

# C O M M U N I Q U É

VOL. 84 ISSUE 2

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF CHATHAM UNIVERSITY

OCT. 1, 2024

## NEWS



New School of Business & Enterprise holds open house. **Page 3**

## OPINION



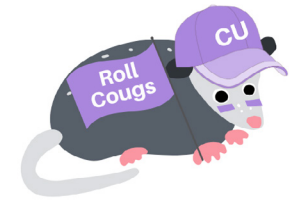
Here's why you should support all CSG members getting paid. **Page 4**

## VISUALS



The Chatham community celebrates Homecoming. **Page 7**

## FORUM



Help the Opossum complete the Homecoming word search. **Page 8**

## Reorganization prompts key staff changes

Sarah Naccarato

Digital editor [@sarah.n.17](#)

Two key Chatham University staff members were removed from their leadership posts before the start of the academic year. University administration stated both changes were another part of Chatham's ongoing reorganization.

Dr. Edith Barrett, former dean of the now the College of Arts & Sciences, and Paul Steinhaus, former Chief Information Officer, no longer hold their respective positions.

Barrett was informed in the summer that she would no longer be dean. In an email to the *Communiqué*, she shared her experience with the prompt change.

"I was told on June 27 that I would no longer be dean as of July 1. I can't tell you why because I SEE STAFF, PAGE 2

## Alumni return for tailgate, volleyball game

Carson Gates

Editor-in-chief emeritus [@gatesy35](#)

As a part of Homecoming Week, Chatham University hosted a tailgate before the women's volleyball game against Franciscan University on Sept. 28.

The event brought students, faculty, staff, alumni and parents together on the patio of the Athletic & Fitness Center (AFC) for food, drinks, games and performances from the cheer and dance teams ahead of the Cougars' showdown against the Barons.

"It's very lovely to see the alums SEE TAILGATE, PAGE 5



Chatham's cheer and dance teams perform at the tailgate before the Homecoming volleyball game on Sept. 28. Carson Gates/*Communiqué*

## *Falling for Pittsburgh: a guide to autumn activities*

Leyna Laurent

Lifestyle editor [@leynalaurent](#)

The seasons have shifted in Pittsburgh as we welcome the vibrant foliage and crisp morning air of

autumn. With the turning weather, a new set of festivities emerges, and the Steel City offers a range that is all encompassing.

These are a few seasonal events to consider when planning your

harvest season itinerary.

**Squirrel Hill Farmers Market**

Every Sunday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. through Nov. 24, a variety of vendors can be found in the SEE FALL, PAGE 6



## Chatham makes changes with new dean, interim technology director

STAFF, FROM PAGE 1

don't know. The only reason given to me was the non-reason, 'we're going [in] a different direction.' I would have liked to remain the dean and help the College of Arts & Sciences' faculty, staff and students envision a new and exciting future for the college," Barrett wrote.

Barrett stated that she believes Chatham has an amazing faculty and is honored to be a tenured professor here. She is slated to return to teaching next term.

Dr. Joe MacNeil is now the dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. A professor since 1997, MacNeil was also the interim dean from January to August 2022 prior to when Barrett was hired.

Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost Dr. Lisa Lambert explained the staffing change in an email to the Communique.

"With the reorganization of SASB [School of Arts, Science & Business] into the College of Arts & Sciences, we felt it to be important to also take a new approach to leadership, something not uncommon at universities when such a change occurs," Dr. Lambert said in an email. "I greatly appreciate Dr. Barrett's leadership, enthusiasm and efforts on behalf of Chatham in her role as dean of SASB, and we will welcome her in the spring as a professor in political science. Dr. MacNeil's breadth of experience and knowledge of

Chatham will help with this critical transition, and he has already initiated some positive changes."

Before the University announced Barrett's title change to faculty, Barrett sent an email to faculty stating that she was asked to step down.



**I was told on June 27 that I would no longer be dean as of July 1. I can't tell you why because I don't know. The only reason given to me was the non-reason, 'we're going [in] a different direction.'**

**- Dr. Edith Barrett,  
professor of political science**

Steinhaus was also removed from his position due to organizational changes, according to a University spokesman. Working at Chatham since January 2003, Steinhaus will not be returning to the University. Jerry DeSanto was hired to serve as interim executive director of library and information technology following Steinhaus' exit.

