

Cafeteria renovations: What's cooking

Kyra Lipetzky, Staff Writer



Architectural rendering of renovations to the community center dining space.

(SOURCE: MIKE HUSTAVA)

Since the beginning of the spring semester, the capacity of the cafeteria has been limited by COVID-19 regulations as well as the new walls erected due to construction. Displayed on these walls are renderings of what the renovations will become, but a different future is easily overshadowed by the stress of trying to find a seat alongside the frustration that comes with the longer lines.

Mei Jenkins-Andrews, a freshman biology major, agrees that the situation has become stressful.

"The lines are extremely inconvenient because everyone goes to lunch and dinner around the same time, especially because they go right after

their classes," Jenkins-Andrews said.

With the majority of seat limitations due to the precautions brought by the pandemic protocols, the smaller dining area came as an unpleasant surprise to some students after an extended winter break.

Madison Kozera, a freshman English major, thinks the smaller size exacerbates previous seating issues.

"I don't like it because it was already small before, and now it's even smaller," Kozera said. The renovations did effect operations this semester, said Jamie Ballew, General Manager of Dining Services.

"The biggest effect was in relocating

Continued on page 2

Flora & Fauna exhibition closing soon

Sean Callahan, Arts & Culture Editor

“To underscore the interminable interplay between visual representation and biological research,” reads an excerpt of the introduction and purpose of the Flora and Fauna exhibition, currently on display at the Verostko Center for the Arts. The exhibits vary from a massive book titled “General Natural History for All Species,” which includes illustrations of larval stages and nesting habits of insects, to sketches and colorful paintings of plants and wildlife.

Andrew Julo, curator of the Saint Vincent Art & Heritage Collection, explained that the concept of Flora and Fauna originated from a desire to feature intersecting disciplines, such as art, biology, ecology and natural science. The decision to go ahead with the exhibit came after the gallery was relocated to the library from the third floor of the Carey Center.

“This was a good way for us to show the link between the rare book collection and art collections. We could use more things that had been amassed here, even before artwork was being

Continued on page 5



NEWS

What's the DiPadova Hall?

continued from page 1

two of the stations and the flow,” Ballew said. “We were, however, able to make these changes without losing any offerings or functionality to them,” he added.

The Student Life and Hospitality Hub project is funded by the Forward, Always Forward comprehensive campaign. Directly involved in the process and following its developments closely are Mike Hustava, Senior Director



Architectural rendering of the interior of DiPadova Hall. SOURCE: MIKE HUSTAVA

of Marketing and Communications, and David Hollenbaugh, Vice President of Institutional Advancement.

“The majority of this project focuses on renovations to the existing community dining center and important upgrades to the kitchen equipment and mechanical systems,” Hustava and Hollenbaugh said.

“The new construction is the DiPadova Dining Hall, which will be utilized primarily as a space for the seminary and various events, conferences and guests on campus throughout the year—especially when the pandemic has subsided and we are able to host more on-campus and in-person events,” Hollenbaugh and Hustava said.

“Probably the largest impact for all is the new layout and flow of the space. Dining staff and guests alike will benefit from the new design,” Ballew added. With increased seating, stations and offerings, as well as new equipment, the day-to-day proceedings of the cafeteria will likely improve once the renovations are complete.

During the fall semester, the cafeteria windows presented the activities of the construction site before being boarded up later on. This semester, the noise of the outside is buffered by the new walls, and there is less natural light cast into the space, creating a drastic change in the atmosphere of the cafeteria.

The planned movement of the renovations even further into the main portion of the dining area raises the question of how the students will be able to eat during these transformations. Currently, those renovations are scheduled for the summer in order to have the smallest disturbance possible.

“We will have provisions for alternative dining locations for any times when we host camps, conferences or other activities during that phase of the project,” Hustava and Hollenbaugh said.

Thus far, renovations appear to be following the schedule presented by Public Relations on Oct. 8, despite the potential for a few changes in the spring of 2022. Phase one of two is presently underway: renovating the current community center, constructing DiPadova Hall, and upgrading equipment.

“Phase two will include the renovation of the entire student dining area, as well as the kitchen and storage areas and specialty dining and meeting rooms,” Hustava and Hollenbaugh said.

Students seem to have found a balance in entering and leaving the cafeteria, handling the COVID-19 regulations to the best of their abilities whenever there is the periodic overflow of the line for the Main Dish spanning out into the hallway to maintain social distancing.

