A different kind of faith
How an atheist and a nun forged an unlikely friendship

BY TALON DELANEY
@iowastatedaily.com

Professor Anne Clifford spent the last 11 years teaching religion and ecology at Iowa State. She has given lectures on a multitude of topics, including racism and immigration. During her tenure, she also found an unlikely friend: The avowed atheist professor Hector Avalos.

Clifford occupies the James A. Sopie Chair of Catholic Studies at Iowa State. She’s had a life-long love for education and the sciences. She’s also Catholic nun, one of the only members of her congregation in Iowa.

Avalos, author of books like “The Bad Jesus” and “End of Biblical Studies,” has been described by different Christians as an evil, incredulous and corrupting force at Iowa State. The Des Moines area radio host J. Michael “Mac” McCoy even wished for the professor to choke on his Thanksgiving dinner.

“I think [Avalos] is the devil incarnate,” McCoy said on his program “Mac’s World” in November 2015. “I’m going to wish for bad things to happen to him.”

Clifford doesn’t share McCoy’s perspective when it comes to her colleague. As a sister of Saint Joseph, she promised to “love the dear neighbour without distinction,” and she continues to uphold that principle.

“Avalos is a consummate gentleman and a hardworking scholar,” Clifford said. “He’s always been respectful and kind to me. I’ve always tried to look for the good in people, and I find a lot of good in Hector Avalos.”

Clifford even nominated Avalos for the Order of St. Gregory.”

Campus free speech makes way to Capitol

BY DEVYN LEESON
@iowastatedaily.com

The Iowa Legislature has brought back two bills that reignite a year-long debate over religious liberties and the free speech of student organizations at Regent universities.

House File 316 and Senate Bill 1099 are identical bills that bring back two bills that reignite a year-long debate over religious liberties and the free speech of student organizations at Regent universities.

The bills currently moving through the Senate and House would effectively prevent any institutional organization from applying their rules against other student organizations.

The judge’s ruling states the University of Iowa must allow the group to remain on campus, however, the university did not consistently apply their rules against other student organizations.

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POLICE BLOTTER

2.19.19

Brassia Bell, age 21, of 2021 Hawthorn Court Unit 5214 — Ames, Iowa, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of alcohol under the legal age at Willow Hall (reported at 5:00 p.m.).

Zachary Eaves, age 18, of 131 Beyer Court Unit 2203 — Ames, Iowa, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance at Martin Hall (reported at 7:14 p.m.).

An officer investigated a property damage collision at Lot B3 (reported at 7:31 p.m.).

2.19.19

Crossword

59. 'Kind of acid'
57. R2D2's bar order?
53. Latin catchall
52. Hoity-toity types
51. In front
49. "Zut __!": French exclamation
46. Ricky Gervais' forte
44. Scrubs
43. Friday is one: Abbr.
42. Pack animal
41. Scam
40. Hikes
35. Golf club used as a dance pole?
34. Cozy retreat
30. Slow /
29. Tiny Timex?
28. "We should!" able Length" author
25. Bristle
24. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
23. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
22. Mythical transport
21. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
20. Minute Rice instruction
19. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
18. Hikes
17. Cartoons about small animals
16. Cartoonist Peter
15. Title lover in a 1920s Broadway hit
14. "Iliac lead-in"
13. "Gals, gals, gals"
12. Whole number
11. Iliac lead-in
10. Iliac lead-in
9. Org. created by the 1964 Civil Rights Act
8. Stat for Clayton Kershaw
7. Options above "none of the above"
6. "Stat for Clayton Kershaw"
5. "Great Expectations" convict
4. "Zut __!": French exclamation
3. "Zut __!": French exclamation
2. "Zut __!": French exclamation
1. "Zut __!": French exclamation

