

Academics

East-West University's Student Leadership Dinner



dent Leadership Dinner at the Hilton Hotel. To have so many successful powerful people in one room along with my fellow peers was truly astonishing. Being around positive people gives off a good aura, so being in a room full of so many successful powerful people [e.g. Congressman Danny Davis and Deputy Mayor Andrea Zopp] was equivalent to a nuclear bomb of positive energy. I Appreciate what I have, where I am in life and more importantly, what I will achieve!"

East-West University's Student Leadership Dinner was held on Thursday, November 16, 2017, at the Hilton Chicago at 720 South Michigan in the Waldorf Room. The dinner was held in honor of East-West students on Dean's List, Student Ambassadors and EWU basketball team The Phantoms. There was a reception and silent auction at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.

once again I got to meet the congressman [Danny Davis]. In addition, the dinner was a success because the important thing were the students who were getting acknowledged. It was their day to have fun and for once to forget about the stress that they have. The food was really good and the dessert was the best because that was something that i finished. It was a great day for me just to enjoy and to have fun".

Moses Villanueva told Phantom Press: "My experience at the dinner in the Hilton Hotel was great because

Demetrius Prothro says: "I can't find the words to express what it meant to be a part of the 3rd Annual Stu-



Students on Dean's List who received awards:

Emmanuel Fadipe
Maya Fard
Prashannah Mahindanraj
Carol Medina
Dharti Patel
Naman Patel
Smita Rani Smita Rani
William Taylor
Vidhi Vyas

Student Ambassadors who received awards:

Ricardo Antunez
Lydia Basanes
Dulguun Bold-Erdene
Rosalie Estrada
Julian Esquiliano
Kisha Johnson
Prashannah Mahindanraj
Priyanka Nadarajah
Arely Palomino
Vishal Patel
Demetrius Prothro
Juwana Smith
William Taylor
Armando Vasquez
Adrian Vega
Jacqueline Velasquez
Moises Villanueva



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Congressman Danny Davis, a member of the Board of Trustees of East-West University, arrived at the dinner straight from Washington, DC, where he had been part of the negotiations of the proposed tax reform. In his speech to the guests he regretted that the bill has passed the House, because the bill contains a potential to harm the lower income Americans.

Honor roll students and student ambassadors received certificates of recognition from the Board of Trustees of East-West Universities.

The Keynote Speaker for the evening was Ms. Andrea Zopp, Deputy Mayor and Chief Neighborhood Development Officer for the City of Chicago. Her bio informs us that "Zopp has dedicated her career to being a force of change. She has championed job creation, access to education, corporate responsibility and promoting economic development initiatives in underserved communities.

She served in the United States Attorney's Office and was the first woman and African American to serve as the First Assistant in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. In these roles, she fought to keep neighborhoods safe by taking on illegal guns, violent crime and gangs, worked to protect victims of domestic

violence and sexual abuse. Andrea is a successful businesswoman and has held executive leadership positions at several Fortune 500 companies, includ-



ing Sara Lee, Sears Holdings and Exelon. As President and CEO of the Chicago Urban League, she led the nationally-recognized organization's focus on expand-

ing economic opportunity in underserved communities, helping youth and young adults achieve academic and career success, and advocacy for social justice.

Andrea has held multiple civic and business appointments. She was appointed to the Chicago Board of Education by Mayor Rahm Emanuel and to the Cook County Health and Hospital System Board by Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle. Andrea also currently serves on the board of the Urban Partnership Bank.

Andrea Zopp is a graduate of Harvard College and Law School. She lives on Chicago's South side with her husband Bill. They are the proud parents of Alyssa, Kelsey, and Will and the proud owners of three cats and three dogs.



Dr. Khan honored Mr. John Wells, General Manager of the Hilton Chicago with the Chancellor's Award. In his acceptance speech Mr. Wells said how much he values the cooperation within the community, and that Hilton Chicago considers East-West a good neighbor.

Phantoms Playing Through Adversity!

By Cortland Gillespie

After such an exciting win against Robert Morris, The Phantoms hoped to carry that same energy with them into every game. Unfortunately they have gotten off to a pretty shaky start ever since. "We lack discipline and effort," said Coach Posely as he spoke on the one thing hindering the Phantoms from their big breakthrough. "We have a long season ahead of us, which means more time for us to gain experience and develop into a stronger program," Sherman Carter quoted. With hard work and perseverance the Phantoms have slowly been progressing toward the goal they've set for

themselves as a program, and at times we have seen glimpses of that. Once it's done on a consistent basis the sky's the limit for this program. Come out and support the Phantoms on their journey as they take on... (Games Listed Below)

Goshen @ Goshen, 12/9/17, 1:00pm
Malcolm X @ Malcolm X, 12/12/17, 7:00pm
Illinois Central @ Kennedy King, 12/16/17, 7:00pm
Trinity Christian @ Trinity Christian, 12/21/17, 5:30pm
All support would be greatly appreciated!
GO PHANTOMS!



Kala's Journey To working for the Mouse

By:Kala Johnson

All of my life I have always been fascinated with all things Disney. From my obsession with "The Lion King" to My Love for Princess Tiana. In February 2014, my 3rd year at East-West I was looking for internship and job opportunities for the summer so I could gain experience that

I could use in the future for my career. I ended up applying to and getting accepted into the Disney Internships and Programs College Program at Walt Disney World Resort. In August 2014 I took a one way flight to Florida and was set to come back in 6 months. During the internship I had the opportunity to work Downtown Disney as a Merchandise Cast Member. I was also apart of the opening team of Disney Springs. I got a chance to live in the Company's housing, and

Take classes through Disney University. I also had the opportunity of extending my internship another 6 months and to out try a new work location. For my extension I got to work at Disney Port Orleans Resort. This Opportunity was an Experience of a lifetime and I will always use all of the information I got from this experience in life.



