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Chimes is the official student newspaper of Calvin: A Liberal Arts University. The mission of Chimes is to reform, review, challenge and foster dialogue within the Calvin community.

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Letters to the Editor

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The official student newspaper of Calvin: A Liberal Arts University since 1907 C.E.

student senate finally dubbed 'student committee for increasing openess'

BY FETER PORD
I'm still managing



In recognition of their decades of faithful existence, faculty senate approved a proposal to rename student senate “the student committee for increasing openess” (sc4io) last week.

Although many names were considered, “the student committee for increasing openess” won unanimous approval. Other options suggested included “what is it they do?” and “committee for sending occasional email updates.”

“This name-change does not reflect a change in our mission,” a sophomore student senator Jim Nasium said. “We will continue to do what we have always done: try to get places more open.”

Student body president Kyle Van Prez echoed the resolve for openess and added that transparency is one of the committee’s highest priorities.

“We think it’s so important to let the Calvin community know

what we were working on 15 years ago. That’s why we haven’t updated our Trello board since 2016.”

Numerous members of the student committee for increasing openess mentioned that they are currently petitioning campus safety to increase the hours of the 24-hour hotline.

Last year, the former student senate approached John Witte, the dean of students, and successfully persuaded his office to establish 24/7 open house hours in the dorms.

“We were totally on board with this move,” Witte said.

“This fits our goal of increasing the student population on campus.”

Another current initiative is trying to move toward open floor plans. So far, progress had been postponed on the Calvin master plan, which envisions all campus buildings connected via tunnels and skywalks.

In the meantime, you can stop by the student senate student committee for increasing openess’ open office to borrow either a doorstop or a sledge hammer. While you’re there, grab a cookie from the open package of cookies.

“Stop by anytime,” said Nasium. “We want you to feel free to be open with us, as we are with you.”

However, not all Calvin students are satisfied with the student committee for increasing openess’ recent work.

“Wifi on commons lawn. That’s literally all I want them to do,” said super duper super senior Itis Van Donne. “I’m all about openess: I have so many tabs open on my laptop. But I need wifi!”

Nature preserve premieres as housing option



PHOTO COURTESY HAMMOCKHARMONY.COM

housing option to students, located in the nature preserve, beginning fall 2030.

The cost of this new living option, named Really Engaging God’s World (REGW), will be \$600 each month. Some factors which go into the cost are price of bug repellent, spare hammock straps, water and the occasional hospital fee.

“There are certain potential health risks which are involved in living in Really Engaging God’s World since you are living in a more natural setting than the dorms or apartments,” said John Witte, dean of students. “However, they are small in comparison to the beautiful trees, grass and soil which the nature preserve offers to students.”

Current plans show that the housing will be located in the very center of the nature preserve. This housing program will be geared toward students who have any passion or interest in nature, birds, various trees, dirt, or simply becoming one with nature. It will serve students who desire an “authentic” and “fair-trade” living experience, rather than the “mainstream” and “shallow” dorms and apartments.

Just as the surroundings are very green and brown, the housing will be similar. Dirt paths lined with various sticks, leaves, and the occasional poison ivy plant will lead students to the humble abodes which await their arrival. Green tents and small log cabins will be accompanied by a large fire pit and benches.

The surrounding trees will provide excellent hammocking opportunities and tree climbing experiences. Students will wonder why they ever needed or wanted to climb a big, plastic rock wall when there are real, live, unclimbed trees right outside their tent flaps.

Not only will students be able to very literally hug trees while engaging God’s world, but they will also have other exciting experiences alongside of their fellow nature-lovers.

They will think more deeply about

what their Sperry boots and Patagonia pullovers mean to them when the weather gets colder. They will be required to act justly when choosing a cabin roommate or tent-mate. Students will also wholeheartedly seek shelter from the unpredictable Michigan weather.

Rather than having staff work directly with the students, there will be YouTube videos periodically sent to students produced by the mysterious people who take pictures and films for the Calvin University website and featuring knowledgeable Calvin professors to help the students throughout the semester. They will guide students in basic wildlife safety and encourage them to appreciate and learn about all aspects of their surroundings and world in true liberal arts fashion.

“We really want the students to have free range in the heart of the nature preserve,” said Witte. “They are going to be like Calvin’s version of free range chickens in a sense. Roaming free and living it up until they get eaten up by the reality of their responsibilities. A very organic experience to say the least.”