Across
1. Hardly hardly
6. Weird instrument
10. Minute Rice instruction
14. Coned
15. Iliac lead-in a 1920s Broadway hit
16. Carrottoper Tim
17. Camp Grandma cheerleader Sheman
18. Hikes who prefer old-school programming languages?
20. Minute Rice instruction
21. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
22. Mythical transport
23. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
24. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
25. Bristle
26. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
27. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
28. "Knots Landing" actress __ Park
29. Tiny Timex?
30. Slow /
31. Golf club used as a dance pole?
32. "Iliac lead-in"
33. "Iliac lead-in"
34. Cozy retreat
35. Golf club used as a dance pole?
36. "Iliac lead-in"
37. Viva __
38. Like some /
39. Carbon 14, e.g.
40. Bristle
41. Scam
42. Pack animal
43. Friday is one: Abbr.
44. Scrubs
45. Feedback on: one: Abbe
46. Disney's "The Lion King"
47. Florence's "The Killers"
48. Register button
49. "Iliac lead-in"
50. "Iliac lead-in"
51. "Iliac lead-in"
52. Hoity-toity types
53. "Great Expectations" convict
54. "Great Expectations" convict
55. "Great Expectations" convict
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57. "Great Expectations" convict
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69. "Great Expectations" convict
70. "Great Expectations" convict

To submit a correction, please contact our editor at 515-294-5688 or via email at editor@iowastatedaily.com.

CORRECTIONS

The Iowa State Daily welcomes comments and suggestions or complaints about errors that warrant correction.

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Panel to preview white fragility lecture

BY MIKE BROWN
@iowastatedaily.com

Members of the Iowa State and Ames community will have space for a discussion surrounding the topic of white fragility Sunday.

The event will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Purnell-T. Brown Auditorium of the Ames Public Library. The event is free and open to the public.

Panels will answer questions centering around the book “White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism” by Robin DiAngelo.

DiAngelo coined the term white fragility in 2011, describing it as “a state in which even a minimum amount of racial stress becomes intolerable, triggering a range of defensive moves,” in a paper in the International Journal of Critical Pedagogy.

The event’s panels will feature a broad range of perspectives including experts, people who are interested in topics of race and ethnicity and members of the Ames community, which includes a student from Ames High School, said Susan Jasper, community engagement specialist with Iowa State University and the Ames Public Library.

Jasper said this talk framework has been done in the past to support high profile lectures happening at Iowa State, and this specific talk was set up to pair with DiAngelo’s lecture he will give at Iowa State.

“The concept of this talk series is that we bring together some specialists from the community to highlight the topic, encourage people to read the book, think about the topic and then, ultimately, attend the lecture,” Jasper said.

DiAngelo will lecture at Iowa State at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Stephens Auditorium.

In addition to the panel discussions, attendees will be encouraged to engage in a community discussion. Attendees do not have to read the book to participate in group discussion, according to a press release from the Ames Public Library.

Jasper said she hopes those who attend the event are able to think of ideas to help make their communities more inclusive throughout the event.

Inclusive Ames member, Cheryl Binzen, said the city has invited her organization as a co-sponsor for the event and the event aligns with the values of her organization.

“We’ve offered a variety of events, open to the public at the library that help us understand each other,” Binzen said.

Binzen said DiAngelo’s focus on how difficult it is for white people to talk about anti-racism and a specific topic is an important topic to understand and discuss which can further bring people of different ethnicities and races together.

Chair of the Ames Human Relations Commission Joel Hochstein will be the panel moderator on Sunday. Hochstein said that while he is interested in this topic, he wants to understand the others, too.

Binzen said DiAngelo’s focus on how difficult it is for white people to talk about anti-racism and a specific topic is an important topic to understand and discuss which can further bring people of different ethnicities and races together.

“In a 25-minute presentation, Georgia Van Gundy, executive director of the Iowa Business Council, labled recommendations as to how Iowa can prosper as a state in addition to addressing key areas where Ames can be of assistance,” Hochstein said.

“Yet there’s still some work to be done. The Iowa Business Council compiled a report on an annual basis that ranks Iowa competitively in five different topics — poverty, average and competent — in terms of economic growth, education and workforce, governance, health and wellness and demographics and diversity. Georgia Van Gundy, executive director of the Iowa Business Council, presents to the Ames Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Wednesday on “Iowa’s Competitive Dashboard.”

Unlike previous years, Gundy will present about the state of Iowa’s economy at 10 different locations.

