



From The Division of Student Affairs

# GOPHER NEWS



For Goucher Parents and Families



## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT AND DEAN OF STUDENTS

Welcome! We are thrilled to bring the Goucher community, "Gopher News," a new initiative within the Division of Student Affairs to bring our students to the forefront, provide parents and families an opportunity to connect, and feature old traditions and new initiatives that will bring Goucher College to the cutting edge of innovation.

Throughout the fall issue you will learn about:

- The first phase of the first-year village, Pagliaro Selz Hall, opening for New Student Move-In. Along with our plans to continue to create a first-year village that integrates curricular and co-curricular learning with transformative education for a more efficient student centered environment. (page 1)
- How Goucher College was ranked among the Top 10 Most Innovative Colleges and Universities in the nation (page 2)
- The unveiling of the Department of Athletics new Gopher logo and announcement of our three year partnership with Baltimore-based, Under Armour. (page 2)
- "Ask Your M.D. (Mobile Dean)" a new Division of Student Affairs initiative. (page 2)
- Student Spotlight: Wondemneh Pawlose, Class of 2019 International Relations Major and Arabic Studies Minor (page 3)
- Staff Spotlight: Lindsay Johnson, M.Ed. '05, '13, Associate Director for Community Based Learning (page 4)
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Feel free to stop by the Dean of Students' Office in Dorsey College Center during your next visit to campus. I welcome the chance to meet you and answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Bryan Coker  
Vice President and Dean of Students

## The First-Year Village



We welcomed first-year students into their new home and the College's newest edition—Pagliaro Selz Hall, during New Student Move-In on August 24th. The brand new residence hall was the first phase in transforming campus and creating a first-year village.

With 200 beds, common areas, and shared bathrooms—Pagliaro Selz Hall encourages students to develop relationships and be successful during their first year of college. Having the first-year village in the heart of campus and close to the Decker Sports & Recreation Center increases mental and physical wellness, encourages co-curricular activities, and provides students with opportunities to build inclusive communities with the support of live-in staff and faculty.

The Division of Student Affairs cannot thank Board of Trustees Chair Miriam Katowitz '73, Trustee Lisa Selz '73, Trustee Emerita Margo Messler Winslow '69, and Trustee Emerita Joan Hood Jones '77 for their generous donations to make the College's first-year village a reality.

Our hope is to continue developing an inclusive residential community for students and live-in staff/faculty by continuing the transformation of campus. Goucher is creating an innovative space for all to interact and build relationships, encourage resilience through the central student experience, and provide time for reflection to improve students' ability to continue learning everywhere.



For more information visit  
<http://blogs.goucher.edu/communitymatters/>.

## U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT NAMED GOUCHER COLLEGE "MOST INNOVATIVE SCHOOL"

U.S. News and World Report ranked Goucher College No. 6 out of nearly 1,800 colleges and universities as one of the nation's most innovative schools. They took a look at colleges and universities that are thinking in non-traditional ways and improving their curriculum, campus services, and employees in an innovative manner. Goucher was ranked based on survey responses from top college officials. We ranked among the highest nominations for making forward-thinking changes to our campus.



For more information visit [www.blogs.goucher.edu/intheloop](http://www.blogs.goucher.edu/intheloop).

## ATHLETICS GAME CHANGERS



On August 31st during our annual Opening Celebration, Goucher athletics unveiled the new Gopher logo and announced our three-year partnership with Baltimore-based Under Armour. With a new partnership comes a fierce new identity, athletic uniforms, and the ability for athletes to use Under Armour facilities.

The new logos are available on our main website, used for social media promotions, and athletic facilities. Athletic uniforms and gear will have the Under Armour logo incorporated to support our partnership. Pick up your new gear at the Goucher Bookstore located in the Athenaeum.



## "Ask Your M.D. (Mobile Dean)"

Do you have a question, concern, or need a solution?

Meet with a  
Mobile Dean  
(M.D.)



On Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, Bryan Coker, Vice President and Dean of Students, Luz Burgos-Lopez, Assistant Dean of Students for Race, Equity and Identity, Stacy Cooper Patterson, Associate Dean of Students for Community Life, and Andrew Wu, Associate Dean of Students for Student Development became "mobile", for a new Division of Student Affairs initiative, "Ask Your M.D. (Mobile Dean)."

Students met with their M.D.'s on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor entrance of the Athenaeum and enjoyed sweet treats and conversation. The M.D.'s collaborated together to answer questions, concerns, and connected students with relevant campus resources.



Will be located in high traffic locations throughout campus, two days a week every week. The Deans are excited to connect with students, provide them with support for success, and learn more about their wants and needs.



For more information regarding dates and times go to [www.goucher.edu/mobiledean](http://www.goucher.edu/mobiledean).

Follow **Goucher College** on Instagram or Snapchat



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Wondemneh Pawlose



### Class of 2019

**Major:** International Relations

**Minor:** Arabic Studies

**Hometown:** Austin, TX

**Clubs/ Organizations:** Arabic Club, Roosevelt Institute, Cross Country & Track and Field team, Goucher Model U.N, Goucher International Student Association (GISA)

### Why did you decide to attend Goucher College?

When I visited campus on Admitted Students Day, I felt like I belonged. The support I received from the Admissions Staff helped influence my decision to attend Goucher and I will be forever grateful. When researching colleges I looked at how close Goucher was to D.C. and N.Y.C. – two major cities for International Relations internships and opportunities, my major.

### How have you evolved as a student and an individual during your time here?

Goucher is a diverse institution. As a student at Goucher, I have learned how to navigate through many diverse minds and ideologies. This has allowed me to step outside of my comfort zone, become engaged, and interact with students that I wouldn't have initially been drawn towards. My experience has taught me to be open minded, on many occasions the students that I wouldn't have initially been drawn towards contribute to the college in brilliant and thoughtful ways!

### Has any faculty member helped shape or inspire you?

I've been a student of Professor Zahi Khamis', Instructor and Director of French Language Floor within the Department of Modern Languages since my first semester of freshman year. I've learned to question materials presented to me and to never surrender to ideologies without critically analyzing them. I'm very proud to be his student and I wish to be his friend someday!

### What would you tell prospective students who might be considering Goucher College?

I would tell prospective students to come visit Goucher, if they haven't already. Seeing how beautiful the campus is and witnessing the unique dynamics of students on campus—plays a huge role in decision making. I applied to 20 institutions due to being an International Student. I chose Goucher over 19 other institutions because of the support I received from the Admissions Staff during the application process and because of my initial sense of belonging while attending Admitted Students Day.

### What do you enjoy most about Goucher College?

What I love the most about Goucher is the friendships and relationships I've made. I came to Goucher to learn from the lectures and readings I'm given, but there's a lot of learning coming from my daily interaction with the Goucher community. I enjoy how the professors are devoted to give students the best education they can provide and in the process creating comfortable space for students to interact with them. I also love the International Student community here at Goucher.

### Where's your favorite place on campus to unwind?

I like to play soccer—going to Beldon Field to play intramural soccer is something I really enjoy doing. Being on the Cross Country team has given me the chance to learn and appreciate the trails around campus, whether going on a run or a nice walk with friends. I also like the gazebo in front of the chapel—it gets really quite at times and I like reading and unwinding there.



**STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Lindsay Johnson, M.Ed. '05, '13, Associate Director for Community Based Learning**

**Role:** Dual role between Office of Student Engagement and Office of Community Based Learning

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**What brought you to Goucher College?**

I actually came to Goucher College as a first-year student in the fall of 2001 (a 9+ hour trek from my hometown of Brevard, North Carolina, just outside of Asheville in the beautiful blue ridge mountains). I graduated in 2005 with an Interdisciplinary Studies degree in "Peace Education through the Arts", worked with the Baltimore City Schools for several years after Goucher, and came back to work with our external programs/partners and community partnerships. When I first returned to Goucher in 2008, I worked in the President's Office, and then the Office of International Studies, and now I'm with the Office of Student Engagement and Community-Based Learning. Since 2001, I've loved the people at Goucher, the quirks and charms of our small community, and I love Baltimore.

