Latinx term brings controversy

BY DAI’TYNN.COPPAGE-WALKER
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The term Latinx has been used numerous amounts of time in academic journals, university events and all over social media. People use this word to either identify themselves as a certain group or to put others in a specific group.

As this term continues to grow, there are some people who feel comfortable with this term and there are also others who are a bit skeptical with it. Instead of using Latina, Latino or Latin®, the term “Latinx” was created to identify people who are of Latin American descent or a part of the Hispanic community that make room for others who identify as gender non-conforming, non-binary gender, queer, transgender, etc.

Even though this word was created to give people who are part of the LGBTQIA+ community a sense of belonging, people who are gender-conforming used the word “Latinx” to identify themselves as well. Many people use this word without understanding the true meaning behind it, causing confusion.

“I think it’s a personal choice,” said Gabriel Rodriguez, assistant professor in the school of education department. “I think people forget that there are times that words and terms are political and then they have a history. So as for me as a cis-gender straight guy, ‘Who am I to label myself as a latinx person? […] and I’m going to use it, knowing that I have an orientation of solidarity versus an orientation that seeks to just erase and be using just to be trendy and popular.”

 señor, from Iowa State student, was charged with first-degree harassment and fourth-degree criminal mischief for allegedly making comments and doing damage to a Frederiksen Court apartment.

Speaking during the public comment time, Simmons brought up racial tensions on campus and tuition raises.

“We’re sick and tired of universities that allow white supremacists to organize on their campus without consequence,” Simmons said at the meeting. “Instead of using Latina, Latino or Latin®, the term “Latinx” was brought up by multiple parties.

Students traveled to the Board meeting at the University of Northern Iowa and demanded change to universities after many controversial events occurred this semester.

“My name is Chris Simmons, and I am a proud and pissed off student from Iowa State,” Simmons said during the meeting. “Now, if I was a Board of Regents member I might be wondering, ‘What are all these students doing in my meeting? I make it pretty hard to come here. We’re here because we are sick and tired of going to universities that don’t seem to give a damn about their students.’

Speaking during the public comment time, Simmons brought up racial tensions on campus and tuition raises.

“We’re sick and tired of universities that allow white supremacists to organize on their campus without consequence,” Simmons said at the meeting. “We’re sick and tired of tuition hikes that are designed to keep working-class students like me out.

At an Inside Iowa State article, Richards said the Board will not organize campus forums, one of the demands made by students during the meeting.

“They [students] were respectful of the board, and I certainly respect them,” Richards said in the article. “The regents don’t call public forums, but we would consider going to those.”

Iowa State’s campus has had multiple race-oriented issues throughout the semester that concerned students at the meeting.

The university implemented a temporary chalk policy after abortion arguments took place on sidewalks alongside multiple other events on campus, such as the defacement of Bean House in Geoffroy Hall with a racial slur and social media pictures surfacing of Student Government Adviser Alex Krumm with his face painted black. All of these events led to students protesting the events by blocking off Lincoln Way, demanding to speak with Iowa State President Wendy Wintersteen.

Most recently, Kyle Francis Haney, an Iowa State student, was charged with first-degree harassment and fourth-degree criminal mischief for allegedly making comments and doing damage to a Frederiksen Court apartment.

Wintersteen addressed campus climate concerns in her speech to the Board during the meeting.

“This semester we have [engaged] with a new group on campus called Students Against Racial Violence. They were here during the meeting. ‘We’ve had a number of meetings with the students to hear about their concerns, to hear about their stories, and they presented us with a list of their demands. […] We responded to their demands, and those demands are now up on our campus climate webpage.”

Wintersteen said her administration will continue to update the community with current and future incidents through the campus climate webpage.
Biden lacks youth vote

Candidate lags behind in support from demographic

BY KATHERINE KEALEY
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A recent Civics poll conducted by Iowa State Student Senate forums President Joe Biden with 12 percent support among likely Iowa Democratic caucusgoers. While sitting at 12 percent among all likely Democratic caucusgoers, Biden has only two percent support among likely Democratic caucusgoers ages 18-34. Sen. Bernie Sanders leads among this demographic with 28 percent support, followed by Sen. Elizabeth Warren with 26 percent support, according to the poll.