Vice President of Marketing and Communications Bill Campbell said in an interview with the Communique that the switch happened during a time of LITS assessment.

"Different departments had some different changes, reorganizations, and this is one that is undertaken

for ITS," he said. "The University is just looking at somewhat of a different model that might be able to structure ITS and as part of that ... we're looking at a different kind of model around a director of IT, versus a CIO model."

Campbell also stated that the assessment is moving quickly, taking place within a three-to-six month period. As the next budgeting cycle will begin in the spring, Campbell is hoping to be "able to capitalize

on aspects of the assessment."

"It's not just one position. It's looking at everybody and like, do we have the right positions? Is everybody empowered in the right ways we focus, the right ways that we support it? Are there risk components that the University needs to mitigate?"

At the time of publication, the Communique had not been able to reach Steinhaus for comment.

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## POLICE BLOTTER

All information is provided by Chatham University's Public Safety

**Sept. 14 - Officers responded to Woodland Hall for the smell of marijuana. Officers could smell a lingering odor but could not locate where it originated.**

**Sept. 15 - Officers assisted University of Pittsburgh police with an intoxicated Chatham student. University of Pittsburgh police transported the student to the hospital for medical treatment.**

**Sept. 16 - Officers took a report from a faculty/staff member for a possible cyberstalking incident. A report was placed on file.**

**Sept. 19 - Officers responded to Student Health Services and transported a sick student to UPMC Shadyside.**

**Sept. 21 - Officers received a call for unauthorized use of the field next to the Art and Design Center. Upon arrival, officers found 20 to 30 men playing soccer on the field. The men were advised and left the field without incident.**

*For more Public Safety updates,  
scan the QR code or  
visit [chathamcommunique.com](http://chathamcommunique.com)*



Graphic by Emily Brooks



## New School of Business & Enterprise aims to help Chatham grow

Emily Jacobs  
Contributor

The new School of Business & Enterprise (SBE) opened its doors for an open house on Sept. 26, giving the Chatham University community a chance to see and learn more about all it has to offer.

The University announced during the 2023-2024 academic year that the School of Arts, Science & Business would be broken up into the College of Arts & Sciences and the new School of Business & Enterprise. The addition of an official business school will allow Chatham to expand its business offerings – including the addition of a sports management major.

Dr. Deborah DeLong, a professor at Chatham since 2006, was tapped to become the dean and executive director of SBE. Previously, she served as the chair of the business department. Since DeLong was

“**I am very confident in the SBE being able to increase the enrollment of business students, but it’s increasing the profile of Chatham in general, too.**”

- Dr. Deborah DeLong,  
dean and executive director of  
SBE

previously in an administrative position, she was already thinking in terms of programming, curriculum changes and administrative tasks.

“When I was asked to step into the role of dean, it was more of a continuation of being the chair, but the biggest difference was the fact that we were no longer a department. We were now a school,” DeLong said.

The new school is located in Braun Hall and renovations to the space were supported by a donation from Kent and Martha McElhatten. Kent McElhatten became the Chair of the Chatham Board of Trustees for this academic year.

DeLong said there are 10 faculty members in total for the new school, and they will be relocated to the second floor of Braun. In addition to keeping the same programs, there will be new ones added, like the sports management major. In keeping with Chatham’s mission and values, the curriculum also will explore business through a sustainability lens.

“I think having a school dedicated to business students in particular will help advance the program,” Abby Musser ‘24 said. “We’ve already seen that in Dr. DeLong’s implementation of a few majors, such as sports management. I also think it’s good to have a large space for business students since our population continues to grow. Other schools already have prestigious business programs, so I think



Students from the new School of Business & Enterprise. From left: graduate assistant Anthony Quidachay ‘24, Alexis Coleman ‘26, Meg Miller ‘26, Emily Hoffman ‘25, Kylin Rosnick ‘25, Macy Johnston ‘27, Ella McDermott ‘26, Abby Musser ‘24. Kyle Ferreira/Communique

this will help set Chatham apart.”