Gun Violence and our Give Back Take Back event

By Romani Rice

I am totally against the gun violence in Chicago for multiple reasons. “More than 4,000 people were shot over the course of the year, and 762 people were homicide victims” according to the Chicago tribune. This is crazy, there's no way our young teens and adults should be taken away at such early age or even at all. Chicagoans are sick to their stomach about these tragic deaths. We need to find a solution to get these guns that are killing my generation off of the streets some way, somehow.

With that being said, there was an event held downtown Chicago for my school and others. It was an organization called Give back, Take back. Now, you may ask yourself what that exactly means. The give back take back was for young teens or young adults who are college students, who were to get involved. “It's not that I'm preaching to them, we're having a conversation about something they can relate to unfortunately.” Says Mrs. Cleo Pendleton, one of the guest speakers there. That is very unfortunate that in order to get young people involved in something, you have to talk about such harsh situations. There were other speakers there such as Honorable Danny Davis,

congressman of Illinois, Andrew Wheeler and many more.

Honorable Danny Davis is a congressman who was chosen by the people who are in the 7th congressional district of Illinois. He is also married to Vera G Davis, whom they have two sons Johnathan and Stacey. Danny Davis discussed some ways he thought why Chicago has so many ending lives that are due to gun violence. Stating that “poverty also is a major contributing factor.” He also said, “Poverty is an enemy, no matter what your race, gender or ethnic background.” When you think about this, you can agree that the reasons he's stated are mostly true. He spoke at the give back take back to us because, he knows about gun violence. His grandson was killed due to gun violence, so he believes poverty plays a major role in the violent crimes in Chicago. For instance, you notice a large amount of people who come from poverty or the “ghetto” are the main ones who either is the victim of shooting or is the one who's doing the shooting. Why? Because open your eyes, our young people are seeing on a daily gang members and thugs who are nine times out of ten the ones doing the shootings. You also hear about

killings, retaliation and guns on the radio as soon as you turn it on. They then think it's cool to sing, once they think it's cool to speak upon think then think it's cool to act upon. Verses a person whom was born and raised in the suburbs. A suburban person doesn't necessarily have the streets mentality of killing, gang banging etc. because they weren't introduced to such things. If they are to act upon such violence it's because of music, videos, things of that nature. Davis also encourages the parents to get their children involved in some sort of activity or sport. “Pushing parenting and pushing programs for youth at church, after church, after school.”

One of the speakers mentioned before Mrs. Cleo Pendleton, was the mother of Hadith Pendleton whom also had their life ended due to gun violence. Mrs Cleo told her story about the killing of her daughter aloud to us. She's faced the heart-break & sorrow of her daughter and is still wondering to herself, why her? She thought she did everything there is to be a mother. Such as keeping her daughter hadiya in school sports. Basketball, cheerleading, majorette dancing and many more. That was the issue the mother was pressing such as Danny Davis. That putting your children in after school functions is very important, it gives them a chance to do what they like and love rather than standing on the streets.

The last speaker I want to touch on is a student here at EWU.



Her name is Kisha Johnson, who spoke about her relative (male cousin) “who was outside of his apartment building when he was shot multiple times, and died.” She said. Although, she doesn't state a plan on how the violence needs to stop. She does understand that violence is affecting her community in a major way. Now that she has some relation to gun violence through her cousin, she may share her story that can possibly impact others to share theirs.

In addition to this information that has been given to you, here's a few more possible ways to help cease the violence that is found in an article. The first way is more jobs and summer jobs for youth. The second is, to strengthen gun laws. The third is to change the culture of violence in our cities. The fourth is to strengthen prison to work programs. Fifth reason is to change the drug laws, last but not least is to communicate with law enforcement.

I think these type of non violence programs are very needed for the community of Chicago. I personally don't live in the city

of Chicago, I live in the suburbs. So I can't completely say that I can relate or understand the situations that's going on. But, I can say that I understand how it feels to lose a loved one who is now pronounced dead due to gun violence. A close friend of mine from middle school passed away on January 22, 2017. Just a few days before his birthday, he would have been nineteen. I don't understand, why him? Everyone literally knew Andrew, he was the funniest guy anyone could ever meet. This violence has to stop Chicago! I also have a few memories my own walking outside of my apartment building in 2014, seeing a pool of blood because someone had gotten shot. They chased him from backyard to backyard. He had to hop gates just to escape, the people that killed this person eventually shot fire in the head or back and ended in our backyard. This incident didn't even happen in Chicago, this happened in the city of Maywood, Illinois. So in some way I can relate to seeing someone being shot, and violence. I just hope the city of Chicago finds a plan and stick with it in order to keep our young people safe.



Student government elections

On February 1, 2018 East-West students will vote in the student government elections. Positions in the student government: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer.

Candidates:

Students have suggested the following initiatives for their government:

1. EWU website: advertise clubs and activities
2. "Positive fundraising": Raise money for activities, e.g. for trips, for Phantom Press, etc.
3. Capitalize on diversity of talents: invite our students who own businesses or make crafts to a vendor fair, organize cultural

events, open mic, photography exhibit, sharing music ...

4. More mingling between cultures. Encourage Chinese, Mongolian, Mexican, Indian, Pakistani, Eastern European students to share their heritage, e.g. similar to Diwali celebration
5. Decorate L-Lounge, foyer, window facing Michigan Ave to showcase EWU
6. Complaints about teachers should be addressed and resolved!
7. Coffee machine in school
8. School Spirit
9. Liaison with Student Ambassadors
10. More food options, a meal plan

11. Sports - a women basketball team, football...
12. A better way to spread information (Word of Mouth)
13. More Student Clubs (International)
14. Open houses for the whole university - All Majors
15. Student Town hall meeting
16. Offer a more variety of classes
17. Online services: Registration, payment
18. Mentorship: student to student, share experiences, help students from similar backgrounds
19. Tutoring Options for courses other than English and Math
20. Student Workshop
21. Job Fairs
22. Field Trips



By Tim Black Jr.