“If we really want people to be looking at our initiatives and what our leaders think are significant initiatives to move our state forward, and for them to actually use them too, we need to get out and talk about it,” Gundy said.

Dan Culhane, president of the Ames Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Commission, was specifically interested in Iowa’s unique opportunity to recruit and retain Iowans as it relates to economic growth.

“I think here in Ames and Story County there is a little bit of a false sense of security because we’ve got 7,000 young people every year looking for their first job,” Culhane said. Culhane hopes to show students there is meaningful employment in Ames. Gundy suggested tools, such as a work-based learning portal, to “hopefully catch students early and let them get into the businesses and understand what the jobs are like.”

“We have a good amount of people from Iowa going to the universities and graduating, but then, how do we retain them here?” Gundy said. “That’s an area where our colleges and university towns can take a look at the [education] metric and see where they can really make an impact.”

Reginald Stewart, vice president of diversity and inclusion for Iowa State, said that he appreciated the presentation focusing on diversity as an economic driver and wanted to know how he can help support that as a community leader.

“If you think about lawmakers, who are the ones who are driving the change — not the state but federally — all they’re hearing is from people who don’t want to see any difference,” Gundy said.

“We’ve heard it’s that we need to do a better job at putting together consistent stories saying why it is important and why having a diverse population is more about strategic and having thought processes.”

Improving watersheds
Collaboration prompts state conservation efforts

BY MEGAN BEHRENS
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Iowa State researchers have been teaming up with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to work toward cleaner watersheds across the state of Iowa.

In 2018, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan that called on 12 states bordering the Mississippi River to reduce the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus that flows into the river. In response to the EPA’s request, Iowa established the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy (INRS) in 2012.

Through their roles of lead principal investigator and measurement coordinator respectively, the pair has co-authored a study highlighting the data gathered from the strategy.

“Agriculture is a really great

WATERSHED PdB

Through a recent partnership, Iowa State and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, aim to work toward cleaner watersheds across the state.

How does Iowa compare nationally?

Iowa Business Council presents report to Ames business leaders

BY ALEX CONNOR
@iowastatedaily.com

In terms of demographics and diversity, Iowa has some work to do.

When accounting for ethnic diversity, Iowa is ranked No. 45 when looking at all 50 states comparatively. In terms of total population, Iowa ranks at No. 30 — this all according to a recent report by the Iowa Business Council presented to the Ames Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Wednesday.

But Iowa is also thriving, with the report touting low unemployment, high labor force participation and a competitive high school education attainment rate.

In a 25-minute presentation, Georgia Van Gundy, executive director of the Iowa Business Council, labled recommendations as to how Iowa can prosper as a state in addition to addressing key areas where Ames can be of assistance.

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The Center for Communication Excellence had an open house event on Wednesday to bring in more students to the center as well as to present certificates to newly certified writing consultants who will work in the office.

The Center for Communication Excellence, which opened in 2015, serves graduate students and postdoctoral associates in the betterment of written and oral communication. The staff offers a variety of programs including the graduate peer review and groups program, thesis or dissertation writing, English language development and the international teaching assistants program among others.

The open house aimed to draw in students in to the center and raise awareness of the center’s services. Graduate students attended to learn more about the different writing programs to prepare for when the time comes to write their own dissertations.

William Graves, the dean of the Graduate College, welcomed attendees to the open house and stressed the challenge the graduate college faces as they try to serve students in every discipline across campus.

“One thing that they all have in common is the need to bolster their communication skills,” Graves said. “We can always improve our ability to communicate effectively, strategically to accomplish what we want.”

Graves credited Elena Cotos, the director of the center, with the success of the overall program.

“It was her vision and her dream, and her students need to develop the skill, it’s a professional soft skill that they don’t really have a formal opportunity to engage in,” Cotos said.

Cotos led a project that resulted in the development of a web based software called the Research Writing Tutor. This software generates feedback on student’s research writing and compares it to writing in their particular discipline.

“That’s been very well received by students, and actually earned Iowa State a lot of national and international recognition, because this is the only tool of its kind in the world,” Cotos said.