Jay Wise, director of housing and operations, commented that there will be a daily group hike to get to class in the morning. He talked a little about the benefits of these hikes:

“This will be amazing time for students to connect with one another while they are only half awake and on the way to their 8 or 9 a.m. classes.”

Residence life is encouraging students to consider applying for this housing if they think that it may be a good fit for them in the foreseeable future.

“If a student is unsure about the very nature-centered lifestyle, we tell them that despite the challenges they may face, they will be able to get to be more in tune with nature and maybe even hug a tree at some point during the year. Those experiences of engaging God’s creation are really priceless.”

Introducing: Dean Ward Memorial Dean Ward

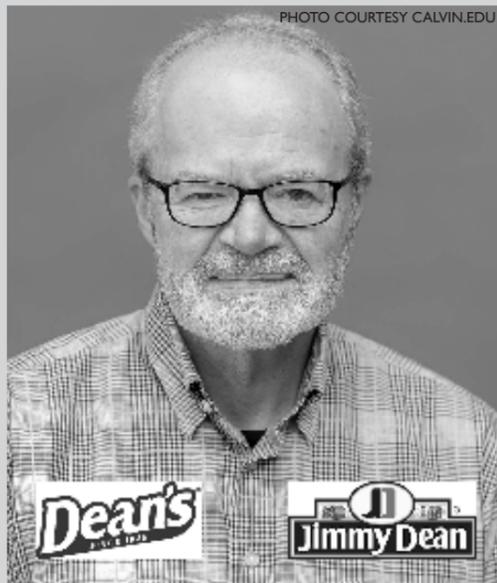


PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

Dean Ward is the ward of the dean-themed food in the new Dean Ward Memorial Dean Ward.

BY POSH JARKS
Editor-in-Grief

In honor of longtime English professor Dean Ward, and in honor of longtime department “English,” the provost’s office has been renamed the “Dean Ward Memorial Dean Ward.”

“Ohh, I get it,” said one student after staring at the new sign for several minutes in confusion. “It’s the ward where they keep the deans.”

The office has also been equipped with a new snack bar, where recently “retired” classics professors serve Jimmy Dean sandwiches and Dean’s ice cream. Because, after all, they’re classics.

“I like to think the new name will ward off the deans,” quipped provost Cheryl Brandsen, making one of her famous puns.

“We really deaned this space worthy of a new name,” Brandsen continued with a wry smile.

“Puns are just in my DeanNA,” she said, not stopping. “Wardn’t you like to hear more?”

Chimes couldn’t bear to complete the interview.

“I just wish it’d happened earlier, when I was a dean,” said Ward. “Back then, I called my office the Dean Dean Ward Ward. So then it could’ve been the Dean Ward Dean Dean Ward Ward.”

Beerema’s Brewery Opens Fall 2030

BY RAY
A-Drop-Of-Golden-Sun

The Fish House is set for a grand re-opening this fall with as much rebranding as Calvin’s website in 2017. The opening of Beerema’s, as it will be called, will mark Calvin’s first year as a wet campus. What is now an underloved, underground coffee bar is scheduled to transform into a full-blown brewery with an outdoor beer garden spilling out near commons lawn.

“We wanted a design that encapsulated the freedom this project represents,” said student body president Kyle VanSomething. The proposed design will mean tearing down those windowless walls and digging out the ground around the northwest corner of the building in order to make the space for both the brewery and a beer garden.

The student committee for increasing openness calculated the cost for such a project and found that it would be impossible; but then a miracle happened.

“We needed to find Calvin alumni who would share in our vision, and we knew that those alumni would be millennials,” said VanSomething.

The committee found that recent graduates — who get a call about donating to Calvin one hour after graduation — wanted to make sure their money was going to truly improve campus life. With the enthusiasm of millennials who cannot afford anything until it is after 10pm on a weeknight, the committee was able to finance this proposition. The final step was getting administration’s approval for making Calvin a wet campus.

For this final step, the

student committee for increasing openness came together with the Center for Students Staying at Calvin to propose the idea for the brewery as a unique, retention initiative.

“We’re not just trying to keep first-year students at Calvin anymore,” said Dodd Tornbos, Director of Retention. “This is about keeping students and as much of their money as possible on campus during their four years.”

