

UWT'S FREE WEEKLY PUBLICATION  
October 1, 2018 | Volume 23, Issue 2  
thetacomaledger.com



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academic performance | P. 5**







## The Ledger

UWT's weekly student publication  
Oct. 1, 2018 | Vol. 23, Issue 2

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By Kelsie Abram &  
Avery Parker  
Editor-in-Chief &  
Managing Editor

# Convocation kicks off the new school year

Convocation is an annual collegiate event — held at most colleges around the nation — meant to kick off the beginning of a new school year.

By LETICIA BENNETT  
NEWS EDITOR

Sept. 26 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., UW Tacoma hosted its fifth annual Convocation on the Prairie Line Trail. The event was well attended by students, staff and faculty members.

Convocation started in 2012 and is a tradition that welcomes incoming and returning students to UWT. This ceremony marks the beginning of the school year and is an opportunity for students, staff and faculty to meet and mingle with one another.

Faculty, staff and students met on the Prairie Line Trail along with their family members to get free T-shirts while waiting for the event to start. Marching bands from Lincoln and Curtis High Schools kicked off Convocation with several songs, including the national anthem.

Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Jill Purdy also introduced Bill Sterud — chairman of the Puyallup tribe — who shared a special message with all the students.

“Dream big, dream big. Let noth-



UWT staff work to set up tables before the event.

ing get in your way as you pursue your dreams,” Sterud said. “Remember the people that got you here. They are all waiting for your success.”

After Chairman Sterud’s remarks, Chancellor Mark Pagano gave his address and welcomed students, faculty and staff alike. Pagano noted the record enrollment at UWT and encouraged students to study and focus on their successes.

Chancellor Pagano was then fol-

lowed by Victoria Woodards — mayor of the city of Tacoma — who encouraged students to get involved in and outside of campus and enjoy the many things Tacoma has to offer. She urged students to stay in Tacoma and help make it a greater place, telling students to “live like the mountain is out even when you can’t see it.”

Mentha Hynes-Wilson, vice chancellor of Student and Enrollment Services, and Armen Papyan, Associated

Whether it’s your first time reading our paper or the millionth time, we at The Tacoma Ledger welcome you to the new academic year.

As the University of Washington Tacoma’s student led newspaper, we strive to be the number one source of campus news. We are dedicated to covering as many campus and local events and happenings as possible to keep students informed. If there’s a commotion on campus, you better believe we’ll be there to cover it.

We pride ourselves on employing students and fostering their passion for

journalism. Students of all backgrounds and majors gain skills and experiences that transfer to life after graduation during their time here — all while having fun in the process.

The student body is also welcome to send us news tips or respond to our articles through a letter to the editor via [ledger@uw.edu](mailto:ledger@uw.edu). This gives members of the UWT community beyond our staff an opportunity for their voices to be heard.

We hope that you will pick up a copy of the paper every Monday and continue to support The Tacoma Ledger along the way.

**Remember the people that got you here. They are all waiting for your success.”**  
—Bill Sterud

Students of UWT president, also welcomed the crowd and looked forward to the new year.

“The future is in good hands,” Papyan said.

Once Papyan finished speaking, the group gathered for a giant group selfie. Students were also able to take pictures of Hendrix the Husky, register to vote and collect free passes to some of the breweries around UWT.

This year’s Convocation succeeded in bringing many different students, staff and faculty together to celebrate the beginning of the 2018–2019 school year. The ceremony promised shared learning and fun to everyone on campus, and also guaranteed a promising new year for everyone at UWT.

## Fall Quarter Events

### OCT. 1

- W Photo on the Court 17 greens at 12:30 p.m.
- Milgard welcome lunch with Accounting Student Association in Dougan at noon

### OCT. 3

- Meet the Professionals in WPH at 11:30 a.m.

### OCT. 9

- PB&J Making Day at 11:30 a.m.

### OCT. 15–NOV. 2

- Pool tournament registration in MAT 153, UWY 107 or online

### OCT. 16–18

- Air hockey tournament

### OCT. 20

- UW football homecoming tailgate at Husky Stadium at noon

### OCT. 24

- What’s Cookin’ in the Pantry? in WCG

### NOV. 1

- Business Etiquette Dinner at Courtyard by Marriot Tacoma Downtown at 6 p.m.