In its opening, the center started with two programs. In the past three years, it has grown to six programs, expanding to address more student needs.

Most services offered at the center are through writing consultants who work with graduate students to help improve their communication skills.

“Training consultants is the responsibility of development of the center,” Graves said.

Cotos said the center is very selective in the process of recruiting writing consultants.

“We want to make sure we’re selecting students who will be good tutors and good mentors for other PhD and masters students,” Huffman said. “We believe that anyone can be a good writer, and then anyone can be a good writing consultant.”

Michael DuPont, a fifth year doctorate candidate in education, has a long history with the center.

After working with the center on a two year project, he was inclined to join the team as a writing consultant. “It’s a great center for one-on-one consultations in getting students the help they need,” DuPont said.

The Center for Communication Excellence touts excellence in its efforts, while being prepared to make improvements.

“This project would renovate corridors, widen concourse corridors, upgrade the aging mechanical system and address deferred maintenance issues in the two elevators at Hilton Coliseum,” according to Board of Regents documents. “The estimated project budget of $25 million would be funded by Athletic Department Operations and Private Giving.”

The center is a collaborative project between the Graduate College and the Athletics Department.

Professor Clifford and Cotos share the common belief that religions like Christianity should be open to criticism.

“We’re on opposite sides of the moon when it comes to certain things around Christianity, but I feel that it’s wrong to not accept carefully researched criticism,” Clifford said.

“Critiques can bring people to have new insights that further growth. It’s not a bad thing, it’s what scholars are supposed to do.”

Clifford describes herself as a “non-theist” when it comes to analyzing scripture. She said she views the Bible as more of a historical document, one that describes people interacting with a deity.

“The ancient world often spoke of the world in terms of symbols,” Clifford said. “Symbols give rise to thought, but where do these thoughts lead you? That’s what we explore in some of my classes. I don’t think the Bible should be real literally.”

Clifford teaches courses about femininism, Christianity and ecology and how they all can interconnect. Her book, “Introducing Feminist Theology,” is used in theology and women’s studies classes in colleges across the country.

“I always had a love for science,” Clifford said. “I remember reading through books and encyclopedias when I was in the second grade and trying to memorize things like the order of the planets. I was the only girl in the county to get the insect badge in Girl Scouts.”

Clifford realized teaching was her true calling around age 12, when she began tutoring her younger sister in school. She enjoyed it so much she began tutoring other school children in the neighborhood, and would pursue teaching as a career.

She joined the Sisters of Saint Joseph right after graduating high school and obtained her master’s degree from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

Clifford went on to teach in a variety of positions in Pennsylvania, including lecturing at a few small colleges and teaching 6-10th grade children at Mount Gallatin Academy for nearly a decade.

She eventually earned her doctorate in theological studies from the Catholic University of America. Clifford then taught for 20 years at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. Afterwards, she taught one year at John Carroll University before applying for a position at Iowa State. She has been here ever since.

Avalos was part of the staff that interviewed and hired Clifford 11 years ago.

“Our friendship illustrates that Christians and atheists can and do work together,” Avalos said. “We can still solve problems together, and whether or not you believe in a creator is irrelevant.”

This semester will be the last she ever teaches, and she will retire once the term ends.

Clifford is a Sister of Saint Joseph, a congregation with a history of providing education and social services. They were among the first nuns to not be “cloistered,” meaning they weren’t secluded to their orders.

They focused on social work, which included education, operating orphanages, sheltering sex workers and even taking care of the sick or dying.

“Sometimes people in that era would just drop off their sick and dying relatives at a church thinking that they would make a difference,” Clifford said.

Moving to Iowa State isolated Clifford from her fellow sisters, and she encountered more freedom to keep up with them mostly through web chats.

After retiring, Clifford will live among her friends and sisters at a Saint Joseph’s property just north west of Pittsburgh. Although it feels like the right time for her to retire, she said she’ll miss being an educator.