Zack Bonner, Iowa State Lecturer of political science, said Biden fails to pick up as many youth voters as candidates such as Warren because this demographic tends to be more progressive while Biden is a moderate—though Bonner said this could benefit him in bigger swing states.

“Even though the youth vote is doing much better, I think in general more of the population is likely to stick with a more moderate candidate,” Bonner said. “Generally they are looking for a candidate that not necessarily agrees 100 percent with all issues they are focused on, but one that [can beat] Donald Trump in the general election.”

Throughout this election cycle, questions of age and gender of the potential Democratic nominee have been ongoing debates, and Bonner said he believes this hurts Biden.

“In terms of the youth vote, him being the stereotypical, older male politician, [...] might be working against him because this generation is a much more progressive and diverse generation than ever before, and I think it seems like they are wanting to support a female or LGBTQ candidate,” Bonner said.

Bonner said the Biden campaign’s goal may not require locking in the youth vote due to lower voter turnout in the past among that age bloc. However, two percent among younger voters is not zero, and Biden has some support among younger voters, including at Iowa State.

Darien Porter, freshman in history, said he supports Biden because of the legacy he has left, particularly from the Obama administration.

“I thought Obama was a pretty revolutionary president, and the things he did for the country were really good,” Porter said. “So I think both of them have the same opinions as him and he will continue to build off what Obama did.”

Lecturer speaks on Rocky Flats

BY ANNEKE JOHNSON
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Kristen Iversen, professor of creative writing at the University of Cincinnati, discussed some of the content in her book, “Full Body Burden: Growing Up in the Nuclear Shadow of Rocky Flats,” on Tuesday in the Sun Room of the Memorial Union.

“What I wanted to do when I wrote ‘Full Body Burden’ was to tell the story not only through my own eyes and what I experienced, but through the eyes of all the different kinds of people who experienced this story, and how it impacted their lives,” Iversen said.

The term “body burden,” Iversen said, refers to the amount of radioactive material present in a human body, which acts as an internal and ongoing source of radiation.

Iversen’s book details Rocky Flats, the plutonium pit production facility that she and her family lived a couple miles from when she was growing up.

“I was writing about the two things that I had been told and raised never to talk about and never to speak to anyone, and that was Rocky Flats, because a lot of people in my neighborhood worked at Rocky Flats,” Iversen said. “They could get fired if you talked about your job, and the other thing is my father’s alcoholism,” Iversen said.

“I had never known about this history. I knew that there were things that were happening, but I didn’t know the extent of it.”

Iversen discussed her book about Rocky Flats during a presentation Tuesday in the Memorial Union.

“It took a lot of courage in many different ways to write this book. Rocky Flats was owned by the Atomic Energy Commission. It operated from 1952 to 1989. In that time, more than 70 thousand plutonium bomb pits were made, each for about four million dollars, Iversen said.

“The rumor in the neighborhood was that they were making household cleaning supplies,” Iversen said. “My mother thought it was for years that they were making scrubbing bubbles. They were not making scrubbing bubbles.”

Iversen went on to discuss some of what went on at Rocky Flats, particularly the environmental damage it caused. One incident she detailed involved more than five thousand barrels of radioactive waste, which stood out in the open. The barrel rusted, and the waste leaked out.

Iversen also discussed two fires that happened at Rocky Flats, one in 1957 and one in 1969. She read a section of her book to the audience, in which two men attempt to put out a fire at Rocky Flats.

Following her explanation, Iversen told the story of its downfall.

Nearly every household nearby was affected by cancer, Iversen said. Farm animals were born with defects, and people wanted to know what was going on.

Iversen said the protests began with nurses, who believed that the plant was producing nuclear weapons. As the word got out, people began sitting on train tracks and circling the plant, demanding change.

Iversen said she worked at Rocky Flats for a period of time when she was a student, but eventually quit. She said when she worked there, people said it could never be cleaned up because the proper technology to do so did not exist.

