

Online blunders can sink a grad's job opportunities

By MacKenzie Bennett
College Hill Writer

Have you ever uploaded some wild party photos to your Instagram feed while thinking nothing of it?

Or have you ranted on Twitter about your current job and coworkers because you believed you were just being followed by your friends?

If you have, you might want to take a moment to think before the next time you post because you may not be in the clear.

According to a 2017 survey completed by CareerBuilder, a United Said company that helps people find jobs, 70 percent of employers use social media to screen candidates before hiring and three out of 10 of those employers have someone who works to get a feel for an applicant's online persona.

This is called social recruiting.

While social recruiting can be used to help employers find quality candidates to hire, more than half of the employers who participated in the CareerBuilder survey have found content on social media that caused them to not hire someone.

The most common reason for this was because the candidate posted provocative or inappropriate photographs, videos or information.

Dr. Nicole Cosentino, an assistant principal of Delaware Valley High School in Milford, Pa., named this as one of the red flags the school looks for in reviewing job applicants. "When hiring a staff member, it is a huge commitment, so we want to be sure we have selected the best person for the job.

This means that every piece of information someone puts on the internet can be used because if the person is sending the wrong message through his or her social media account, we would not want that person on our staff and around our students," she said.

Another reason that employers had listed on the CareerBuilder survey as to why certain candidates were not hired was that the person had discriminatory comments related to race, gender or religion posted on their profile.

A lack of good manners can affect not only those people who are seeking jobs, but also those who can find their current position suddenly uncertain because of a post. And sometimes, questionable acts can affect someone years, or

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Students gathered to watch the school's men and women's soccer teams compete nationally.

Sports profile rising at SCCC

By Fred Claus
College Hill Writer

For the second year in a row, SCCC hosted a "watch party" to show support for the men's soccer team in their national tournament appearances.

The event was held in the student center theater, where refreshments were served.

Also, a livestream was shown on the big screen while the game was broadcast across on TVs across campus.

The Skylanders finished the tournament with a 0-1-1 record, losing to Richland 4-0 (the eventual champions of the tournament) and fighting Nassau CC to a 1-1 draw.

It is hoped the event will serve a dual purpose and attract new student athletes to the college.

In an interview, Athletics Director John Kuntz said the event was part of the college's new emphasis on "camaraderie" and improving campus life.

As an example of these improvements, he referred to the addition of several new athletics programs, including the co-ed esports team and the newly announced men's football and wrestling teams.

He also said the school was exploring the possibility of adding women's lacrosse and volleyball programs as well.



Unfortunately for the Skylanders, the second half wasn't any better.

According to Kuntz, these changes are being made in an effort to counteract the lower enrollment numbers that the school expects to see over the next few years, due to lower projected high school enrollments in Sussex County for 2022 and 2023.

He reasoned that by expanding the school's athletic programs to include popular sports such as football and advertising the existing teams' achievements, new students would be attracted to the college.

Kuntz referenced a press release made by the college (*see below*) to announce the addition of a football program.

The announcement notes the positive effect that football programs have had on college enrollment and quotes Director of Admissions Todd Poltersdorf as saying the football team was being added for "enrollment purposes."



The skyline of New York City was one work of art in a show displayed on campus. To see more of the pictures, turn to Page 4. MacKenzie Bennett photo

Football coming to college

Sussex County Community College has become the first junior college to offer football in the state of New Jersey.

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the new football program on Tuesday, November 26 during the monthly Board Meeting.

Data presented to the Board estimated this addition would ultimately yield a 3.5 percent increase in enrollment over the next four years, coun-

teracting the currently anticipated 2 percent drop.

There are 211 high school football teams in the state and a preliminary survey has shown overwhelming support for a two-year college program.

"This would be an amazing opportunity not only for the kids of Sussex County, but also for other areas as well like Morris and Warren," said

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decades, after the fact.

One example is that of Justin Trudeau, prime minister of Canada, who weathered a political storm this year after photos came to light of him posing in blackface in 2001. Those photos were in the yearbook of a private school where he taught at the time and, although not initially put online, went public this year.

Something similar occurred in Sussex County in July when Jerry Scanlan, former vice-chair of the Board of Trustees of SCCC, came under fire for re-tweeting racist and misogynistic tweets aimed at prominent female Democrats and the Islamic faith.

Scanlan, also Sussex County Republican Committee chairman, claimed in a public apology statement that he did not remember seeing some of the messages

that he had shared on the account.

But as Cosentino said, "They (people) ultimately make the choice (of what to post online) and must live with whatever consequences that follow."

