



Federal budget would cut Western student aid by over \$2 million.
FEATURES, PG. 6

THE WESTERN FRONT

Volume 180, Issue 6

westernfrontonline.com



@TheFrontOnline

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2017

Racist rental ad prompts concern

Joshua Steele
THE WESTERN FRONT

At first glance, a July 16 housing advertisement posted on the Bellingham Craigslist page was like any other, until readers looked closer.

“WHITE PEOPLE ONLY” was written within the description of the advertisement for a two-bedroom apartment at the Sunset Pond apartment complex in Bellingham.

Habitat Properties, L.P., the parent company who rents out properties at Sunset Pond, denied responsibility for the post after it appeared on Facebook. Sunset Pond property manager Janice Soderberg said the company does not know who posted the advertisement, but they have suspicion that someone, perhaps an ex-employee, hacked into their Craigslist account and wrote the post.

Apart from the discriminatory statement, the information within the advertisement is the same as the apartment complex description on the Sunset Pond website, leading Soderberg to believe that someone copied and pasted the information from their webpage, she said.

Soderberg said employees at Habitat Properties are trained in fair-housing issues and have regular fair-housing workshops.

Soderberg said the company has one of the best records of fair housing and equal-opportunity housing in the city.

“We are all extensively trained in fair-housing law,” Soderberg said.

The advertisement sparked a debate after the Bellingham Tenants Union posted a photo of the ad to its Facebook page on the same day.

Matt Petryni, an organizer with the Bellingham Tenants Union, said the post was brought to his attention by another member of the tenants union who was searching for housing. The member declined to comment to The Western Front.

Petryni said his first step after discovering the post was to take a screenshot and report it to Craigslist. As of July 20, the post has been taken down from the Bellingham Craigslist page.

Petryni said he also encouraged the person who brought attention to the advertisement to report the post to the Fair Housing Center of Washington, an organization that works to prevent discrimination in the state housing market.

“We see racial discrimination in housing unfortunately all the time,” Petryni said. “But most of the time it’s a lot more subtle, or it’s hard to prove that they’re even doing it. This was a really blatant case where it was just out in front with [racial] discrimination.”

According to a 2012 study of impediments to fair housing in Bellingham, 56 percent of

see AD, page 2

History Department disapproves of College of Humanities and Social Sciences Dean

Letter cites lack of commitment to faculty diversity, shared governance

Isabelle Morrison
THE WESTERN FRONT

Since the dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Brent Mallinckrodt, was appointed last April, faculty across the college have expressed concerns regarding his actions. So far, the history department is the only department that has chosen to publicly voice its concerns.

The history department passed a resolu-

tion of no confidence in Mallinckrodt’s ability to continue to serve as dean of the college, after a two-thirds majority vote during a department meeting on May 24.

Mallinckrodt and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Brent Carbajal referred inquiries to Paul Cocks, Western’s communications and marketing director.

In a July 14 email, Cocks said Carbajal is

aware of the history department’s concerns and has begun to work with college and department leadership to resolve the issue.

The history department announced its decision in an email sent by Kevin Leonard, former chair of the department, to Mallinckrodt, Carbajal and all of the department chairs and program directors within the college on May 26.

The email listed

see DEAN, page 3



College of Humanities and Social Sciences Dean Brent Mallinckrodt. // Courtesy of Western Today

B'ham now home to state's largest mural



The unnamed mural, located on the back of Dewey Griffen Subaru on Iowa Street, was created by Western alum-nus Ryan Henry Ward. It beat the state record by over 2,000 square feet. See FEATURES, PG. 5 // Photo by Eythan Frost

City, Western consider party registration program

Dawson Finley
THE WESTERN FRONT

When it comes to noise disturbances in college towns, parties thrown by students are often a contributing source.

This is the problem that a party registration system aims to solve, Bellingham neighborhood police officer Eric Osterkamp said.

The proposed

“Party Registration Program” is one of the five plans of action from the Town & Gown Implementation Strategy, introduced to City Council in June by Bellingham’s Planning and Community Development Department.

According to the strategy in the “Town & Gown Implementation Strategy” packet, if the program is adopted, students who

register their party would receive a warning from the Bellingham Police Department if their house incurs noise-related complaints and will have 20 minutes to control the party or shut it down or risk a citation.

However, the city and university haven’t decided on whether the registration program will be implemented, said Julia

Burns, coordinator for the Campus Community Coalition & New Student Program Initiatives.

A Western student, who asked to be anonymous due to underage drinking at his parties, said he has both hosted and attended parties that were shut down by the police due to noise complaints.

see PARTY, page 3



@thefrontonline



@thefrontonline



facebook.com/westernfrontonline

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

Westernfrontonline.com

Part three in the series of advanced reporting articles about issues facing Western.
This week: DisAbility Resources

KENDAMA CLUB TWIRLS ON THE COMM LAWN



Keanu Villaruel performs tricks with a kendama on the Communications Facility lawn July 24. He helped form the Kendama Club last spring. The club meets on campus by the Communications Facility every Tuesday from 2 to 5 p.m. // Photo by Kevin Lake

Cops Box



Suspicious trash July 18, 5:46 a.m.

The Bellingham Police Department responded to a call of suspicious fires in trash cans in the 300 block of W. Holly St.