No Excuse Organization is the key for our youth. There are many elementary schools closing down in my neighborhood. I asked to myself often, do they care about us? Without schools, centers, or after school programs

where can our children go? What can they learn? Surely not from the streets, or these gang members. That where i come in at and makes a difference. First starting off with my community. I want to be person who can assist the youth to the right path when they need that helping hand.

NO EXCUSES!!

I'm a businessman, mentor, entrepreneur, speaker, mostly a citizen in my community which, i will try to reform into a better and safer environment to live in.

No Excuse Organization will allow the youth to grow without having distractions such gang banging, hustling, anything that would put you in a bad situation. I want to give the tools that will navigate them through the right stages, whether they going to college, high school, or even elementary . Tuition will not be a issue anymore. We want to help you to help us. Investing and stock

learning will be provided. Learning about credit/debit, which certain students doesn't get teach because of many reasoning that teachers have. This organization will discipline the youth in a way sports

do. You have to be mentally, physically ready and take pride into working with us. It all about helping our future which is the kids in our community and we have to start somewhere and i want to mentor and give out knowledge, "NEVER GIVE UP! EX-

CUSES ARE AMOUNT TO NOTHING"! NO EXCUSE!! Time to make adjustments to our communities so it can be a safer environment for the youth.



The Fuel of a Millennial

By Lydia Basanes

Chance the Rapper did the honors by introducing President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama to the stage. For 3 long minutes everyone was screaming, clapping, and yelling – the love



spread across the room. Being in an arena surrounded by hopes, dreams, and positive energy was so inspiring. As a product of cultural mishaps, listening to the stories of other peers and the impacts they are making in their own communities, I questioned: “What can I do to make a differ-

ence in my own”?

Due to excelling academically as well as showing strong leadership qualities, I and 4 other East-West students were approached by Ghada Morrar, to attend such remarkable event. On November 1, 2017, I had the privilege to attend The Obama Foundation Summit Concert. Patiently but still eagerly standing in the longest line that wrapped around the new Wintrust Arena, while it was pouring down raining, we looked around seeing hundreds of attendees getting ready to experience something so magical. We were all there to celebrate today’s new and improved young leaders, but most importantly I think everyone was looking for-



ward to seeing the Obama’s and listening to what they had to say. “Chicago has an amazing array of resources, we have great organizations, we have great faith-based leaders. We have strong culture, we have music, we have talent. We have history, we have

beauty—why wouldn’t we want to put that laboratory on the south side and bring all those resources home?” Michelle says. I walked out with a new mindset. The Obama Summit Foundation Concert did something to my spirit and I know I wasn’t alone.

Technology communication

By Patryk Malanowski

Technology has become very popular in our homes, schools and jobs. The use and popularity has a lot to do with the history of communication. In class we learned about Rozhdestvensky, a Russian scholar, he explained the communication of history in four layers. These four layers are the oral, the written, the printed and the electronic layers. Rozhdestvensky also explained that each time a new layer formed it created new jobs, skills and changed previous layers. Advancements in technology in the recent electronic layer keep adding new ways to communicate with one another. From sending radio signals, paging people on their pagers, calling someone on their cell phone, sending text messages, and most recent video calling we don’t know where it will go next.

For example, my family had to send letters in the mail to keep in contact with relatives in other countries, along with photos to show how much we have grown. Now all we do is take out our

takes a minute or 2. What will be the newest way technology will change the way we communicate?

One new way may be “Network-Based Telepathy”. For

a rudimentary “telepathic” system that connects the brains of two people. They used it for a game. Imagine a very simple two-player video game. On a

the city, if they hit the city, the players lose. They can, however, use the cannon to shoot down the rockets. There are also occasional passenger planes, which should not be shot down. That’s what Rao and his colleagues created, except there’s no verbal communication. The sender is hooked up to an EEG sensor, which detects brain activity in certain areas; the receiver is hooked up to a TMS device, which stimulates the brain. To make a long neuroscientific story short, the sender imagines moving his right hand, and this signal is transmitted through the EEG sensor, between two networked computers, and into the TMS machine, causing the receiver’s hand to twitch and hit the “fire” button. It’s like sending brain signals through the internet. What other new ways of communication will be created?



cellphones or computers and video call them. What use to take months for a reply, now

example Dr. Rajesh Rao and members of his lab at the University of Washington have created

screen, there’s a city, a cannon, and a pirate ship. The pirate ship occasionally fires rockets toward

Homo sapiens' Race for Survival and Dominance Begins Now!

By: **Rahil Vahora**

One of the hottest topics of discussion today in numerous publications and academic communities around the world is: how artificial intelligence (“the thinking machine”) is going to redefine our world, either for better or worst. The quest which underlies all those intriguing debates is to resolve, that will homo sapiens endure the impact of a technology which is far more intelligent? and whether we would become the masters or slaves of it? Well, such fears are justifiable because what we are about to face has never happened before. For centuries, human beings have thrived on technology. We started with wheels, and as of now the most ubiquitous, advance technology is our smartphone. However, what we never had before was a machine that could think like us and act like us; all more rapidly than our mind can even comprehend. Unfortunately, learning from the past is not an option here. Well then, what we must do? How homo sapiens – an intelligent creature – should prepare to withstand the impact and inescapably, preside over a “super intelligent” creature? The article tries to answer this pressing, hard-to-answer question of our time.

Understanding Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Stuart Russell, the author of a world-renowned book on

artificial intelligence and an eminent researcher of AI at UC Berkeley, defines AI as systems which can think and act like humans. Such systems act humanly as well as rationally (because humans sometimes act irrationally which is what AI does not aim to do!). For AI, to act rationally is to “do the right thing”, the right action is either one that would maximize its performance or one that would make it most successful.