“I love teaching undergraduates,” Clifford said. “I absolutely love it. I love interacting with students and engaging the student. I’m also going to miss the Iowa people and all my friends in the faculty.”
HIGHLIGHTING KINDNESS

Seek to do good and good will come

BY MEGAN PETZOLD
@iowastatedaily.com

As some of you might know, I graduated from a high school in Kansas City, Kansas. Not far from a town called Olathe, where recently three middle school boys showed up to school on Valentine’s Day and handed out to more than 300 roses to all the girls at their school, both staff and students.

The boys stated that they wanted their plans to be private until Valentine’s Day and they “wanted every girl to feel important and special on Valentine’s Day.”

A Fox News article states, “Tristan Valentino, Kyran Rice and Lincoln Holmes — who are in eighth, seventh and sixth grade, respectively — reportedly funded the sweet gesture with money out of their own pockets.”

The principal of Summit Trail Middle School stated that she “got chills seeing three young men go out of their way to make others feel happy” and their act provided a big boost to school spirit.

One can only hope that this becomes a tradition in that and other middle schools. Feeling appreciated on Valentine’s Day is something everyone hopes for. Our young men and women deserve to feel special, as well.

I have always had fond memories of Valentine’s Day to be a nice holiday. Between giving out candy and cards to my elementary school classmates to having dinner with a special someone to waiting until Feb. 15 to go to Walmart and fill a shopping basket with heavily discounted chocolate.

Do better, Student Government

Toxic. Harmful. Exclusionary. Clueless. Friendly. Inclusive. Holistic. Transparent. For those in Student Government, the aforementioned adjectives can be used to describe the environment in which senators and cabinet members operate — depending on whom you ask.

While all are dedicated to students under the guise of their positions, serious territorial undertones have threatened the legislative and executive ability for our elected officials to serve.

There was a reason that Student Government changed its name from Government of the Student Body years ago. It’s not about the Senate. It’s not about the Cabinet. It’s not about the president or the vice president. It’s about the students.

Our current Student Government has forgotten this.

Wednesday’s Senate meeting reflected a Student Government not representative of our goals as a university, or the Principles of Community that it helped create in 2007 and now claims to espouse.

This is not to say that Student Government doesn’t serve its students or do a lot of things right. But infighting has gotten in the way of its fullest potential. This is unacceptable. The students of Iowa State deserve more.

On Tuesday, Director of Residency Dorenzen Lee created an 11-minute Snapchat video discussing his distaste for Speaker Cody Woodruff, who is also running for Student Government president, as well as what he perceives as the many flaws in the governing body.

“Y’all want to know what the biggest problem of Student Government is?” Lee asks in the video. “It’s not the cleanness of the group or the self-righteous, pretentious attitude. It’s the fact that people are just so f*cking fake.

“Rather than tell the truth and be honest with each other, we all go back behind each other’s backs and act like we’re homies or we’re friends, or that we’re cool with someone, but most of us can’t f*cking stand each other. It’s just the truth of it.”

This, understandably, riled up many of the senators and cabinet members. Some agreed with Lee’s claims but said that they didn’t appreciate the ways in which he made his voice heard. Others just couldn’t see his perspective.

No matter the fact, there is divisiveness within Student Government and it isn’t new. There are people who feel as if their voice isn’t heard, and if it is, it is marginalized or ignored.

There are also people who love Student Government and feel as if it has positively impacted their Iowa State experience.

All of these truths can exist in the same space. All of these experiences are valid and deserve to be considered and acted upon. But it cannot be made at the expense of the student body.

The Senate spent nearly an hour Wednesday night talking to Lee during an open forum. An individual had come to the meeting to talk about the benefits of Grammarly — an online grammar checking, spell checking, and plagiarism detection platform — but he had to leave midway through the debate to go home and take care of his child. This is not OK.

Infighting and ego got in the way of the students. Is this our Student Government?

Change does not happen instantly, and it can be difficult to address systemic social structures that have and will continue to plague the environments in which we exist. And productive change cannot happen during a heated, hurtful and high-stress Senate meeting.