### NOV. 5

- Study Abroad & Fellowships Coffee Talk in GWP 102 at 12:30 p.m.

### NOV. 5–21

- Ping-pong tournament registration in MAT 153, UWY 107 or online

### NOV. 6

- Study Abroad 101 in CP206C at 12:30 p.m.

### NOV. 7–8

- Pool tournament

### NOV. 23

- Apple Cup viewing party at The Swiss at 5:30 p.m.

### NOV. 27–29

- Ping-pong tournament

### DEC. 7

- Last day of instruction



# Emergency aid offered to UWT students

Aid is available on and off campus for students facing emergency situations.

By **CHRISTEAN JENKINS**  
NEWS REPORTER

Being a student is difficult, but life circumstances can add additional stress. Fortunately, UW Tacoma has emergency aid to help.

Students looking for a place to start can access an Emergency Aid Request Form offered through the Office of Student Financial Aid. The request form is a way for students facing financial hardships to reach out for assistance. Students need only to provide basic contact information and then an on-campus representative will reach out to the student within 48 hours to connect them with the appropriate support.

Out of UWT's many resources for students, one important resource is the Student Counseling Center, located in MAT 354. Cassandra Nichols, director of the Student Counseling Center, explained that the Center is a place where students can go to deal with pressing concerns.

"Students may approach the Student Counseling Center first when they are in a crisis situation and struggling with financial, medical-related or other similar concerns. They may present to us first because they may be struggling with stress, anxiety, depression or other similar issues either as a result of or partially because of these concerns," Nichols said.

The Center provides short-term counseling that includes individual and group sessions, workshops, support groups and consults. Nichols said that in addition to addressing immediate student needs, they are able to connect students with the necessary sources to help further assist them.

"Our role is to assist students first with their most immediate concerns," Nichols said. "Often this is helping them to connect the Office of Student Advocacy and Support, the Food Pantry, housing assistance or other resources."

Other great starting points and resources for getting aid on campus include the Office of Student Advocacy and Support, The Pantry, the Office of Financial Aid, and Campus Safety and Security.

The Office of Student Advocacy and Support — located in MAT 209 — can assist students in setting goals and connecting them to on- and off-campus resources to achieve these goals. This is initiated via a referral form that is available online through Catalyst or an email sent to [stusuppt@uw.edu](mailto:stusuppt@uw.edu).

The Pantry is a food pantry — located in Dougan 104 — that provides not only food, but hygiene items as well.

The Office of Financial Aid — located in MAT 213 — helps students with funding their education, and gives general money management advice.

Campus Safety and Security is a liai-



ILLUSTRATION BY BRUNO MARQUEZ

Help for students is a stop, click, phone call or email away.

son for emergency services in Tacoma. To report suspicious activity, nonemergencies or to request a security escort, the UWT community can call 253-692-4416 or email [uwtsafe@uw.edu](mailto:uwtsafe@uw.edu).

There are also many off-campus resources accessible to students and some of these include UW SafeCampus, shelters and food resources. UW SafeCampus handles potential emergencies and emergencies that have already occurred. Students who are concerned about issues

such as violence, harassment, stalking or suicide can call 253-692-SAFE(7233) or email [safecamp@uw.edu](mailto:safecamp@uw.edu) to talk with a trained professional to guide them through a situation and take follow-up action. The UW SafeCampus website also provides a list of community resources, with additional links to a list of shelters throughout Pierce County ([co.pierce.wa.us/430/Emergency-Shelters](http://co.pierce.wa.us/430/Emergency-Shelters)) and food resources provided on UWT's emergency aid website ([www.washington.edu/emergencyaid](http://www.washington.edu/emergencyaid)).

[emergencyaid/tacoma/](http://www.washington.edu/emergencyaid/tacoma/)).

This a quick guide to assistance. Many more resources such as childcare and disability services are available on UWT's website, through the links provided and throughout campus. For emergency situations, please remember to call 911 first.

