love it if we could further diversify the menu and decorations, but I think this year’s dinner was a step in the right direction,” she said. “Dining Services put a lot of time and effort into the menu and decorations, for which I’m very grateful.”

# Exonians Learn About Healthy vs. Unhealthy Relationships

Continued from [EASA, 1](#)

skip class.”

“That does not seem that bad, but in reality that is how it starts and it can grow to something worse,” Collins emphasized.

Senior Shaan Bhandarkar, an EASA co-head, offered another example—catcalling. “There are occurrences of sexual violence, like catcalling, that are recognized as less intense acts or are low recognition, yet happen very frequently,” Bhandarkar said.

Collins explained that relationships can be a fraught topic of class discussion for many Exonians. “It is a hard and touchy subject and a lot of guys feel like they are being left out of a conversation or being talked at. That affects every single person on our campus [and] is something I really wanted to change,” Collins said.

EASA members urged students to write down other signs of healthy and unhealthy relationships before showing a video about the definitions of an unhealthy relationship. “For preps, for whom the idea of relationships is becoming much more relevant now, an increased perceptiveness around these discussions is critical,” Bhandarkar said.

Collins explained that relationships can be a fraught topic of class discussion for many Exonians. “It is a hard and touchy subject, and a lot of guys feel like they are being left out of a conversation or being talked at. That affects every single person on our campus [and] is something I really wanted to change,” Collins said.

EASA began this initiative believing that students could foster a more effective learning environment for their peers on this sensitive subject than the faculty or administration. “We feel like when the administration goes about these things, there is a disconnect between what we feel like is going on versus what they do,” Collins continued.

Health and human development department head and instructor in health, Michelle Soucy expresses a similar understanding to Collins, in which these classes being taught by peers allows for the topic to remain current. “Anytime you hear a peer talk about important issues, something sticks right” she said. “At the very least, students will be aware that other students care about these issues and are willing to talk about them.”

Bhandarkar hoped that teaching students to recognize all types of sexual assault would allow them to feel more confident in intervening as upstanders. “If we normalize this act of intervention in low recognition events, we can use that as a lead into encouraging more intervention by active bystanders for high recognition events like rape,” he said.

Carroll agreed and elaborated, “I really want students to start being able to see warning signs of unhealthy or aggressive behavior early on before they escalate into something that is violent and unsafe.”

While underclassmen appreciated EASA’s efforts to promote dialogue, some observed that not every student was engaged. “People were willing to speak, but it was still a relatively quiet conversation,” prep Coco Lipe said, describing her class atmosphere as somewhat underwhelming.

Lower Valentina Rogers attributed this silence to students being too respectful and hesitant when it came to sharing their ideas on a “touchy” subject.

Nonetheless, Lipe expressed that the classes had helped her better understand the tell-tale signs of unhealthy relationships,

especially in the high school environment. “The presentation...brought awareness to some of the pros and cons of relationships on campus,” she said.

Prep Bona Yoo agreed, saying she had learned “how easy it was to overlook an abusive relationship.”

Prep Shalom Heady noted, “A lot of times, you get the generic bad relationship, and are just told ‘avoid this!’ But the class helped [clarify] that it is not always clear that these relationships are unhealthy.” Heady also voiced his appreciation that the class offered a variety of models for healthy relationships.

While the health classes did not leave a big impression on lower Zoe Barron, she emphasized that this initiative should continue. “[The class] did not have a big effect on me personally... However, I agree that it’s important to keep the information circulating so that people remember [healthy relationships are] always relevant,” Barron said.

EASA plans to continue and expand on these proactive measures, beginning with a “consent-fest” in spring term, where members will set up booths to educate the campus about sexual assault.

# Community Reflects on Yang’s Presidential Platform

Continued from [YANG, 1](#)

even acknowledge the scope of the problem, much less even address it,” he said. “That is why I’m running for president.”

Returning to Exeter for the first time since graduation, Yang reflected on his past at the Academy and his ongoing presidential campaign. “I was not the kid that anyone thought would end up running for president,” he said. “The takeaway I want people to have is that hard work is worth it. You can wind up in a very different place that will allow you to live the kind of life that you want to live.”

Although winning the 2020 presidency will require a much hard work and communication, Yang is confident that his presidency would be a step in the right direction for society’s advancement. “For most Americans, I’m

still the Asian guy who wants to give everyone a thousand dollars a month,” he said. “The challenge really is for people to really get exposed to what is the campaign and see why this is vital to help progress as a society.”

Bryce Morales, a senior and cohead of Exeter’s Democratic Club (Dem Club), described the differing opinions Dem Club members had about Yang’s platform. “Some people really liked his plan, but others questioned [its] feasibility,” Morales said. “Some are just morally opposed to this idea of universal basic income.”

Other members of the Exeter community echoed Dem Club’s consensus and focused on other aspects of Yang’s campaign, including Yang himself. Although lower Nahla Owens felt that Yang’s ideas were good in theory, she questioned how successful Yang would be in an actual political position. “He does not

seem to have background or experience in the political sphere of things,” Owens said. “He has experience businesswise, but I do not think that would necessarily translate to being good in a presidential office, and his plans are not fully thought out.”

Upper Orion Bloomfield, on the other hand, supports Yang’s universal income proposal and views it as a necessary progression for the United States. “I think that his universal basic income idea is a pretty solid step into a future that protects citizens in the technological revolution,” he said.

Morales also favors Yang’s unique ideas. “I thought he brought up a lot of important issues that many traditional politicians are not talking about,” Morales said. “I think we will come to a point where we need to face the facts and look at automation taking our jobs, and how that’s

going to shift the job market.”

Other students such as upper Sam Park feel that sentiments opposing innovation are outdated. Park agrees with the notion of minimum basic income, but objects to the way Yang justified his platform. “The argument that innovation/technology will take away people’s jobs has been around since the industrial revolution,” Park said. “If you think about it, what his plan does is allow those tech corporations to further disregard their workers because ‘the government will take care of them.’”

Senior Niko Amber agreed with Yang’s ideas on economics, but felt that he did not highlight other policies to represent his flexibility as a candidate. “We need someone who is comprehensive and is going to talk about issues and not just the state of our economy.”

# Students React to Faculty Vote on Driving Proposal

Continued from [DRIVING, 1](#)

consequences are unknown,” he said.

English Instructor Rebecca Moore, meanwhile, brought up the ways the proposed policy may adversely affect day students. “The suggestion that the access to day students driving cars will make better bridges between boarders and day students seems specious,” she said. “More likely, day students will feel pressured to drive board-

ers, or even more marginalized because they do not have access to a car to drive boarders.”

“Car accidents cause many of the deaths in the high school age group,” she said. “One good reason to go to boarding school is that you spend minimal time driving cars.”

Day students on campus felt that this proposal would have had a positive impact, rendering many activities more convenient and cost effective. “It would definitely be

more convenient if boarders wanted to come over to my house for lunch, for example,” lower Annie Smaldone said. “I live [with] in the radius, and quickly running an errand or even going to the beach within the radius is significantly less expensive than ordering an Uber.”

As a day student representative, upper Nick Schwarz has sought to make the policy more appealing to day student parents. “I think that safety is the most important

concern,” Schwarz said. “While drafting and submitting the proposal, we felt that its success depended on how safe parents thought their kids would be.”

Lower Carlos Jones, meanwhile, acknowledged faculty concerns. “I was hoping that it would pass so that if my friends wanted to go out for dinner, then I could help to make that happen, but I do understand the liability that factors into a change like this,” he said.

# Exclusive Interviews: Student Council Elections

By JACK ARCHER and FELIX YEUNG  
Staff Writers

○ ○ ○

## PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES



**AYUSH NOORI**

“My candidacy centers on three pillars: financial equity, promoting diversity and fostering a culture of compassion. I am excited about these priorities and [will] ensure that we make progress on these three big ideas if I [am] elected President.”

“First, advocating for financial equity. I will endeavor to promote financial equity both on and off campus. This includes forming partnerships with local businesses to obtain student discounts via the OneCard Program, which will allow all students to use lion cards in town—a step towards making Exeter accessible for all.”

“I’m equally committed to promoting diversity. I will advance curricular diversity in the Courses of Instruction by creating avenues for students to provide input [on] their own courses. I believe that students from all backgrounds should be represented in the curriculum they take at Exeter and be empowered to investigate their own identity.”

“Finally, I am dedicated to fostering empathy and increasing the quality of daily student life. I hope to generate a culture of compassion on our campus through specific initiatives which include the bike share program as well as Day Student potlucks, where day students [would] bring home-cooked meals to share with the community, building relationships and strengthening the bonds between us.”

**AUDREY VANDERSLICE**



“The four big things I hope to focus on are mental health, student input in administrative decisions, involving students in Student Council’s mission and building community through events.”

“One of two major ways we can [improve mental health] is by working with the health center to institute fifteen-minute walk-in counseling sessions for students who have never reached out to mental health resources before in their lives, are encountering issues for the first time at Exeter, and need somewhere to turn... Another way is creating a student health website to spread awareness about mental health resources on campus.”

“For student input in administrative decisions, I’d like to form student groups to work in conjunction with administration and faculty on the creation of each of the policies—Schedule, Health, V’s. As for connecting StuCo to the student body, I think we should make use of the Committee on Community, Equity and Diversity to actively reach out to as many student groups as possible, particularly cultural and affinity groups. In order to make StuCo a resource for students, StuCo has to be informed on what issues on campus students are focusing on and trying to address so that we can support them in affecting that change in whatever way we can. I’d also like to contribute to that exchange by having a StuCo column in *The Exonian*. And the last part of my platform is building on community through events like a Homecoming [Dance] before Fall E/A, instituting a Spring E/A, and expanding on the bike share proposal by providing InstaBikes for InstaBite.”

## VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES



**MATTHEW WABUNOHA**

“I’d like to make student input on things that are happening on campus more accessible to everyone, not just those on Student Council, because I understand that not everybody has the time to come to Student Council. I feel that students should have an idea of what’s going on and what’s being discussed, just so they can have a sense of some control over what is happening.”