Update on Cafeteria Smoke

The smoke in the cafeteria on Feb. 15, previously reported here, was not caused by a malfunction, Ballew said. “There was not a malfunction of the oven. The power outage caused the shutdown of the ventilation system. The pizza oven is a woodfired oven and we must build the fire in the oven in advance in preparation for daily baking. This fire was already going when the power outage occurred. The smoke was a result of us having to extinguish and remove the fire, thus causing the smoke and not allowing it to be vented out through normal ventilation.”

Pipe leak temporarily closes classrooms in Dupre

Anthony Caporale, Staff Writer



Dupre was the site of a pipe leak on Feb. 21, only five days after an unrelated water main break in Latrobe. (SOURCE: CAPORALE)

On Sunday, Feb. 21 at 11:30 a.m., Fr. Michael Antonacci, O.S.B., was in the monastery when he received a phone call, alerting him to a pipe leak in Dupre.

Antonacci, assistant professor of physics, said he was told there had been a water leak earlier that morning “from a pipe feeding the fire suppression system in the west wing of Dupre.”

Although the severity of the leak is unknown, the incident affected multiple professors and students, threatening to halt in-person classes for the rest of the week.

“I was unable to teach in W106,” Antonacci said, revealing possible damages caused by the leak to the surrounding classrooms.

Antonacci explained that he could not return his classroom “until the rooms were fully dried out and cleaned.”

In W106, the cleanup lasted for the next three school days. Finally, on Thursday, Feb. 25, Antonacci was able to resume his usual classroom and teaching schedule.

The Dupre pipe leak was the second water-related incident in the month of February. The Review previously reported the outcome of a waterline disruption on Feb. 16, which affected SVC’s water pressure and quality during the following days, resulting in dirty water from sinks. It was not until Feb. 20 that SVC’s water returned to normal, one day before Antonacci received a phone call about the water leak in Dupre.



We are always accepting submissions of opinion pieces, open letters, reviews, critiques and creative writing. Email us at review@stvincent.edu if interested.

Follow us
on social
media
for more
weekly
stories!



@SVCReview

...



The Review

...



@svcreview

Opinion: The new core is a good start

Jonathan Meilaender, *Editor-in-Chief*

Just over a year ago, Saint Vincent began the process of revising its core curriculum. At the time, I wrote an article in this paper explaining some of the changes I hoped to see. In particular, I suggested a much smaller core; SVC's previous (and current) core, as you know, consists of 60 credits.

The core revision process has been obscured by the turmoil of coronavirus and national politics, but it is now almost complete. A core proposal is available on the portal, and the members of the committee to administer that new core have been chosen. In late January, Dr. Jason King was elected as the first "Director of Core," a job that will guide the implementation of the new standards over the course of the coming years.

In my opinion, the new core represents a significant improvement over the old system, but I still see certain weaknesses. In order to evaluate both weakness and improvement, we must begin with a brief consideration of the purpose of a university and, by extension, the purpose of a core curriculum. Most universities seek to balance two roles: providing a general education and providing job preparation in a specific area. The former task is often identified with a "liberal arts" education. "Liber" means free, so a liberal arts education is the kind of education suitable for a free person. In modern terms, it's the kind of education necessary for productive participation in a democracy. It usually involves a basic knowledge of ethics, philosophy, politics, applied science, writing, and speaking. The main point of a core curriculum is (usually) to supply this knowledge.

Of course, productive participation in a

democracy is only possible with specialized, practical knowledge; a liberal arts background is mostly theoretical, but a good job enables us to transform that theoretical knowledge into practical benefit. Consequently, the second goal of a good education is to provide preparation for work (or additional study) in a specialized field.

This balance means that a university core should be neither too large, because then the second goal fails, nor too small, because then the first is impossible. The right way to select this balance depends, partly, on the nature of a university's student body. If students come to college with a broad and diversified education and very good prior academic credentials, a large core can be burdensome because they already have the general knowledge they need. Other students may have less extensive prior schooling, and they may prefer to enter the workforce immediately after graduation. These students won't have any other opportunity to obtain a liberal arts background. Saint Vincent attracts many local students who've attended public schools, plan to enter the workforce at once, and don't select liberal arts majors. Consequently, a large core may be justified.

Still, the old core suffered from three main problems, the first of which was its size and lack of flexibility. At 60 or 61 credits, it was enormous. A brief perusal of our peer colleges (linked on the portal) confirms this reality. Almost half the credits necessary to graduate at SVC were in the core.

