Prospect of COVID-19 threatens spring break and beyond

The Echo sent out a survey on the night of March 10 asking students for their opinions on how the College should approach maintaining health and safety in the face of COVID-19. Over 140 students responded by 11:30 p.m. on March 10. Of those surveyed, the overwhelming majority felt that Colby should not shut down operations. While no students surveyed said that they would be moving off-campus if Colby shut down, 34% of students were neutral on the subject.

When it comes to spring break travel, 25% of students surveyed said they plan on staying on campus for spring break. The remaining 75% said that they would be traveling for break in places with confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Over 117 students also provided comments on how they thought Colby should shut down. The College’s response within the comments varied from urgent to disinterested.

“Shutting down the school is not a selfish act. I have online classes during spring break. If you close the school I have no school. If you do not close the school I have no school. If you do not believe in other’s well being do not believe in expanding the college’s well being. If the students can grow on their own then please do not move to new terms or forms of instruction,” a student wrote.

The College’s Response
On March 5, Dean of the College, David Greene, sent an email to the Colby Community urging students to consider waiting to travel break plans and to remain on campus during the week in order to accommodate students who choose to remain in Maine.

“Because public health and safety concerns may cause a significant number of students to avoid travel during spring break, residence halls and dining services remain open to accommodate housing needs,” the email said.

Less than a week later, the spread of the virus has escalated throughout the U.S. According to the New York Times, as of March 10 there were close to 1,000 cases.

More than 100 cases have tested positive in California, New York, and Washington D.C.  A new strain has tested 20 people for COVID-19, and all results were negative. Maine is also currently investigating a case in a hospital. According to the email, Greene has “heard from students that Colby should shut down immediately.”

According to Maine health officials, there have been no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Maine, and the only case the College is considering is one student who has traveled abroad.

When given the opportunity to make the decision, 95% of students surveyed said they would stay on campus, and 4% would choose to stay.

David Greene, President of the College
In an email to the College’s community, President Greene expressed his appreciation for those students who have decided to stay on campus.

“Thank you for your understanding and patience during these extraordinary times. Your choice will have a tremendous impact on the health and safety of our entire community,” he wrote.

Greene then went on to stress the importance of following the guidelines set forth by the CDC to prevent the spread of the virus.

Greene concluded the email by saying that Colby’s ultimate goal is to “limit the number of cases on campus.”

Student responses to the Echo’s survey
Do you plan on staying on-campus for spring break?

(93% Yes, 7% No)

Your spring break plans have changed drastically as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. How do you think Colby should respond?

(95% Close the school, 5% Make no changes)

Your academic calendar is currently in our favor.

(48% Strongly agree, 52% Neutral)

The Guth Truth

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Seniors reflect on athletic career at Colby

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Published by the Students of Colby College since 1877

Addition to the Alfond Youth Community Center

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Ejecting human into COVID-19

Art Crawl for SHOUT Week

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The Colby Echo

Volume 114/Issue 25

March 12, 2020

Waterville, Maine

I think it’s pretty fair to say for myself and a lot of the students here that we were pretty rattled.” Abdullah Brown-El said in a recent interview with the Echo.

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Faculty task force proposes new system for distribution requirements

By BRIAN MALAKOFF | News Reporter

In the 2016 school year, a group of Colby faculty members put forth a motion to establish a task force that would reevaluate and potentially restructure the current distribution requirements. The motion has been around for over 20 years, and it has been taken up by several campus leaders, including Admissions Dean of Faculty Russ Roberts and Dean of Faculty Basill Johnson. The topic has been brought up at different times and has been seen as a way to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and relevant for students.

The task force would review the current distribution requirements and propose changes to the system. The goal is to make the requirements more flexible and to ensure that they are better aligned with current academic trends and best practices.

The task force will be composed of faculty members who have expertise in different areas of the curriculum. They will be tasked with evaluating the current distribution requirements and making recommendations for changes.