**What do you wish people knew about Goucher College?**

This place is a gem! This is a community with invested, engaged students and dedicated, thoughtful, scholarly faculty and staff members. We also do an enormous amount of community-based work. This semester alone, we have over 30 programs running in Baltimore City and County. Some of these are faculty-led community projects (for example some Goucher students are taking tree surveys of the trees in Towson while others are co-enrolled in a course with residents of Edenwald Retirement Community), while others are weekly engagements in schools (this semester we have 7 school partners), non-profit organizations, and neighborhoods. More than 75% of our students engage in Community-Based Learning at some point in their college career—through a CBL class, a signature weekly program, or a one-time community event with a student organization, club, or athletic team.

**Please describe your position. What does a typical day look like for you?**

I'm the Associate Director for Community-Based Learning. Our office supports students and faculty doing community-based work in the Greater Baltimore Community. Each semester we run anywhere from 12-20 CBL classes (courses with integrated community experiences). We also run 12 signature weekly programs—which includes weekly programming that support youth and children, adult learners, organic farming and environmental justice, ESL programming for immigrants and refugees, health and wellness, and food and housing security. A typical day for me includes a lot of "pop-up" meetings with students, plenty of laughter and usually a few surprises in our partnerships that require creative problem-solving—which is part of what I love most about the work I do. Sometimes I spend a morning in an elementary school, or an afternoon at a neighborhood meeting; I'm off-campus a lot, with community members and partners, and also with other colleagues at area institutions reflecting on our collective work in Baltimore. My favorite part of my week is my weekly staff meeting with the Student Leaders for Civic Action (SLCAs), because we reflect on the week, eat snacks, and do a lot of laughing (this is a consistent theme in my life).

**Do you have any words of wisdom to share with students?**

My best words of wisdom are the same ones that were shared with me when I left for college: GO TO CLASS. Goucher has a lot of opportunities for involvement and leadership, but your classes are the anchor experiences, and everything else will enhance your courses/learning. Go to class, get involved in one or two things you care a lot about, and give those things most of your attention. Also, have fun!

**Where is your favorite place on campus to unwind?**

Right now most of my favorite places on campus are under construction, but I love the Goucher trails. My dog also loves the trails (and chasing the deer in the woods. Don't worry—she never catches up to them!).

## GOPHER ATHLETICS HIGHLIGHTS



New and returning Goucher Athletes are excited to start the fall season off right representing their sports teams and our new Gopher logo. Our partnership with Under Armour provides sports teams with the opportunity to use their facilities, which enhances their growth and team building. Goucher Coaches are teaching future leaders the importance of teamwork, leadership, and communication to be successful and innovative.



Women's Soccer is going strong. On, September 24th first-year, Isabel Suazo, scored Goucher's first goal of the season against Juniata. Ever since then, the team has been pushing themselves to the limit with six wins, four losses, and one tie.



Field Hockey with five more games to go in the fall season is on top with six wins and five losses with a total of twenty-eight goals.



Junior Miranda Egan-Brooks and Sophomore Mackenzie Donohue scored the first win of the opening Women's Tennis match on Wednesday, September 21st. The tennis team is moving forward with two wins and zero losses.



Women's Cross Country raced to fifth place on September 1st at the Baltimore Metro Meet, hosted by Stevenson University. They also earned seventh place on September 10th and tied fourth out of nine scoring teams on October 1st at the Dickinson Long/Short Invitational Race.



Men's Soccer keeps unbeaten home record of four wins, zero losses, and two ties. Overall record of six wins, two losses, and four ties, Men's Soccer is truly showing their Gopher Pride.



On September 1st, Men's Cross Country came in fourth at the Baltimore Metro Meet at Stevenson University. Four of the top five finishers were first-year athletes. Cross Country has been coming in either sixth or seventh place over the past few meets.



Men's Tennis has been taking the lead with three wins and zero losses. Sophomore Elliot Diehl and freshman Frankie Mullin led the Gopher netman at number one doubles on September 28th!