Second, it was incoherent, with no logical connection between requirements. A

Continued on page 11

ARTS & CULTURE

Gallery hosts Flora and Fauna exhibition

continued from page 1

collected on campus,” Julo said.

He referenced the years since Saint Vincent’s founding in 1846, during which the school acquired more than 4,000 art works of cultural and historic significance. The gallery aims to feature both rotating and permanent collection exhibitions, as it has for the last 60 years, according to the Verostko Center for the Arts website.

But Julo also added that focusing on Saint Vincent exhibitions was partially a decision made because of the pandemic. Non-Saint Vincent faculty, students and outside artists are not allowed in the gallery at this time.

“A lot of museums and galleries are relying on their permanent collections. So rather than bringing in an artist from Pittsburgh, we’re using some of our objects to tell new stories,” Julo said. “For example, later this semester, we’re hosting an exhibition about different interpretations of Stations of the Cross.”

Julo clarified that this is far from the first time Saint Vincent has hosted exhibits of its own collections in the gallery. He pointed, once more, to the monks’ commitment to collect art since the college’s founding. Additionally, he

referred to a permanent exhibition in the gallery: a room full of paintings from the college’s art collection.

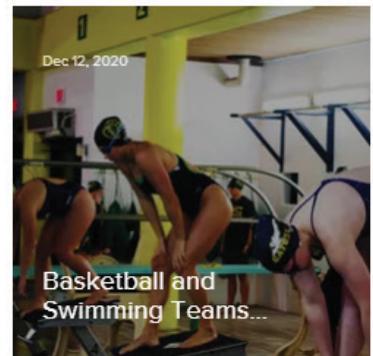
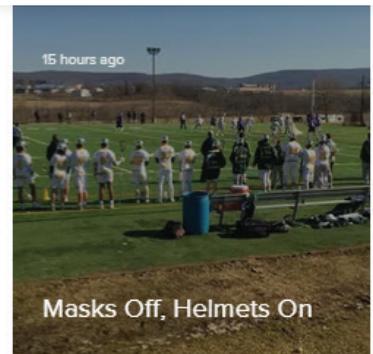
One section of Flora and Fauna features sketches of animals, including a wolf and a buck. They are listed as having come from the Saint Vincent Drawing School, in the mid-19th century. According to the exhibit’s introduction, the school’s first academic catalogue even listed Fr. Luke Wimmer and Br. Cosmos Wolf as instructors for The Art of Drawing.

The existence for the sketches, according to Julo, can be in part attributed to some of the art first received by the college in the mid-19th century.

“Our students continue to use prints and drawings that were collected in Europe as aids for drawing, sketching and copying,” he said.

Exhibit selections for Flora and Fauna were made by Julo, Dr. James Kellam, associate professor of biology, and Dr. Michelle Duennes, assistant professor of biology. It is available for viewing from Feb. 11 to Mar. 12 in the Verostko Center for the Arts at the Dale P. Latimer Library.

Check out our website for stories not printed in our paper!



Flora & Fauna exhibition closing soon





“This was a good way for us to show the link between the rare book collection and art collections.”

– Andrew Julo

SPORTS

COVID-19 problems interrupt swim team's season

Luke Mich, Sports Editor



Saint Vincent senior swimmers pose for Senior Night on Feb. 23, the night of the men's home meet against Washington and Jefferson. The men's team won 168-72, while the women's team competed two days later against Westminster. (SOURCE: ATHLETICS.STVINCENT.EDU)

As March arrived, both swimming teams were awaiting the PAC Championships that occurred throughout the first week of the month. But COVID-19 has presented unprecedented challenges this season. One challenge was the lack of meets for both the men's and women's teams, a result of the season starting nearly three months later than usual yet still ending around early March. And most of those meets scheduled for the women's team did not occur.

"Most of our meets got canceled

due to COVID," said Erica Steele, a sophomore management major who competes in free style events. She noted that a few swimmers, including herself, received positive COVID-19 tests, leading to weeks of quarantine.

"Most of the girls' team had two meets [before PAC Championships] while I have only had one," Steele said. Steele revealed that she was in quarantine for the team's first meet on Feb. 5 against Westminster after receiving a positive COVID-19 test two weeks earlier. Steele was able

to compete in the second meet, also against Westminster, on Feb. 25.

Another obstacle was the waiting time for test results.