To access the Emergency Aid Request Form, visit [www.washington.edu/emergencyaid/tacoma](http://www.washington.edu/emergencyaid/tacoma)

## Huskies in the hallway:

COMPILED AND PHOTOS BY FAJAR LODHI

What are you most looking forward to this school year?



Sushma Chaudhary  
Freshman  
Undeclared

"I am excited to get started on a path towards biomed, but I am also excited to see what other majors have to offer in case biomed isn't right for me."



Quin Landry  
Sophomore  
Arts, Media and Culture

"I am looking forward to working and engaging more with other students and the campus itself. I am always looking forward to expanding my bubble of people!"



Chloe Matsunaga  
Junior  
Electrical Engineering

"I am excited for the classes I am taking this quarter. I can't wait to learn more and expand my knowledge. I always like learning new things."



Malik Slater  
Senior  
Psychology

"I can't wait to really be active on and around campus more. I want to have more of an impact and involvement with what goes on on-campus. I'm also looking forward to making APISU a welcoming place where we can be family"



Michelle Montgomery  
Staff, Ph.D.  
Language, Literacy and Sociocultural Studies.

"I am always excited about sharing my passion with empowering students. I encourage them to reclaim their voices and to honor their own heritage, as well as the heritage of other students, staff and faculty"



# Student government starts the new year working on 4 major campus issues

ASUWT has 4 primary goals, including changes to on-campus child care and an increase in communications with students.

By MITCHELL FERMO  
NEWS REPORTER

For the start of the new 2018–19 school year, the Associated Students of the University of Washington Tacoma have four major issues they plan to address. ASUWT, whose offices are located in the University Y building, are taking on two important and highly demanded issues: parking and crosswalks across campus. There is also a plan to tackle potential changes to on-campus child care and resources as well as increasing awareness of Student Health Services. ASUWT is also promising to have a better presence on social media along with more transparency with the rest of the student body.

Out of the many proposals ASUWT receives, one recurring suggestion is to change transportation infrastructure around campus. This includes possible alterations to street parking, creating additional crosswalks and changes in university parking zones — such as increased time limits. ASUWT President Armen Papyan explained further on what ASUWT would like to achieve in regards to transportation infrastructure.

“Our number one complaint that we get from the student body is the parking

issue,” Papyan said. “So, we are trying to work around going beyond building infrastructure by changing the time schedules to make sure that it works for the class schedules and making sure that students have better access to it.”

ASUWT and UW Tacoma’s Finance and Administration have already met with the city of Tacoma in regards to having additional crosswalks built across major roadways around campus. Once the crosswalks have been finalized, ASUWT plans to press forward with the desired changes to street and campus parking.

Another goal ASUWT hopes to achieve is to make it easier for student parents to raise their children while also succeeding in getting their degree. They plan to do this by further expanding upon child care options on and around campus. Currently, there is only one on-campus child care program. The program is provided through the University Y and is open Monday through Friday 5–8 p.m and Saturday 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Parents who utilize this Child Watch program must stay inside the University Y for the duration they want their children cared for.

Parents must also pay out-of-pocket for the University Y Child Watch program. The price is \$8 for one day, but two

monthly plans are offered, with one costing \$35 and the other \$50. In order to help make this option more affordable for student parents, a pilot program was recently created to offer financial assistance. Students looking to receive aid must apply to the grant in order to qualify, and availability of aid is first come, first served.

The University does offer an off-campus day care through a partnership with the Children’s Museum of Tacoma’s program, The Muse. Currently, the program is at maximum capacity and has a waiting list. However, students — as well as faculty and staff — have priority enrollment. The program offers two classes: one for children ages 1 to 3 and the other for children ages 3 to 5. Both of these classes take place Monday through Friday throughout the entire regular school year.

ASUWT is also currently reviewing data on its partnership with CHI Franciscan Health and UW Student Health Services to see what improvements can be made for the betterment of student health. Under the current partnership, students have access to proper medical care for little-to-no cost for services such as physical exams, in-house lab work, taking vitals, vaccines and flu shots.