Shingle shenanigans July 21, 7:09 p.m.

In the 2900 block of James St., police received a complaint of people trespassing on property and skateboarding on the roof.

Arrested, resting July 23, 5:30 p.m.

Officers contacted a man who was sitting and lying down in the 1400 block of Cornwall Ave., within the Central Business District. He was issued a warning for a sitting and lying violation.

Compiled by Joshua Steele

Rental ad raises concerns

continued from page 1

discrimination complaints filed with the Department of Housing and Urban Development were associated with disabilities. Thirty-one percent were associated with racial discrimination and 13 percent of complaints were associated with discrimination based on national origin.

Petryni said he often sees discrimination based on family status and religion in the housing market as well.

Petryni described situations in which he had seen people advertise for a rental or house and include statements such as “no kids” or “looking for a Christian couple” in their descriptions.

These types of discrimination are also

illegal, according to Washington State Fair Housing laws.

In Washington state, tenants are protected from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex or gender, number of children, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity, marital status, and military or veteran status.

Residents of Washington have these protections under the federal Fair Housing Act and the Washington State Law Against Discrimination.

Aside from the discrimination that was blatant in the post, Petryni said that the advertisement could have been a scam to get prospective tenants to pay non-refundable screening and application fees. The discriminatory advertisement

showcased a non-refundable screening fee of \$35 per adult.

“You’ve got to watch out for those things,” Petryni said. “One main thing is making sure that the person who is showing the unit has the legal right to be renting it out to you, and that’s the best way that a person can protect themselves [from scams].”

Petryni also said a good way to avoid scams in renting is for tenants to make sure they are able to do a walkthrough of the potential unit or property before paying any screening or application fees.

If you or someone you know is experiencing housing discrimination in Washington, contact the Fair Housing Center of Washington state and file a complaint.

The Western Front

The Western Front
Western Washington University
Communications Facility 222
Bellingham, WA 98225
Newsroom number:
360-650-3162
Email address:
westernfrontonline@gmail.com

Editor-in-Chief

Erasmus Baxter

Managing Editor

Asia Fields

News Editors

Questen Inghram

Laura Place

Features Editor

Gwen Roley

Sports/Daily Editor

Hailey Palmer

Photo Editor

Eythan Frost

Online/Social Media Editor

Kelsie Noble

Online Producer

Lauren Drake

Opinion Editor

Suzanna Leung

Copy Editors

Melissa McCarthy

Rebekah Way

Photographers

Kevin Lake

Dan Thomas

Illustrator

Hunter Smith

Web Developer

Sameen Ahmad

Letters to the editor:

westernfront.opinion@gmail.com

Press releases:

wfpress.release@gmail.com

Faculty Adviser

Carolyn Nielsen

Carolyn.Nielsen@wwu.edu

Advertising Department

360-650-3160

Advertising Manager

Megan McGinnis

The Western Front is published once weekly in the fall, winter, spring quarters and summer. The Western Front is the official newspaper of Western Washington University and is published by the Student Publications Council. It is mainly supported by advertising. Opinions and stories in the newspaper have no connection to advertising. News content is determined by student editors. Staff reporters are involved in a course in the department of journalism, but any student enrolled at Western may offer stories to the editors.

Corrections

The Western Front strives for accuracy in our coverage. Please notify us of any inaccuracies at westernfrontonline@gmail.com

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING
IN THE WESTERN FRONT?

FOR RATES, DISCOUNTS, AND MORE INFORMATION
EMAIL WWW.WESTERNFRONT@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 360.650.3160

Some history faculty call for CHSS dean's resignation

continued from page 1

specific concerns about the dean, including a lack of support for diversity in regard to faculty and curriculum, failure to advocate for department needs and to address department concerns, a lack of transparency in decision-making and a lack of commitment to shared governance with faculty.

“This seems to be a different situation than ones we’ve faced in the past,” Leonard said. “There have been times when members

of this department have felt as if they’ve not been understood or well-represented by a dean, but they have not been moved to take an action of this magnitude.”

Mallinckrodt was selected as dean of the college in April 2016 and began his position last July. He was an associate dean and psychology professor at the University of Tennessee before coming to Western, according to the college’s website.

Leonard said many of his colleagues would like to see Mallinckrodt removed from his position, but the

decision is ultimately in the hands of Carbajal, who the dean serves under and reports to.

Johann Neem replaced Leonard as chair of the department on June 24, after Leonard’s term ended on June 22. Leonard left the university to take over as chair of the history department at Middle Tennessee State University.

“The provost has not formally acknowledged the history department’s concerns,” Neem said in a July 17 email.

However, Mallinckrodt

has reached out to Neem and stated his determination to work with the department during the coming year to build confidence, Neem said.

Ancient Near East and Mediterranean history professor Steven Garfinkle has been at Western for 16 years and is this year’s recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Leadership Award. Garfinkle created the first draft of the history department’s statement of no confidence.

“This isn’t a court proceeding,” Garfinkle said. “We’re not trying to call out

the dean so much as we are trying to make sure that, as a department, we still get to fulfill our mission, serve the students at Western and do our job to the best of our ability.”