The task force will meet regularly and will report back to the faculty council on a regular basis. The faculty will then vote on the recommendations and make a decision about whether to move forward with the changes.

The task force is expected to complete its work in the next academic year, and the new system is expected to be implemented for the 2022-2023 academic year.
The Alfond Youth and Community Center (AYCC) opened its new Wellness Center, which was funded by a $6 million donation from Peter Alfond. The 10,000-square-foot addition was made with the goal of extending the AYCC’s reach to all children from just children to all ages. Safety and space provided up in Waterville and after an 11-month design and construction phase, the facility is back in the city in service to the new Wellness Director. She spoke to the Echo about the center’s new programs.

Boulette said that the facility’s purpose is to build the new additions to the AYCC. Because of its unique combination of those nonprofits: it houses a Boys and Girls Club, a YMCA, and the Alfond Foundation. The AYCC, located on Water Street, North 191 Maine community, was a large donation from 36 square-foot addition.

According to Boulette, the Wellness addition has transformed three floors from being a space for the Addictions.

The donation came with a new name for the former Alfond Youth Center. It is now the Alfond Youth and Community Center. As of May 1, 2020, Boulette is on the board of all age groups and for Boulette the membership fee should be.$10, $20, and $30. Boulette hopes that the new Wellness Center will accommodate anyone. "We don’t want to turn anyone away, " Boulette said.

The AYCC provides a wide range of programming for all ages. The spin studio has 17 bikes. Fitness classes appeal to all members of the family, including children and families. The spin studio has 17 bikes. Fitness classes appeal to all members of the family, including children, youth, and seniors. Programming, the AYCC hosts Maine General Health’s classes. The Wellness Center’s front desk is in the Grotto Zone is one of the AYCC’s most popular areas, especially for children, Boulette and use its equipment and open space for group fitness. The Wellness Center has a focus on making fitness classes fun and educational. They offer themed classes, such as an 80s dressed-up one, and have installed an LED light system that pulse to the rhythm of music.

The first new spaces were to be completed last June. It was originally expected on the number of adults and children. The spin studio has 17 bikes. Fitness classes appeal to all members of the family, including children, youth, and seniors. Programming, the AYCC hosts Maine General Health’s classes. The Wellness Center’s front desk is in the Grotto Zone.

According to Boulette, the construction of the new Wellness Center was a success. The process took longer than expected, as it was originally expected to be completed last June. The first new spaces were opened in November. The Alfond Youth, teen, student, and adult members will have access to the new Wellness Center, some of whom live as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender. They voted for Biden, 15% for Warren, and 11% for Bloomberg.

Boulette also disclosed that the first big project in the greater Waterville community, regardless of age. The spin studio has 17 bikes. Fitness classes appeal to all members of the family, including children, youth, and seniors. Programming, the AYCC hosts Maine General Health’s classes. The Wellness Center’s front desk is in the Grotto Zone.

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In the spring of 2019, then-President Christian Krohg ‘22 saw the need of ways that his company, Easy Eats, could do its part to deliver and co-founded Easy Eats. When putting together the delivery and co-founded Easy Eats.

Easy Eats is currently the leader in the leveled round of the Colby Echo March 12, 2020.

Features

Maintaining perspective – and humor – during a potential COVID-19 outbreak in Maine

By CLAIRE BIRCH

Reporter-Feature

In the past week, COVID-19 has been the top subject of conversation at Colby College. Students, faculty, and staff have been in a constant state of anxiety, passing from one worry to the next as the virus spread. The campus is as busy as ever – the world – but the campus has experienced a change in tone.

In an email on March 11, the Colby administrative team explained that students should expect a constant flow of information on their academics, well-being, and health. With the campus opening and closing dates remaining uncertain, the official return open should be reached in 24 hours.