Some services, like screening for depression or physicals, can only be rendered at St Joseph’s Franciscan Prompt Care, located 8 blocks west of the University Y. Besides St. Joseph, students have access to five Franciscan Prompt Care clinics located in Bonney Lake, Burien, Gig Harbor, Lakewood and Puyallup. You must have your Husky ID card at the time of accessing these resources — Student Healthcare Services recommends you also bring one other form of identification such as your driver’s license or state ID.

Finally, ASUWT is reaffirming its commitment to serving the student body by focusing more of its resources on student outreach. This includes being more active on social media platforms, keeping the new ASUWT website up-to-date with information and sending out reminders for upcoming school events. They plan to share ways for students to get involved on campus and release weekly senate and executive board meeting minutes — which detail what was discussed and decided on during the meeting — in locations that are easier for students to access.

“We want to make sure we are transparent with students,” Papyan said. “We want them to know we are active on

social media like Instagram and Facebook — that we are getting our words across to students and that we are hearing from students, and that we have more involvement with students. We want students to get more involved, and for them to come to our office and speak with our members, our senators, with any issues they want addressed.”

Senators for ASUWT are working hand-in-hand with the executive board on the same goals. Julia Kilcup, senator for the Milgard School of Business, added that ASUWT is also looking into more on-campus food options for students and faculty. Additionally, she explained what she believes will be the hardest challenge ASUWT will face and why she is excited for this year’s ASUWT.

“We are looking into food trucks for more on-campus eating options,” Kilcup said. “We have food options on Pacific Avenue, but we want to see more options in play for students, and the executive board is definitely looking into that. Besides the food trucks, we have all of these goals we want to accomplish. Being patient will be the hardest part. It’s a process to get all of this done, but I am excited because this team is dedicated to each other and to their fellow students.”

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and book your ad today!





# Opinion: The secret to an academic year full of success

Become more productive than ever with the following recommendations.

By **DIEGO MEZA**  
LAYOUT MANAGER

**W**hether you are a freshman ready to tackle the challenges of higher education or a senior who is about to conclude their arduous journey to a bachelor's degree, the beginning of an academic year is vital to your success. Fall quarter can dictate how the rest of your school year will go. Start strong and full of determination, and you'll be more likely to keep the momentum going until the next summer break. Conversely, if you are currently plagued with bad habits — and don't do anything to change them — don't be surprised if you feel increasingly lost as the months keep passing you by.

To become a great student (and not merely a decent one), many processes have to work in tandem. A lot of these are obvious, like preparing before class or studying for exams. However, there are other things that aren't immediately obvious — yet not doing them severely limit our capacity to excel. If you consistently apply the tips I'm about to discuss, you'll avoid the mistakes and pitfalls many succumb to when it comes to academic performance. These recommendations will make school less of a chore, and more of an opportunity to develop lifelong skills.

Perhaps the most important tool for success — whether at school or life in general — is creating a productivity system. Many students lack a plan in their academic lives; they simply go through the motions and take things as they come. While this might seem like a “chill” or



COURTESY OF PIXABAY

Use your productivity system daily and watch your success skyrocket.

relaxed way to approach life, it is also the root of procrastination. Lack of structure and clarity in your day makes you more likely to push things to the side. This is because people are excellent at grossly miscalculating time, thinking they have plenty of it when in reality they don't.

So how do you create an effective productivity system? Begin by planning your days in advance. While the benefits of doing this might not be immediately apparent, I can't stress enough how useful it is to write down the activities, assignments and tasks you have pending. Don't simply make mental notes, actually record them somewhere. Start by planning for a week in advance, being as detailed as you can. Break down each day by the hour and estimate to the best of your ability what you will be doing at different times.

For example, Mondays 8–10:20 a.m. you have a chemistry class, 12:20–2 p.m.

you will workout at the gym, and from 3–5 p.m. you will focus on your math homework. If it seems like a lot of work to write out each day like this, it is not; you only have to do it once per week. Better yet, the more you stick to the plan, the stronger the habit will become. As a result, starting tasks that originally required a lot of willpower will be much easier, giving you more free time to relax once you are done.