Applications of AI: “Ad Infinitum”

What makes AI malicious is not the prospect of it attaining self-consciousness, but its effort to achieve the similar or perhaps beyond the similar level of intelligence humans possess. Because when it is successful in doing so (which it will in the near future), it gives itself the potential to replace human beings in every field imaginable. Ask yourself, how would you define a human? Well according to the Encyclopedia Britannica, a human being can be distinguished from other species by superior mental development “and a resultant capacity for articulate speech and abstract reasoning”. Today research in AI strives to create a machine that has superior cognitive abilities. It strives to develop a system that is like us and if possible, better than us.

The Latin phrase “Ad Infinitum”, which is used here in

the subtitle does not imply the mathematical infinity of numbers, but it is intended to convey the countless ways an intelligent technology can be applied in our economy, opening the doors for enterprises to make more profit with little expense of human resources.

Problems AI would Create

1. Severe Unemployment

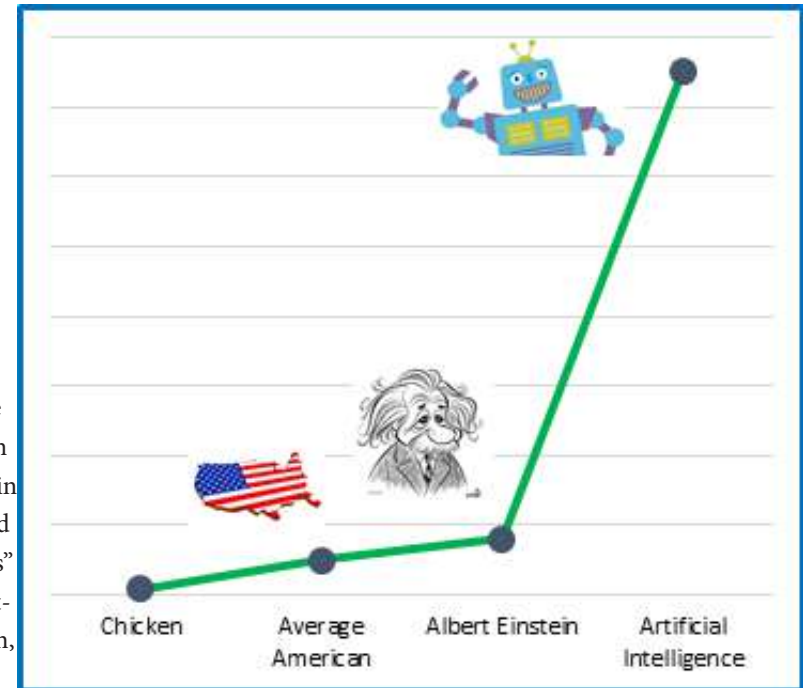
A study conducted by an economist Dr. Carl Frey and AI researcher Dr. Michael Osborne from the Oxford University, estimated “that 47 percent of jobs in the US are ‘at risk’ of being automated in the next 20 years”. Published in 2013, the study “had examined over 700 different occupations” in the US economy. It suggested that jobs in “transportation, logistics, as well as office and administrative support are at ‘high risk’”. Jobs in the service industry are also likely to be automated, “despite the recent job growth in this sector”.

2. Mismanagement

A machine with a human-level intelligence is equally capable of benefiting and harming our society. If built or used incorrectly, say by a malignant institution to achieve an ill objective, it will jeopardize the humanity as a whole. We must understand that AI can be more perilous than a nuclear weapon, and if mismanaged, it can significantly impact our society. The fear is real! In the year 2015, an open letter

urging the United Nations to ban the development and use of autonomous weapons was signed by more than a thousand prominent scientists, AI researchers, and great thinkers of our time, including the world-renowned cosmologist

intelligent species, who with their intellect can easily manipulate and exercise control over other non-intelligent species. This suggests that it is intelligence which opens the door to leadership, dominance, and primacy. Let’s do a thought



Stephen Hawking, Tesla and SpaceX founder Elon Musk, and the Director of Google Research Peter Norvig.

3. The Manipulation Problem

Have you ever visited the Lincoln Park Zoo here in Chicago or any other zoo anywhere else on the planet? Why is it so that a 500 pound giant beast – a black bear, with a physical strength equal to that of seven humans can be easily kept behind the bars under a single zoo-keeper’s control?

Well, there is no mystery involved, the answer seems quite obvious. Human beings are

experiment. Look at the graph attached below.

The graph depicts the spectrum of intelligence. Currently robots are not there yet, they are somewhere close to an average American. However, looking at the speed of advancement in AI, an American philosopher and neuroscientist Sam Harris has argued that this is where robots would stand in the next decade or so. (Anyways, there is no doubt, AI researchers are aiming to surpass the human-level intelligence). Ask, in the future, where would you stand? where AI would stand? Well, the two

questions leads us to solving “the manipulation problem”; that the level of intelligence matters. If not cautious, we might become the unfortunate black bear under the control of AI tomorrow.

Solutions

1. Universal Basic Income BI, the shorthand for “Universal Basic Income” is a policy idea which suggests that government should provide every citizen enough money to cover the basic living expense. Many economists have argued that UBI “is the only real way to help Americans weather the widespread disruption that automation is sure to bring”. Martin Ford, a futurist and an author of the New York Times Best Seller, *Rise of the Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future*, states that providing a guaranteed income would incentivize education. More people would feel safe pursuing those opportunities when they would have “an income floor”. He argues

this by using a phenomenon called the Peltzman Effect. An economist at the University of Chicago studied auto accidents and found out that introducing more safety features into cars like seat belts, do not decrease the number of fatalities and injuries. “The reason is that people compensate for it”.

When there is a safety net in place, people would take more risks. This stands true even in the economic arena. Implementing the UBI policy would push people toward “more entrepreneurship and more risk taking”. So even with AI replacing 47 percent of jobs in the US, people would still innovate and bring new jobs in the market, aiding in repairing the damage created by the automation.

2. Merge with the Machine Though a radical idea, it is one of the most effective ways of staying competitive with the artificial intelligence. Proposed by Elon Musk, the notion is that human beings should implant a chip in their brain to assist them in achieving higher

levels of intelligence. He suggests that to prevent AI from becoming the superior species, we must become cyborgs. Well, this sounds absurd but believe me it's not.