READ MORE
ABOUT THE DEAN
AND FURTHER
FACULTY
CONCERNS

Read the full story online at
westernfrontonline.com

Colorado party registration program considered for Western

continued from page 1

“The tickets were, I believe, \$150 each and [my roommates and I] all spoke with the cops when they asked all of us to come out,” he said. “The cops seemed nice, and they were understanding we were college students. However, because they had been [to the house] in the past, pretty recently, that’s why they said they had to give us the tickets they did.”

Osterkamp has been a part of the effort to implement more effective relations between the city and students, starting with the Campus Community Coalition two years ago.

Osterkamp said the project was prompted after seeing the success of a similar program in Fort Collins, Colorado.

The party registration system in Fort Collins has seen successful in reducing noise complaints, Emily Allen, senior city planner for neighborhoods in Fort Collins, said.

Allen was formerly the community liaison between the city and Colorado State University. Its program began in 1997, when a committee of members

from both the university and the city was formed to discuss issues facing neighborhoods, Allen said.

“When I say ‘issues,’ it’s pretty standard across the board whenever I ask other communities,” Allen said. “It’s parking, noise, traffic, parties; that type of behavior.”

Evaluations are done for every one of Fort Collins’ programs, and Allen said responses show they have made a difference.

“If you ask neighbors now, they would tell you, ‘Over the last ten years, we’ve seen changes and it continually gets better,’ and that’s perception,” Allen said.

Over 4,000 people have registered their parties since the program began in Fort Collins in 2009, and 97.5 percent of those who have used the registration system ended their night without any issues, Allen said.



Illustration by Hunter Smith

The registration program in Fort Collins allows people to register their gatherings seven days a week in person on campus, Allen said. If the party did

not have law enforcement get involved, the host can continue to register parties online. However, students still need to go in once a year in person to learn how to host a successful gathering by receiving educational resources, she said.

Allen said to register a party, a person has to be 18 years or older.

The registration process includes giving basic information such as names, address, the date of the party and two phone numbers, Allen said. That information is then sent to police dispatch, and if a complaint does come in, dispatch can see if it’s a registered party, Allen said.

After receiving a complaint, dispatch will call the hosts and they will have 20 minutes to quiet down before police come by.

“It’s related to noise only, so this is just for loud parties,”

Allen said. “We really do stress that.”

If adopted in Bellingham, the registration program would allow students to register their planned party on campus, where they would obtain literature about noise ordinances and resources to help them avoid running into issues, similar to Fort Collins’ program, Osterkamp said.

“The benefit of someone signing up for the party registration is they basically get one free warning,” he said.

More often than not, if a party gets a noise complaint that involves the police, hosts will receive a \$250 fine per person, Osterkamp said.

“[Registering] gives them a way to get out of a ticket by being responsible to begin with,” Osterkamp said.

Osterkamp said the details of a possible plan with city planners and Western officials are still in the works. The big questions being asked are what this program could look like and how often the city would need to utilize it, he said.

89.3fm
KUGS
www.kugs.org

STUDENT OPERATED
NEW MUSIC
LIVE NEWS
DEMOCRACY NOW
+STREAMING ONLINE

Expert Care At

**AFFORDABLE
PRICES**

**Birth Control,
STD Testing/Treatment,
Emergency Contraception**

Call 1.800.230.PLAN today.
Bellingham • Mount Vernon • Friday Harbor
mbpp.org



Planned Parenthood
Care. No matter what.
Mt. Baker Planned Parenthood



your e-waste

Waste created from old electronics can have detrimental effects on the environment, even though our society continues to use more and more technology, few understand how to properly dispose of their electronic waste

Lorin Lindell
Kyra Planetz
THE WESTERN FRONT

E-waste, the largest growing form of waste in America, is any electronic device that is discarded by its user. This could range from a broken pair of headphones or an old phone charger to a TV or a microwave.

Only 12.5 percent of old electronics are recycled — 20 to 50 million metric tons end up in landfills worldwide. Many people don't realize the environmental impact of throwing these items in the trash.

After two years of research and planning, the first official draft of the Sustainability Action Plan was submitted Friday, July 21, to Western President Sabah Randhawa in the hopes of having an official plan agreed upon by the administration before the start of fall quarter.

The plan consists of 10 chapters including transportation, student life, housing, dining, grounds maintenance and waste. The waste chapter of the Sustainability Action Plan touches on e-waste.

However, the options for disposing e-waste on campus are limited. The only place to recycle electronics on campus is a bin tucked away in the Western Associated Students Bookstore.

According to Western's Electronic Waste policy, many electronic items, including computer components and accessories, contain toxic materials such as lead, cadmium and mercury that can harm the earth when tossed in the garbage. The policy states: "Broken or obsolete items cannot be thrown into the trash or the toxic materials can leak out and contaminate the surrounding area, eventually making their way into our air, food, or water."

It is through reusing and recycling electronics that these toxins stay out of our landfills, protecting not only our own health, but the environment as well.

"We're an electronic society. Everybody has a computer, they all die. That's the nature of electronics," said Paul Zemler, the manager of Safe & Easy Recycling, an e-waste disposal company in Bellingham.

Despite technological advances in recent years, many are unaware of how to dispose of their electronics, or even what constitutes e-waste.

Senior geography major Christian Berres said he was unaware of the correct way to dispose of e-waste and didn't know where to take his waste in Bellingham, so he threw it in the trash.