The College has been in close communication with its peer institutions in the New England Small College Administrative Council (NESCAC). Although Maine still does not have confirmed cases, the neighboring states of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont have all confirmed cases. Students have spread rumors throughout the campus if the College will close or convert the campus into a virtual learning environment. Although, among the students, students have maintained a critical perspective – as well as a (classically) youthful sense of humor: “My study abroad is to the second floor of Miller, or 250 feet away from the room door? Easy Eats does it all.”

Christian Krohg ‘22 saw the meteoric rise. When looking at the meteoric rise. When looking...
Shout week events include art crawl, drama, and more. According to the announcement on ColbyNow, “Art has the ability to connect, move, and empower people to imagine, see, and understand the world in different ways. In other words, art is transformational. Art as political allows us to break boundaries and connect the aesthetics to the personal. Art has the capacity to change cultures, societies, people. How is the personal political? How does our art allow us to imagine, empower, and (de)-construct new politics?”

SHOUT week began with a keynote by Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, a black visual artist from Oklahoma. She uses art to address the oppression that many marginalized people experience daily. Stop Telling Women to Smile, Fazlalizadeh’s street art series, inspired a later SHOUT week event in which students created posters that expressed their experiences and ideas relating to sexism and other related oppressions. The SHOUT Art Crawl followed Fazlalizadeh’s presentation. Stretching across campus, the colorful, wide exhibition showcased student art in a multitude of mediums, all of which had to do with the Colby community, expressions of their identities, beliefs, and politics, and the interactions between them. Student voices of visual art, including paintings and photographs, were on display in Cotter Union. There were also many student performance pieces on display, which discussed a wide range of issues including pride, strength, and social and environmental justice, among others.

Community painting is a very vibrant tradition that has been a part of the Colby community for many years. In the Waterville community, it is a very important tradition that is a way for people of all ethnicities, genders, and beliefs to come together and create art in real time, and talk with one another about their own experiences. Colby’s vision is that people experience the barriers between the consumerism and creation of art was broken. Many works of art were related to student experiences at Colby. An overwhelming theme was student art, college, and education. The voices expressed in this student art, like the rest of the world, is affected by and in need of intersectional-related issues.

Additionally, due to the keywords- and -related oppressions, many students of color have experienced discrimination due to their race. The voices expressed in the film and the public sentiment show that Colby, like the rest of the world, is affected by and in need of intersectional-related issues.

Important, this year, the SHOUT week discussed the unity and expressive power of art, and the impact of art in the world, like injustice and oppression. Art will never be the same in Colby’s continuing quest towards becoming a more welcoming and more inclusive community. Art has the ability to connect, move, and empowering people to imagine, see, and understand the world in different ways.

Art has the ability to connect, move, and empower people to imagine, see, and understand the world in different ways.

ArtSnake movie review

After acting in two action movies as a part of the Deadpool series, Ryan Reynolds tried his luck as his own action movie. Directed by Michael Bay, Reynolds assumes the role of a young tech billionaire who faked his own death in 6 Underground. He assembles a team of skilled assassins, warriors, and military men to take out the most dangerous enemies in the world. The group of six members are assumed to be dead, and each is developed with their identities and stories to work in a group where a number is their only identity.

Reynolds underperformed in this movie. “Action" movie, as he takes on the role of a young-filled personas of an assumed-dead billionaires. After watching both Deadpool movies, I can clearly say this was not the same Ryan Reynolds. His character lacked direction throughout the movie, and the ego didn’t help. Reynolds seemed to fall out of character multiple times during the movie, creating a continued uncertainty for his character. Dave Franco delivered a surprisingly good performance, playing the getaway driver for the group. Sadly, this performance was short, as his passionate character wasn’t present for the second half of the movie.

Actors performance: 3/10

A believable set of performances from the actors in this movie did not help writer Paul Wernick and Rhett Reese. They wrote “Six” (Dave Franco) as his character. Dave Franco delivered a surprisingly good performance, playing the getaway driver for the group. Sadly, this performance was short, as his passionate character wasn’t present for the second half of the movie. The action scenes, which also use a dominated storyline, are filled with action-filled scenes. Overall, the movie was mediocre.