Neuralink, a company started by Elon has the following description of mission on its website: “developing ultra-high bandwidth brain-machines to connect humans and computers”. It is not a mere theory, but an applicable concept. Combining neuroscience, cognitive psychology, and engineering, we might become successful in augmenting our cognitive abilities.

However, considering the drawback, such solution would largely benefit the richer class of society than it would to the rest of the humanity. Neural tools armed with improving our cognitive abilities would come with a huge price tag, worsening the economic inequality which is already worst.

3. Creating a Safer AI Stuart Russell (AI researcher at UC Berkeley) argues that it is possible to create AI which

is aligned to our needs and values. In the AI field, this is known as “the value-alignment problem”. According to him, there are three principles for creating human-compatible AI, which are as follows:

1. The robot's only objective is to maximize the realization of human values.
2. The robot should initially be uncertain about what human values are.
3. Human behavior will provide information about human values.

Thought Experiment: (The off-switch problem)

Imagine you have a coffee-making robot in your house. The robot has an off-switch button at the back, which you can use it to switch the robot off when it seems dangerous. Should a human-compatible robot let you switch it off?

Definitely! Below is how it will reason.

Robot: “The human might switch me off.” (Follows the 1st Principle)

Robot: “But only if I do

something wrong.” (Follows the 1st Principle)

Robot: “But I don't know what ‘wrong’ is but I know I don't want to do

it.” (Follows the 2nd Principle and is being rational)

Robot: “Therefore I should let the human switch me off” (By the way, the robot is there at UC Berkeley for the research. It is named PR2!).

Conclusion

We are certain that our future involves us coexisting with AI. We are also certain that AI is going to be far more intelligent and efficient than us. Certainly, we are certain that we want to survive, thrive, and dominate the planet. What we are uncertain about is whether that would be possible. However, the history tells us that uncertainty can be changed to certainty if effort is made. The race for survival and dominance has begun now, and if we want to ever cross the finish line first, we'll need to start preparing now!

Lost Art of Reading



By Gloria Whitehead

Are you investing into your children ?

Let's sit back and take a moment

and think about our childhood. How different is it compared to your children or children you know? I'm quite sure

there's a huge difference. Growing up back in the day as kids you played outside you weren't allowed to sit in front of the TV all day

you didn't want to you would rather be outside playing or even reading your favorite book series. Me, I liked the Magic tree house series. I was always reading in my free time, but the older you get the more responsibilities you accumulate meaning less time for leisure things such as reading for fun. My question to those of you who have children or actively involved in a child's life, are you encouraging reading ? I have no children but i do have a niece and nephew who I'm am trying to mode into active readers. I'm trying to show them that reading

is fun and that it's more to life than TV's and tablets. We as parents or stand in parent in my case have to help our children enrich their lives by showing them what having a great education can do and how reading can help pave the way. According Neil Postman by the time children reach school age they would've clocked over 5000 hours of TV. Now this was before tablets and smart phone were invented. You can just imagine that that as doubled. I'm encouraging all to take some time out their day and pick a novel or paper or comic book

and lead by example and read to your children, that way once they are old enough to read they would love it and it won't be so hard to show them the wonders of reading.



Your Luxury is Our Displacement

By Titiana Rice

To understand what is happening in the world today you must look at your Neighborhood. If you look closely you will see that the neighborhood that you once knew is no more. I grew up in a predominantly black neighborhood. It was also called the projects, 3-16 story buildings with families who have low to no income. Everyone knew everyone and it was fine. When you are raised in the projects you have no idea that there is a whole other world out there. They had given the families options to move to different neighborhoods. Which meant a lot of vacancies. You slowly see the whites move in your neighborhood where we lived for years and then it happened, Gentrification.

It was not a big push, it happened gracefully and slowly. So you ask what gentrification is. Well, Natalie Moore describes it as “Gentrification is a boogeyman on Chicago’s South Side. But in reality it’s a phantom. The term is bandied about whenever people experience or anticipate neighborhood change” in the Chicago Sun Times. She calls it the boogeyman because they come and take the neighborhood right from under you. Gentrification in so many words means that the wealthy moves in the poor neighborhoods and start to raise housing cost so the poor can’t stay.

Pilsen

You have some people believe that gentrification is good and other thinks of it as being a monster. This is where the great debate comes in. When you take a walk down Pilsen streets, you see spray painted quotes

like this one. Pilsen which was once a predominated Latino neighborhood have drastically changed. Over the last two decades Pilsen has seen a drop in Latinos. Over 10,000 Latinos have left the neighborhood going back Mexico. In 2000 Pilsen was 90% Latino with second and third generations of immigrants but that has changed since over 10,000 have left Pilsen according to the U.S. Census Bureau. (Lulay 2016) Pilsen is slowly losing its culture and ethnicity because of gentrification. Now in 2010 that 90% has fallen to nearly 80% of Latinos in Pilsen.

Watching the documentary of Class Divide (Levin 2016) it was enlightening to see that in one neighborhood where gentrification is taking place, you have a Private school directly

across the street from the projects. This school has a tuition of about \$40,000. This school sits in their neighborhood and their own children can’t even afford to attend because of the high tuition price. The families of this poor neighborhood are scared because it this happened with a school they all are wondering when will they be forced out completely.

While reading parts of Matt Hern book: What a city is for, he said something that stood out to me which was “contained through exclusionary zoning, predatory lending, and racist

real estate’s practices. African American have been aggressively displaced- by rising housing cost, developers eager to get rid of low income families”.

In Natalie Moore’s book: The South Side, a Professor Robert J. Sampson from Harvard University stated he “found that in black Chicago neighborhoods, gentrification stopped in places where the population was at least 40% blacks” (Moore 2017). After reading the south side the segregation showed. Moore stated that



she paid \$170,000 for a house in Bronzeville and had it later appraised for \$90,000 (Moore 2017).