Student Government: Use this as an opportunity to address conflict and find solutions to long-standing issues. Above all, do better. The student body deserves it.
March-like atmosphere awaits Cyclones in Cedar Falls

BY TREVOR HOLBROOK @iowastatedaily.com

Is it March yet? It certainly feels like it.
No. 11 Iowa State battles a pair of stellar wrestling programs this week with No. 17 Northern Iowa at 7 p.m. Thursday at West Gym in Cedar Falls, Iowa, and No. 5 Missouri at 5 p.m. Sunday.

"Obviously a big week for us — a really big week for us," said coach Kevin Dresser. "We've got two really, really tough opponents. We're excited about talking about Missouri and getting ready for this team.

"You've got guys like Marial, Lindell, Talen, it's in their blood to score. He's kind of a good complement with that." Former player have noticed Haliburton's willingness

Iowa State freshman guard Tyrese Haliburton completes a layup despite the play being stopped due to a foul during the first half of the Iowa State vs. TCU men's basketball game held Feb. 9 in Hilton Coliseum. The Horned Frogs defeated the Cyclones 92-83. Haliburton is averaging 7.1 points per game this season.

Despite the tight loss last season, WestState values Parker's stellar 2018-19 campaign and gives Parker a 7-5 advantage.

"It's the end of the season, our team has two of the biggest duals that we've had and I have the two biggest matches that I've had," Parker said.

While the touc-ups could decide the dual, it could also come down to if either team can win big in the matches they're favored in.

"It's the end of the season, our team has two of the biggest duals that we've had and I have the two biggest matches that I've had," Parker said.

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Literary classic adapted in script written by alumna

Julia Shiplett to perform at SUB Comedy Night

Julia Shiplett will be performing at SUB Comedy Night on Thursday in the M-Shop. The biracial Chicago native and feminist has performed at comedy festivals and acted on season 2 of HBO’s “Crashing.”

Shiplett’s editor originally wanted her to take an improv class so she could think faster on her feet while talking with advertising clients. She had other plans.

Shiplett found an all-female stand-up class and convinced her editor to let her take that instead. She fell in love with stand-up comedy and has been performing ever since.

“I think that it is honestly a little bit addictive,” Shiplett said. “Having a good show and connecting with a room full of people you may not know is an awesome feeling. I think once you experience that a lot of people want to experience that again and again. I also think for me it is a really good creative challenge.”

Shiplett found her comedic scene when she moved to New York a little under five years ago. She had a community where people supported one another and she could find people with common interests.

Recently, Shiplett was able to perform at Carolines on Broadway, where she got to perform a full 45-minute set as well as choose her own hosts and openers.

Comedy was always on Shiplett’s radar, but she originally saw herself as more of a comedic writer. She pursued a degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and worked in advertising after college. Even now, Shiplett continues to write satire pieces for publications such as the New York Times, the New Yorker and McSweeney’s.

“I think a lot of comedians might first and foremost identify as writers,” Shiplett said. “Then they started performing later on, and I fell into that category. I am someone who really [likes] good jokes. I like surprising phrases. To me, wording matters a lot in how I deliver my jokes and my material.”

Shiplett feels her comedy is personal and confessional, reflecting what’s going on in her life as well as recent events in the nation. Her comedy is geared more towards her position as a feminist and towards women. Recently, she has explored topics such as mental health and therapy.

“I certainly do need everyone to agree with what I am saying on stage, but I do like to present potentially new ideas to people in a funny format,” Shiplett said. “I think when things are funny, they are more digestible.”

Shiplett’s future in comedy includes a book of personal essays and satire pieces she hopes will catapult her into more comedic writing for TV or other outlets.

SUB Comedy Night with Julia Shiplett takes place Thursday at the Maintenance Shop at the Memorial Union. The doors open at 8:30 p.m. and the show starts at 9 p.m. Further information can be found on SUB’s website.

Erica Walling as Marianne Dashwood (left) and Olivia Griffith as Elinor Dashwood (right) perform during the play rehearsal for “Sense and Sensibility” on Wednesday.

TAYLOR BLUM / IOWA STATE DAILY

Erica Walling as Marianne Dashwood (left) and Olivia Griffith as Elinor Dashwood (right) perform during the play rehearsal for “Sense and Sensibility” on Wednesday.
Lee said in their first meeting he told Woodruff, "I really want to like you because I think you’re a genius." Lee repeated this sentiment in his video and later said his admiration for Woodruff’s intelligence makes him more disappointed in Woodruff’s behavior.