"I usually only throw stuff away once it's broken. Otherwise, I try to pass it on if I can," Berres said.

In a society that constantly replaces the old with the new, it's no wonder so much e-waste is being produced. Peter Miterko, a graduate student in anthropology, agreed with Zemler.



The only place to recycle electronics on campus is a bin tucked away in the Western Associated Students Bookstore. // Photo by Kevin Lake



Paul Zemler is the manager of Safe & Easy Recycling, an e-waste disposal company in Bellingham. // Photo by Dan Thomas



Some e-waste is broken down to be recycled, while other parts are shipped off to be reused. // Photo by Dan Thomas



E-waste at Safe & Easy Recycling. // Photo by Dan Thomas

Western's Zero Waste coordinator Gwen Larned said the Sustainability Action Plan was written by Western faculty and included student input.

"I know one of the big goals was reducing how much waste we're producing," Larned said.

"We always recycle electronics owned by Western, and we always try to refurbish them first."

Dave Keeney, a safety officer for Western's Environmental Health & Safety program, discussed the university's policy on reusing and recycling its e-waste.

"When an item is no longer needed by a campus entity, it is collected and evaluated for reuse as part of the University surplus program. If possible, the item is reused elsewhere on campus," Keeney said in an email.

Items that are beyond repair or outdated are sent to a recycling facility in California, where they are separated into parts that can be reused. But for students wishing to recycle their old technology, campus doesn't have many options. Although there is one e-waste bin located at the entrance of the bookstore, recycling large items requires going off campus.

E-cycle Washington, a statewide program that allows residents and small businesses to recycle some unwanted electronics for free, is supported by several businesses in Whatcom County.

Safe & Easy Recycling is one recycling option and has been serving the Bellingham area for the past nine years. Its main facility, located on Hannegan Road, Safe & Easy collects old technology and recycles it while selling refurbished electronics in store.

As a collection site, Safe & Easy transports e-waste to a processing plant in Mukilteo, which then extracts valuable materials and sells them to manufacturers, Zemler said.

Susanna Hamilton, Western's Sustainability Action Plan coordinator, encourages students who are passionate about the management of e-waste to reach out to the university's Office of Sustainability and Zero Waste program because they are always looking for new ways to inform the student body on the issue.

To learn more about e-waste and for a complete list of Bellingham businesses participating in the E-cycle Washington program, visit www.whatcomcounty.us/865/Electronic-Waste.

Western alum paints largest mural in Washington state

Seattle-based artist, henry, came back to Bellingham to create expansive mural



Joely Johnson
THE WESTERN FRONT

Bellingham's art scene grew exponentially with the addition of the largest mural in Washington state.

The mural that previously claimed this title, "Remembrance Wall" in Vancouver, Washington, is 630 feet long, according to the Clark County Mural Society, and about 9 feet tall, making it around 6,037 square feet. However, Bellingham's newest mural on the back wall of Dewey Griffin Subaru on Iowa Street is 330 feet in length. The building's height ranges from 25 to 27 feet tall, with the mural covering over 8,200 square feet in total.

This mural is one of many in this artist's style. Each of his pieces feature vibrant colors and quirky creatures, and every one is vastly different from the next. But they all have one thing in common, a simple signature: "henry."

That is the pseudonym for the artist Ryan Henry Ward, who grew up in Montana and later went on to study at Western. He crafted his own major through the Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies. Ward's degree combined writing, art and storytelling for children, according to his website.

Ward said attending school at Western helped him to develop as an artist.

"I developed my belief in creativity. I think that's the main thing that college helped me with; the solid foundation that I am a creative force of the universe, that I am an artist," Ward said.

Ward currently resides in Seattle, where he has painted more than 180 murals around the city.

Tanya McKinney, who handles marketing and digital media at Dewey Griffin Subaru, said painting the mural was owner Dick Meyer's way of giving back to the community.

"It's a 54,000-square-foot building, and it's quite a footprint. We've been here since 1957, and [the mural] was his way of saying thank you for letting us take such a large footprint," McKinney said.

And with a large footprint, comes a large mural.

"It's about the size of a football field in length," McKinney said.

Despite its size, Ward was able to complete the mural at a rapid pace.

"I think he worked really quickly," McKinney said. "I would say [he took] about three weeks to a month."

The mural catches the eye of onlookers with its bright colors and cartoon-like animals living out a typical Pacific Northwest lifestyle, per the request of Dewey Griffin Subaru.

"We wanted something to represent the Pacific Northwest," McKinney said. "That's why there's a bunch of animals everywhere. You know, that sort of thing. Just the Pacific Northwest and Washington and what our community is about."

Although Ward was given guidelines, McKinney said the final product is representative of his own creative freedom.

As a former Bellingham resident, Ward understood what Dewey Griffin Subaru wanted when the staff asked for something representative of the Pacific Northwest.

"My idea was to paint stuff that was Bellingham, stuff that people who drive Subarus like to do," Ward said. "I based it around activities like camping, skiing and snowboarding — kinda outdoor recreation."

Ward also did a small-scale project on the inside of Dewey Griffin Subaru as well. He transformed the once blank playroom into a scene filled with his classic henry-style cartoon creatures.