DeLong has also expressed an interest to incorporate experiential learning projects into the curriculum, which will allow students to have more hands-on experience. Students would be able to interact with clients or partner with different organizations, better preparing them for entering the real world.

Marketing graduate student Anthony Quidachay looks forward to these enhanced learning opportunities.

“Previously at Chatham, we’ve done a great job with our academic standpoint and learning key concepts, but I think that this new space and new investment will equip students with better hands-on learning experiences,” Quidachay said. “Just having the opportunity to put those skills into practice and take them into the business world is the biggest achievement of the SBE.”

When it comes to SBE’s completion, the process will be gradual. “It is a phased approach, because

there are a lot of moving parts,” DeLong said. “And I would say that is also one of the things that I learned coming into this role is that you need to have consideration of the other groups and individuals that have their ongoing responsibilities, so you have to stage things in such a way that it’s not too disruptive to other people in the community.”

DeLong hopes the creation of the SBE will help the entire Chatham community.

“I am very confident in the SBE being able to increase the enrollment of business students, but it’s increasing the profile of Chatham in general, too,” she said. “When one program or one school succeeds, it translates to everybody succeeding, because then you bring in more status, recognition and visibility. Everybody gets lifted up together.”

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Kyle Ferreira contributed to this story.



# Yes, all Chatham Student Government members should be paid

Abigail Hakas

Opinion editor [@thathakas](mailto:Abigail.Hakas@chatham.edu)

When I first heard that Chatham Student Government (CSG) members raised the issue of class board members being unpaid this semester, I scoffed. We're in a financial deficit; surely there are better uses for our money than paying more student organization members?

Luckily, I thought about it for more than 30 seconds.

CSG members' responsibilities go beyond that of the typical student organization. While most student organizations aim to foster a community within and between members, CSG has the unique goal of connecting students with the administration.

Last semester, they held a town hall where students were able to question and challenge members of the administration on everything from the Chatham Faculty United's unionization effort to the honors program scholarship ending.

Simply put, they held the administration accountable during the reorganization. But not only that, they did a service to the administration by allowing students the opportunity to communicate their frustrations, fears and hopes.

Some could argue that CSG needs to do more to make change or hold the University accountable, sure, but how are full-time students supposed to be challenging an institution when they aren't even making enough to buy groceries?

In fact, paying students would allow a wider swath of students to be able to commit their time to CSG, opening the roles up to passionate students who hold back from applying because they aren't able to commit their time to a job that does not pay.



Members of CSG discuss student government policy during their Sept. 26 meeting. Bella White/Communique

The resolution was introduced by Class of 2025 Representative Anna Betar and cosigned by Executive President Morgan Rapsky '26 and Class of 2026 President Jonah Schiffengens-Smith.

And it's far from unheard of for members of student government to be paid. Several members of CSG are already paid.

The executive president makes \$500 a semester; the executive vice president makes \$450 a semester; the vice presidents of communications, finances and diversity & inclusion make \$400 a semester; and all class presidents make \$350 a semester. No one else is paid.

communicate with the administration? Should they not be paid for organizing committees to better students' food, safety and academic rights? Should they not be paid for holding weekly open office hours so students can speak directly with a CSG member?

Should they not be paid for their labor?

Is that truly the conclusion we as their peers have come to? That the value of their labor in a capitalist society is not enough to merit a paycheck when we know that the University has been more than happy to pay for lawyers to challenge the faculty's right to collective bargaining?

I can't accept that. It goes against every value I hold, and I promise you that if you think about it for more than 30 seconds, it should go against every value you hold. CSG members need our support if they're going to convince the administration to fairly compensate their labor.

That knee-jerk reaction I had only sets us all back. There is no reason we should be fighting for each other to have fewer rights and less value. CSG members being paid is a small step toward respect for the labor being done for Chatham. It's a win for CSG, student workers, staff and faculty.

And frankly, if we as a University can only function on free labor, we should not function. Free labor is stolen labor, simple as that.