Woodruff said he and Lee shared a “cliquey” attitude through their shared residence. "I’ve met with President Neely multiple times, as well as multiple senators that were on the Senate Committee, they all resign en masse this year," Woodruff said. "I told Woodruff he could forgive him, Lee told Woodruff he could forgive him and Woodruff said he forgave Lee, as well."

After leaving the meeting, Lee said he had not expected Woodruff to ask for forgiveness and had instead expected anger: "He knew he hurt me," Lee said. "He knows that, but maybe he didn’t know how badly he did it.

In his closing remarks at the meeting, Woodruff called for an emergency Senate meeting and said he believes Lee’s removal is an urgent matter, larger than his own dispute with Lee. "In my email to President Neely, I said, ‘in all honesty this should have been done a long time ago,’" Woodruff said. "I’ve met with President Neely multiple times, as well as multiple senators that were on Residence Committee, they all resign en masse this year due to his rant on Snapchat. I wrongly assumed President Neely would take the correct action by this point.’"

Sen. Anne Miller said while she thinks Lee acted immorally, she also said she “agree with everything [Lee is] saying in terms of the substance from it,” but she thinks there are “different ways to get people’s respect.”

Sen. Issam Att Boucherbil said she doesn’t believe Lee should apologize for anything he said or did.

Woodruff said Student Government can be “cliquey,” but as speaker he tries to encourage senators to sit in different places and “mix the mentors and mentees up” to combat the issue.

Other senators, such as Sen. Kaitlyn Sanchez, said they don’t believe Student Government has a clique problem. Woodruff said this may have been a fair assessment because [Woodruff] is so aggressive, Lee said. "He’s hostile, and it’s like if you oppose him, every- one attacks you.

Woodruff said this has been a fair assessment for when he was vice speaker and vice senator. Woodruff said he wanted to be very ‘aggressive’ but Lee didn’t like him … the fact that consistently nothing has been done.”

Lee attended Wednesday’s Student Government meeting to speak in open forum, where he reaffirmed the opinions expressed in his Snapchat post and mad an email from former student senator Hannah Scott. In the email, Scott said senators often make other feel "guilty or potentially even feel idiotic" for the opinions expressed in his Snapchat post and read "He’s hostile, and it’s like if you oppose him, everyone attacks you.

Woodruff then asked Lee if Lee could forgive him. Lee told Woodruff he could forgive him and Woodruff said he forgave Lee, as well. After leaving the meeting, Lee said he had not expected Woodruff to ask for forgiveness and had instead expected anger: "He knew he hurt me," Lee said. "He knows that, but maybe he didn’t know how badly he did it.

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Arbuckle Jr. and Nowatzke said there is still a majority of farmers who are not aware of conservation methods to improve local watersheds. "How do we get beyond preaching to the choir and get farmers who may not be walking into their local USDA service center asking for help on conservation, how do we get them to walk in the door?" Arbuckle Jr. said.

Through the establishment of local watershed groups, branching out to different agriculture retailers, and using aerial imagery and satellite data, researchers are able to pinpoint specific areas that are not practicing nutrient reducing practices to help solve this problem. These methods are helping the INRS gain more traction in their conservation efforts.

While there continues to be movement in the right direction, Arbuckle Jr. and Nowatzke said they would like to see the project accelerate.

Although the program is still young, Arbuckle Jr. and Nowatzke said they have seen growth in the areas of recommended practices, such as cover crops, no-till, nitrogen application in the spring, research and data shared through the partnerships that continue to develop.

Some of these partnerships are through organizations like the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, IDNR, and Iowa State Extension and Outreach. These groups set up numerous programs for farmers to take part in and learn about various conservation methods.

Results from the research show that farmers who are involved and informed about conservation are more likely to practice them. Two methods to help contain nutrients within the soil are the use of cover crops and no-till.

Arbuckle Jr. said that only four percent of Iowa’s land uses cover crops and about 30 percent practice no-till.