Building a schedule for the week frees you from the waste of mental energy that happens when you go on aimlessly. Once you have a clearer picture on how your days look, you can redirect that energy towards focusing on your studies. Luckily, there are many resources that make this easier than ever. As part of your productivity system, work on putting together a set of useful tools and technology that can help you in your goal of becoming a great student. If you are un-

sure about applications that fit this purpose, I'll provide an example of what I use and how it helps me be productive.

The hardest part of being productive is starting. Millions of things might be going through your head, draining your attention and limiting your ability to take the first step. A way to kick-start the process is to consume some sort of motivational content before you begin a productivity session. I find that reading a few pages of a book using the Kindle app on my phone, or listening to a podcast, are fantastic ways to get me into the right frame of mind. Some people also like to exercise before doing cognitive work, as your brain will be flooded with feel-good hormones that are useful when tackling something challenging. Once you have the right mindset, you can move on to checking the schedule you have made as part of your productivity system.

I use Google Keep to record tasks and maintain a to do list of productive things. I identify the task I need to work on, and then move to my laptop. In the alarms and clock setting of the computer, I have a timer named “deep focus” which lasts an hour and 10 minutes. Once I click the play button, I will work on an assignment uninterruptedly. That means putting away everything that might prove a distraction, including phones, browser tabs and most media.

I recently discovered an application called Brain.fm, which generates music specifically designed for focusing. I've been using this app whenever I do something that requires a lot of con-

centration, like reading or studying, and it has been very effective at blocking any sort of distractions from the outside world. Once my deep focus timer reaches zero, I feel a sense of accomplishment because I studied in a deliberate manner. As a result, the learning I did in that hour-long session is much more effective than if I was constantly switching between tasks — like visiting Facebook, watching YouTube videos, or consuming other off topic content.

Finally, I use a habit tracking application that shows me, visually, how well I have been performing based on goals I've set. This is extremely important because seeing a tangible representation of the effort you have put (e.g. seven checkmarks representing 15 pages of a book read every day of the week) will motivate you to keep working towards that goal, as you don't want the streak to end. Check out the app called Loop on Google Play, which provides an easy-to-use interface to track habits.

People learn in different ways and have different tools they use to reach their goals. The important part is to recognize how you can combine different strategies and technology to help you become a standout student. Once you have a well-developed productivity system in place, you'll see how much easier it is to start tasks as opposed to procrastinate on them. The earlier you start working on this, the more of an advantage you will have over those who go through their lives with no clear direction. Get to it, and enjoy your new success!

## Opinion: Why fall is the most fantastic season of the year

While the weather gets cooler and the days shorten, remember the things we love about Earth's transition to autumn.

By **ALYSSA TATRO**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

The beginning of fall is a familiar feeling, like when you wake up on a mid-September morning to hot coffee and a crisp breeze. Fall holds a special place in many hearts, it signifies new beginnings and is brimming with endless possibilities. From seasonal festivities and treats to the return of cold weather and warm clothes, fall has something for everybody to enjoy.

Fall also signifies heading back to school. It brings about busy schedules, new routines and opportunities to reconnect with old friends or make new ones. This season makes us nostalgic for our youth and the beginning weeks of grade school.

We remember playing in the

leaves, school spirit weeks, high school football games and, of course, Halloween. Perhaps this is why so many people proclaim fall to be their favorite season.

The coming of autumn leaves people across America anticipating what their Halloween costume will be. Whether it's the thrill of being spooked, the fun costumes or all the candy, Halloween continues to capture all generations and create a sense of excitement and community.

Halloween is a unique holiday, allowing anyone to dress like someone or something totally different than themselves. Not only do we get to dress in fun costumes, go trick or treating and binge on fun sized candy, we can also share the experience and foster friendships and shared memories among neighbors.

Costumes aren't the only clothing that gets us jazzed when October rolls around, the typical fall wardrobe is another reason that fall is so hyped. Colder weather means jeans, hats, scarves, boots and coats which give us more options to layer and express our style.