"He did a nice job," McKinney said. "He really transformed the space into something just amazing."

Henry's murals are not only for the eyes of car shoppers, though. Many Western students have witnessed other works by the muralist in their everyday lives.

Sophomore and computer science major Martin Smith sees henry murals often in Seattle.

"Every time I go out, I can expect to see something with his name on it,"

Smith said. "They are everywhere and nowhere, you just have to be on the lookout."

Sophomore May Killorin agrees the sporadic appearances of henry's murals is just a part of the viewer experience.

"Even just driving somewhere, you can easily see one of them and be like, 'Oh, that's one of his pieces. That's weird, that's funny that's there,'" Killorin said. "They're everywhere like that, but kind of spread out at the same time."

Smith has a specific favorite that he sees every day, near his home.

"It's a bunch of wacky creatures in a bar. There's a big pink walrus playing pool," Smith said. "Who comes up with that kind of stuff?"

Killorin said she thinks Ward's connection to Western could give students pursuing unconventional degrees encouragement that they can be successful in the real world.

"That makes me feel like even the people who do artsy stuff at Western can actually do the art stuff they do out in the world, or in bigger cities like Seattle," Killorin said.

Ward said he believes there are no limitations to what students can and can't do.

"I would say you can do anything you want in this world," Ward said. "You just have to be willing to put the hard work in, nothing's coming easy. If you're willing to work for it, you can do anything."

Bellingham's new henry addition has attracted some Western students interested in the arts.

"I actually went and looked at the mural the moment I heard it was done," Smith said. "It made me feel like I was at home. I'm really happy it's there."

Smith's appreciation is exactly what Dewey Griffin Subaru was hoping for when the staff decided to have the mural painted.

"People love it, absolutely love it," McKinney said. "And I'm so glad because that's kind of the idea."

henry's mural on the back of Dewey Griffin Subaru on Iowa Street. // Photo by Dan Thomas

Federal student aid faces 2018 cuts

Budget proposed by U.S. Department of Education under President Trump and Betsy DeVos would mean an estimated loss of over \$2 million in aid for Western students

Mary Boynton
THE WESTERN FRONT

The U.S. Department of Education 2018 budget plan, released this spring, proposes to eliminate or reduce funding for more than 30 programs, including a few that are crucial resources for some Western students paying tuition. The proposed budget is still awaiting approval from Congress.

“Approximately two out of every three Western students receives some form of financial aid through grant, scholarship, employment or loan programs,” Paul Cocke, university director of communications and marketing, said in an email.

The department plans to cut the Federal Work Study program funding by 49 percent, increase the loan repayment cap from 10 to 12.5 percent and cut all funding for the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program.

The budget plan proposes to decrease funding for the Work Study program by almost half, from \$1.1 billion in 2017 to \$553.7 million in 2018, according to the budget plan summary. During the 2015-16 school year, there were 228 Western students employed part-time through the Work Study program to help pay for tuition, Cocke said.

Ashleigh Bobovski spent two years as an undergraduate student at Western employed under Work Study and said without the program, paying for college would have been impossible.

The Work Study program gave Bobovski the opportunity to work with various academic departments at the university and she said it gave her a gateway for her future career.

Bobovski said she doesn't know how she would have paid for college had she not been offered the Work Study program, because in Bellingham it's hard to find an off-campus job due to the large amount of college students.

“Each year, the different financial aid that I had decreased, and the work study was what I used to help pay for everything,” Bobovski said. “I'm the oldest of five children, so my parents weren't able to help me.”

If the budget plan is approved, Western's estimated total loss in student aid will be \$2,131,681, according to the National Association of Student Financial

Aid Administrators (NASFAA) website. Stephen Payne, assistant director of federal relations for NASFAA said the administrators were particularly troubled by the size and scope of the proposed cuts to federal student aid in Betsy DeVos' budget proposal.

“NASFAA and our members feel that investment in student aid are investments in the future prosperity of the nation,” Payne said. “Federal student aid programs provide access so that students can pursue a meaningful degree and thereby contribute in many ways to the economy.”

ment of Education on an annual basis, Cocke said. In the 2015-16 school year Western disbursed a total of \$38.5 million in grant and waiver programs, and the grant represented \$603,212 of that amount.

If the budget plan were to be approved, it is estimated that Western would lose \$689,616 in grant aid for Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, a program that 2,885 Western students used this past year, Payne said.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant is a program to help

eliminate the funding for the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant because “it's largely duplicative of the Pell Grant program.” However, according to the Federal Student Aid website, the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant works differently from the Pell Grant, in that it provides aid to every eligible student and does not have to be repaid in the future.

The U.S. Department of Education gives a specific amount of opportunity grant funds to each participating school, and once all of the funds have been awarded to eligible students no other awards can be given that year, unlike the Pell Grant which can be awarded to a student year round.

“Although Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant isn't one of our larger grant programs, it is nonetheless an important resource for approximately 2,800 Western students with exceptional financial need who receive these funds,” Cocke said.

According to the College Success Foundation, 10.7 percent of low-income students in the U.S. will graduate from college, compared to 80 percent of high-income students.

“It helps probably the most at-risk group of college students, and it's a way for students to gain some important connections that can help them in their future careers,” Bobovski said.