Today, Rocky Flats is buried. Among the burnt rooms, Iversen said, are “infinity rooms,” or rooms that are so contaminated they can never be opened.

To wrap up the lecture, Iversen discussed what Rocky Flats looks like today.

“Homes are still being built near it,” she said, despite protests. She cited studies that showed higher reported rates of breast cancer and leukemia in the area.

STUGOV p8

At Wednesday night’s meeting, Student Government will examine funding for a variety of university organizations, review two debt contracts and look at financial aid for international students.

A variety of organizations are requesting funds from Student Government.

Student Legal Services is a legal aid office that provides free and confidential legal services for students at Iowa State. The organization is requesting $5,481.11 from the Senate Discretionary account for computers and supplies.

Sparkle Squad is an all-inclusive cheer and dance team that includes individuals with disabilities. The squad is asking Student Government for $2,016.36 to be transferred from the Existence Fund for new uniforms, sneakers and Spanx.

Student Government has an organization debt reserve set in place to help fund clubs out of their current debt.

The Revival Club has a contract with Student Government and will need to repay Student Government according to terms and conditions that both parties have agreed on.

The club has also been recognized to receive $9,250 at the beginning of their agreement. It will need to pay back Student Government at least $500 each semester through the fall of 2028 or until the club has paid back all financial obligations.

Each bill will be looked at and voted upon separately during Wednesday night’s meeting.

Additionally, Student Government will seat an at-large to the Civic Engagement Committee.

Sehba Fahrman, senior in biological systems engineering, has expressed interest in the position and will face approval at Wednesday’s meeting.

Previously, Student Government has recognized 10 women in STEM fields that are faculty, undergraduate and graduate students. The honorees are showcased with banners in Parks Library for International Women’s Day.

Keeping this tradition alive, Student Government will feature five additional women with five new banners. Sen. Kaithlyn Roling will introduce a bill that requires $785.50 be transferred from the Special Projects account to fund the new banners.

Student Government will also look to fund streaming services for Student Government debates. Last year, the Annual Allocations the Election Commission accepted the $170 for tech fees but received a quote that was $170 more than initially anticipated.

The Election Commission is requesting $170 be transferred from the Special Projects account to fund the additional funds.

Additionally, Finance Director Madison Muller and Speaker Riley Colbert are looking for money to fund new laptops for themselves. Each position requires laptops that keep track of all old documents, excel tracking and bills. The bill requests $2,398 to be transferred from the Special Projects account to pay for the new devices.

All internal funding bills will be reviewed and voted separately on at Wednesday’s meeting.

Sen. Darian Porter, freshman in history, Sen. Jacob Ludwig and Sen. Lydia Greene will introduce a bill to make Iowa State a more green campus. The “Sustainable Outside Lights Are RAD (SOLAR) Act” is an idea to have solar...
Research to marketplace

Innovation Corps turns research into products

BY LOGAN METZGER
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The National Science Foundation Innovation Corps (I-Corps) program is an initiative to transition National Science Foundation funded research from the laboratory to a product in the marketplace.

“The National Science Foundation (NSF) I-Corps program prepares scientists and engineers to extend their discoveries beyond the university laboratory and accelerates the economic and societal benefits of NSF-funded, basic-research projects that are ready to move toward commercialization,” according to the National Science Foundation website.

Through I-Corps, NSF grantees learn to identify product opportunities that can emerge from academic research, and gain skills in assembling startup teams, high-train in customer discovery and guidance from established entrepreneurs.

Iowa State became an I-Corps Site in fall 2018. The program is a collaboration between the Office of the Vice President for Research and the Office of Economic Development and Industry Relations. The Iowa State I-Corps Site focuses on translating discoveries that reflect its strengths in engineering, biorenewables, materials science and agiculture, food and nutrition, and veterinary medicine.

The four-week curriculum focuses on customer discovery to support the translation of ideas, devices, processes or intellectual activities into the marketplace. This can be realized through the formation of new start-up businesses, licensing agreements or identifying funding sources to support additional research.