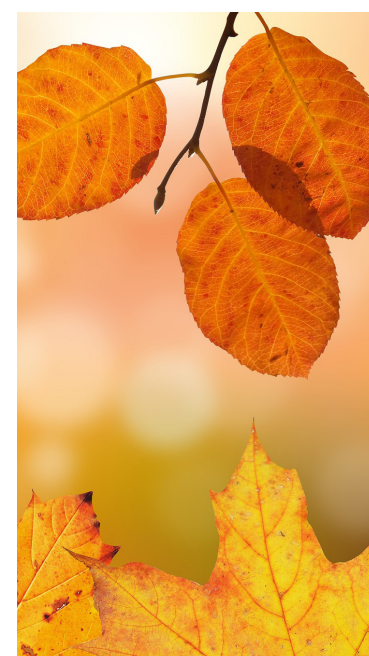
Have you ever worn a fluffy sweater? If not, this fall is the time to do it. As the weather gets cooler, sweaters make getting dressed a breeze. If you have no time to contemplate an outfit or just want to be comfy, a sweater is an easy go-to that ensures you will be cozy all day.

Another staple component of fall is the comeback of our favorite festive treats. We all look forward to cider, caramel apples, pumpkin pie, candy corn, the infamous pumpkin spice and Thanksgiving feasts. These are often

accompanied by festive activities and events that are staple for the fall experience. Pumpkin patches, corn mazes, hayrides, apple picking, pumpkin carving and haunted houses are among the best activities to fill your calendar with. They create memories, bring about our creativity and produce thrills for the entire family.

Fall helps us appreciate the beauty around us. Unlike winter and summer, the fall season has no weather extremes. It's never too hot or cold and it's always accompanied with beautiful foliage and transformative colors.

So if you find yourself cursing the cold and stressing about school, remember the beauty and positive experiences that the fall time brings; as F. Scott Fitzgerald said, “Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall.”



COURTESY OF PIXABAY

The beauty of fall in a snapshot.



# Opinion: The importance of finding your niche on campus

Commuter campus or not, studies show that getting involved on campus has a great deal of benefits.

By ALEX ALDERMAN  
A&E COLUMNIST

The different ways to get involved on campus are endless. As we settle in and begin fall quarter, most of us have already visited the Student Involvement Fair and found at least one student organization that peaked our interest. Many of us have convinced ourselves that we just want to focus on school, or maybe we're too nervous to join an organization alone. No matter your rea-

soning, as you're debating on whether or not to attend that first club meeting, think about the following benefits of getting involved on campus.

The first and most obvious benefit of campus involvement is that you can make new friends. As a transfer student who moved to Tacoma not knowing anyone, I've been in that position. Wanting to get involved but also not wanting to go to campus events or club meetings alone; it can be nerve wracking. It's important to remember that club leaders are actively

thinking of ways to get new members and would love to have you as a member of their club.

Studies show that students who get involved on campus are more successful academically than those who are not involved. A recent study from California State University found that, over the course of four quarters, students involved in extracurricular activities consistently outperformed students not involved in extracurriculars. This is in part due to the sense of belonging and attachment

to one's university that is developed through campus involvement. When students feel like they belong on campus, they are more likely to stay on campus to study, meet with their professors and participate in study groups.

Campus involvement also provides an opportunity to develop the "soft skills" many employers look for. Whether you're interested in an academic club such as the Marketing Society, or an interest-based club like the Photography Club, they are all platforms for personal and professional development.

These clubs create opportunities for students to showcase their proficiency in time management, teamwork, and networking with students and staff who are passionate about similar things. Clubs and campus involvement are great for developing skills and experiences that students just don't get in a classroom setting.



ILLUSTRATION BY LOGAN JENNY  
"i'LI jUST gEt InVolvEd nExt qUArTer."

The reasons to get involved on campus are endless. This school year, don't plan on going to class and heading straight home; get out and explore all the possibilities and opportunities UW Tacoma offers. With awareness of the benefits of getting involved, you can get as much out of your college experience as you put into it.

## Review: The summer's battle of Netflix original rom-coms

If you weren't a fan of the Netflix original movie 'Sierra Burgess is a Loser,' fear not. We still have 'To All the Boys I've Ever Loved Before' to save the day.



COURTESY OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

But hey, at least the dreamy Noah Centineo plays the heartthrob in both films.