The budget plan proposes to create one repayment plan to pay back loans, while in the past there has been more than one option for students to pay their debt after graduation.

By requesting to eliminate the standard repayment cap of 10 percent of one's discretionary income, the repayment cap is proposed to be 12.5 percent of one's discretionary income paid each month.

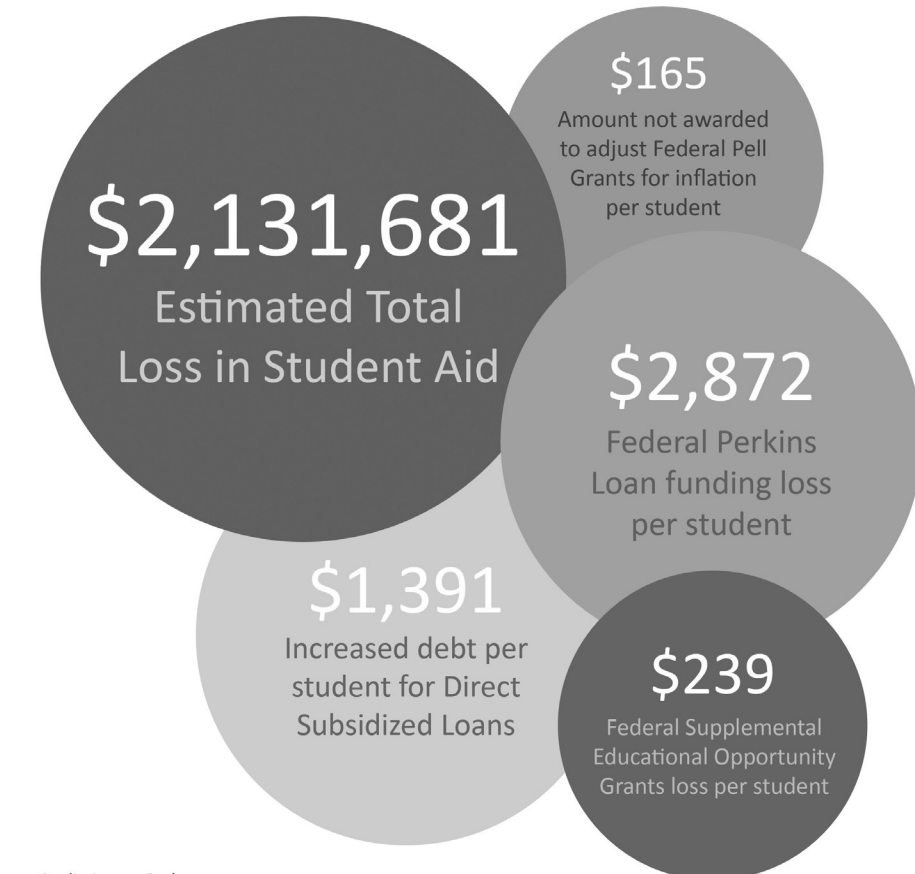
Cocke agrees that financial aid and grants is essential to making higher education more accessible.

“Additional funding is needed to make college more affordable, improve access and increase persistence to graduation,” Cocke said. “Preferably aid that does not require repayment with preservation of subsidized loan programs and student debt forgiveness for borrowers who enter public service.”

Undergraduate students with exceptional financial need and is awarded by the university's financial aid office to select students who need it most, according to the Federal Student Aid website. This grant does not have to be repaid.

A student eligible for the program can receive anywhere between \$100 and \$4,000 per year depending on the individual's financial need and circumstances.

The 2018 budget plan proposes to



Credit: Lauren Drake
Source: National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Budget Effect Estimator Tool

Federal aid losses Western will face with the 2018 budget plan.

The Department of Education's plan is to simplify funds for education in order to save \$143 billion over the course of ten years, according to the budget plan summary.

Payne said NASFAA does not support cuts to student aid, regardless of the policy idea regarding simplification.

In the past, Western has received approximately half a million dollars in the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant from the U.S. Depart-

ment of Education on an annual basis, Cocke said. In the 2015-16 school year Western disbursed a total of \$38.5 million in grant and waiver programs, and the grant represented \$603,212 of that amount.

If the budget plan were to be approved, it is estimated that Western would lose \$689,616 in grant aid for Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, a program that 2,885 Western students used this past year, Payne said.

The 2018 budget plan proposes to

FRONTLINE

Opinions of the Editorial Board

Bellingham bridge honoring Confederate general needs name change

Monuments honoring the Confederacy are still widespread across the country, but whether they should remain has become an important topic of discussion.

Bellingham's Pickett Bridge was first built in 1857, running over Whatcom Creek on Dupont Street. It was originally built for military purposes by George E. Pickett while he was a U.S. Army officer. He later became Confederate major general in the Civil War.

Amid national debates over what to do with Confederate monuments, cities like New Orleans have made the decision to remove theirs.

“It is self-evident that these men did not fight for the United States of America. They fought against it,” New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu said in a speech from 2015. “They may have been warriors, but in this cause they were not patriots.”

The Civil War remains a pinnacle of America's racist history. Having a bridge named after a Confederate general clearly shows a disrespect for people of color and those who have fought, and continue to fight, against racial inequality in this country. A change needs to be made.