Thirty teams are selected through a competitive process each year. Each team consists of at least an entrepreneur lead who is a graduate student or postdoc, an academic lead who is a faculty member or other qualified scientist and mentor who is an experienced or emerging entrepreneur.

There is a limit of five members per team and academic leads may participate on only one team per cohort.

In addition to offering industry exposure and entrepreneurial training for participating teams, the Iowa State I-Corps Site provides advice, resources, networking opportunities and infrastructure for exploring commercialization opportunities. I-Corps works with entrepreneurial endeavors at Iowa State, including the infrastructure and resources at Economic Development and Industry Relations, such as the Iowa State Startup Factory.

To apply to participate in the Iowa State I-Corps Site program, complete the online application. Selected applicants will be invited to participate in a review panel to make final determinations of cohort members.

Teams that are accepted into the program and participate in all sessions are eligible to receive a microgrant of up to $3,000 to support customer discovery efforts.

Showcase feature beef nutrition research from Iowa State

BY AMBER FRIEDRICHSEN
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Iowa State's Beef Nutrition Showcase will allow attendees to tour the beef farm, hear from speakers and learn about the research being conducted on beef nutrition at Iowa State.

Starting at noon Wednesday, guests are invited to a tour of Iowa State’s Iowa Beef Center. At the center they will be able to see the facilities where research takes place, like the feeding and processing systems.

Attendees will go to the Hansen Agriculture Student Learning Center at 1:30 p.m. for the showcase, where they will continue learning about how Iowa State is contributing to the beef industry.

Allison Vanderwal is an assistant scientist for the animal science department at Iowa State, along with others, works on research for ruminant nutrition.

“We are a group that works under Stephanie Hansen; she currently has six graduate students, a postdoctoral student, myself,” Vanderwal said. “We do primarily trace-mineral research. We are basically looking at zinc, manganese, copper and looking at finding the right levels that we want to supply in cattle feed to maximize cattle efficiency.”

Hansen is an associate professor in the animal science department at Iowa State. Ruminant nutrition is Hansen’s area of expertise.

Research is what will be featured at the showcase. It gives people at Iowa State, as well as other producers from across Iowa, the chance to learn about developments in the cattle industry that are under way.

“Our beef nutrition showcase is basically an event where we are putting on [..] what showcase our lab is doing for producers of Iowa and surrounding states,” Vanderwal said. “It’s kind of an event to let us producers know what kind of research we are doing right now that hasn’t been published.”

Vanderwal said since research is ongoing and it is hard to predict what kind of outcome will be before research is completed to when it is published, Vanderwal said. “There is a little bit of a time before producers actually hear about what we are doing at Iowa State [so] I think the producers will benefit learning our current findings.”

In addition to the farm tour and research presented, there will also be speakers at the event including Erika Landy, a field specialist at Iowa State.

“Hansen will be talking at the event, as well as a lot of her graduate animal science students,” Vanderwal said. “We have Lee Schulz who is an economist who also partners with the beef center [he’ll be] talking about cattle markets. Landy with the Iowa Beef Center will be talking about finishing high quality beef in the feeder.”

Vanderwal said she thinks those in attendance will benefit a lot from the experience. It is a chance for people to see how Iowa State’s Iowa Beef Center operates and what they are doing there.

While the event has happened in the past, it hasn’t been carried out the past few years.

“It kind of went away,” Vanderwal said. “We are going to try it again and this is sort of a brand new way of doing it this year.”
Action movies are often criticized for being testosterone-fueled enter- tainment filled with unnecessary explosions and graphic gore. The template for an average action movie involves muscle shirts, flamboyant plots and bloody fist fights on rooftops while fleeing helicopters fall from the sky. However, that template has been recently challenged by a trilogy of movies by the name of “John Wick.”

The first John Wick movie came out in 2014. It had a number of features that separates it from other movies of its time. Most notice- able of these features would be the limited cuts, especially during the fight scenes. This leads to complicated fight choreography such as gun-fu (kung-fu with incorporated firearms) and a smoother, more sleek-fighting scene. Once again this is a huge differ- ence from the “Fast and Furious” action sub-genre, where the camera is constantly cutting and shaking.