Both the New Jersey chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations and the Sussex County Democratic Committee called for Scanlan to resign from both positions, but he remains as chairman of the Republican committee.

According to Tammie Horsfield, Executive Director at the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce, many Sussex County companies do searches on social media platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and more) when vetting job applicants. They also do Google searches on applicants.

This topic has been discussed at meetings of the Chamber's Human Resource Development Committee which is made up of corporate Human Resource pro-

professionals from large area companies. The Chamber is unable to confirm whether high schools in the county actively screen their students' social media accounts.

Beth Muller, Interim Director of Human Resources at SCCC, said the college does not use social recruiting when hiring employees because its never had the need to. Instead, they use a job search website that allows people to post their resumes online.

Despite cautionary tales of social media gone wrong, one can use social recruiting and social media to your advantage. More than 44 percent of employers have found content on a social networking site that caused them to hire a candidate, the top reason being that the candidate's background information supported their professional qualifications.

The bottom line?

Double check what you're posting. You never know who's looking at it.

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the human species.

Explaining the process of how each lecture is prepared, she said she first thinks of the main themes of a novel, then contacts faculty members who have expertise that might be relevant to discuss in light of the novel. Occasionally there are speakers from outside the college who visit, and sometimes it's the faculty.

"It's great to see my colleagues shining as they discuss their subject areas – I always learn so much. Literature is a great jumping off point for discussion of topics in all disciplines!" said Thompson.

The College Novel Lecture is a great program to have for SCCC, but there are always room for improvements or advances and Thompson would love to have a huge budget so she can bring the authors to campus. It would be amazing to hear Salman Rushdie, author of *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*, to speak in person Thompson said. Any improvements would just be a bonus because, she said, she is happy we're keeping this tradition of discussing fiction alive at SCCC.

Rushdie is the author of thirteen novels. A Fellow

of the British Royal Society of Literature, he is a Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University. His books have been translated into more than 40 languages.

Thompson shared her proudest moment where she had a student who had never read a novel and was terrified by the length of it. They were working on the book *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver, Thompson said she convinced her to try one chapter a day.

Thompson said the girl read it and loved it and continued to read the sequel on her own. A few years ago, the student emailed her saying she is continuing to read Kingsolver's works, and thanked Thompson for getting her hooked on reading.

"One of the goals of the college novel initiative is to inspire a lifelong love of literature, so in that case, we definitely succeeded!" Thompson said.

There are always pros and cons to something and for these programs, the main point would be for the pros to outweigh the cons.

The best thing about the College Novel Lectures for Thompson is she loves discussing literature and even does it just for fun, she said.

Having a group of students and faculty and staff get together to do so is the best part of each semester, Thompson said. The worst can be the scheduling, especially in the spring semester, she added.

She never knows what the weather is going to be. It is difficult to see if the speakers arrive on time if roads are bad, or if there can be makeup days if necessary.

She hopes to keep the novel going for many years to come and would like to keep experimenting with different types of work, like one year where they had the graphic novel *Maus*, one man's story of surviving The Holocaust.

"Talking about the evolution of the novel as a genre is fascinating to me!" Thompson said. She would also like to try to answer the question posed in this year's novel, *Haroun*,: "What's the use of stories that aren't even true?"

Talking about what they teach us, what we can take away from them, what issues they raise is something Thompson could do for years and years.

The College Novel Lectures won't be ending any time soon, so attend them for a wonderful experience.

'Pornland' highlights industry's impact on youth

By Payton Terrat

College Hill Writer

How has the porn industry affected the youth minds of today?

There are many studies out there showing signs of porn affecting young minds and affecting their sexual identities and relationships.

These concerns were raised in a "PORNLAND: How the Porn Industry Has Hijacked Our Sexuality." The documentary, shown and discussed on campus, was created by Gail Dines.

According to her website, Dines has researched and written about the [porn industry](#) and sexual violence for more than 30 years. She is professor emerita of sociology and women's studies at Wheelock College in Boston.

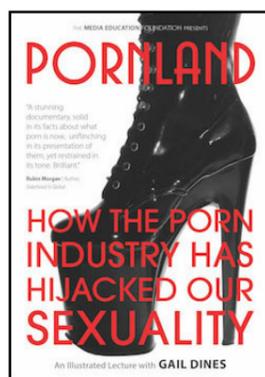
Pornland points out adult films are meant to be watched by, well adults, and over the past few generations these films have become too easily accessi-

ble. They have been over-watched and had a desensitizing effect on young minds.