“I want to close the gap between the administration and students, and make Student Council a resource for clubs, allowing them to feel free to come to us for whatever they may need. I want to find that sweet spot between student input and feasibility.”

“I would like to kickstart the Committee for Community, Equity, and Diversity, a new committee on Student Council. I want to set up a rapport between all the clubs and Student Council, so they feel free using it as a resource to fulfill their initiatives. I also would like to look at other schools and look at what they’re doing and connect and share ideas with them.”

**THOMAS WANG**



“I have some very specific ideas, including talking to small groups on campus: people who are interested or passionate about the arts and STEM or even underclassmen.”

“Of course, I am going to advocate for everything I’ve voiced. I believe very strongly about having longer hours for art studios and longer hours for the theater building.”

“This means focusing on smaller things in more specific groups. I’ve already talked about arts, so I’ll talk about science. That means creating research opportunities for them—students are very interested in more research opportunities. For underclassmen, it’s making sure that they have an EP time that works for them and allows them a study break in the middle of the week. [I want to push for a] later check-in for lowers.”

## CO-SECRETARIAL CANDIDATES



**SONNY FITENI**

“I stand for two main things in my running. A core belief of mine is mental health: trying to improve student mental health on campus and reduce [problems with] that. and I really draw upon my experiences of being on Mental Health Committee... My experiences on Mental Health Committee have really shaped my views on what to do and all the the research we’ve done, what we want to do to improve the health of students.”

“I think my main initiative of having a Mental Health Day to allow students to take a break when they really need it... as a given privilege, not something that needs to be requested, is something that can do a lot of good.”

“When you think about it, there’s no reason for Exeter to be as hard as it is. We can still champion a climate of academic rigor without having to ignore the support systems that could exist.”



**JAQ LAI**

“I really want to re-examine the way that the Deans and Principal’s Offices have dialogue about decisions that they make regarding the student body. In my experience, a lot of big decisions have been made recently with a pattern of act first, ask later... However, I do think that if students make a more active pressure and make a more active decision to try and become a part of those conversations at earlier stages, then the people making those decisions will be open to dialogue.”

“I think that same logic can be applied to any issue on campus, whether it’s the V’s Policy, scheduling, or the new health class for returning lowers and uppers. I think it’s simply a matter of how active we are willing to be in organizing specific initiatives for students to voice their opinions.”



**CHARLOTTE LISA**

“I always see the value in a student government club at any school or place—a forum that’s really seeking to gauge opinion for a large body of people—and trying to capture that opinion as accurately as possible and all nuances of that opinion, all deviations. I love that work, and I know I’d enjoy myself.”

“My platform is... based off my want to increase communication between Student Council and the student body... I would like to establish formal communication between club co-heads on campus and the Executive Board of Student Council, and even, possibly, communication between those co-heads and committees on student council.”

“[I] plan to prioritize... increasing accurate communication between Student Council and the groups we represent, reaffirming students’ agency at Council, particularly those who maybe aren’t elected, who maybe aren’t select members.”



**DREW SMITH**

“I think what makes my platform unique is some of the ideas that I want to bring to the table, such as implementing low homework weekend once a term because currently we only have low homework weekend during [winter term], and especially during spring term when we have a long 10-week sprint to the end of the year, it’s necessary for students to have a break in between so that they can relax.”

“On top of that, one big part of my platform is about students’ voices not being heard because currently our students’ only way of getting their voices heard is through Deans’ Council, so I want to make sure we’re rotating the people on Deans’ Council so that more people can bring up more diverse ideas through the administration and more students voices are being heard.”

# Andrew Yang's Band-Aid Solutions

**Emmanuel Tran '21**

*Columnist*

On Tuesday, Exeter alumnus and Democratic candidate for president Andrew Yang came to inform our community about his bid for the presidency. When I first heard his name tied to the words “presidential candidate,” however, I was honestly confused. It was 2018, and I hadn't paid close attention to the election. Even when I thought about the term “presidential candidate,” names such as Elizabeth Warren and Kamala Harris came to mind instead. After Googling Andrew Yang and listening to his speech at assembly, I began to learn more about what he represented and what ideas he puts at the forefront of his platform. His talk made me reflect more on the upcoming 2020 presidential election.

Yang, with his relative youth and lack of political experience, is part of the worldwide trend of leaders who proudly call themselves “anti-establishment”—a group that includes powerful leaders spanning the political spectrum. Their campaigns have one common feature: ill-formed plans with more shock value than anything else. For Trump, this means the Mexican border wall; for Macron,

it means radical reduction in regulation and taxation for the rich. For Yang, it is “universal basic income”: giving everyone a steady income every month, regardless of whether they make no money or millions. Every candidate presents their issue like it is the panacea which will cure America of its ills. Again and again, we are told that all we need to do is lower immigration, make the rich pay and give everyone more money.

This is what I would call fake populism—a tool used by candidates of the system to distract Americans from the issues which truly confront our nation.

What, then, are those issues? Why would “the system” want to ignore them?

A key issue, in my opinion, is the “military-industrial complex”—a term which refers, in a loose sense, to the link between the interests of multinational corporations and the U.S. political and military elite. It's why we spend more than any other country in the world on our military and accumulate trillions of dollars in debt to topple a foreign leader who is not an immediate threat to our country at all.

This complex is the closest thing to a root illness in our country today. If we analyze the hot button topics on the news, we

can see that most, ultimately, lead back to the military-industrial complex. Take the recent debate about funding Trump's wall. Yet, every

**This is what I would call fake populism—a tool used by candidates of the system to distract Americans from the issues which truly confront our nation.**

day, we spend billions of excess dollars on military spending, including toilets in the Defense Department that cost hundreds of dollars or arbitrary foreign aid to the Zionist regime. Another example is the issue of Trump's “travel ban.” President Obama and other top Democrats accused Trump of discriminating against Arabs and Muslims, and these concerns are valid and legitimate. However, it was surprising that President Obama was suddenly concerned about Arabs and Muslims given his wanton authorization of drone strikes which killed innocent Arab civilians at will. This same hypocrisy applies

to the self-proclaimed “fiscal conservatives” who refuse to fund welfare yet vote in support of every huge Defense spending bill.

What makes this even more interesting, and obvious, is the complicity of top politicians on these issues. Figures like Bernie Sanders, who was an anti-interventionist activist for many years, suddenly became silent about the need to take on the military-industrial complex. And this includes Trump, who expressed support for limiting military intervention and reducing aid for the Zionist regime, immediately caved to the foreign policy establishment within the Republican party.

In 2020, we might have the opportunity to finally break that cycle of silence. Politicians like Tulsi Gabbard, a congresswoman and candidate for the Democratic primary, have begun to express the anger of many Americans and challenge the military-industrial complex. In order for true change to arrive in America, we need a candidate who is willing to confront the system head on by offering a true alternative that goes beyond mere demagogic speech. A candidate like that will be hard to find, but if we don't find one, our country could be irreparably harmed.

# Upper Health Reform Unwelcome

**Dennis Kostakoglu Aydin '21**

*Columnist*

In recent weeks, the general student body has expressed a substantial amount of discontent regarding the Health Department's passing of a new plan to change the health requirement.

Currently, preps and new lowers are each required to take one full year of health, and seniors take a single term in the spring. This new health plan would spread three terms of health already in place across prep, lower and upper year.

The general opinion regarding the current requirement appears to be that these health classes are not necessary and occupy two valuable 50-minute blocks per week. In addition, health classes have never seemed to positively affect students.

They simply cut into time that could be better used on homework, socializing or extracurriculars.

The article also reported another motivation for these classes; ALES appealed to the administration for more classes on race and cultural competency due to feelings that we do not have conversations touching on these important features of campus life. However, lowers have already spent the winter term talking about race and identity in English class and there is a large contingency of lowers who share the sentiment that to be forced to talk about race for another term, in a class that takes up two valuable frees a week, would be a terrible experience, even if the classes are on an important subject. In fact, judging by a circulated online petition with more than 295 signatures, a sizable portion of the Exonian population, not

just uppers disagree with this sentiment. The students that suggested a health class on the subject of race clearly did not get a consensus from the total student body and it's imperative that the administration look to the entire student body for input. Otherwise, we'll end up with a scenario similar to the EP fiasco where an idea was rolled out without the knowledge of most students, causing chaos, and only after the backlash, administration took hasty steps to make amends.

Furthermore, we must look towards the actual effectiveness of health classes. My main takeaways from prep health were that we should rest, refrain from using drugs and avoid sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancies. However, many students at Phillips Exeter continue to use drugs, and this calls into question whether students actually listen during health

classes. While having more discussions on race and identity should be welcomed, it would not be fruitful when executed in a setting where people are disinclined to listen as a result of their overall dislike of the class.

Despite what the health department and a minority of students believe, health class, especially during upper year, would be a most unwelcome addition to our curriculum. In addition, the student uproar over this issue should cause the administration to pause and consider if their current course of action is the one that will benefit the students most. Students are most apt to learn when they are taking a class they find interesting, for which upper health most certainly would not fit the bill. As a result, it is up to the administration to listen to the students on this sensitive issue and put an end to these classes.

# Vote for Feasibility

**Daniel Chen '22**

*Columnist*

Both presidential candidates—Audrey Vanderslice and Ayush Noori—promise to enact positive change, to promote diversity and represent all students. But only Vanderslice's platform has a possibility of success in action, and can be feasibly executed.

Vanderslice's campaign focuses on four tenets: 1) mental health, 2) better communication with the student body, and 3) greater student input in administrative decisions. While these ideas may seem generic, the power in the Vanderslice campaign lies in the tangible extensions of these principles.