Another aspect of John Wick that makes it the marker of a new era of movies is the world building. The world that John Wick takes place in doesn’t just serve as the reason that he goes around shooting people, but is a fully built criminal underworld with different organizations that control different sectors and an organiza- tion that rules them all. Within each of these movies, the world is being added to, instead of just existing as it was. The world he creates an aes- thetic of class and intrigue.

John Wick himself is also another interesting distinction from the norm. Instead of Wick being the “retired army officer adorned with metals” who is constantly on the good side, he has depth. Wick is not written to be a “good” guy. The audience can sympa- theize with his mission and he seems a bit less ruthless than other characters in the universe. However, he doesn’t fight for others, he absolutely does not take prisoners — often times taking unnecessary actions to make sure his enemies are dead — and he also has been shown to be selfish in his actions, pushed only by his need for revenge.

If you need any further evidence that John Wick changed the action movie industry forever, you need look no further than what has become of the industry after 2014. There have been multiple movies featuring the Wick style: “Red Sparrow,” “Aunt,” “Kingsmen,” “Hotel Artemis.” All of these movies dip into the world build- ing and cinematic style pioneered in the John Wick movies. Not to mention the fact that there have been two more John Wick movies made with more movies in the making and spinoffs.

Less than a couple of years ago, my friends (or people who publicly claim to know me) would not necessarily have used words like “impul- sive” while answering questions about what kind of person I am. This past year has been a tremendous journey; one which I haven’t had much time to document, but one I’ve had more than enough time to reflect.

One of my best leisure-jerk decisions this year was to enroll in classes that had nothing to do with my major. Though these classes, I have made friends and memories I would not have if I hadn’t enrolled. Another — a more recent decision — was to go on a solo trip to a city I knew nothing about. So I booked a flight to Denver, Colorado, and stayed at a complete stranger’s apartment for five days and basically whaled away my time on public transport, in vegan restaurants and walking around taking pictures of signs and grinning at statues. An unusual Thanksgiving, to say the least.

Colorado is a rather strange place with a peculiar smell to it and really long queues at every local deli. I did not mind; they were all probably tres- tament to the good food. Anyway, before I digress too hard too fast, I want to go back to my point of being impulsive. Why is it so hard to be the first person to order food on the spur of the moment? Maybe it comes from thinking too much.

When I decided to head to Denver randomly, I realized that all this time I had been saving up money for some- thing far, far ahead in the future. But then it struck me — not so gently — that perhaps the future really is now. So I went ahead and booked the tick- ets and found a guy I had never met before online and managed to work out a lodging agreement with him.

Again, a very curious vibe to the city. I have been to only a couple other states, and Denver has been the most… interesting. From run- ning into old ladies on public trans- port who were somehow very keen on getting me to visit a hospital (as a tourist, of course) that specializes in cancer treatment to running into a guy who offered to pay for my Taco Bell order if I got him some drugs from the local dispensary (I did not do it, but we chatted for a while — he was a chill dude), I had a whole lot of fun from this trip. At the end, I will refrain from tell- ing readers to go out and impulse- buy tickets, especially around Thanksgiving week. Instead, I shall encourage readers to do that one thing they’ve been putting off because there is just so much to think through. I say go for it — you’ll either learn a lesson or start an adventure. As for me, although I shall keep saving up and doing solo trips in the foreseeable future, I’m not ready to add “wander- lust” to my Instagram bio just yet.
Miklus embraces coach position

BY ZACH MARTIN
iowastatedaily.com

Miklus was appreciative of the opportunity.

As we got to know him and we got to love him and we got to understand him, it was about much else. Me and my dad are two different people. But, his father, your coach, your mentor [I] looked up to ever since I was little boy, that’s a superhero of your universe.

He turned in a second place finish in Tulsa, then capped off his outstanding collegiate wrestling career with his fourth All-American spot, snaring sixth.

He turned in a second place finish in Tulsa, then capped off his outstanding collegiate wrestling career with his fourth All-American spot, snaring sixth.