Should they not be paid for serving as an outlet for students to

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# Despite Homecoming defeat, volleyball team looks ahead

TAILGATE, FROM PAGE 1

come back and to engage with students and families and staff and faculty. It's terrific. It's what we should be doing," President Dr. Rhonda Phillips said. "It's a way to engage with each other and build a sense of connection to Chatham, to their alma mater."

The two-hour event had graduates reconnect with their friends, as well as current students, faculty and staff.

"It's really nostalgic, actually," Elizabeth Kowalski '22 said. "When we were pulling in, we were just sitting in the car and talking about, like, 'oh, my God, do you remember this?' And then I honestly wasn't expecting so many people to be here. There's a lot more people than I was expecting, and a lot more familiar faces, so that's really fun. It's fun to talk to everybody."

The tailgate continues the Uni-

versity's efforts to bolster the athletic department's reach at Chatham.

"I think we've seen over the past decade or so since we went [all-gender] that athletics is in the forefront," men's and women's volleyball head coach Jason Bortak said. "I think we're doing a nice job of showcasing our student athletes in the classroom, in the community, but also on the fields and the courts. So getting the community support and the faculty and staff support, it's huge for us. We want to continue to put on good events and good showings for the community and the support. So it definitely doesn't go unnoticed. But I think it's also a sign that Chatham athletics are moving in the right direction."

The Cougars dropped the contest 3-1 to Franciscan and have started the season with a 3-8 record. Despite the team's slow start, the Cougars have not started playing

conference games yet. Bortak and his team are working on taking things one day at a time, and trusting they will get to where they need to get to.



**It's very lovely to see the alums come back and to engage with students and families and staff and faculty. It's terrific.**

**It's what we should be doing.**



**- President Rhonda Phillips**

"We harp and harp and harp and harp on a process-driven team. Right. So where we are, Aug. 15 on move-in day should not be where we are on Nov. 12, come conference championship time," Bortak said. "So we know it will take some time to put the pieces together. And we've seen such positive results. We just need them more consistently, by taking it one day at a time, one point at a time, one match at a time, not getting too far ahead of ourselves."

The women's volleyball team was picked first in the Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) pre-season poll but has struggled to find its footing following its PAC Championship loss last year. The team graduated nine seniors last season, including two members of the All-PAC Second Team, and it's working to fill the voids left.

"We've got some new folks that we're trying to get up to speed and be immediate contributors for us," Bortak said. "We're going through some growing pains, of course, trying to get them to the speed of the game, the locations, the tempos, all the things that we really want to make sure we get down. We also need to be able to execute and make some changes a little bit faster."

The Cougars look to start their conference games on the right foot on Oct. 5 at Grove City.

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The dance team performs a routine at the tailgate event. Carson Gates/Communique

## Upcoming Home Games

### Women's soccer

*Games played at Graham Field*

7:30 p.m. Oct. 2 vs. Thiel

3:30 p.m. Oct. 5 vs. Bethany

*Senior Game*

### Men's soccer

*Games played at Graham Field*

5 p.m. Oct. 2 vs. Thiel

5 p.m. Oct. 5 vs. Bethany

### Women's volleyball

*Games played at the Athletic and Fitness Center*

7 p.m. Oct. 1 vs. Penn

State Altoona

1 p.m. Oct. 12 vs. Westminster

Graphic by Carson Gates

# Look no further than these picks of the patch for fall fun

## FALL, FROM PAGE 1

Beacon/Bartlett parking lot. A range of products including flowers, produce and baked goods are offered by local merchants.

Location: 5737 Beacon St., Beacon/Bartlett parking lot, Squirrel Hill

### Mars Applefest

From 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, Applefest will host more than 150 diverse art vendors. Concessionaires and live music will also be present during the occasion. The event is rain or shine, and admissions and parking are free. For more information regarding the plethora of events offered at Applefest, visit marsapplefest.com.

Location: 145 Grand Ave., Downtown Mars

### Row House Cinema Classic Monster Marathon

Row House Cinema is a single-screen art house movie theater located in the heart of Lawrenceville. On Oct. 27, it will be showcasing a Classic Monster Marathon that runs all day. While individual movie tickets are for sale, \$36 passes will grant admission for the entire event. For showtime information and ticket availability, visit rowhousecinemas.com/lawrenceville.