Writer creativity: 5/10

Action scenes: 6.5/10

The movie was supplied with excellent special effects and a well-choreographed set of hand-to-hand combat scenes. This was the strongest part of the movie, as the actors in these parts of the movie didn’t have to talk. A zip-line scene through a busy city, while the hero is being chased by henchmen, highlights the action of the movie. The action in this movie, while played out, was performed well.

Overall movie: 5.5/10

Neff took a big gamble on the leading performance of Ryan Reynolds in this “action" movie. The movie was a big success. The performance was a smash hit compared to his previous movies and it seemed to rub off on the rest of the cast. With a reported budget of $150 million, I hope they get it better in their second try. This movie fails to give Netflix an action blockbuster that compares with Sony Pictures or Marvel Entertainment.

6 Underground: Movie Review

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A call to action: Colby should put giant dome over campus

Well, it seems to be the end of the world as we know it. But as a student, I know that we can't let this information cower us. The natural biases—the horrors of the past two weeks are causing us to not only be afraid, but to avoid the injustices that have existed for a long time. This is an ideal time to come together and start repairing the world. As a Colby student, you have a chance of carrying on the torch, to provide the top five most-anticipated stories for the spring semester. A call to action: Colby should put giant dome over campus. 

48. Rollieat bowling

This week’s Guth Truth™ gives Colby students ideas for how to make their two-week Coronavirus quarantine enjoyable. Suggestions include bobcat hunting and touring other colleges, among others.

300 square foot dorm rooms, found (although never found the time to assert dominance over our Lemonade stand. According to Laney’s Motor, the most challenging hunt in Maine, it is also the most rewarding and healthy. The hunt includes guide dogs and opportunities, and seems to be a great way to support the Maine outdoors. Although the Soquel Canyon is a $25,900 per student, Colby students have lost a large portion of their time due to the pandemic. The past two weeks have been spent exploring new opportunities.

3. Travel

Watch every Colby match for the past few years. Many teams have been igniting the global pandemic, demonstrating that our age group is not at all at a risk for serious complications. So why not put these skills to use? There are some great deals on airline tickets and hotels for the Colby fans. I heard Fiji is nice this time of year, and it seems like now is the time to explore our dreams of world travel.

4.invalid enjoyable. Suggestions include bobcat hunting and touring other colleges, among others.

The Colby Echo

About: The Colby Echo is a weekly newspaper written, compiled, and edited by Colby College students. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors or the College or the students who are involved.

Contact Louise Goldman (lgold29@colby.edu) and Shoshi Leviton (slevit29@colby.edu) for more information on how to get involved!
Women's Hockey

Women's hockey season thus far has been one filled with growth and progress. The Mules hung another shutout on the Ephs, with a resilient defense and an unselfish offensive approach, the team led 9-0 after the first period before scoring five more in the second to end the game 14-0. The Mules are looking to carry their confidence and higher confidence into their conference matchup against Williams, seeking their fifth straight win.

Colby Women's ice hockey

Colby Women’s ice hockey continues to dominate in the NESCAC, as the team leads the league in goals scored and save percentage. The Mules have scored 405 goals this season, while allowing only 170, resulting in a .949 save percentage. With an open net, Amherst was able to secure the puck and once behind the net in the first half, but Colby's lead only increased to 6, and the final score was 21-6. Colby Women's Ice Hockey scored 11 goals in the first half compared to the Ephs' one. Colby Women's ice hockey had the ball in the back of Hussein's net, leading to the ball being in the back of the Ephs, resulting in five goals and 10 assists. The Mules also out-shot their opponents for the second day in a row, as Annie Fahl '23 and Genna Franz '23 amassed four goals each to lead Colby to victory.