As successful as that year was for Miklus, it’s kind of definitely chased its way back into him. You knew that he was going to do whatever he wanted to do.

In the fall of 2018, Miklus placed seventh at the NCAA Championships to finish a redshirt freshman year in which he won 33 matches, had a perfect 6-0 conference dual record and defeated four nationally ranked opponents at the NCAAAs. He was named the MAC freshman of the year.

The following year, he was an All-American yet again and went perfect in the conference dual season. His 33 dual points were the second most on the team, as were his seven major decision victories.

All seemed to be going well for Miklus, who was getting ready to start his redshirt junior year.

Not one, but two things got in the way of that.

A season-ending knee injury two matches into the 2016-17 season as well as his father being diagnosed with ALS in April of 2016 prompted Miklus to look at the bigger picture.

"Every single coach I had was incredibly patient," Miklus said. "I think that’s the biggest thing other coaches can take away from…" Miklus said. "The team feel is going to be different, the coaching staff was going to be different. I had to come to grips and terms that it was a different place, but the goal was the same."

The spot Miklus held in the lineup at 197 is currently entrenched by redshirt freshman A.J. Judeford, but it's clear he could be a fluid weight class between Shapiro and fellow redshirt freshman Francis Duggan.

Miklus had nothing but positives to say about the young wrestlers.

"I've told them 'Look, it's going to be hard, it's different than high school, but why not?'" Miklus said. "I haven't tried to not preach too much to them, just give them the tools to go out and search or are searching. Whoever gets the spot, it's double. I don't want them to feel like they have to replace me. This is their career, this is their time in the limelight, this is their opportunity. This is their own chapter. I want them to feel like they're doing this on their own. Making their own decision and it’s Shapiro’s incredibly tough emotionally. He doesn't really act scared or afraid. Duggan, the skill set he has has such a high ceiling, the way he can move, the way he can wrestle – if you could take bits and pieces off of each of them, I would. They both compliment each other very well." Miklus said. "This is their own chapter, we'll see.""
Overcoming new obstacles

First generation graduate students of color share their experiences

BY VICTORIA.REYNA-RODRIGUEZ
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Students of color and first generation students are automatically put at a disadvantage in a college environment because of their marginalized identities, but those identities are not holding graduate students at Iowa State back. Vashalice Kaaba, a graduate student in education, is a first generation student herself. Originally from Bradsville, Florida, Kaaba earned her bachelor's degree from Florida State University and was a literacy specialist with Peace Corps Uganda and City Year Miami.

For Kaaba, college was always an expectation. She was the first person in her immediate family to attend and graduate with a four-year degree from a university. Kaaba said her mother was always very open about wanting her to attend college because of how "smart" she was and it seemed like the next natural progression.

"I wanted to go simply because I was smart and I knew that with my intelligence I could make a difference in my life and my family," Kaaba said. "Intellect was my way to explore the world outside of my rural, country upbringing."

"Being very transparent, I am used to covert racism versus overt racism in a college setting. Racism and prejudice is harder to see, catch and prove unless you are trained to see it." Kaaba gave advice for other POC at a PWI.

"Make sure you have a strong support system, or if you do not have one, create one, and if you are able to and can afford it, speak to a therapist," Kaaba said. "I want mental health normalized in POC communities. My support system here at ISU and my therapist made it possible for me to thrive and do well as this space. Their support and help was a Godsend." 

Annabelle Lolinco, graduate student in chemistry at Iowa State, is also a first generation student in graduate school who is a POC at a PWI. Lolinco grew up in central California all the way through her undergraduate education, as she stayed local for college.

Similarly to Kaaba, Lolinco said she always knew she was expected to attend college. 

"College was an expectation in the way that everyone I knew — at my church, in my school, in my neighborhood and my family — had this idea that I should go," Lolinco said. "I unconsciously knew it was the next thing after high school, but I didn't really know what it all entailed." 

Lolinco said college didn't even feel real to her until she was literally in it. Even though she stayed local, Lolinco said higher education was so different because her world became much larger than family and school. Lolinco explained her journey to college.