As Grand Rapids has grown in beer production over the last decade, local breweries increasingly offered weeknight discounts on appetizers and draughts. Students add that self-driving Ubers have only made it easier to get off campus.

“My whole floor can fit in

the Uber 8XLs,” said Ashley Overinvolved. “As a SET member, I love being able to organize an off-campus event during the week. Who doesn’t love half-off beer cheese pretzels?!”

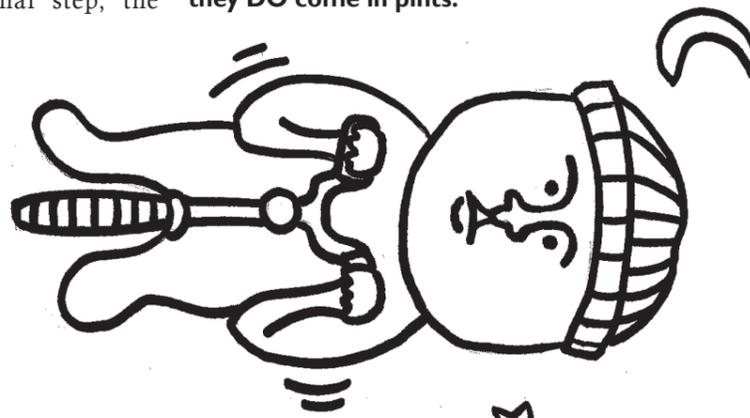
One estimate on how much money students spend at breweries in the area further showed that having a brewery on campus would eliminate the need for donors who have long opposed things such as alcohol, tailgating and football. With these statistics, President Le Roy was in full support.

“It will build community, of course,” Le Roy commented. “And several of the students and professors I have talked to are looking forward to thinking deeply and discerning creation, fall and redemption over a beer.”



PHOTO COURTESY COOLTHINGS.COM

The Fish House’s old coffee cups are a thing of the past when you’re sporting one of these stylish new glasses. Yes, my friend, they DO come in pints.



Commons converted to Chick-fil-A

BY FETER PORD
I can manage

Last year, the administration of Calvin University decided that the Commons dining hall needed to be updated yet again, and Calvin has become the location of the newest Chick-fil-A restaurant.

A recent pilot study led by a biology and sociology professor suggests that eating in a freshly remodelled space aids in digestion. The next step is a proposal to mandatorily update Commons once every three years, to keep it as fresh as the food they serve.

Although there are by now

eight Chick-fil-As within walking distance of Calvin’s campus, this is the first location on the campus. Chick-fil-A was selected to prove to the donors that the university is not entirely liberal, yet.

Six literal days after the decision was finalized, Calvin students walked into the newly-converted Chick-fil-A cafeteria.

“At first, my friends and I had a beef about it since the dining hall will be closed on Sundays,” junior Aspara Gus said. “But soon we realized the waffles fries we smuggle out on Saturdays stay warm into Sunday.” However, Gus and his roommates discovered the waffle fries molded immediately on Monday morning.

The aptly-titled Chick-fil-A sauce has become so popular there is a full jug of it on the condiment counter at Johnny’s.

“I can’t quite identify all the flavors in the sauce, so I just call it, ‘What is it?’” Gus explained. “Manna, oh manna is that stuff good.”

Other students have been asking other questions about the recent changes.

“Chick fill a what?” senior Moe Ment, one of the two remaining English majors, asked. “Chick fill a bag, then chick fill a stomach, maybe.”

Ment has at least five friends who have already applied to work at the new dining facility, hoping

to get a pair of dress pants and the nice polo shirt.

“Free clothes are so underrated these days,” Ment said.

Proponents of the upgrade are already suggesting that student employment will become so appealing that the First Year Seminar curriculum ought to include a segment on the benefits of responding “My pleasure.”

First-year student Kimmy Jimmel admits to going to the dining hall just to say “Thank you” to the staff as many times as possible.

“I go when my friends are working. I can get away with being a total jerk and they still have to be pleasant,” Jimmel said.

However, all is not well in our brave new world.

Last Friday, campus safety received several reports of a frozen lemonade battle between two dorms. Campus safety director Bill Corner detained two frozen lemonade-filled cement mixers at an entrance to campus. The drivers had intended to play chicken with the trucks.

LOGO PLEASURE OF CHICK-FIL-A