In doing my research there is belief that gentrification and segregation goes hand and hand. To go into another neighborhood and gentrify it you are displacing a lot of families that have lived there for years. I truly understand the quote that your luxury is our displacement. Gentrification in any neighborhood could be good and it should be agreed upon by the community in which the gentrifying would

take place. Give the residents in the neighborhood a chance to have a choice in something that could cause so much change.

Finishing what I started
By Tyisha Witherspoon

I graduated from high school in 2001, at the time I was 18 years and a single parent of a 4 month old, my trade at school was Diesel Mechanics, I was offered a job at CTA for the summer working on bus engines, something that

I did not enjoy. I decided to attend college fall of 2001 at East West University to further my education to make a better living for me and my son. I didn’t know much about the school except that my father worked there, I never considered really furthering my education but I

knew I had to do something.

The beginning was great, I was extremely interested in computer programming at the time (that was a quick dream) and I meet some really great people. As time went on, the classes eventually became tough I was working a part time job and my focus shifted more into employment and growing my income. Thinking school was in my way I decided to take some time off to work full time to be more independent and make more money. Sounds easy right? Well let’s say I ended up with a bunch of dead end jobs,

going from one job to another to make more money, not thing about school, a second child and no college education.

I enrolled back in school changed my Major (to something I actually wanted to do) Behavioral and social science to atleast get my associate degree to see what that would get me, not fully focused because I still have to work part time to provide for my family but doing enough to get by. I received my associate degree left school again to venture out to see what opportunities were available for me and still was unable to find a job, or career that was suitable for me. It took years for me to find a job that I was happy with, earnings, environment, and something that would lean towards a career.

I have been at my Company for 4 years, being at my job made me decide to go back to school to finish my Bachelor’s degree, even though a degree doesn’t guarantee you a Job, I would like to have options and opportunities that some people may not have, I would like to show my kids to always finish what you started no matter what life throws at you, I don’t to ever want to be stuck at a place where I can’t expand my skills set to higher levels. So I returned back to school, so when I’m done I could have some choices and accomplishments to be proud of, something my children can follow as well, even though I wish I would have never stopped I know I had to go through some things in order for me to be the person I am today, I realize the mistakes I made and and the things in life I don’t need. Finishing what I started and I’m focused.

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Being A Senior and Going for the Goal: Graduation

By: Jacob Lankin

Becoming a senior at East West University is one of the best feelings to have because it means that you are one step closer to achieving your goal, receiving your diploma in whatever you are majoring in. This is also the time to make sure that everything is in order such as double checking your course requirements are all up to date, you have a good relationship with your course director. It is always good to maintain that relationship because they are the ones that oversee your overall productivity. Another step is also doing

meetings with your guidance counselor, they can help with keeping you on track with your classes and help you keep track of how many credits you have and need in order to graduate. They are located on the first floor of the East building in the L Lounge. Once you are senior these things should be as easy as walking across that stage and receiving that piece of paper. Go for the goal and always reach for your dreams, you can achieve anything as long as you believe in yourself.

First day of my last year ! Guide for beginners...

By Rajana Huddleston

On a mission to accomplish goals that were once so far away. Having the insight and opportunity to meet those who are beginning college as freshmen, help lay stepping stones. Establishing what it took to make it through school with positive outlooks and focused views for the mission at hand. College is only as hard as you make it and the stepping stones used to get through vary from person to person. The answer to "why did you decide to pursue a higher education?" is the foundation for what

it will take every individual to keep moving forward towards their goal. Whatever motivates you is what will keep you going through the challenges faced while in college. Living within today's social and economic setting added to whatever drives one to do better is the purpose of having higher education. Having that opportunity to fulfill your dreams and beat odds that were against you come along with reaching your last year an excellent further. Education is the key to a brighter future.

My life as a college student

By: Rochelle Ford

I have been attending East West for five years, and what caused me to go here was when my high school Spanish teacher called the school for me, when the other school I wanted to go to wouldn't accept me. So being here for that long wasn't and still is not a bad idea. I've never had any conflict with the students nor with any of the teachers; as a matter of fact, I stay to myself mostly and don't have many friends. The teachers that I've had and currently have are very nice teachers, because

they allow students access to their office and email if they need assistance. The other reasons why I love being here are because it has lockers, a cafe, and a Student Life Center. However, some of the classes that I've been taking have been challenging for me, and I have wanted to give up many times. Overall my goal is to graduate from here with a bachelor's in psychology. However, I may go into something else like maybe healthcare, if psychology doesn't work out for me.

What is it like living in the hood?

By Nana Manu

My name is Manu and I was born and raised in Chicago in the Gage Park neighborhood and I currently live in the Bronzeville neighborhood and my experience living in the hood is like living in "death row". We face the same situation all day everyday such as drug trafficking, poverty, and even gang affiliations. Also, I come from the city where we couldn't tell the difference between fireworks and shooting guns off on the 4th of July.

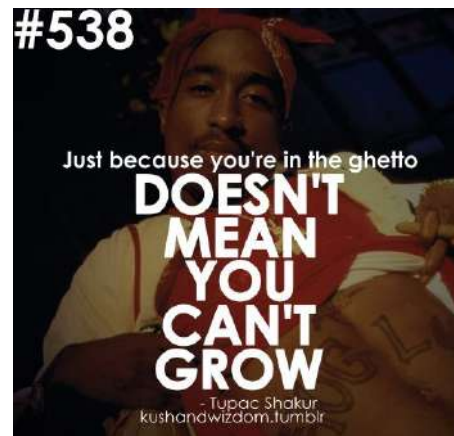
When we were kids, everyone loved to dress up for Halloween going out for trick-or-treating with no problems; but now, as we got older, nobody wants to take their younger siblings to go trick-or-treating because people are so ignorant that they will throw frozen eggs at random people for no reason.