"One member of our team tested positive shortly after the first meet which led to over half the team needing to quarantine and get tested," Steele explained.

However, those test results did not arrive as planned, with some swimmers noting that the initial PCR tests were sent out by mail to a lab in Kentucky, only for them to get lost in a major snowstorm. As a result, the women's team had to cancel three meets in the regular season. Swimmers in quarantine subsequently received rapid tests which all came back, and the team was able to have one more meet before PAC championships.

Even Head Coach Josh Gurekovich has been affected by the obstacles, with his family members all receiving positive COVID-19 tests in late February. Gurekovich said that none of his family members had severe symptoms, though he missed the conference championships and the immediate practices preceding it. Graduate Assistant Joseph North, Assistant Coach Jym Walters and Head Golf Coach Samantha Firestone attended the conference championship meets to coach and assist the team in Gurekovich's place.

"I was very fortunate to find a

Continued on page 10

Team Standings

Men's Basketball

Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	8	1	W5
Geneva	6	2	W1
W&J	6	2	W1
Grove City	5	3	W1
Chatham	4	4	L1
Thiel	3	4	W1
Waynesburg	3	5	L1
Franciscan	2	6	L2
Saint Vincent	2	7	L6
Bethany	2	7	L1

Schedule: PAC Tournament, opponent & date TBD

Women's Basketball

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	7	0	W7
Grove City	6	0	W6
Saint Vincent	5	0	W6
Westminster	4	3	L2
Geneva	4	4	W1
Bethany	4	5	L1
Chatham	3	4	W2
Thiel	1	6	L2
Franciscan	1	6	L3
Waynesburg	1	7	W1

Schedule: PAC Tournament, opponent & date TBD

Women's Volleyball

Team	W	L	Streak
Geneva	4	1	L1
Westminster	3	1	L1
Grove City	2	1	W2
W&J	2	1	W1
Thiel	2	1	L1
Chatham	2	2	W2
Franciscan	1	1	W1
Waynesburg	1	4	L2
Bethany	0	2	L2
Saint Vincent	0	3	L3

Schedule: Chatham 3/11 7 PM, @Grove City 3/16 6:30 PM, @Westminster 3/20 12 PM

Softball

Team	W	L	Streak
Geneva	2	0	W2
Chatham	2	2	L1
Bethany	1	1	W1
Waynesburg	1	1	W1
Saint Vincent	0	0	-
Thiel	0	0	-
W&J	0	0	-
Grove City	0	0	-
Westminster	0	0	-
Franciscan	0	2	L2

Schedule: @Westminster 3/13 1 & 3 PM, W&J 3/16 3:30 & 5:30 PM, @Waynesburg 3/20 1 & 3 PM

Men's Lacrosse

Team	W	L	Streak
Saint Vincent	2	0	W2
Chatham	1	0	W1
Bethany	1	1	L1
Grove City	1	1	L1
Westminster	1	1	W1
W&J	0	0	-
Thiel	0	0	-
Franciscan	0	3	L3

Schedule: Westminster 3/13 12 PM, Bethany 3/17 4 PM, @W&J 3/20 12 PM

Women's Swimming & Diving

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	5	0	W5
Westminster	4	1	L1
Chatham	2	2	W2
Franciscan	2	3	W1
W&J	1	2	L1
Saint Vincent	0	1	L1
Bethany	0	5	L5

Result: 3rd place at PAC Championships

Men's Swimming & Diving

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	4	0	W4
Westminster	2	1	L1
Saint Vincent	1	2	W1
Chatham	0	2	L2
W&J	0	2	L2

Result: 3rd place at PAC Championships

Men's Cross Country

Schedule: PAC Championships @Bethany 3/20 1 PM

Results: 1st at Saint Vincent Invitational, 1st at Bethany Invitational

Men's Soccer

Schedule: @Chatham 3/11 7:30 PM, W&J 3/21 1 PM, Franciscan 3/25 3 PM

Women's Lacrosse

Schedule: Westminster 3/13 3 PM, @Thiel 3/16 7 PM, @W&J 3/20 3 PM

Women's Cross Country

Schedule: PAC Championships 3/20 12 PM

Results: 5th at Saint Vincent Invitational, 5th at Bethany Invitational

Women's Soccer

Schedule: @Chatham 3/13 1 PM, W&J 3/21 3 PM, Franciscan 3/25 1 PM

Baseball

Schedule: Chatham 3/13 1 and 3 PM, @Chatham 3/14 1 & 4 PM, Bethany 3/20 1 & 3 PM

Quarantining, delayed test results hinder swimmers preparing for PAC Championships

continued from page 8

GA that started with the team in January, Joseph North. He has been implementing the workouts that I wrote. Jym Walters has also been a big help for meets,” Gurekovich said.