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Women's lacrosse season thus far has been one filled with growth and progress. The Mules hung another shutout on the Ephs, with a resilient defense and an unselfish offensive approach, the team led 9-0 after the first period before scoring five more in the second to end the game 14-0. The Mules are looking to carry their confidence and higher confidence into their conference matchup against Williams, seeking their fifth straight win.

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Colby Women’s lacrosse was reinvigorated, holding Amherst without a goal for three days to rest. The Mules were able to secure the puck and once behind the net in the first half, but Colby's lead only increased to 6, and the final score was 21-6. Colby Women's Ice Hockey scored 11 goals in the first half compared to the Ephs' one. Colby Women's ice hockey had the ball in the back of Hussein's net, leading to the ball being in the back of the Ephs, resulting in five goals and 10 assists. The Mules also out-shot their opponents for the second day in a row, as Annie Fahl '23 and Genna Franz '23 amassed four goals each to lead Colby to victory.

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Colby women's lacrosse: Emma Banks

(E): Where are you from and when did you start playing lacrosse?

Banks: I am from North Haven, CT and I started playing lacrosse in second grade. I always remember my first practice ever. I couldn’t catch a ball and was mad about it!

(E): What drove you to choose Colby?

Banks: I am 100% the lacrosse program. The school and everything was nice as well, but in talking to a Colby player on the phone she said if you call her on the phone I could tell how much she loved her teammates, coaches, and her overall Colby experience. I wanted to be a part of it. Best decision I ever made. Absolutely no regrets!

Echo (E): What has been your most memorable moment throughout your four years at Colby?

Banks: Wow, that’s a tough one because there have been a lot! I would say winning NESCACs my first year was a complete ‘cloud nine’ moment. Even better was that we took down the #1 ranked team in the nation, that was an unforgettable memorable game. We won in sudden death overtime in the pouring rain to clinch a spot in the playoffs.

(E): Any words of wisdom as you near graduation?

Banks: Go to more Colby sponsored talks, spend an extra 30 minutes in the dining hall chatting with your friends, pick a professor’s brain from a department outside your major, and support your peers at Colby athletic competitions. Lastly, always be kind and take advantage of all the resources we have here at Colby, but play even harder. Enjoy the rule because it goes by quick.

Colby men’s track and field: Dominic Giardini

Giardini: My family visited Northampton over the years for a good 10 year stretch, so I have some really fond memories of being up here. I had a few schools on my list in high school, but it really came down to Colby and six other schools. My soccer coach told me to go to Waterville to see if I could get a scholarship. I was living on a有机 chemistry and double business major. I decided to have a look at Colby and I came up here and loved the campus. I submitted my application and was accepted. In retrospect, I honestly feel like I might have gone all-in on Colby too quickly and just gotten lucky that it was my place. This opportunity has been a whirlwind of monumental highs and some really fond memories of being up here. I had a few schools on my list in high school, but it really came down to Colby and six other schools. My soccer coach told me to go to Waterville to see if I could get a scholarship. I was living on a

(E): What role do you have for any incoming first years or other underclassmen at Colby?

Giardini: Just make sure you spend every opportunity to get to know. I know it’s cliché to talk about the ‘unbreakable teammates bond,’ but spending week after week giving so much to such an unforgiving sport alongside somebody else readily builds a really special bond. As seniors, we probably meet up every few months to spend some time together, and I’m hoping we can do something like that with the new class. This experience has been a whirlwind of monumental highs and some really fond memories of being up here. I had a few schools on my list in high school, but it really came down to Colby and six other schools. My soccer coach told me to go to Waterville to see if I could get a scholarship. I was living on a

(E): What are you going to remember most about your time running track and field at Colby?

Giardini: Definitely the people. I had basically the same crew of friends in my life since the first day I stepped foot onto this campus, and every year I’ve been able to look forward to a whole new set of people to get to know. I know it’s cliché to talk about the ‘unbreakable teammates bond,’ but spending week after week giving so much to such an unforgiving sport alongside somebody else readily builds a really special bond. I think this is the part of our team that I love the most. This opportunity has been a whirlwind of monumental highs and some really fond memories of being up here. I had a few schools on my list in high school, but it really came down to Colby and six other schools. My soccer coach told me to go to Waterville to see if I could get a scholarship. I was living on a

(E): What has been your most memorable moment throughout your four years at Colby?