Mental health, an issue regurgitated in this year's election, is broad and difficult to address concisely. Unlike her opponent, however, Vanderslice offers a proposal that is both effective and feasible—an accessible, 15 minute walk-in counseling session, which has been backed up by health counselors as realistic goals. This program would offer an entry-level opportunity for students to discuss problems and experience counseling services for the first time, or to take a quick break from the rapid pace of Exeter. The intimidating nature of beginning counseling is well-recognized across campus, and Vanderslice is the candidate that presents a realistic solution.

Student Council often feels inaccessible for many Exonians, despite its purpose to be a representative body. Communication from both sides is often limited to the channels of class representatives and dorm representatives. Vanderslice has experience addressing

this issue as point person on the Executive Board for the Committee on Community, Equity and Diversity (CCED). She will steer Student Council in a direction that makes current resources available to students and expand CCED's agenda to accommodate on-campus student affinity groups. Vanderslice recognizes that Student Council's agenda is often misguided due to ineffective communication, despite good intentions of supporting student groups.

Student Council has much to do in the next few years; from Evening Prayer to lower/upper health classes, the next Executive Board needs to respond to the administrative decisions that define Exeter. Currently, the only mode of sustained, direct communication between students and deans is Dean's Council, who are often cryptic with the student body. Vanderslice proposes the publication of minutes not only from Deans' Council meetings,

**Editors' Note: The Opinions section does not reflect the views of The Exonian. The paper does not endorse any candidates.**

but also for other student bodies that work with administration in policy development. The Health Department has been developing lower/upper health classes for eight years with no student input. There is a clear problem, and Vanderslice is the candidate that can solve it.

Noori presents respectable and impactful ideas as well, but I have doubt in their feasibility. While the OneCard and Bike Share programs seek to establish financial equity, they are completed proposals that have already elapsed Student Council's oversight, and are now in the hands of the administration. Essentially, these are recycled programs that the new Executive Board will not actually engage with. Executive Board has already met with Caroline Hooper of the Finance Office to discuss the OneCard proposal and has handed it off to financial administration to manage, and the Bike Share program will be managed only by the Student Life Committee. These

programs only reflect the Executive Board's past oversight.

Noori's posters also suggest the idea of a “social stipend”: an additional fund that will curtail any palpable financial disparities between friends during recreational activity. However, the feasibility of another stipend in addition to the current textbook fund is questionable. The \$900 fund already allotted to students for academic supplies could not be expanded upon, and to implement the social stipend anyways would force a dangerous decision between academics and social life. In addition, I doubt it is within the realm of Student Council to find funding for such a program. Student Council is completely unaffiliated with how the school manages endowment and finances, especially in a program that would require such significant rebudgeting.

It is evident that Vanderslice is the candidate with tangible, realistic solutions.



**Play Hard, Eat Well**

[www.lasolastacos.com](http://www.lasolastacos.com)

Sunday through Tuesday 11AM to 8PM

Wednesday through Saturday 11AM to 9PM

603-418-8901

30 Portsmouth Avenue

Exeter, NH 03833

**CLYDE'S CUPCAKES**

FREE DELIVERY on cake orders! \*to PEA only

YOU DID IT!  
**2018 graduate**  
HURRAY!

(603) 533-4350  
[clydescupcakes.com](http://clydescupcakes.com)

104 Epping Road  
Exeter, New Hampshire

Monday-Friday  
Hours: 10am-5pm

## The Exonian

SUAN LEE  
*Editor-in-Chief*

RACHEL WON  
*Director of Writing*

MAI HOANG  
*Managing Editor*

ERIK PORRAS & ALEX URQUHART  
*Business Board Co-Heads*

JOY LIU & KELLY MI  
*Chief Digital Editors*

### News Editors

Benjamin Cai  
Sam Weil  
Angele Yang  
Angelina Zhang

### Opinions Editors

Johanna Martinez  
Andrea So  
Cooper Wolff  
Jack Zhang

### Life Editors

Ginny Little  
Candy Tantichirasakul  
Nikita Thummala

### Sports Editors

Leah Cohen  
Caroline Fleming  
Charlie Venci  
Milo Walshe

### Humor Editors

Fiona Madrid  
Nick Schwarz  
Ryan Xie

### Head Photography Editor

JaQ Lai

### Head Art Editor

Pepper Pieroni

### Photography Editor

Helena Chen

### Grad Issue Manager

Isabella Ahmad

### Faculty Advisers

Ellee Dean  
Erica Lazure  
Sarah Anderson

### Head Copy Editors

Janalie Cobb  
May Chen  
Anna Fahey  
Morgan Lee

### Advertising & Outreach

Samuel Chang  
Maggie Smyth

### Subscriptions

Andrew Sun

### Operations

Bianca Lee

### Accounting

Milo Walshe

### Business Advisor

Erica Lazure  
Avery Reavill

The Web Board staff members are listed on *The Exonian's* website: [www.the-exonian.com](http://www.the-exonian.com).

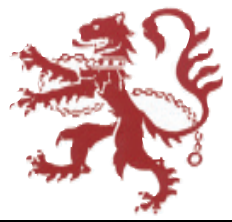
To subscribe to or advertise on *The Exonian*, contact [exonianbb@gmail.com](mailto:exonianbb@gmail.com) or call 603-777-4308. A subscription to the paper costs \$75 off campus and \$125 overseas.

*The Exonian* welcomes Letters to the Editor sent to the care of [exonianletters@gmail.com](mailto:exonianletters@gmail.com).

*The Exonian* reserves the right to print Letters to the Editor in a timely fashion and to edit them for content and clarity.



# ExeterLife



Annabel Lee '20 and Piper Bau '19 show off their moves at Hip Hop Performance.

Helena Chen/The Exonian

## STUDENTS DANCE AT HIP HOP PERFORMANCE

By CHIEKO IMAMURA and LUCY WEIL

Guest Contributors

After a long week of tests, practices and extracurricular commitments, students entering the Goel Center of Theater and Dance were greeted by hip hop music as the dancers from in and outside the Exeter community came together to hold the Academy's inaugural Hip Hop Dance 280 Performance. The performance showcased the work done by PEA's very first Dance 280 Hip Hop dance class led by choreographer and dancer Deo Mwano. Throughout the night, the audience took videos and clapped along to the music as the performers showcased the work they did throughout the term.

The hip hop class is comprised of fourteen students ranging from preps to seniors, many of whom are members of various dance groups around campus. Upper Annabel Lee noted that this camaraderie between the Exonians because of their shared identity as dancers "made the class a really encouraging and fun environment."

The term-long instruction involved

dancers learning original choreography by Mwano in addition to occasional workshops by guest instructors. However, the performance crept up on the students very quickly. "At some point Deo told us that the class may do a performance for the school, but it was just a joke," Lee said. "[Mwano] later introduced the idea to us as a feasible event and then said that he would even bring in some of his own dancers. The class didn't really think it was official until [Mwano] told us that the tickets were out."

Though all of the students had taken at least one dance class before entering the course, Mwano noticed that the moves were a challenge for some to master. He noted that the Exonians tried hard to improve their skills, leading to more students being confident in the dance. "I think the biggest change that I saw [from beginning to end of term] was definitely the students feeling more and more comfortable in themselves to actually fully commit to the movement."

Many of the dancers found themselves doing something they never

thought they would be doing. Senior Rina Kawagishi expressed that she did not know there was going to be a performance when signing up for the course but ended up looking forward to the showcase. "When we were practicing the dances, I liked it a lot, so when I knew I was going to perform I was very excited," she said.

Mwano wanted to create a challenge that would force the students to become vulnerable, so he made plans for the showcase. "Right away I thought, 'We have to find a way to highlight what they're going to accomplish in this class.' I think the other part of [my decision] was that the students are really supportive of each other and I challenge them a lot," he explained.

During the performance, Mwano kept urging the audience to become more active by nodding to the beat or cheering, to create a more comfortable space for the dancers. Mwano said that he wanted the audience to leave with a deeper appreciation of the student dancers. "I want them to be able to appreciate

the performance and the fact that the students have been in this class for the last two and a half months...I also encouraged the audience to come in with an open mind if they don't like hip hop."

Prep Kendrah Su, a member of the audience, described the dancers from Exeter and the guests that the class had brought in as incredibly talented. "The performance was definitely amazing, especially with the dancers from the company...the fact that I knew the students who were performing made the experience more personal." Su added that as a dancer herself, the performance inspired her to broaden her understanding of dance.

Lee walked away from the performance asking herself more questions about herself as a dancer. "[You're forced to think about] your personality, your energy while you dance, how to make sure you look good even if you're putting your own spin," Lee reflected. "This has taught me how to put more thought and energy into the way I dance."

## DACHA THURBER WINS CONCERTO COMPETITION

By VERONICA CHOULGA

Staff Writer

The haunting melody of Tzigane, Rhapsodie de Concert echoes in the Bowld from upper Dacha Thurber's violin. As Thurber draws his bow across the strings, the audience sits in awe of his emotional rendition of the song.

On Feb. 10, Exonians playing instruments ranging from the flute to the piano competed in the Academy's annual concerto competition. Student musicians Penny Brant, Sophia Chang, Gordon Chi, Josephine Elting, Thomas Matheos, Kiese Nanor, Nathan Sun and Dacha Thurber competed for the first-place award and the chance to perform their piece with the Exeter Symphony Orchestra in the spring concert. This year, violinist Thurber was awarded the honor Tzigane, Rhapsodie de Concert by Maurice Ravel.

In order to keep the judging impartial, the music department selected a panel of professional musicians to choose the winner. Double-bassist Pascale Delache-Feldman of the New England Conservatory and low brass specialist Peter Cirelli, both accomplished musicians who have performed in various locations across the country, were selected to assess the Exeter musicians this year. "We wanted to make it completely fair, which is why we had distinguished artists as judges and a panel that represented the diversity of participating instruments," said Rohan Smith, director of Exeter's Symphony Orchestra.

The judges were amazed by the student musicians' abilities to balance school and their commitment to practicing their instruments. "It was so impressive to see this level of commitment, musicality and love for music in school [because we] know that they are so busy with homework and extracurricular activities," Delache-Feldman said.