Though there have been a number of shortcomings and obstacles for the teams this season, Gurekov-

due to the fact of swimmers contracting COVID-19 and/or being in quarantine for multiple weeks. But Gurekovich also acknowledged how proud he was of the Saint Vincent teams.

“This year has truly been challenging in many different ways. But I am thankful we have such an

“One member of our team tested positive shortly after the first meet which led to over half the team needing to quarantine and get tested.”
– Erica Steele

ich noted a number of outstanding athletes.

“For the women’s team, Marion D’Aurora and Lauren Connors have been doing really well. On the men’s side Kevin Martin and Kris Smith have been leading the pack,” Gurekovich said.

As conference championships proceeded, Gurekovich said it was really hard to set expectations for his teams. He mentioned that the teams were more limited in the amount of training they had than their conference opponents

amazing group of men and women on this team. They have accepted the challenges forced on them through limited practices, quarantining and all the new COVID protocols. It is great to be able to work with athletes like that,” Gurekovich said.

The men’s and women’s swimming teams competed in the conference championships from March 1–5 at Grove City College, where they both placed third. There are currently no future meets or plans for this season for either team.



We are always looking for op-eds and letters written by members of the community!
Email review@stvincent.edu if interested.

OPINION

Foreign languages are essential

continued from page 4

student could fulfill the core while taking hardly any liberal arts courses at all. And no one knew the purpose of the First-Year Seminar.

Third, it was very difficult to tailor the requirements to a student's skill level. A student with a good knowledge of writing still had to sit through language and rhetoric, for example (unless you transferred in AP credits, but that isn't an option for many students).

So let's take a look at how the new core works, and see whether it fixes these issues. The new core is structured around three themes, "Listening," "Learning," and "Loving," with a seminar devoted to each. These seminars are proper seminar courses: i.e., students engage in discussion of some text. They aren't like the old First-Year Seminar.

The rest of the courses fulfill 6 "Student Learning Outcomes," or "SLOs." There are two SLOs for each theme. The point of these SLOs is mostly to make the core easier to "assess" per the requirements of Saint Vincent's accrediting agency. There are either two or three courses allocated to each SLO, amounting to 15 total courses, or 5 for each theme. That works out to between 45 and 48 credits.

Courses are "approved" for each SLO by a committee. Basically, faculty propose courses that can meet the requirements, and the committee then decides whether they do meet those requirements. For example, say that a history professor wants to teach about the French Revolution; maybe he thinks can fulfill Listening SLO 2.

If the committee agrees, students who take that course can count it toward the core.

This may sound horribly complicated, but it isn't so bad for students. Core courses will be listed as CORE-113, or whatever the course number happens to be. The first digit refers to the course level, the second to the SLO covered. That way, students can easily see which courses will count for the core. Still, it won't be simpler than the old system; students will still need to do some work to ensure they are actually picking the right courses for each requirement.

That minimum of 45 credits is smaller, and thus better, than the old system. In practice, since requirements are now tied to SLOs, not disciplines, it may be even less burdensome. The old core was difficult for many students because so few major courses fulfilled core requirements. In the new system, many students may find that many of their major courses fulfill SLOs. That means that many of their core requirements will be fulfilled by courses they need to take anyway.

So the first problem is fixed: it's smaller. It's also more coherent. The approval process for core courses means that you can't take, say, any random psychology class and any random politics class: instead, only classes that actually match the SLOs count. The courses that count will fit together better. So the second problem is also fixed.

The third problem isn't fully corrected. There is a bit more wiggle room to accommodate different levels, though.

The basic writing course will have different levels. And the first seminar will replace First Theology. Besides, students should be able to select courses more appropriate to their level instead of being rigidly tied to some number of 100, 200, and 300 level courses. Still, students who come to college very well-prepared will likely still find the core burdensome. To some extent, though, this is simply tied to the size of the core; it's hard to solve this problem without making the core much smaller.