According to the film, boys view their first porn films at an average age of 11 1/2 old. That is young to be viewing these types of films, and, the film pointed out, they hit these children in ways they cannot properly understand. After all, porn films are rated to be viewed by adults, ages 18 and up.

To man or woman, boy or girl, it gives a false representation of what a sexual relationship between a man and a woman is supposed to be like.

As related by Dines in the film, por-



nography is an industry and not fantasy. Some 36 percent of Internet content is porn, making it a multi-billion industry, a superpower force hard to stop.

The fact that pornography is now so easily accessible, and the scenes that young adolescents and teenagers see have changed the way they view sex over the years. Scenes of women being choked, spit on, slapped and thrown around paint a picture for young minds that that's how sex works.

Kids see scenes like this in smut films over and over again, before they have the mental awareness to understand the films are to be viewed for pleasure alone. So they start to believe this is how these situations actually work in real life.

This mindset has created generations of children that objectify and disrespect their partners, as well as creating a whole sense of demoralization within regards to the subject.

These lustful youths might think they are just having fun, but they are going to encounter serious issues within relationships and partners as they mature and grow older.

Pornland raises these downsides of the pornography industry, examining how it has had a devastating effect on the minds of youths.

Will our society be able to reverse this trend? Or, has the industry already gone too far by reaching so many young minds to be undone?

The answer may not be known. But, with people educating themselves and remembering what's in these films is 100 percent fake, and then educating younger ones around them, hopefully one day sexual relationships will again be seen as a commitment.

The relationships will be seen as something special, to respect and enjoy, and not just as a way for a man to assert dominance over a woman.

Football team expected to attract increased enrollment to SCCC

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Wallkill Valley Head Coach.

The Student Government Association at the College collected 55 signatures in under a week, in favor of developing the new program, showing the demand among current students.

Football has been instrumental in driving enrollment for colleges, but it can also support student re-

tention. Student athletes who complete their degree at Sussex can look forward to the possibility of participating on a team at a four-year institution.

The Skylanders football team will consist of 70 students, and arrangements are in development to use Newton High School's field for home games.

There are three junior college football teams within a two-hour radius of Newton; considerations are being made to schedule games against local four-year college's junior varsity teams.

Ken Hoffman, Athletics Director at Hocking College in Ohio, has also scheduled a scrimmage for the team on August 29, 2020.

Sussex also plans to start a wrestling team, due to its popularity in high schools throughout the county, for the 2020 season. New athletic opportunities for women will be formally announced soon.

"This is an exciting time, not only for Sussex County Community College, but for Sussex County in general," said Todd Poltersdorf, Director of Admis-



Jon Finocchiaro, then SCCC Veterans Services Coordinator, and the crowd at the annual Veterans Fish & Chips Dinner.



Serving dinner were SCCC Student Ambassadors, including Amanda Wakefoose.

Funds for fish aid SCCC vets

There was a good turnout at the annual SCCC Fish & Chips Veterans Dinner. As explained by Jon Finocchiaro, the then-college Veterans Services Coordinator:

- ◆ *Dinner has been at American Legion Post #86, Yates Avenue, Newton, since 2014.*
- ◆ *Event usually draws some 100-125 people, ranging in age from about 20 to much older. SCCC Student Ambassadors served as wait/service staff; At this year's dinner, there were about 25 SCCC students, counting ambassadors and attending vets.*
- ◆ *It's sponsored by the SCCC Foundation, and typically raises \$7,000-8,000 that is used to aid veterans who are active students at the college.*
- ◆ *Finocchiaro said aid can be for many reasons "If they're one of ours, they're one of ours" and there can be aid for such matters as a car payment, a tree that fell on a house, a sick child, daycare, mortgage payments, etc. However, he said, there is no aid for legal issues or tuition.*
- ◆ *Fish & Chips were provided by Tastefully British, a catering company out of Bloomingtondale in Passaic County. The 37-year-old company is best known for frying fish and chips at fundraisers in North Jersey and New York.*
- ◆ *The college website states the Foundation supports the college through fund-raising and friend-raising efforts. Funds are generated through annual giving campaigns, special events, and direct contributions.*



Helping prepare the dinners were ambassadors Bailey Caller and, in background, Tamara Recalde Chelle.

'Just One Drink' says be smart with alcohol

By Sarah Haudek
College Hill Writer

Being a comedian is just a plus to Adam Ace, who inspires and educates students at many colleges and universities.

Ace visits these schools with his performance of "Just One Drink." It shows the risk of binge drinking, helping students plan for solid futures.

His website, adamace.com, tells he's been a professional comedian since 1997. He uses his experience as a college student who never drank alcohol to get across his message. This message was delivered in Just One Drink, his presentation in the Campus Life Student Center Theatre. It dealt with dangers of binge drinking and ways one can have fun without alcohol.