Pickett, who resided in Washington and headed the construction of Fort Bellingham prior to the Civil War, returned to his home state of Virginia to fight for the Confederacy. Toward the end of the Civil War, Pickett ordered the hanging of 22 Confederate troops who had shifted over to the Union's side.

The hangings triggered a war crime investigation against Pickett, leading him to flee the country to Canada.

“During the Civil War, Pickett was appalled by the notion of freeing slaves and arming black men to fight,” historian Lesley Gordon told the *The Bellingham Herald* in 2015.

This is the person Bellingham has continued to honor by leaving his name attached to the bridge: a man who betrayed his country to fight to defend racism and the inhumane practice of slavery in America, and a coward who fled from his crimes instead of living up to his wrongdoings. Those who argue that Pickett deserves to be honored as a Bellingham historical figure are disregarding the harm done by glorifying those who support such ideals.

However, a change cannot be made unless the people of Bellingham decide to stand against the glorification of prominent Confederate figures.

In the past, the City Council has changed Columbus Day to Coast Salish Day, and Indian Street to Billy Frank Jr. Street in order to honor Bellingham's indigenous communities.

Right now the Bellingham City Council needs to

take leadership.

Councilmember Terry Bornemann sponsored the renaming of Billy Frank Jr. Street, but when he was asked to comment on renaming the Pickett Bridge he said he had not thought about it and would not develop a position until the issue is brought to the council.

Incumbent and 2nd Ward Council candidate Gene

Knutson, 6th Ward Council candidate Quenby Peterson and Council at-large candidate Eric Bostrom also refused to take a position on the issue.

Incumbent and 4th Ward Council candidate Pinky Vargas and incumbent and Council at-large candidate Roxanne Murphy were contacted via email twice and three times respectively since July 5. Murphy was also contacted by phone three times and was left two voicemails, while Vargas was called twice. Councilmember April Barker was left two voicemails and three emails. Councilmember Dan Hammill was also emailed once and called twice over a six-day period. The Western Front did not receive a response to our questions from any of these representatives.

COUNCIL MEMBERS/CANDIDATES	RENAME BRIDGE	KEEP BRIDGE NAME	DECLINED TO COMMENT	CONTACTED BUT NO RESPONSE
Dan Hammill				X
Michael Lilliquist		"Keep his name on the bridge, but record the truth of his life."		
Gene Knutson			"Until this issue is brought up in a committee meeting, I will not be taking a position."	
Pinky Vargas				X
Roxanne Murphy				X
Terry Bornemann			"I have not given it any thought, but if it appears in the Council I will form an opinion"	
April Barker				X
Eric Bostrom			"I have NO position at this time."	
Jean Layton	"We should rename the bridge."			
Quenby Peterson			"I guess I don't really have a statement or response."	

Table by Suzanna Leung

Incumbent Council President Michael Lilliquist said that he would keep the Pickett Bridge's name

to preserve the history of the bridge, arguing that the bridge is not there to honor Pickett. Lilliquist suggested remarking the sign to record that he fought for American slavery.

“Record the truth, all of it.” We understand the importance of preserving history, whether the history is good or bad, but the current Pickett Bridge holds no historical significance to the City of Bellingham. According to the *Bellingham Herald*, the original bridge that was constructed by Pickett for military purposes in 1857 was replaced in 1920 by the current one. Now it only stands as a monument to honor Pickett.

Remaking the sign to record his true history would do nothing to remove the message that Bellingham thinks a Confederate general is worthy to be honored in monument form.

Council at-large candidate Jean Layton opposes the current name of the Pickett Bridge, and suggested renaming the bridge to honor the engineers who built it.

“[Pickett's] actions after settling Fort Bellingham are problematic and horrific,” Layton said in an email to *The Western Front*. “There is another location in Bellingham, his home, that also carries his name. I'd like to see an interpretive sign placed there that gives all of his history, not just the socially acceptable version of him.”

The Pickett House, where Pickett lived when he resided in Bellingham, is listed under the National Register of Historic Places, and is therefore protected by the government, seen as a place worthy of preservation. The Pickett Bridge is not.

It is important that we are not honoring those who fought for racism and slavery in this day and age where we should be supporting disadvantaged groups and fostering diversity. If the Pickett Bridge's name does not change, the City of Bellingham is sending an extremely damaging message to its people. It's a message that not only perpetuates racist ideals, but monuments to them in the form of a bridge that many residents drive across on a day-to-day basis.

We should name our public landmarks after role models that we aspire to be and people we want our children to follow. Not the first colonial settler to lay claim to it.

The people of Bellingham need to stand up against these racist ideals and vote in this upcoming election, as well as contact their government officials in order to incite change.

The Western Front Editorial Board is composed of Suzanna Leung, Erasmus Baxter and Asia Fields.

Viking Voices

Should Western's administration be more transparent about its decisions with the student body?



Hannah Jones
Environmental science Senior

“I know this past year there has been a lot of questioning around sexual assault on campus. It seemed like there wasn't much change. The administration should be more transparent in what actions they will take, rather than what they say they will do but never follow up on.”



Rae Montgomery
Art history and theatre Senior

“On one hand, I do agree that they should be transparent. At the same time, I understand there's certain things that they shouldn't tell us because it puts other people and things in jeopardy because there's information that they have to know that we can't for public safety reasons.”