By ELLA LUCENTE  
OPINION & A&E EDITOR

Over the summer, Netflix released many great original films and TV shows that have sparked the interest of various audiences, especially in the romantic-comedy department. Flicks such as "The Kissing Booth" and "When We First Met" gave audiences high hopes for the rom-com selection and left them excited for more Netflix original films. At the end of August, Netflix released the original movie "To All the Boys I've Ever Loved Before" based on the novel of the same name by Jenny Han — and it went viral.

Without giving too much away, the story follows teenager Lara Jean

Covey, played by upcoming actress Lana Condor, as her life derails when secret love letters she had written to five different boys get sent out anonymously. This leaves her to deal with the outcome of her exposure, which starts a quirky love story. Along with the catchy plot are some true powerhouse actors that appear, such as Janel Parrish from "Pretty Little Liars" and John Corbett from "Sex and the City." However, if the storyline doesn't catch your eye, then the love story sure will.

Noah Centineo from "The Fosters" plays Peter Kavinsky, the dreamy jock that falls victim to one of Lara Jean's love letters — and consequent captivating love connection. You may have seen the chemistry between Pe-

ter and Lara Jean all over social media, but you can't fully appreciate it without watching the film. I strongly recommend this film to any hopeless romantic, as this is sure to be the top rom-com movie of 2018.

Because "To All the Boys I've Ever Loved Before" was such a hit, fans were impatiently anticipating another Netflix original rom-com to debut at the beginning of September: "Sierra Burgess is a Loser." Sierra Burgess (Shannon Purser) is an overweight outcast high schooler who gets mistaken via text for popular mean girl Veronica by her crush, Centineo's character, Jamey. In the end, Sierra and Veronica must work together to win over their own love life battles, resulting in an unlikely friendship.

### REVIEW

#### "To All the Boys I've Ever Loved Before"

★★★★★

#### The Good:

- Performances from the cast made it iconic.
- Features a fan favorite, powerhouse cast.
- Captivating storyline, leaving the audience excited for the sequel.

#### The Bad:

- Deviates from Jenny Han's novel.
- Could have had a longer running time.

### REVIEW

#### "Sierra Burgess is a Loser"

★★★★★

#### The Good:

- Underlying message of body positivity and friendship.
- Shannon Purser plays a great Sierra Burgess.
- Noah Centineo is as lovable as always.

#### The Bad:

- Romanticizes catfishing.
- Use of disability in plot was offensive.
- Slow pacing with no progression.

Sounds promising, right? Wrong.

The ideals of "Sierra Burgess is a Loser" are inspiring and empowering to outcasts and those with body image issues alike. However, it falls short in two offensive ways: Sierra catfishing in the relationship, and pretending to have a disability.

Besides the far too cliché ending, the entirety of the movie is Sierra catfishing Jamey as Veronica, constantly lying and going to extreme measures to be someone else in order to gain his love. We all know how things always play out on MTV's "Catfish" — and this movie is just unrealistic. The end leaves you feeling disgusted and wondering why anyone would try to sexualize catfishing at all.

This film also falls flat when Sierra Burgess pretends to be deaf in order to mask her true voice in front

of Jamey. Sierra talks to Jamey over the phone as Veronica, so when she actually converses with him as herself in real life, she puts on the role. The way she signs, makes little to no eye contact and uses a disability as a ploy to continue catfishing is just offensive — and it leaves a bad taste in your mouth after watching this movie.

Despite these issues, "Sierra Burgess is a Loser" did have two redeeming qualities: unlikely friendships are the best kind and to not judge a book by its cover. Besides that, "Sierra Burgess is a Loser" failed its highly anticipated launch. But fear not! If you are still looking for a great rom-com Netflix original, definitely watch "To All the Boys I've Ever Loved Before," or really anything besides "Sierra Burgess is a Loser."



tractors and trucks where children can sit in the driver's seat and honk the horn. Skip the line and fill out the waiver in advance at [cityoflakewood.us/parks](http://cityoflakewood.us/parks).



# 10 spots around campus to claim as your own this school year

Find these private spots around campus if you're looking for a quiet place to study, snack or talk with friends.