"It was part routine and part ready to take the next step in exploring who I wanted to be," Lolinco said. "Routine because the people I knew, like upperclassmen, were all applying to college. My counselors all assumed I was going into college, my parents wanted me to get my degree and excel in what they could do when they came to the United States." 

Also in the Upward Bound program, Lolinco said her counselors gave her strong encouragement to go to college as well.

"My parents didn't go to college, so and I didn't know what was all involved in the process," Lolinco said. "I became more analytical and detail-oriented because I just did not know who to turn to, so I turned to anyone and everyone I could and did as much legwork as I could." 

Lolinco said she didn't even know she wanted to go to graduate school — especially in chemistry — until the tail-end of her undergraduate career.

"I picked my majors simply by interests — chemistry and communication," Lolinco said. "Superficially in the sense that there was no ulterior motive, which admittedly seems reckless now. I thought, 'If I wasn't even going to like what I was doing in the next 5 years, why go?"'

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"Superficially in the sense that there was no ulterior motive, which admittedly seems reckless now. I thought, 'If I wasn't even going to like what I was doing in the next 5 years, why go?"

Lolinco also had some words of advice for first generation students.

"Make sure you have a plan of what you're going to do," Lolinco said. "I didn't have to stay the same, but I think people get lost in the idea that more education is better. Graduate school is just one way of getting more education. It's tough and if it's not something you're willing to stick with, it is challenging."
get back to people."

About 30 of Junck's family members, friends and supporters filled Jeff's Pizza Shop, waiting for the results of the election with

"Anything really helped us out so much [with the campaign]," Junck said. "Being the lead [candidate] into the runoff, I think that's incredible. [...] We've talked about issues that are so important in Ames, whether that is local climate action, affordable housing, representation for all people in Ames, quality of life — we've brought a lot of these issues into the conversation and had more candidates talking about them than ever before." When the results came out, the room erupted in screams.

"We did everything we could possibly do, we worked so hard," Blair said. "I'm proud of that. I'm proud of how many people we got involved in the local elections who have never been involved in local elections before."

The Council elections were the first time Junck ran for any political office.

Junck said she believes it is "too early to tell" if she will be running again in the future. In the November election, Junck and Nelson failed to reach a sufficient amount of votes — something that hasn't happened in eight years. Junck received the highest number of votes with a total of 604, leaving her seven votes short of winning the election with 49.51 percent of the majority. Nelson had a 125-vote difference between him and Junck, closing the distance between them by 60 votes as compared to November's election.

"The campaign was my third time around, and it was a little bit different this time based on the opponents that decided to run as well, but it was a good campaign," Nelson said "We had a plan. We actually, I think, executed our plan pretty well, especially for the runoff election. It just wasn't enough to overcome some of the obstacles that were out there.”

A plan of Nelson was to finish the Ames 2040 plan, a comprehensive 20-year plan which gives a long-term trajectory to where and how the city can expand.

Nelson said this gives him more time to spend with his family.

"I get my Tuesday nights back," Nelson said. "I got some of my weekends back, and I get a lot of time just to do things with my kids, spend a little more time on work, and so I'm pretty excited to do both of those things. I'm going to look back on my time on [the] Council as a real positive experience, but there's a lot of other things to do there, and I'm looking forward to that as well.”

Junck said one of her plans is to make Ames carbon-neutral as possible, removing no net release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The plan also includes decreasing the waste produced by the city and increasing composting and recycling cycle.

"I've seen [Junck] pull herself into whatever she's doing, and I know that she's a scientist, a chemical engineer," Blair said. "When [the campaign] happened and she talked about it, she [said] 'I want to do this' and I said 'Yeah, because I know that you're going to put just as much work into City Council as you do everything else.'”

Blair said.

Junck said she hopes to overcome people underestimating her as a person and as a candidate by inspiring more young people to get out and vote. She will be one of the two students to sit on the Council's meetings, the other being the ex-officio appointed by Iowa State's Student Government.