Ace said he's realized he can't stop people from drinking, so he created the Just One Drink program. It began with some simple advice on drink safety, like "Don't drink on

an empty stomach, medication and just sip your one drink."

He discussed what just one drink actually is and the dangers of going overboard. One beer is 12 ounces, a glass of wine is three ounces, and an ounce of hard liquor are all just one drink, a surprise to the audience.

He talked about "Double D's," referring to Drinking and Driving, Doing "it", Dancing, Dialing or texting. "You'll kill yourself or somebody else" with drinking and driving. Drinking and dancing may not seem so bad, but, he said, there are risks.

People can record anything and post it online so "no employer will accept you." Simple mistakes like getting too drunk can lead to not getting that dream job.

He said the downsides to binge drinking could be gaining weight, hurting yourself, going broke, ending up on the Internet. Ace went more into going broke, saying alcohol is expensive, soda is \$1.75 while a beer is \$4-\$6. so one can save so much by not binge

drinking every weekend.

Money is very important, especially when for a college student needing to get by in college. Drinking won't just harm your wallet, but also impairs performance in school.

Ace said, "I don't want college to look like a bad episode of wipeout." He showed clips of wipeouts, as people would get up, just to be pushed back down — a metaphor for how drinking can drag down academics.

As an example, he cited Nicole Bobek, a U.S Figure Skating National Champion and Olympian, who lost all that to drugs and alcohol, which ruined her life.

He said one won't find love with binge drinking, and used an interactive moment with the audience. He called up a man and woman and had them act out "flirting" as two people falling in love. The goal was to show one won't think the person who threw up on you is the love of your life.

He also went into not drinking alone

because there are dangers, not only to you, but others.

He spoke on how one can help another person, which Ace described as "Bystander Awareness." He explained he talks about this because it took him time to try and find out what he wanted to do and his experiences with losing friends to drinking inspired him to create the program.

If one can't force a friend to stop drinking or to stop at one drink, then one can be the friend who looks out for him or her, stopping anything bad from happening, he said.

His advice was to keep an eye on friends who drink and even take keys from them, even if one has to lie "because drunk people will believe if you lie," he said.

It was an interactive show and very informative that people should check it out to be educated on the power of Just One Drink.

Go to adamace.com to learn about him, what he's accomplished and Just One Drink.

Visions of the ancient show at college

New York artist Jimmy Sheehan displayed a collection of new paintings and drawings at the SCCC Art Gallery late in the semester.

Curated by art professor Kulvinder Kaur Dhew, the works take inspiration from ancient Egyptian and Mayan civilizations.

Sheehan has had many solo and group exhibitions in New York City and beyond and was excited to share his art with the SCCC community.

MacKenzie Bennett photos



College Novel series explores ideas of life

By Sarah Haudek
College Hill Writer

Mary Thompson has been teaching English at the college level for 22 years. When completing her Master's degree, her area of focus was the novel as a genre. She said she now has a substantial background in how the novel has developed, over time, as an art form.

She is the right person to be conducting the College Novel Program. Now-retired English professor, Dr. Eleanor Carducci was the creator of the college novel program some 26 years ago. Thompson said, "You can see a brief description of this on the SCCC website under "current students" and the "College novel." she said.

Thompson took over the responsibility when she came to SCCC from a colleague after spending some

time just getting involved with book discussions and activities surrounding the novel.

It was time to pass the project to someone else and Thompson was a good fit. She's now been working on the College Novel Program for eight years, Thompson said.

In the process of the College Novel Lecture, Thompson introduces the speaker and then facilitates any questions. Sometimes there are two or three panelists and sometimes there is one lecturer, Thompson said. The process is never the same, and varies depending on the theme of the work and what speakers are comfortable doing, she said.

In the process of choosing a novel Thompson said, she hasn't chosen any book herself, but if there's interested faculty, staff, and/or students, they get together to discuss possibilities and vote on a selection.

This is a very interactive system and gives the peo-

ple a chance for their voice to be heard.

Haroun and the Sea of Stories was one of Thompson's suggestions, has been the book of topic for the Fall of 2019 College Novel Lecture.

Thompson said she chose this book because the theme of freedom of expression and literary creativity is an important one.

Thompson shares a list of all the previous books on the College Novel Program page on the SCCC website. With the lectures going on, there have been many books.

She said she has loved most of them, but particularly *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* because it is a wonderful comic work.

She went on to say that literature is often so serious but it can be great to be able to laugh at the foibles of

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