While listening to the competitors, the judges assessed each piece on a specific set of criteria. "We looked for technique, musicality, expressiveness and understanding of the music: all of the things that make you excited [about music] and feel something special inside," Delache-Feldman explained.

Although the panel presented the winning prize to two musicians last year, the music department decided to award

only one student the honor of accompanying the orchestra this spring. "This way, we can be confident that we have a really fine performance from the orchestra. It is a tremendously interesting experience for the orchestra to play with the soloist, especially with one of their own peers," said Smith. "We want them to make it as 'top level' a performance as possible."

Thurber reflected on his choice of music. "Tzigane was written [by Ravel] to be the hardest piece for violin that had ever been composed. He wrote it in conjunction with his friend who was a violinist, who was concertmaster of the Paris Symphony," Thurber explained. "It's unusual for Ravel since he is known to be one of the biggest figures in 20th-century French music and ballet."

Thurber was inspired to begin playing the violin after hearing a family friend from Serbia perform a concert at Phillips Church when he was three. While listening to him practice, Thurber instantly fell in love with the sound of the instrument. "At first, the way I was playing didn't sound the way [my family friend] played the music, so I was a little discouraged...[but] my parents kept me going and I learned to enjoy it a lot," said Thurber.

Upper Patricia Fitzgerald described how Thurber's piece left a lasting impression on her because of the dramatic, complex solo at the beginning of the piece. "It captivated me because he was completely immersed in the music and the entire audience was fixated," Fitzgerald commented. "His tone was deep and rich, but he also worked smoothly with the [accompanist on the] piano to change to spritely and mischievous."

Smith was very impressed by Thurber's performance and looks forward to listening to the orchestra play it alongside him this spring. "I think his performance really exemplified complete technical control, which gave him the ability to be really expressive... it was clear that he really had a vision of the piece," said Smith. "It would be fabulous for the orchestra to learn this piece because it is so exotic. That will be a really challenging and interesting experience for the whole group."

## ROBOTICS WINS INSPIRE AWARD

By ANNE BRANDES, TINA HUANG and AMY LUM

Staff Writers

After months of hard work and preparation, Exeter's VERTEX Robotics team won the Inspire Award at the New Hampshire First Tech Challenge and will be advancing to the world championship tournament.

The First Tech Challenge is a competition designed for teams of students from grades 7-12 tasked to design, build, program and operate robots to compete in various challenges.

Upper and programming captain of Exeter's First Tech Challenge team Penny Brant separated the competition into two parts to simplify the task of building the robot. The first stage addressed a specific problem outlined in the First Tech Challenge guidebook: programming the robot so that it would do a specific action. After multiple trials to perfect the design and program their robot, two students represented the team in controlling the robot to complete a certain task.

According to prep and team member Celine Tan, there are many roles that are involved in executing the first task. "The mechanical [part of the team] came up with the design and executed it [while the] programmers programmed the robot and computer-aided design acted as a support," she said. In this complex process, the prep emphasized that everyone's role on the team was essential in their success.

The second part of building the robot was based on community outreach. "We refocused our platform to be centered on the gap between technology and especially women in the surrounding communities around Exeter," Brant said.

Director of Communications and upper Summer Hua elaborated on what set Exeter's VERTEX robotics team apart. "I think one thing that stood out to the judges was that we were the only high-ranking team that was half 'rookie' ... half of our team members hadn't even done robotics before," she said. "Half of our team members are also female or non-binary and we also have many international students."

Although their efforts were met with incredible success in this competition, Exeter's Robotics team has not always won. According to Brant, at the first competition they attended, Exeter ranked quite low. "The robotics team

has failed before, but what we learned was that when you don't succeed, you keep on going," she said. "It was a very important lesson to learn."

Prior to the competition, members of the team spent a considerable amount of time preparing for the competition. "We have meetings every Wednesday, Friday, Saturday in addition to all club meetings," Mechanical Captain Vincent Xiao said. "We have a lot of hardworking members, some of whom pulled two all nighters before the New Hampshire First Tech Challenge."

In these meetings, they assigned positions for the members in the club, all of whom have a similar amount of power. "It's interesting because our team doesn't function under one leader, every team has the same amount of power—no one has more power than anyone else; no one has the power to admit a member or expel a member," Xiao said.

While they tried their best during every meeting, the Robotics team members struggled to make time to work on their robot with their busy schedules. "Other teams spend forty or fifty hours on these robots," Xiao said. "So everyone was really busy and spent a lot of time these last few weeks." Xiao himself spent fifty hours per week over Winter break working on Exeter's robot.

Tan attributes the stress of building the robot with limited time as the reason why the robotics team is so tight-knit. "I think one of our biggest challenges was stress: everyone became [closer] as the competition got [nearer], but I think that definitely helped our work ethic and how we communicate with each other," she said.

Outside of competing, a hallmark of the robotics team is the amount of passion each member has for the club. "You don't have to spend all your time here, but most of us end up doing things because there's a lot of things to be done and doing those things requires time," Tan said.

Despite the long hours, Exonians are drawn again and again to the Robotics team because of the strong team dynamic. "It's about the teamwork, and the satisfaction when something you built works," programmer and lower Stephen Gao said. "The bond between team members is pretty deep; it feels like a family."

## Senior Spotlight

## MICHAELA PHAN

By ISABELLA AHMAD  
and ANNE BRANDES  
Staff Writers

At senior Michaela Phan's middle school, studying Latin was "not cool." While her peers grumbled about spending weekends at Latin conventions, Phan enjoyed the chariot racing, discussions and academic contests in which they were forced to participate. Five years later, Phan is still devoted to classics and inspires her Exeter classmates and Kirtland Society (Latin Club) clubmates to do the same.

"Classics are really fulfilling when you understand [the text] fully, get past the grammatical aspects and go into understanding the concepts behind what the author is talking about," Phan said. There are invaluable lessons that one can learn from ancient texts. Phan gave an example: "Horace talks a lot about how you should deal with struggles," she said. "He talks a lot about the mindset you should have in life. In bad times, have an optimistic mindset, and in fortunate times, be humble."

Many of Phan's peers attest to her love of classics—including alum Tim Han '18. "Studying classics requires a certain degree of quixotism and a real passion for Latin or Greek," he said. "Marching through Caesar or Vergil can become an Anabasis of sorts unless you are the type of person who can genuinely get excited about the readings. Michaela's inexhaustible energy and optimism not only help her through Classics but enable her to inspire everyone else in class to keep at it."

In the classroom, lower Phil Horrigan also commented on Phan's devotion to Latin. "She loves the classics so much," he said. "This love allows her to find beauty in the subject."

Upper Kevin Xu also finds Michaela's optimism in Kirtland Society infectious and appreciates her contributions to the club. "I admire Michaela most because of her unending enthusiasm for classics and the people around her," he said. "Kirtland can be intense sometimes with the aggressive table-slapping and answer-shouting that happens during Certamen practices, but Michaela's stories and tidbits always lighten the mood at our meetings."

Beyond Exeter, Phan serves as a dedicated 2nd Vice President of the National Junior Classical League (NJCL). NJCL is one of the largest academic youth organizations in the world with more than 45,000 members in the United States and Canada. The goal of the organization is to combine different aspects of classical studies while also using its vast resources to make positive change in its members' communities. NJCL holds athletic contests, art contests, community service contests and website contests. "We try



Otto Do/The Exonian

to make sure the classics are still alive with younger generations," Phan said. "Throughout the year, I take care of community service—I help chapters around the country with their community service projects. Every month we have an average of \$2000 raised."

Horrigan remembered campaigning for the role of 2nd Vice President with Phan. "On one of the days [a group of Exeter students] were handing out fans to aid her campaign, and Michaela managed to hand out so many more than us because she could engage anyone that we saw in a mini-conversation and get them to take a fan," he said.

Phan has also dedicated her energy to serving as the Vice President of Student Council (StuCo). She served as a mentor to fellow Student Council Executive Board member Audrey Vanderslice. "Michaela taught me pretty much everything I know about being a co-secretary on StuCo," she said. "She's incredibly patient and has this awesome ability to mediate conversation by genuinely listening to what people are saying and bringing this peaceful aura to the table."

Han, who served as Vice President during the 2017-18 term, attested to the importance of the Vice President role as part of the Student Council Executive Board's team. "The President's role is to set the agenda for an organization and lead, but the Vice President should assist wherever needed in order to support that agenda," he said. "Most importantly, this comes in the form of not just

logistical support, but managing interpersonal relations and board dynamics. Michaela's unique combination of contagious kindness, enthusiasm, passion and genuine selflessness serves her well in this regard."

In addition, Phan will serve as a captain of the Exeter Golf team this spring. Even before her appointment to the position, she acted as a leader on the team, according to her co-captain upper Kennedy Moore. "She's very friendly with new players and contributes a lot to the relaxed, community feel of the golf team," he said. "I admire her mental toughness. She always finds a way to win in early season matches."

Lower Will Huang agreed. "She's always checking in with you to make sure that classes are going smoothly or...that you're eating breakfast," Huang said. "It's almost like she's the golf team's student listener."

In and outside of the classroom, Phan has found a way to radiate optimism to the people around her. "Her love of classical studies reveals itself at its zaniest whenever I hear her speaking about the activities of the Kirtland Society or Junior Classical League," said Classics Instructor Paul Boize Langford. "Yet in the classroom, she is a model Harkness student—one whose name I have always been glad to see on the roster."

In Wheelwright Hall, where Phan is a proctor, she brings the same positive attitude, Vanderslice noted. "Michaela is one of those people that has an unbelievably infectious good mood every single time you see her," she said.

"She is always always smiling and is definitely one of my favorite people in Wheelwright."

In academics, too, she contributes the same spirit, according to upper Zachary Feng. "She's a really nice person—always ready to learn—and her enthusiasm rubs off on the people around her," he said. Feng noted that Phan brings the same attitude to peer tutoring sessions, where she serves as a head tutor, and to Pinoy Society, of which she is a cohead.