By **ELLA LUCENTE**  
OPINION & A&E EDITOR

As UW Tacoma students, we are fortunate to have so many options for off-campus spots to study, eat or caffeinate during breaks between classes. Although there are some fun options off-campus, sometimes students want a quiet place to study or hangout with friends — without all of the noise that comes with public spaces.

Here are 10 of the best spots on campus that you can claim as yours this academic year:

## TACOMA PAPER & STATIONARY SECOND AND THIRD FLOOR

The Tacoma Paper & Stationery building, located near Dougan, holds small cubicles for students to study on their breaks, or to work on group projects in private. Inside each of the small rooms there is a whiteboard, chairs and a spacious table. There are four more of these small rooms on both the second and third floor of TPS.

## DAWG HOUSE

The legendary Mattress Factory holds the Dawg House — UWT's equivalent to a student lounge. Although there are foosball and pool tables and TVs with Xboxes and Playstations, there are also quiet places you can study or be by yourself. There are multiple booths with

ample space and privacy from all of the fun happening on the other side of the lounge. It is also a great place to snack or take a lunch break due to the microwaves, vending machines and cutlery available.

## BIRMINGHAM HAY & SEED STUDENT LOUNGE

Along with the Dawg House, the Birmingham Hay & Seed building has a lounge that is another student favorite. Hidden from the majority of the classrooms and tables, the BHS student lounge supplies numerous tables with chairs, as well as a microwave for any snacks that need heating. Enjoy the quietness of this secret spot, along with the beautiful mural featured on its walls.

## SNOQUALMIE QUIET ZONES

College is all about cramming for exams and procrastinating essays, so sometimes sitting in a quiet place will help overcome procrastination. The quiet zone, located in the Snoqualmie Building, is the perfect place to put in some hard work in peaceful silence.

## DESKS IN THE TIOGA LIBRARY BUILDING

The Tioga Library Building is the best place for independent reading or working on intense research, as it is located right in the library. There are countless desks with high, cubicle-like walls so that you can read, study or watch Netflix in private with no interruption.

## BOOTH UNDER THE STAIRS IN TPS

Another secret spot in TPS is the single booth under the first floor stairs. This tiny booth has dimmed lights, outlets and is extremely private. This is the ideal place for students who both want to work in a group setting, or just want their privacy in the comfort of their own self. This booth gets claimed pretty quickly, so make sure you grab it before someone else does.

## MCDONALD SMITH BUILDING GROUP STUDY ROOMS

In the McDonald Smith Building, there are private group study rooms on the third floor. Inside are doors that can be used as whiteboards, a TV and a large desk with many chairs if you need seating for a large group of people. These rooms are first come, first serve, so if you need a room for a study group on short notice, make sure someone affirms it before it's taken.

## WILLIAM W. PHILIP HALL AND SNOQUALMIE BUILDING GROUP STUDY ROOMS

Much like the MDS study rooms, William W. Philip Hall and Snoqualmie Building both offer large, group study rooms to reserve ahead of time for free with the of your Husky ID number. These require a reservation through the online booking site, which secures your choice of room. This is particularly helpful for cram sessions during midterms



PHOTO BY KELSIE ABRAM

UWT student studying in the Dawg House.

and finals week.

## REFLECTION ROOM IN THE UWY

If you need a quiet place to reflect or pray, the university YMCA has what is called a reflection room. It has a running water fountain that is meant for soothing students, as well as prayer mats. It is open to any current student at UWT during normal business hours.

## MEDITATION ROOM

Similar to the reflection room in the UWY, the Mattress Factory has a room called the Meditation Room — located in MAT 152 — meant for quiet reflection and prayer. This room is the ultimate safe space on campus. It is available on a first come, first served basis during the normal school hours. A key code is needed to open the door, which can be requested in the Student Engagement



## WELCOME HUSKIES

Welcome to all new and returning students. I am very glad you are here.

It is my hope that you will recognize and appreciate the strong bonds within our campus communities. I encourage you to build new friendships, learn from and support each other in the classroom and beyond, and make use of the variety of campus resources.

Have a wonderful year and I will see you around campus.

Go Huskies!

- Mentha Hynes-Wilson  
Vice Chancellor for Student  
and Enrollment Services