Location: 4115 Butler St., Lawrenceville

### Pittsburgh Coffee Week

Pittsburgh Coffee Week (PCW) is an annually held series of events hosted by various businesses

within the city's coffee scene. Scheduled for Oct. 13-19, 2024 marks the 10-year PCW anniversary. Events such as barista reading, coffee tasting, board games and latte art will be held at locations throughout Pittsburgh's scope. Visit pghcoffeeweek.com for a full schedule and a list of participating coffee shops.

### Phipps Fall Flower Show

The Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens will be showcasing its annual Fall Flower Show from Oct. 5-27, themed "Rhythm and Blues." It will celebrate through displays of chrysanthemums many music genres, including rock and roll, jazz, hip hop and pop. For operation hours and ticket information, see phipps.conservatory.org.

Location: 1 Schenley Drive, Oakland

### Jack O'Lantern Extravaganza

Running from Oct. 3- Nov. 3, the Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium will house thousands of carved pumpkins featuring the likes of animals, pop culture icons and other familiar figures. The jack o'lantern trail will open nightly at sunset and last from 6:30-10:30 p.m. For additional details and ticket pricing, visit pittsburghzoo.org.

Location: 7370 Baker St., Highland Park

### Walnut Street shopping

With an assortment of shops, restaurants, cafés and boutiques, Walnut Street in Shadyside is ideal for any days when you aren't quite

set on one activity. There's something for everyone, with standout spots such as the unique gift and bookstore Kards Unlimited and the community-favorite coffee

shop Jitters. Keep an eye out for autumn-themed storefronts and seasonal menu items that embody the quintessence of fall.

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Want to learn about places to vote on campus? Scan the QR code!



## Vote in Pennsylvania

1



Register to vote online before the **Oct. 21 deadline**

Students from out-of-state can use their Chatham address to vote in Pennsylvania

2

Vote in the 2024 election on **Nov. 5**

Visit Laughlin Music Hall to cast your vote on campus from **7 a.m. - 8 p.m.**



3



Apply for mail-in ballot online

Mail-in ballot applications must be received by **5 p.m. on Oct. 29**

County election office must receive the mail-in ballot by **8 p.m. on Nov. 5.**

A postmark by 8 p.m. Nov. 5 is NOT sufficient.

**VISUALS**



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# HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS

*Chatham enjoys live music, good food, competition and festivities*

Kyle Ferreira

Contributor  k\_fotog



Jaydene Brown '27 and Muriel Lewis '27 enjoy ice cream and crepes from food trucks at the Rea Coffeehouse concert on Sept. 26.



Chatham University's women's volleyball team huddles up in celebration after scoring at the Sept. 28 Homecoming Week game.



Chatham students cheer on the women's volleyball team.



Twin Lakes performs at Rea Coffeehouse.



# Homecoming Word Search

K C C A N D E R S O N H X P B K Y N W U H Y E  
 G G H X U X M E O C H M L R O E C O W A X P Q  
 D S H E P T J G N L Z H A H A S K N G V L R Z  
 E O M J B Z P N E F C J H M R Y W J L E E D L  
 S I R C O B N I V N R W B A D Z N L K X A H L  
 H Z V O F I I M J G L L I H O E B F K T S U L  
 A I N M U L A O Q R Y Y O T F M G W F S T M A  
 D C I M N Q F C U L F L P A T F O W B M S Q H  
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ALUMNI  
 ANDERSON  
 BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
 CARSON  
 CHATHAM

COMMUNIQUE  
 COUGAR  
 EASTSIDE  
 EDEN HALL  
 HOMECOMING

PENNSY  
 OPOSSUM  
 QUAD  
 SHADYSIDE



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### Letters to the editor

The Communique welcomes readers to submit letters to be considered for publication. Send your reactions to stories, thoughts on Chatham University and whatever else is on your mind to opinion editor Abigail Hakas (abigail.hakas@chatham.edu)

### Corrections

The Communique strives to report the news accurately and fairly. If we've made a mistake, please let us know so we can correct it and learn from it. Email isabellar.white@chatham.edu or communique@chatham.edu.