The new core does create at least one new and serious problem: it can be fulfilled without taking any foreign languages. If the whole point of a core is to offer a liberal arts background, foreign languages are absolutely essential; they might even be the most important part of a core. This omission is very convenient, because it's now easier for Saint Vincent to reduce the size of foreign language departments—a common casualty of budget cuts for small colleges. If anything, the core should increase foreign language requirements by obliging every student to reach the 300-level in a language or else demonstrate prior mastery.

But on balance, though, I think we can call the new core an improvement. It isn't what I think the ideal core should look like (it exists elsewhere, I may write another column on that), but it will be less burdensome and simultaneously more coherent and useful for most students. I hope the foreign language deficit will be remedied in the future, but, for now, the core committee has done a commendable job.

Perspectives from a Student at High Risk for COVID-19

I am a Saint Vincent student as much as anyone else here, but I've never felt more disconnected from my fellow students than now. When I first visited Saint Vincent, I fell in love with the Bearcat community that was palpable in the air. Yet, this community no longer seems to include me. Why? Because I am at high risk for COVID-19.

I have watched from the sidelines, in horror, as our case counter continues to rise steadily. If I were to contract COVID, I would be a severe case. I might never recover. One of my chronic illnesses is already likened to long-COVID and I am here to tell you that you do not want it. The symptoms of long-COVID, such as severe fatigue, brain fog and shortness of breath, are debilitating. I frequently hear my peers dismiss COVID, unafraid for their safety because of their age, and likening it to the flu. COVID is far worse than the flu, and our actions now have lasting consequences.

Because I am high risk, I spend almost all of my free time alone. I have not set foot in the cafeteria since early in the first semester, and I rarely see my friends. A devout Christian, I have not been to my church in more than a year. I have adapted my life completely in order to avoid COVID as much as possible. But it's impossible for me to avoid COVID on my own. That's simply not how virology works. A quick visual scan of any hall reveals at least several students with their masks left below their noses. Even after reminders by professors, my classmates keep their masks down in class. All of these settings pose dangers to me and other students like me.

Every unmasked gathering both on and off campus places me at risk, even if I am not there. Catholic Social Teaching upholds the dignity of those who are vulnerable and stresses our obligation to care for them. So why, then, at a Catholic college, do so few people seem to care about the safety of those around them? Not wearing a mask may not feel like a declarative statement as such,

but it unequivocally is. Willingly violating the basic rules put in place to protect the vulnerable disregards human life—lives like mine. I am your friend, your floor-mate, your classmate. I am not alone. My life has worth.

Now more than ever, the Bearcat community should be what connects us. Instead, I feel only isolated, continually afraid of contracting COVID. A year into the pandemic, our Saint Vincent community should give us strength to continue following the rules put in place to protect us. I am begging you to remember me the next time you want to leave your mask down in a public setting. Is it really worth the very real possibility of seriously derailing someone's life?

While The Review is very hesitant to publish unsigned opinions, we have chosen to make an exception in this case out of concern for medical privacy. The Review has verified the authenticity of this letter.

Follow us on social media for weekly stories!



@SVCReview



The Review



@svcreview

The Review Staff

Editor-in-Chief
Jonathan Meilaender

Production Manager
Ellie Powell

Copy Editor
Julia Snyder

Business Manager
Ashlynn Bryer

Digital Media Editor
Michael Park

News Editor
Samantha Hilyer

Arts & Culture Editor
Sean Callahan

Sports Editor
Luke Mich

Opinion Editor
Kevin Martin

Staff Writers
Anthony Caporale
Kyra Lipetzky

Faculty Advisor
Dennis McDaniel

The Review office is located next to the Wimmer Bridge.
Office Number:
724-805-2513

Contributions, Comments, Questions, Advertising:
review@stvincent.edu

Website:
stvincentreview.com

The Review is a member of the Associate Collegiate Press
www.studentpress.org/acp

Editorial Policy

The Review always welcomes input from its readers, including all students, faculty, administrators, Benedictines and any other members of the SVC community. With regards to contributed, non-solicited works, The Review reserves the right to choose to accept or reject any submitted stories or letters to the editor for publication as well as the right to edit said pieces.

Mission

The mission of Saint Vincent College's student-run newspaper, The Review, is to accurately and responsibly report campus, national and international news with integrity, fairness and objectivity. As a college newspaper, we assert that we will report on topics that interest our community, such as sports, popular culture, art & entertainment, politics and campus news. We affirm that each issue of The Review will reflect the diversity of the Saint Vincent College campus with respect for cultures, ethnicities, traditions, beliefs and views.