Phan has made lifelong friends at Exeter. Reflecting on their time together at PEA, alum Kofi Ansong '17 asserted that Phan's attitude aided him through rough patches at Exeter. "I really admire Michaela's optimism," Ansong said. "Times at Exeter can be stressful, and I always found Michaela as someone I could talk to who would cheer me up and have me see the glass as half full."

Ansong remembered the moment that he realized Phan was a true friend at his senior prom. "She was familiar with all of my friends, who were mostly other classics scholars," Ansong said. "Nevertheless, the ease with which we conversed and she conversed with my friends that night made me realize that Michaela was a friend I'd hope to have long after my four years at Exeter."

Reflecting upon Michaela's nature, Han came to the conclusion that there is no way to do justice to her character. "She is completely and authentically selfless, cares deeply about everyone around her and is an incredibly thoughtful friend," he said. "There are not enough platitudes in the English language as to accurately describe her loving kindness."

Phan attributes much of her life outlook to her faith. Though she has always been religious, Phan says she became more in touch with her faith upon her arrival to campus when she found a community with fellow Exonians in Bible Study, a secular discussion group surrounding the Old and New Testaments. In contemplation of a future in which religion and Classics can intersect, Phan is considering working for the Church as a pastor. "I realized that pastors study the Bible and Greek. I've listened to sermons where pastors will talk about the original Greek [Bible] and what it means. This could be a whole other way to pursue my passions," she said. "It would fulfill the aspect of being able to connect with people, socialize all the time and be around a great community."

Senior Paula Coraspe is confident in Phan's abilities to accomplish whatever she sets her mind to. "She's so determined and works hard without burdening others," Coraspe said. "She's just instinctively a kind and understanding person, and she goes through life consistently making other people's lives better."

## MATTER MAGAZINE

By LINA HUANG and ALTHEIA ZOU  
Staff Writers

In November 2018, emerging biotechnology became a topic of public debate when Chinese scientist He Jiankui presented an outrageous claim: he had used the genetic engineering tool CRISPR to impart HIV resistance in human embryos.

Discovered in bacteria as a mechanism to remove invading viral genes, scientists have since repurposed CRISPR as a tool for targeted genetic editing. In He's case, it was used to alter CCR5, the gene used by a protein that HIV manipulates to enter cells, in the genomes of a set of twin girls so the virus could no longer exploit it.

Jiankui's research was met with international backlash as scientists, journalists and laymen proclaimed it unethical. The case made its way into conversations around the globe and Exeter's campus was no different, as students and faculty alike came to terms with the impact and implications of this news.

Prep Madeline Murray looked to the future and contemplated her potential decision as a parent. "I think a lot of parents will feel like they don't have a choice but to genetically modify their children, just so they can compete [with those who have been modified]," she said.

But as Murray continued her train of thought, she began to consider other societal factors that could sway her decision. "If it was just up to me, I don't think I'd do it...but if I had to decide to put my kid at a serious disadvantage, or if there was a disease I could prevent with genetic modification and the success rate was going to be in my favor...I'd do what was best for the kid," she said.

Prep Grace Ding raised similar considerations. "Most people want the same thing: for their children to be healthy and happy," she said. "But on the other hand, if...they can start altering their physical appearances and maybe even [their] brain structures, then that goes into a whole other realm of [whether] it is right to take away some of these personality traits or someone's flaws and imperfections."

While prep Mana Vale acknowledged these concerns, she also deliberated possible circumstances where the use of genetic engineering would be highly beneficial. "I

think [CRISPR] has a lot of potential—especially for treating cancer—but if it goes to the wrong hands, it could also have severe implications," Vale said. "So as long as we have strict rules and regulations on CRISPR, I think it would be okay to use it."

Upper Ayush Noori agreed, expressing that a complete ban would curtail scientific research. "There should be clear regulations on what can be done and what cannot be done...However, a moratorium on genetic engineering and editing in humans would, I think, stifle research," Noori said.

Religion instructor Hannah Hofheinz voiced that the way to deeper understanding and effective evaluation of ethical issues in a rapidly changing world is through critical thinking. "It is only through complex systemic analyses that we will have a clearer understanding of the relevant ethical considerations," they said. "I hope that students at Exeter and beyond...will study [these ethical questions] with the intentionality and depth that any other aspect of the science is studied."

Upper Alexander Kish reiterated the importance of careful consideration. "Before we can foray into this, we need to establish what people are trying to do and look at it on a case-to-case basis," he said. "I'm against a one-size-fits-all solution."

Many Exonians recognized the need to establish ethical boundaries without suppressing scientific advancement altogether. "The realm of ethics is philosophical, but the realm of medicine has tangible impacts on people's lives," Noori concluded. "So where there's medical necessity, we should forge ahead with caution but forge ahead nonetheless."

Human genetic modification is one of the many new decisions we will have to wrestle with in the near future. The concerns raised by Exonians and critics around the world are very real: the potential inequality between families that accept genetic modification and those who do not; the inevitably life-altering decisions parents will have to make on behalf of their children; the many complexities of the intersection between research, ethics and policy.

## DEBATE SWEEPS TOURNAMENT

By MAEGAN PAUL  
Staff Writer

Over the past couple of weeks, the Daniel Webster Debate Society (DWDS) has excelled at various competitions around New England. Upper Jack Zhang, a member of DWDS, qualified to compete in the World Individual Debate and Public Speaking Championships (WIDP-SC) this April as a parliamentary-style.

Anjali Gupta expressed her excitement about the news, commending the entire debate team for their achievements. "I think our debate team this year is especially strong," she said. "I think we have a good board and...they've done a good job in creating a curriculum that really helps both novice and advanced debaters learn and keep improving their skills."

At the Loomis Chaffee debate tournament, Meili Gupta was the first student from Exeter to qualify for WIDP-SC this year. However, this was not the only achievement of the team. Overall, Exeter's team won the first place pair, the first place four-person team and the first place school award.

Exeter's team also traveled to Choate Rosemary Hall on Jan. 20 for another tournament. With extensive preparation, upper Jack Zhang received the first place speaker award and also qualified for WIDPSC, making him the second student from Exeter to be eligible for the competition.

Several debaters will be attending the National Speech & Debate Tournament competition in June. Over the weekend, the list expanded as Anjali Gupta and Albert Chu passed four preliminary rounds and then qualified for Nationals at a competition in Brunswick, Maine. Zhang qualified as an official representative of the Daniel Webster Debate Society and competed in the parliamentary style while Meili Gupta and partners Anjali Gupta and Albert Chu debated in Oregon Cross-Examination style and public forum style respectively after participating in a term-long intensive debate seminar led by History Instructor and Daniel Webster Debate Society advisor Betty Luther-Hillman.

Before each competition, the team hosted an intensive preparation process for each debater to enhance their abilities. Every week, the debate team hosted practice debates where experienced debaters within the team could offer advice to one another. Anjali Gupta noted how these efforts were essential in her improvement. "[People typically] make sure [to] go to the practice debates with [their] partner and debating with other people who are going to the same competitions and are doing the same tournaments," she said.

Senior Daniel Kang, who placed third individually at the Choate competition, commended the team for their hard work leading up to each competition. "I appreciate that the club makes time for each member to improve while recognizing their personal strengths and weaknesses," Kang said.

The team typically practices and participates in parliamentary style debates, which was the format used at the Choate competition. The tournament in Brunswick focused on debaters building upon a case, which allowed for debaters to prepare for their specific topic in depth.

Those who went to Loomis instead participated in a cross-examination debate, which was a style unfamiliar to many of the competitors. "Because it was a new style, we practiced that a couple of times during the day in addition to weekly debate meetings," Anjali Gupta said. During this competition, the topic that everyone debated was given to them only after registration, so pairs had a short time to prepare.

The recent successes have motivated the team to look forward to the competitions in the future. Anjali Gupta anticipates fostering her passion for debate. "The reason I kept coming back is just how much I've fallen in love with it. ... The main thing that I love about debate is that rush that you get when you're in the middle of debating," she said. "Debate has honestly just helped me in my everyday life in everything that I do that requires some form of public speaking."

## Faculty Spotlight

## MATTHEW HARTNETT

By ANNE BRANDES  
Staff Writer

When Classics Instructor Matthew Hartnett came to Exeter, he decided to prioritize getting to know students. In each aspect of student life, he contributes meaningful thoughts whose origins are derived from Greek and Roman ideology.

While growing up in rural Maine, Hartnett discovered his passion for Latin early on. “I come from a part of the world where people did very practical things after high school and got very practical jobs... they mostly stayed in the town where [we] grew up,” he said. “However, I had this amazingly charismatic, eccentric, smart, funny Latin teacher who turned a handful of us on to learning about the ancient world, philosophy and history. It’s really because of him that I have been doing classics my entire life.”

This love of Latin and Greek blossomed because of Hartnett’s interest in the mechanics of the languages as well as the significance of ancient literature. “When you study Latin and Greek, you get to do a little bit of linguistics and [are able to] study language, not just as a communication tool, but as a system for conveying meaning that I just ‘geek out’ on,” he said. “Even more than that, it’s what the Greeks and Romans were saying.”

His passion for teaching emerged later in life. “I first taught at Columbia [University] as part of my fellowship. That’s when I realized that I really enjoyed it,” Hartnett said. “Teaching allows me not just to read these texts and have a conversation with dead white males from the ancient world, but to have conversations with other humans about what we read in the works of those dead white males.”

According to senior Ingrid Bergill, Hartnett has carried his love of conversations into the curriculum he teaches. “He is so friendly with all of his students and cares about each one,” she said. “He loves learning and teaching classics very much. It’s so fun to have a teacher who loves what he does and loves working with students as much as he does.”