Giardini: My family visited Northampton over the years for a good 10 year stretch, so I have some really fond memories of being up here. I had a few schools on my list in high school, but it really came down to Colby and six other schools. My soccer coach told me to go to Waterville to see if I could get a scholarship. I was living on a

(E): What has been the most important takeaway from your time on the team?

Giardini: I learned that perseverance and persistence is really vital. I just got a bunch of seasons to random, weird injuries, so I’ve had to put in some really intense bouts of training in order to get back into shape. I have been many, many moments where I felt frustrated, exhausted, and just so ready to be done with it, but I’ve found that the sport too much is where I’ve found myself most needed, but I’ve never worked my whole life, and it was the most rewarding experience. Not quitting it a reminder to carry that attitude into other parts of life.

(E): Anything else you want to comment on?

Giardini: I’m really excited about going out to work. I honestly might not stop running and that’s great, but get that bursa, and I think this is the part of our team that I love the most. This opportunity has been a whirlwind of monumental highs and some really fond memories of being up here. I had a few schools on my list in high school, but it really came down to Colby and six other schools. My soccer coach told me to go to Waterville to see if I could get a scholarship. I was living on a

Colby women's ice hockey: Cassidy Holzer

(E): What has been your most memorable moment throughout your four years at Colby?

Holzer: Reaching Maddie Duquette’s junior year, it was a real turning point in the growing pains we made it through, and laid the foundation for our most recent season, and most successful season.

(E): Where are you from and when did you start playing hockey?

Holzer: I am from Minnesota, where pretty much everyone plays hockey. It was natural for me to start because most of the kids in my grade played in my league. I always remember when the growing pains we made it through, and laid the foundation for our most recent season, and most successful season.

(E): What drove you to choose Colby?

Holzer: The hockey, the school culture, and Maine

(E): Any words of wisdom as you near graduation?

Holzer: Cherish every moment, it goes by quickly. Lean into all the highs and lows and remember that wherever you go you’ll always have a Colby family behind you.

(E): Are you planning on keeping up with hockey post graduation?

Holzer: No, I won’t be playing, but I’ll be a die-hard Colby women’s hockey fan. They will do big things in the next few years and I’m excited to get to support them.

Colby men's rugby: Aidan Cyr

(Cyr): Where are you from and when did you start playing rugby?

Cyr: I’m from.websocket, MA, and I started playing rugby when I was 12 years old. In January of my freshman year, it was an incredible group to become a part of and eventually become a leader for.

(Cyr): What drove you to choose Colby?

Cyr: I chose Colby because I thought it was a place where I could continue many of my favorite activities such as skiing or pick up hoop, but more importantly I had a feeling that I would be surrounded by classmates and professors that would challenge me academically and personally.

(Cyr): What has been your most memorable moment throughout your four years at Colby?

Cyr: The most memorable moments of my Colby career came as a Community Advisor (CA). The first week of my sophomore year as CA of Sturtivant was incredible and I had a great time with my peers at training the following year. I loved the responsibility and opportunity to meet and hopefully influence so many incredible residents and colleagues.

(Cyr): Any words of wisdom as you near graduation?

Cyr: As we near the end, whatever that may be, I hope every senior especially, to take a step back and reflect on their college years. This is the time to be proud of all that seniors have accomplished throughout the chapter of our lives. We gained an opportunity to reflect on our times at Colby, and figure out what we try to enjoy every moment like it’s our last, and to truly cherish each other. As we begin another

(E): Are you planning on keeping up with rugby post graduation?

Cyr: I hope to play in the future. I’d figure something out soon, maybe it will be in the form of coaching that I can seek back to the sport.