If people had a problem with one another over a small situation, then people would have a man-to-man or woman-to-woman conversation, talked

things out, and settle their differences. Now people rather kill than talk (that's the true definition of actions speak louder than words).

Living in the hood is not safe for anyone. It's like every man for themselves. Everyday in the hood, we see trash everywhere, but the trash bins are empty; there are loud people who think that everyone within three blocks wants to listen to their stupid rap music.

It's not easy, but anyone can change their life.



HELP WILL ALWAYS BE GIVEN AT EAST-WEST TO THOSE WHO ASK FOR IT!



Mathematics: help with homework, understanding concepts, succeeding in class,

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 11am to 5 p.m., Student Life Center r. 501 (by the library).

Writing: grammar, research, logic, punctuation assistance MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY in rm W408 and W405.

Computer Science: understanding concepts, passing classes. Monday

and Wednesday 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm E214, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm W312; Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm E214. Contact Daniel at di19564@eastwest.edu

Motivation, managing stress and anxiety, taking care of family issues to maximize your achievement, adjustment to college: STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER, rm. W315, MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY 11am - 4pm, Friday morning by appointment.

Friendships

By Essence Brown

You know when you are little and think you know everything? Remember? Haha! Yes! But do you also remember when your parents told you "not everyone is your friend"? Believe it or not, that statement is 100% right. I learned the hard way that some people mean you no good. On the other hand, some people might be great for you. You may meet people from work, school, and/or your neighborhood.

You have to deal with people reciprocally. In other words, mirror the person, treat them how you want to be treated and vice versa. Everyone benefits from each other, whether it's getting the best advice about a relationship, or buying your friend/coworker lunch. You just have to learn from people, let them be the one to teach right from wrong. Then you'll be able to decide whether you want to stay or not.

My band Sushi

By Arsalan Poshni

My name is Arsalan Poshni and I play guitar in a surf punk band called Sushi locally in the Chicagoland area. We started roughly around late 2014 early 2015 and continue to play periodically when summoned or just for fun. Then band consists of myself on guitar, and my friends Noah Corona on vocals, Kevin Williams on drums and Josh Elvidge on Bass. Notorious for our loud and obnoxious shows, complete with hardcore nudity and feathers, we don't dis-

appoint.

Over the years our catalog of songs ranged from a meager 10 to now around 20 or so. The styles and speeds vary but are mostly upbeat tempo. We have developed a cult following, but part of me can't shake off the feeling that the audience is really digging, humoring, tolerating, or at this point can't stomach us anymore. Realistically it's probably some combination of the latter. The future is always uncertain, but where there is a craving for raw fish, there will always be Sushi.

Amul dairy: Asia's largest dairy

By : Krupeshkumar Patel

The taste of India. The name given to amul dairy because of the dairy refine and sell the amount of 6.44 billion litres in one year. There are 3.6 million farmers and other peoples are sell their milk to the company. The dairy's turnover is \$ 4.1 billion in a year. It's asia's biggest dairy with only 750 employs. The dairy provide amul milk, bread spreads, cheese, UHT milk,

beverage range, amul pro, paneer, ice cream, dahi,ghee, milk powder, mithai range, mithai products, chocolates, lactose free milk, fresh cream, amul sour cream, pouch butter milk, amul kettle feed. The products of amul mostly exports in INDIA, USA, ST MAARTEEN , QATAR, BAHRAIN, KUWAIT, U.A.E, CHINA, AFGHANISTAN, BANGLADESH, JAPAN, NEPAL ,HONG KONG , ETC.

Happiest Moment of my Life

By Rina Patel



Life is full of moments. Some are happy while other is sad but both the moments teach us new things and are unforgettable. In a life of a woman the most two happy moments are getting married and giving birth to a kid. In my life the happiest moment was giving birth to my kid Raj. He kept his legs in this beautiful world in May 10th 1998. It was an auspicious day as per Hindu calendar. At the time of birth his father was too happy than me as he was his loving one. In most cases if there is a girl child than she most loved by father and a boy is most loved by mother but in my case it was opposite. He was born with long nails and all my family members started to take care of him especially his father and my mother i.e. Raj's Grandmother.

As the time gone his body structure started to change and at age of 4 he was a chubby baby

loved by all and all loved to play with him but Raj loved to play with my elder brother's son. As he grows older he became more mischief. One day he throws stone at a dog and the dog bite him but at that time he was laughing.

As the days passed he became smart and thin. He loved to ride tricycle which was given to him on his 2nd birthday by me and my brother and her wife. As he was 6 year old he started to go to school. He was intelligent and naughty student as per teachers. But in my view he was best child. As it is for every mother. As time passes as it passes at a speed of wind, he completed his schooling and had kept his legs in the University.

During his 10th grade, we come to USA he lived with my brother. He had lot of fun with his cousin

brother who none lives with me.

It is said that "To a mother, a son is never a fully grown man, and a son is never a fully grown man until he understands and accepts this about his mother." As he grown up, he was still a small baby for me. We care for him to much as he is delicate and gets caught to disease soon.

He his doing his Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering. He had decided his future, As we are not one to decide our kids future. He want to be a electric designer and want to design efficient products for future.

I and my husband only wish is that he succeeds in his life and be a good citizen where so ever he

goes. And don't forget his culture which are been taught by us and the society. And be helpful in his life.

Some of the photos of Raj from Small one to big one



Don't Be Afraid

By:Stanesha Adams

At East West I am a Biology Major., but when I first got here I wasn't. I was so determined to become an African-American History teacher. I wanted to teacher my people as well as others about my history. The history that often gets half told. I loved learning about who I am and where I came from and I wanted others to feel proud too. I wanted people to respect it. Or at least that's what I thought I wanted to do.

I still want people to understand us. However, I used this as a cover-up. I was frightened to do what I wanted to do. I always wanted to be

a Cardiothoracic Surgeon, but I was afraid I was going to fail. My mother is a Registered Nurse, she would always tell us when we were young, to always be better than her. My mother never got anything below an A, so try to top that. It was so much pressure, and to want to follow her into the medical field. That was not an easy thing to do. So I chickened out. I found something that sparked my interest but never made me whole.