Hartnett is also known to spend extra energy helping students to perform at the best of their abilities. “He always puts in the time to ensure that his students are doing well,” Bergill said. “One time when I performed poorly on a quiz, he came up to me and told me that ‘this isn’t the Ingrid [he] knows and loves.’ He is always there to talk and encourages you to get better.”

Hartnett is also skilled at adapting material to best suit his students. Senior Charlie Neuhaus



Helena Chen/The Exonian

appreciated Hartnett’s flexibility. “Greek is challenging because you have to learn lots of material pretty quickly, so it’s really helpful to have a teacher like Mr. Hartnett who always wants to listen to our feedback and respond to it,” he said. “He’s good at adjusting the course to make going through the chapters as painless for us as possible while also keeping us on track to finish all of the required material.”

In addition to students, Hartnett’s colleagues appreciate the thought and effort he puts into preparing each of his classes. “Mr. Hartnett has been a really great colleague. He is deeply interested in the affairs of the department and really attentive, both as a scholar in the material that we teach but also in exploring different styles of teaching,” fellow classics instructor Paul Langford said.

His devotion to improving the Greek curriculum culminated in him writing his own Greek textbook. The book is being used for the first time this year at the Academy to instruct students across the levels of Greek. “As the author of the textbook, I’ve been able to make it reflect what I’m interested in,” Hartnett said. “While there are readings about history and mythology, I’ve been able to include writings on philosophy in the book.”

Hartnett asked for input from his students about the textbook, which allows the challenging Greek curriculum to be continually improved. “I think this kind of student-teacher transparency keeps a tough, fast-moving course like Greek from becoming overwhelming or unfair,” he said.

In addition to his duties in the classroom, Hartnett serves as a member of the Wheelwright Hall dorm faculty team. “When you walk out into the common room, you never know who you’re going to find and what the energy level’s going to be like,” he said. “I don’t know if every adult is temperamentally suited to spend most of their day with adolescents, but I think I am... it’s never boring.”

Wheelwright students enjoy Hartnett’s company and Sophie Liu attributes his popularity to his generous personality. “Mr. Hartnett is super kind and exudes positivity with his presence,” she said. “Overall, he really cares about the dorm and its community.”

Alum Alexis Lee ’18, both an advisee and a Latin scholar, further described how Hartnett is universally appreciated among Wheelwright residents. “He is an amazing dorm [faculty],” she said. “Mr. Hartnett is a much-needed and much-loved presence in the Wheel.”

Lee recalled a particular moment last year when on the Day of Dialogue Hartnett attentively listened to Wheelwright concerns throughout the day. “He is a really observant and thoughtful person,” she said. “He always tries to learn more about whatever ways he can support us.”

Hartnett brings his listening skills and empathy to his role as the chair of the Discipline Committee (DC). “I feel that DC is a really important part of our school,” he said. “I think I can relate to kids who have made mistakes because I made mistakes when I was an adolescent. I’m also pretty good at listening before I speak and withholding judgment to hear all sides.”

Langford cited Hartnett’s ability to engage in meaningful thought as one of the main ways Hartnett contributes to the Exeter community. “I think Hartnett has a keen eye about issues of ethics, morality and thinking through the implications of decisions or proposals,” he said. “He brings this thinking both to conversations surrounding the Latin department and the Academy, as a whole.”

Hartnett uses his abilities to advise students on the court as well—he currently serves as the coach of Exeter’s boys’ junior varsity basketball team. “The court is a whole different dynamic [where] you get to see a different side of the kids and they get to see a different side of you,” he said. “I wouldn’t want to change that part of my job because it’s so different from the teaching part and from the dorm part. I think it’s important for me personally that I get to exercise all those different muscles; [coaching] also keeps me alert, sharp and interested.”

Lee concluded that Hartnett’s most noticeable quality is his genuine concern for all of his colleagues and students. “I think he impacts Exeter positively because he’s an excellent teacher... [he’s] someone who I came to think of as an uncle when I was away from home,” she said. “[Mr. Hartnett is] my advisor for life.”

Hartnett believes that part of his own Classical philosophy on life applies to all students at the Academy. “An observation that so many Greeks and Romans made was that life is short and we have to be really thoughtful about how you spend it,” he said. “I hope that every student here can find a path through life that enables them to find something they are passionate about—something that they can work hard at and that they’re good at. All three of those things feed into one another and, if done right, one doesn’t even notice the time passing.”

## TRENDWATCH

By LEAH COHEN and RAMYANEE MUKHERJEE  
Guest Contributors

Hey, everyone!

Happy Valentine’s Day! Although spring is still a ways away, the spell of warm weather last week gave us a preview of what’s in store for fashion next term. Since Exonians have been showing off more modern styles lately, we’re focusing on street wear and runway collections from New York Fashion Week (NYFW) for this edition of Trendwatch.

NYFW kicked off an entire month of worldwide fashion exhibitions as designers proudly presented their Fall/Winter 2019 fashion lines to editors, celebrities and buyers across the globe. We’ve been following along on social media and have spotted some crazy styles!

The silky slip dress is one trend that stands out in both Jonathon Simkai and Priscavera’s new collections. Worn alone, these long, sultry dresses can leave one too exposed to the frigid weather, so designers like Simkai layered them over plaid pants and pastel turtle-necks. Don’t be afraid to pull out your party dress in the winter—as long as you layer up!

While many looks fit the norm of NYFW, some designers were unafraid to break the mold of fashion. Laurence & Chico’s show on Saturday placed billowing neon feathers at the center of their collection and even mixed them with plaid suits reminiscent of the 1970s. Aside from their “out there” looks, the brand also had a few ready-to-wear items, including patterned mini skirts with matching sweaters and lots of new denim designs.

Eva Chen, Director of Fashion Partnerships at Instagram, rocked a monochrome tan outfit with a blazer and wide legged pants. She stepped up her look with some classic dad sneakers we’ve been spotting all around campus. Karlie Kloss, supermodel and entrepreneur, chose to bring some color to a dreary February day with her baby blue suit set. She paired the elegant double-breasted blazer with a matching coat and turtle-neck.

Fashion week is a great place for style innovation, but outside the shows lie the real runways—the streets—where

even the likes of Vogue and Women’s Wear Daily turn to for inspiration. The flurries of snow on Tuesday were a chilly reminder that it’s still winter. Just because the cold is creeping back in, though, doesn’t mean we can’t be wrapped up in style. Bundle up in an oversized puffer coat and bring some color to the dreary winter with a pop of neon.

If bright shades aren’t for you, try something a little softer on the eyes and throw on a teddy bear jacket to stay warm. The streets of New York were filled with fitted teddy-bear-soft trench coats during NYFW, and they’re a great way to stay warm and cozy on this Valentine’s Day when everyone is looking for a teddy bear to hold.

When you think you’re losing inspiration for cute outfits, we suggest switching up some of your styles completely. We’re seeing more and more influencers embracing a masculine style with suit sets and hoodies, so now’s the time to try them! For a more feminine look, try pairing a sweatshirt with a tulle skirt and high-top sneakers.

Exonians’ street wear—or should we say “path wear”—is some of the best we’ve seen so far. The warm weather and melting snow last week had Exonians doing the most. **Katie Yang ’19** dazzled the paths with rhinestone-covered fishnet tights paired with a denim mini skirt and white platform Superga sneakers. We caught **Bella Alvarez ’19** slithering around in cropped snakeskin pants topped with a black tank top. **Peter Roth ’22**, on the other hand, decided to blend into the scenery and stayed warm yet stylish in a grey camouflage puffer jacket and matching grey beanie. Already ahead of the trends, **Kathryn Kester ’19** sported a metallic silver puffer jacket that looks straight from the streets of Fashion Week.

We know that this mid-winter weather can be a bit of a fashion slump for many Exonians, but try taking some cues from the runway to brighten up your look this Valentine’s Day!

See you on the path!  
XOXO,  
Leah and Ramyanee

## D HALL CREATIONS

By EMILY KANG  
Staff Writer

Hello! My name is Emily, and I am a lower in Bancroft Hall. I will be taking over this week’s D-hall Recipe column. To be honest, I miss cooking in my home kitchen, but the next best thing is cooking in D-hall with the random assortment of spices and condiments available. I have compiled some of my favorite recipes in this article, so take a look! All dishes have a theme of Sunday Brunch recipes, provided that Sundays are the only day I, and the majority of Exonians, actually have time to explore recipes during our hectic weeks. Have fun and let me know if these taste good, or if I just have a weird palate.

## Drinks

**Hot Mocha** – Starbucks is so far away, but if you are looking for an alternative that tastes strangely similar to their mocha flavored drinks, give this a try.

1. Take a mug and put in 1½ pumps of chocolate syrup from the coffee station
2. Fill the mug to about halfway with hot coffee
3. Pour Half-and-Half to the brim and mix
4. Voila! Enjoy!

**Milk Tea** – Although there is no boba in this milk tea, this is a tolerable D-hall alternative to the classic.

1. Fill ¾ of cup with sweetened iced tea
2. Pour in Half-and-Half until the color becomes a creamy brownish-beige (if you want to control your sugar intake, you

can add unsweetened iced tea and add the desired amount of sugar later).

Both of the dairy products in the recipes above can be substituted with plant based milks.

## Waffles

**Cinnamon Sugar** – Everyone loves cinnamon toast, but you can take it to the next level with this cinnamon waffle.

1. Make a waffle
2. Top waffle generously with whipped cream
3. Go to the toast bar and sprinkle cinnamon sugar all over the whipped cream
4. Eat before your waffle gets soggy!


**Chocolate Coconut** – For those of you who don’t know about the toasted coconut on the right side of Elm, you’re missing out.

1. Make a waffle
2. Top with chocolate syrup and whipped cream
3. Garnish with toasted coconut and add nuts if you would like to add more texture

## Sandwich

**Monte Cristo** – A brunch favorite that can be made on your own!

1. Take two slices of bread and slather each piece with raspberry jam
2. Put in two slices of ham, one slice of turkey and two slices of swiss cheese
3. Cook in the panini press until the cheese is melted.