Andy Gibbs
General studies Senior

“I don't think it's a lack of transparency that's going on. I think it's a lack of student motivation of trying to figure out what's going on, more than anything. If a student has a problem with something they should do something about it. A lot of things are more accessible than one would think.”



Clare Casey
Art education and interdisciplinary studies Junior

“Yeah, I don't really hear a lot about it, and I feel like it isn't a topic of discussions even though it regulates our entire life and all our systems. They should be more transparent and straightforward, and if we ask for information they should give it to us.”

Compiled by Sophia Cunningham

BELLINGHAM FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC
Health Care for Living Well

Primary Health Care, Family Practice
Birth Control, Nexplanon, IUD
Coughs and Sore Throats
STI, ADD, UTI, Depression
Acupuncture, Weight Loss

Sports & Travel Physicals
Discounts Available Call for Details

Bonnie Sprague, ARNP, Tay Kopanos, ARNP
Steve Bogert, LAC

Near WWU
Convenient Same-Day Appointments
Most Insurance, Cash Discount
Call for an Appointment Today!
(360) 756-9793
www.BellinghamHealth.com

CHECK OUT THE

WESTERN FRONT

ONLINE

NEWS, PHOTOS, & OPINIONS WESTERNFRONTONLINE.COM

Men's basketball looks to bounce back

Vikings hope to build off last season's success with the addition of two junior college transfers from California

Malia Cantimbuhan
THE WESTERN FRONT

Western men's basketball will be gaining two talented guards from California's Cerritos College, juniors Micah Winn and Tyler Payne, for the upcoming 2017 season.

Winn and Payne will be joining the Vikings, who won the 2016 Great Northwest Athletic Conference title with a 17-3 record.

Head coach Tony Dominguez said he recruited Winn and Payne not only for their skill and versatility, but for their excitement to be a part of Western's program.

"They can be starters if they need to be starters and they can be role guys if they need to be role guys," Dominguez said. "They have the ability to do both and they have the mindsets."

Dominguez said because Winn and Payne are upperclassmen, they have a good perspective on being team players.

Winn was named Cerritos' Most Valuable Player and earned First Team All-South Coast Conference honors twice during his junior college career. He ended his career at Cerritos

averaging 12.3 points per game, after appearing in 57 games and making 33 starts.

"Micah [Winn] is a very gifted scorer with a lot of toughness and athleticism.," Dominguez said. "[He] is a very versatile player and can play in multiple spots."

Winn, who is from Los Angeles, is honored to be given the chance to be part of Western's program.

"For me, to be in that situation — to be recruited by a great coach in a great program — I just want to go make the best of it and have a definite impact," Winn said. "Hopefully, not only myself, but the team, the community and for everyone to just be hyped for Western basketball and win it all. I'm very hungry and I can't wait for the season to start."

Payne, from Long Beach, California, was named First Team All-South Coast Conference South division. He averaged 7.7 points, 2.8 assists and 2.4 rebounds per game during his career at Cerritos, appearing in 57 games while making 42 starts.

"Tyler [Payne] is an older player that brings a lot of leadership," Dominguez



TOP: Junior Tyler Payne.
BOTTOM: Junior Micah Winn (left)
Both are transferring to Western from Cerritos College in Norwalk, California. // Photos courtesy of Cerritos College

said. "He's a point guard, so we're excited about him being able to use his point guard skills as far as leading the team, making open shots and getting everyone involved. And he's exceptional at that."

Payne was immediately drawn into Western's basketball program when he first visited Bellingham with Winn.

"They brought us in and treated us like we've been a part of the program already for some years," Payne said. "They're genuine and every-

body is nice. It's going to be fun playing with them."

After Western lost all-time leading scorer Jeffrey Parker, and GNAC Player of the Year Taylor Stafford, who both graduated in the spring, Winn and Payne are determined to fill in and do whatever it takes to win another championship.

"I want to be able to go as far as possible," Winn said. "To win everything, go to regionals, go to nationals and make some noise."

Payne wants the Vikings to be ready for some fun and

exciting games for the next two years.

"I want to be able to come in and do whatever the coach asks of me so we can be successful going into ball games," Payne said. "I just want to win and do whatever it takes to win the most games this season. I'm all for it."

The Vikings will be opening the 2017-18 season hosting the PacWest/GNAC Conference Challenge at Sam Carver Gymnasium on Nov. 10.



Men's Basketball Season Schedule 2017-2018

Friday, November 10	vs. Notre Dame de Namur	@7:30 pm
Saturday, November 11	vs. Hawai'i Hilo	@7:30 pm
Friday, November 24	vs. UC San Diego	@7:30 pm
Saturday, November 25	vs. Capilano	@5 pm
Thursday, November 30	vs. Concordia	@ 7 pm
Saturday, December 2	vs. Western Oregon	@ 7pm
Tuesday, December 12	vs. Cal State East Bay	@ 7pm
Saturday, December 16	vs. Harding, in Honolulu, HI	@ 3:30 pm HT
Sunday, December 17	vs. Tampa, in Honolulu, HI	@ 5:45 pm HT

Conference Play Begins on Thursday, December 28
* All games are at home, unless otherwise specified

Infographic by Lauren Drake