I always had this little voice in my head saying what if. I could



hear almost everyday, I had this feeling in my stomach that

I was making a mistake. I had moved away to Ypsilanti, Mi and there's this pastor. Pastor

Matt goes around to several colleges to essentially give us a church experience. I was far from home from my church so I attended his. Well this night he gave us time for Q&A. So I told him my story and he gave me a simple answer. "Go in spite of." He gave me a scripture I visit quite often, it helps me when I'm doubting myself. I was scared full of fear but I trusted him, I trusted him

every since I went to Eastern Michigan University the first time and he helped me. So when I came back to Chicago I put my big girl pants on and I did it. I changed my major to Biology.

I say this to say whatever you are scared of don't be. Go in spite of. Don't let your fear of failure keep you from succeeding. Your fear is what going to make you fail. If you find yourself being really scared find a passage or a person, a song or something that gives you hope and use it. Rome wasn't built in a day, so who cares if it's taking you 5-10 years to get a bachelor's. Just go and get!

Hinduism is not a religion but a way of life

By: Prashannah Mahindan-raj

Hinduism is a major world religion originated in India it includes varied symptoms of philosophy, believes and ritual. No one knows who was founder and when he started to believe in Hinduism.

Hinduism, or more appropriately, "Sanatana Dharma" (eternal religion), is a way of living

and thinking rather than an organized religion. The Hindu religion shows a remarkable syncretism conciliating a great number of beliefs and practices. It involves all the aspects of the human life and is not reduced to a simple ideology. The daily actions are more constant and determined than beliefs. For the millions of people who practice this religion, it is a way of life that encompasses all aspects of



Cremation of dead bodies after the ritual activities.

life including family, social life, sciences, politics, business, art and health behaviors. Almost all hindus worship Shiva(The destroyer), Vishnu (The Sustainer) , and Brahma (The Creator) and at the same time hundreds, may be even million of the minor deities that can belong specifically to a specific village, a family or a clan. The respect for the Brahmins (caste of priest) and the cows, a pure(sattvic) diet and the avoidance of eating meat especially beef, marriages within the same caste and the importance of the male heirs are the only principles that achieve unanimity. Hindus believe the universe to be a large closed sphere, a cosmic egg inside of which: paradises, hell , concentric oceans - as well as the continents with india in the center are found. And they believe life is also cyclic: after death, the soul (atma) passes to a new living thing, it can be

anything: a human being, an animal , a plant etc but it depends on the sins what we did on our lifelong. This uninterrupted process of death and rebirth is called "samsara". The karma is the principle of the hindu philosophy. It consists in the sum of all acts, good or bad, setting up the conditions for the transmigrations of the soul over its successive incarnations. It is possible to counterweight its effect by behaving justly and disinterestedly, via rituals or via expiatory practices and hence to be released from the cycle of birth and death (moksha in sanskrit). The hindus cremate their dead ones because fire purifies. Hindus Believe, Kashi/ varanasi is the cremated place where they can throw the ashes on the the purified river water called "Ganga"(the river of salvation). Varanasi, the world's oldest city which is situated in Northern India.

Its primary identity is "Hindu central" the place to which every believing hindu must make a pilgrimage at least once in his/ her lifetime. Being cremated in kashi and having one's ashes thrown in the ganges, releases one from the cycle of rebirth.

Asthi Visarjan (throwing the ashes in to the river Ganga)

During their lifetime, Hindus must settle three debts: the study of the Vedas(owed to wise men), the delivery of a son(owed to the ancestors) and the sacrifice (owed to the gods).



Changes

By Demetrius Prothro

As I look back on my young life and ponder on yesterday, the only thing I can really say is "Thank you." I am thankful on how far my life has changed, how much I have accomplished and what I am close to accomplishing. I compare my life growing up to a wild lion who only thinks about next meal (money) and territory (gangs.) I was able to release some anger into football growing up but every day I left school the reality of what my life truly is as entered back in my neighborhood and hung with friends and family- I was a monster to society. Upon graduating from high school with a rather tarnished background record, I was extremely lost and an absolute wild animal with no sense of direction or positivity in our society. I did

whatever was needed to get what I wanted without thinking about the consequences for my life and others. I will never forget the day that my friend changed my life by sitting me down and talking to me about possibly considering the military as he done. This was the turning point in my life by far and I am forever grateful for his compassion and love that he extended to me in concern for my life.

The military changed me and instead of me being a wild animal, the military turned me into structured animal that could control my anger and to know when to unleash it at the proper time. It forced me to educate myself in ways that I neglected prior to joining the military whether it was physically or mentally. My only purpose prior to joining military was to football but the

military gave me more purposes- to protect our rights of this country, to continuously grow as a person and to never forget where I was in life or where I came from. I use to bleed only certain colors of a particular gang but know I bleed red, white and blue for whom I served and protected with honor, courage and dignity. I am not that lost individual of my younger days who was stagnated in one spot as if I was in quicksand, I keep growing and striving for more out of life and will not allow my surrounding to limit me to what I can achieve. Also by me never forgetting what I have been through and where I come from, it keeps that firing burning within myself so that I don't revert back to my younger self and keeps me mindful that one day I could help a person in need that is lost as my friend did

for me.

All in all, life is short and we all make good and bad decisions that could alter our lives but when bad decisions are made it shouldn't stop us in life. There are a lot of people that are lost mentally in a negative way that could be steered in a positive direction by people just taking the time to talk to them and possibly extending a helping hand. Help was given to me and hopefully I can return the favor to someone in need one day. Help comes in all shapes and forms rather its giving advice to join military, financial advice, simple conversation to brighten their day or being aware that a person hasn't eaten and giving them a few dollars for a meal. By helping the next person, there will be many success stories like mine.