**Anthony Antosiewicz**  
Owner

---

231 Water Street  
Exeter NH 03833

---

tel 603.778.0910  
fax 603.778.1870

---

Eat in or Take Out  
Free Delivery



# Valentine's Day



Just thoughts?  
Andrew Sun is  
kinda cute.

Dearest Yong-Ho,  
Endless blossoms of roses  
and cases of bear soup are my  
wish for you on this day  
of Saint Valentine. All my love,  
- Pat

Happy Valentine's Day Jasmine, just want to say  
that we see you working hard and you are the best  
team leader ever. Thanks for taking the time  
to look through our stuff and carry our team  
through every victory, and more importantly for  
the laugh and the friendships you created  
throughout those long nights of work.  
-Mock Trial C Team.

Isa Matsubayashi,  
you are the coolest  
person around!  
You are the "she"  
to my "nanigans"!!  
I <3 YOU!!!  
-your secret admirer ;)

Happy Valentine's Day Cado!!!  
I love you :)  
- Avery

Hannah, you're such a nice, kind,  
compassionate person and you bright  
up this campus. I hope you have a  
great Valentine's Day. Whether you  
have someone to chill with or not, you  
make me and a lot of other people really  
happy and comfortable at Exeter!  
Never change!

Yona! Es su  
tiempo! I love you  
sweetly and I hope  
you have plenty  
of arugula on this  
wonderful Valentines  
Day!!! Love you!

Robbie...I want you to [respect]  
me like you [respect] those golf  
balls -AH

To whomever decided to cut  
my quote from the  
SuperBowl article,  
Happy Valentine's Day :)  
- Avery

Thanks for lighting up my  
world with your laugh, your  
smile and your heart. Happy  
Valentine's Day, Emeline!  
- Tommy Kim

Happy Valentine's Day  
Charlie :)<3 - Avery

Roses are red, violets are blue,  
Sarah Pasche I'm thinking of you  
but you're not thinking of me  
cuz you don't know who I am

Kyle Marshall,  
u cute.

Dear Mimi the Memester, gather your things <3





# ExonianHumor



## The Things Our Parents Used to Do For Us

By FIONA MADRID  
*It's fine; I'm fine*

1. Advocate for us when coaches made us sit on the bench. Some parents haven't stopped making those calls.
2. Make us omelettes. We miss you, Derek.
3. Be our friends. ("I want to get married and have 100 kids so I can have 100 friends and no one can say 'no' to being my friend." -Michael Scott, *The Office*)
4. Ask teachers how we can get into Harvard. (Wait. They still do this.)
5. Let us hug them. I don't know about you guys, but I sometimes miss having a reliable adult around.
6. Write our emails, so we look somewhat professional. (Why does everyone sign off with "Best, \_\_\_" now?)
7. Order delivery for us because no one in our generation seems to be capable of talking on the phone.
8. Tell us when to go to bed. Honestly, I wish someone still enforced lights out for uppers. Maybe then I would.

## Subtle Nick Dating

By NICK SCHWARZ  
*Someone please take him so he can shut up*

Height: Taller than 5'6", we swear.  
Weight: A lot more now since he sits around the newsroom.  
Number of sports he used to do: Three.  
Number of sports he does now: Drama Sports!  
Number of hours spent pursuing a Classical Diploma: Over 9000.  
Number of minutes said diploma will allow him to graduate early: Like, eight.  
Accessibility to dorm room for Vs (possibly legal): Yeah, about that...  
DM sliding skills: Check your Messenger.  
Pairs of sweatpants owned: One.  
EP accept/reject ratio: Zero to 18.  
Go-to pick-up line: "Did it hurt when you fell from the vending machine? Cuz you're looking like a snack."

## Student Council President: Write-In Candidates

By RYAN XIE  
*Battle of the Day-Studs*

Nick

1. I'm a Day Stud Rep. Every Tuesday, I spend one hour of my time advocating for day student rights—the most underheard group on campus, despite making up 20 percent of the population. Instead of spending time working on homework and raising my hand to ask pointless questions, I genuinely care about picking our 200+ select members. Plus, I created the day stud gear (Mom, can you pick me up at 8?).
2. Outside of Mock Trial, WPEA, DRAMAT, Exonian Humor, Mainstage, Mental Wellness Group, ESSO Frisbee, ESSO Theater, Airplay and Classic Films club, I have AMPLE time to dedicate myself to more Student Council duties.
3. I promise to make change, evident from the 0 events I have organized for day students. Talk about day students missing out on fun.

Ryan

1. I ran for Lower Rep! This gives me extensive experience with running a non-meme, non-Ellen campaign.
2. I was Webster dorm rep ('ster Hall) before becoming a day student. Seriously, for nine weeks of prep spring, I served as Webster dorm rep because one of our dorm reps became a committee head. In my 9 weeks, I was able to organize 1 event—1 more event than Nick was able to in his entire career as a day stud rep.
3. My platform is centered around reducing the long commute that day students like me suffer every day. If we move Exeter's campus closer to where day students live, we will solve this problem.
4. I rode a scooter prep fall. Instead of a bike sharing system, why not a scooter sharing system?

## Valentine's Letter

By FIONA MADRID  
*Too Attached to Food*

Dear Crush,

From my very first day in prep fall, when I came crashing into grill, loud, dabbing, wearing clunky glasses and calling it "The Grill," I knew we were meant for each other.

I wanted to take you to dinner, cause apparently people want their love interests to see them stuffing their faces on dates. Like that isn't one of the most unattractive events we experience daily (in public). Anyway, with you, I wasn't self conscious; I wanted to know you and to eat a meal with you.

You were the kind of person everyone was attracted to, and everyone treated you like you were 50 cents. But I saw past all of that. I saw your true value. I could tell you were soft on the inside just from looking at the way your chest dips in the center. You were the Chuck to my Blair. You were Edward, and I was Bella. You were the beast, and I was beautiful. Wait, no one wanted the beast. Anyway, I understood you.

And you understood me too. You knew that always being in Grill for me made me feel supported. You got that I

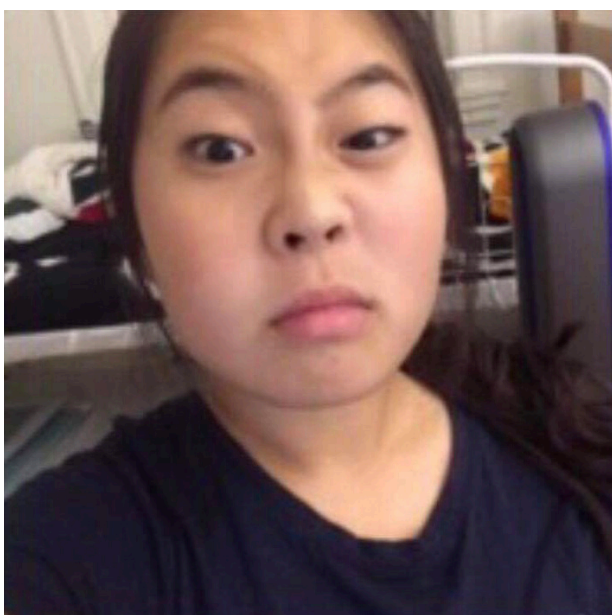
couldn't have dinner with you every day, that sometimes I needed to eat Ramen-dipped Hot Cheetos and watch the Great British Baking Show.

Oh, Grill Cookies! I love you so so dearly. I wish I could spend the whole rest of my life with you, but alas! Our time together is limited. Let us make the most of it. Meet me tonight in Grill, where we first met. Even though I'll only pay 50 cents for each of you, I'll treat you right.

Love,  
Fiona  
P.S. I love you.

## TFW When You Lie Down For Your 10:10p.m. Nap and There's a Fire Drill

By SUAN LEE  
*A happy, healthy Dunbabe*



If you overhear any funny quotations, tell one of the Humor Editors. We definitely need to fill more of our page with blank space.

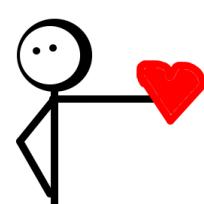
Also, Submit in general because you'll probably get published:

exonianhumor@gmail.com.

## True Story

By EUGENE HU  
*Pure :)*

### Storytime with Eugene Hu



For all you lovers out there. I wish you happiness, and I hope you know how lucky you are and cherish what you have. For you hopeless romantics still looking for a mate. You'll get there. Don't worry. It takes time, but I have faith in ya. Happy Valentine's Day everybody!

## Quotes of the Week

"I think the person next to me has Norovirus."

-Everyone '23

"It's best to make fun of people who can't stand up for themselves."

-Matthew Pangan '19

Angele Yang '20: "How do snakes breathe?"

Natalie Pang '19: "Well, they have two-chambered hearts."

Angele: "Okay. So... how do they breathe? Also, don't they have three-chambered hearts?"

"How am I supposed to edit this photo? I'm so good."

-Helena Chen '20



# Exonian Sports



## WRESTLING DOMINATES CLASS A TOURNAMENT

By **ABBY SMITH**  
Senior Sports Writer

Boys' Varsity Wrestling placed second out of ten schools last Saturday at the Class A tournament, hosted by Phillips Andover. Four Big Red wrestlers—lower Christian Petry, upper Tyler Morris, senior Tabor Wanag and senior Henry Lagasse—came out on top in the 106, 126, 182 and 195 weight groups, respectively.

The matches were intense, as the stakes were higher and more schools were competing. Petry commended his teammates for “wrestling tough” and contributing to Exeter’s second-place win. “Even when our kids lost in the early rounds, they battled all the way back to take 3rd or 4th. These kids that still fight and win team points in the consolation bracket are just as important as kids getting to the finals and taking first or second,” he said.

Morris explained the offensive strategy that helped him beat Noah Burstein of Northfield Mount Hermon for first place in his weight group. “I like to stay on the attack. If I’m pressuring my opponent to play into my game plan, then I feel very comfortable,” he said.