"I think it will look different working with the ex-officio, but to be a student with a vote is definitely important," Junck said. "To have that vote on issues that are crucial not only for students, but for the whole advisory board of Ames. So, I'm definitely looking forward to seeing what we can do to work together.”

"Students can have a voice, we will have more action on climate-change-related things and will have a voice on housing issues," Blair said. "I think a lot of people we talked to were so excited in seeing someone like themselves in office and that's important.”

Junck said she was very grateful for everyone who voted for her in the election.

"We truly couldn't have done it without your vote, and I'm really excited to represent you for the fourth Ward,” Junck said.

According to the Huff Post, "Latinx /first used as a term in the context in which a person uses the term, Latinx could mean that someone has a different gender identity. It is used in the context of trying to bring people together, such as at an event, meeting or club, then it can be an inclusive term."

"So [if] someone prefers to identify as Latinx, I respect and support that choice, it's just not a choice that I make for myself," said Diana Sloan, the program director of Hispanic and Latino Affairs in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. "It depends on the context. So I know that there are student groups at Iowa State that say Latins and they refer to everybody in what I refer to as the Latino community. So of course I would go to the event, and also because of my role at Iowa State being director of Hispanic and Latino Affairs. The Latino community is part of the Latino community and vice versa.”

According to the HuffPost, "Latinx first began to emerge within queer communities on the internet in 2004 and saw a rise in popularity in late 2014, according to Complex. By 2015, Google searches for the term began to increase and Latinx became a widely-used identifier both on social media platforms like Tumblr and in scholarly work. Many scholars and activists praise the term's ability to better include many groups of people while challenging cultural norms and values."

Although it may be inclusive to gender non-conforming or gender confirming groups, others may feel it's only inclusive to a certain extent.

The term, "Latinx" is an Americanized term that was developed in the U.S. According to LatinoRebels, "The term "Latinx" is used almost exclusively within the United States. According to Google trend data, "Latinx" came into popular use in October of 2014 and has since been widely popularized by American blogs and American institutions of higher learning. The term is virtually non-existent in any Spanish-speaking country." Therefore, to many people outside the U.S., the term may not feel inclusive.

People who speak Portuguese do not use the letter “x” in their vocabulary. Instead of “Latinx”, they use the word “Latinas” to describe people who are part of the LGBTQIA+ community. Some people may think it’s not inclusive to indigenous languages due to fact the Spanish language was introduced during the times of colonization and erased the cultures and languages of indigenous people.

According to LatinoRebels, the indigenous language does in fact have many genderless and multigendered languages.

People may feel as if they're repeating col- onization and others crossing the borders by not identifying with their indigenous roots. What others fail to realize is that you have a choice on what you want to be called, and don't have to believe in something that doesn't resonate with you."

"Since I have a choice in how I feel about these things I don't feel offended," Sloan said. "I choose to own it and be proud of my heritage and, and because I am from Mexico, I am both Mexican and Latina, and I choose not to be bothered by these labels, but to properly own them.”

Most people choose to identify with their nationality. Rodriguez said he identifies as a Mexican-American because his family is from Mexico and he was born in America. Others may choose to identify with their region.

"If someone asks me who I am I tend to say I'm Texana, which is a female from Texas like a Texan basically because I identify really strongly with the place where I was born and where I grew up," said Erin Doran, assistant professor in the school of education department.

In some communities, Latinxs may feel like it's a sense of belonging while some may feel as they are being pushed farther away from their culture.

"I think in some circles it has created unity, and unfortunately, when people are distracted by times," Rodriguez said. "The question is, do we have a strong community that knows how to respect each other's preferred terminology for identifying ourselves is not going to get in the way of who we are as a community.”

"Some people feel that it is important to have a term that they could feel strongly about and that relates to them.

"We need to be inclusive of our friends and family members who don't identify in our Latino, we love to give ourselves labels as opposed to times," Rodriguez said. "The ques- tion is, do we have a term or label being used, and [...] if this label or term is being used to be inclusive. I think that's a good thing, but if it's using a derogatory term, but I think [...] the answer is no."