Upper Ethan Rosenthal lauded Morris for his hard-earned victory, recalling that “[Morris] tied it up in the third period and won it in overtime. It was sick.”

Other memorable matches included Petry’s win over Andover wrestler Arnav Bhakta.



Senior John Beckerle prepares for a feast.

JaQ Lai/The Exonian

“Personally, I helped my team win by taking first and getting bonus points along the way... from pins. I only wrestled for 1 minute and 29 seconds total, minimizing my risk of injury for future weeks and taking home a plaque in the process,” Petry said.

The tournament was not entirely smooth-sailing, as a few players were down with Norovirus and unable to compete. “We didn’t have a competitor in every weight class. So from the very start we didn’t maximize our ability to

get the most points possible,” Rosenthal said.

Nevertheless, these setbacks evidently did not stop Big Red from rising above its competitors. The team’s success served as another testament to the incredible season Big Red wrestlers have had this year and the hours of work they put in at practice.

Aside from strong competition, the tournament also offered wrestlers a chance to connect with opponents, old and new, off the mat. “The heavyweights from all the other

schools like to hangout and talk, so it was a very friendly environment,” Rosenthal said.

Petry agreed, saying “the tournament had a bit more of a laid back atmosphere this year than last year.”

Exeter will be traveling to New England at Green Farms Academy this weekend and also expects a few wrestlers to compete next week at Prep Nationals, hosted by Lehigh University. Big Red Wrestling has a lot to look forward to before Spring Break.

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: MATT WABUNOHA

By **SYDNEY KANG AND GINNY VAZQUEZ-AZPIRI**  
Contributing Writers

Big Red trackmates, gathered at the finish line, cheer as upper Matthew Wabunoha takes off across the indoor track. He speeds through his laps alongside his teammates. The end of practice brings a sense of relief and accomplishment for the whole team, and Wabunoha congratulates his friends for finishing successfully.

Wabunoha is master of the 55 meter hurdles, 65 meter hurdles, the sprints and the 400 meter dash; his athletic talent allows him to compete in a wide variety of races. “He’s just really fast at everything,” lower Bea West said. “I’m pretty sure you could put Matt in any event and he’d dust whoever else was with him.”

Wabunoha began running track his prep winter. During the fall, he participated in the prep program, where he discovered his knack for running. He explained the moment when Coach Hall approached him about running track in the winter. “We were playing a game of tag, and I remember running up to someone and tagging them, and then, Coach Hall said, ‘You’re trying out for track in winter, right?’”

For Wabunoha, track is more than just his winter sports requirements—it is an exciting way to push his limits with an encouraging group of friends. “Track is a hard sport to train for alone, and if you’re with a bad group of people, it’s not fun. But if you have a good team like I do, it’s really easy to have fun,” he said.

Wabunoha’s easy-going, optimistic personality has made him a valuable friend

his time as a runner. “He’s pretty funny. He’s very loud and outspoken, he’s goofy and it’s just positive energy. So, it’s something you need when you’re working out pretty hard,” senior Ogechi Nwankwoala said.

Not only does Wabunoha’s natural charisma promote to a lighter, more exciting environment, he simultaneously pushes others to be their best. Nwankwoala expressed her admiration for Wabunoha’s leadership on the team. “He works really hard, and he motivates other people...I think the most impactful thing that he’s done is make people take track very seriously, because it is a really big team and a lot of people join just to have a sport. We are not very competitive with cuts—especially in the spring—but he pushes everyone to be a competitive and better team,” Nwankwoala said.

Similarly, upper and track team member Tise Okeremi noted that “just watching him motivates others to keep challenging themselves. You can tell he really loves track and it’s contagious.”

Wabunoha’s inspiration for track include both his coaches and peer athletes. “Obviously Coach Toyin—I love Coach Toyin. All the coaches I really look up to, just because they know what they’re doing with the workouts and they’ve all competed and become good at what they do,” Wabunoha said. Wabunoha also considers upper Will Coogan and senior Maggie Hock to be two of his greatest role models. According to Wabunoha, “They’re both so talented and self-humble. Just their willingness to work hard inspires me to do more. Seeing them go to all those cool meets and stuff—that motivated me as a prep to know that I could do that if I worked really, really hard.” Wabunoha said.

Wabunoha for many is not only inspired by the top athletes of the team, however, is also motivated by the underclassmen. “Seeing the lowerclassmen’s willingness to enter discomfort and be willing to do the workouts and go the extra mile—I really appreciate that from them,” Wabunoha said.

Like so many other sports, the challenge of balancing athletics with schoolwork is a difficult one to overcome. But Wabunoha seems to have learned that because “meets can last the whole day; you have to learn to do your homework between events and get your business done.”

Another major challenge track athletes

tend to face is recovering from injuries. “Bouncing back from injuries is always hard because you don’t know how long you’ll be out for,” Wabunoha said. “The slightest thing could be really bad, so you’ve got to learn to take it slow.”

Despite the endless grind that is indoor track, Wabunoha loves the hard work he puts into it every day. Okeremi concluded, “Matt is a valuable member of the track team because he’s encouraging. Not only does he excel, but he does so modestly and is constantly pushing himself to do better. He doesn’t want to be a local champion. He has bigger goals for himself.”



Eva Carchidi/The Exonian

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: AVERY REAVILL

By **COOPER WALSH**  
Staff Writer

Avery McLaren Reavill ’12 had a phenomenal athletic career with Big Red, which carried him to Brown University as a student athlete and eventually back to Exeter as coach of the boys’ swimming and diving, water polo and crew teams. Since his return, he has instilled the same level of competitive drive in his players that he maintained as a student at the Academy.

While attending Exeter, Reavill played the same sports he currently coaches—Varsity Water Polo in the fall, Varsity Swimming in the winter and Varsity Crew in the spring. On top of being a tri-varsity athlete, he helped his teams win numerous championships and also captained all three sports.

Out of all the sports Reavill played, his favorite has been water polo. “Wopo [water polo] had more creativity and freedom: no-look passes, scoring goals, blocking—it’s just more physical,” Reavill said.

However, Reavill felt that swimming was his most successful sport at Exeter. “Even though [upper] Andrew Benson is picking my records off the board, I still have a couple left,” Reavill said.

Reavill’s identical twin, Brooks Reavill, also has his name tiled onto the Roger Nekton Champion Pool’s record board. The twins had a competitive relationship that pushed both of them to work harder. “It doesn’t matter the sport—we were always trying to beat each

other,” A. Reavill said. “We were the perfect match on defense [in water polo]. He was the perfect swim and rowing competition to make me go faster.”

“Before Exeter, we would always be on different teams so that we could keep the teams fair, but that changed at Exeter, and playing with Avery is the most fun I’ve ever had,” B. Reavill said.

B. Reavill also praised his brother for focusing on technique more than himself and said “he was constantly telling me what I should be doing to get better. I didn’t always listen but his precision made him very effective in the boat.”

Outside of sports, B. Reavill says that his brother “took his competitive spirit to gaming and spent what little free time he had playing FIFA and C.O.D. with guys in the dorm.”

They both agreed that their twin bond gave them an advantage over the other teams. “Our communication was streamlined because we saw the game the same way and could anticipate what the other one was going to do,” B. Reavill said.

When asked what B. Reavill will remember most about playing sports with his brother, he said, “I think his tenacity on defense in water polo is what sticks with me the most. He wanted to block everything, and he usually got a hand on it.”

B. Reavill added, “His opponents would just start passing the ball because they felt that they had no shot when he was across from them.

Those dominating defensive performances in polo are what I remember the most.”

Water polo captain Jamie Cassidy ’18 said Reavill, during his first year as coach was attentive to the team’s needs. “The team and I knew that he was coming from the same place we were currently at, fighting for a championship in water polo and swimming,” Cassidy said.

“When he started getting more involved, the team and I started to form a really awesome relationship [with him]. The dude is hilarious and knows what it takes to be a high-end athlete, so I was really grateful for that special kind of coaching. Most teams don’t get that,” Cassidy said.

Taylor Walsh ’18, who was coached by A. Reavill in water polo, swimming and rowing, said that he was thankful to have A. Reavill as his coach because of his “unique coaching skill set.” “He was competing in the pool and rowing on the river not too long ago. He understands his athletes. In regards to standing out, his stature cannot go unnoticed,” Walsh said.

Avery Giles ’18, both a water polo player and swimmer, said that “Avery was a great coach for us last year—he knew our league and opponents well and always could comment on tactics or strategies we could use in upcoming matches.” Giles continued that A. Reavill, being an Exonian himself, “[understood] what the students appeal to and how they take criticism.”

A. Reavill attributes his leadership qualities to two seniors in Peabody Hall while he was a

prep: Parker Moody and Adam Logan. He said that he would “always be pestering them with questions about math, maybe a little too much, but they taught me the importance of inclusion that I still hold with me today.”

Giles’s fondest memory of Reavill was just “[chilling] on the pool deck with the boys and spotting Reavill flexing his Brown athletic gear.” Giles wanted to stress that Reavill is “one of the boys.” Giles said. “While the team isn’t tapering for hard competition, ‘you can find Reavill on the basketball court playing with the kids on the team who can put the ball in the hoop.’”

Cassidy agreed and added that Reavill “even sat with [the team] at team dinners from time to time. That showed us how involved he was and we share some great memories because of it.”

Walsh emphasized that, behind his high-level coaching experience, but Reavill is also a “behemoth. When you finish a swim set and see him standing over you, it’s both intimidating and motivating. It’s like getting coached by Poseidon himself. Having that kind of size on your bench for water polo also adds a nice psychological component to water polo games.”

Reavill went on to be recruited by Brown University for crew along with his brother. Both showed the same competitive spirit at Brown that they did throughout their four years at Exeter. They were able to climb to the top of the ladder and eventually became captains. A. Reavill finished his scholastic athletic career the same place he started—at Exeter.