

The Pretentious Press

February 2019

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New Waterboarding Fraternity Receives Backlash

By: Rachael Summers

Controversy has arisen from Pace University's new addition to its Greek life, but the newcomers claim that what they do is far from hazing.

"Sigma Sigma Waterboard Sigma" is the new co-ed fraternity that's sole mission is waterboarding its members.

"So basically to get into the frat we waterboard you. And then your duties as a member are to waterboard other people," says frat president Bradley Thompson.

Bradley elaborates, "But it's not hazing. It's torture. Which is much cooler."

Member Kyle Coolidge explains to us, "I really feel like I found my family in this club. These people have my back and they know me better than anyone. So what if they drowned me to the point where I briefly died for 30 seconds? That's what friends do."

The new group has seized the abandoned fourth floor of Maria's Tower and turned it into their frat house.

"Living in the house is great. We captured one of the cooks from Chartwells and they cook three meals a day for us. At this point we're basically siblings so we brush each other's teeth, shower together, and we even set up an IV so we can all share blood. I love my best friends!" shares frat member Julie Cooper.

The club's promotional material includes Benjamin Franklin's famous Join or Die severed snake political cartoon, free tee shirts, and most infamously - flash waterboardings.

The student body is not happy about this. English major Alice Davis articulates, "The other day I was in the caf and ten of the frat members tackled me. They waterboarded me and then gave me a free tee shirt. This is ridiculous, the shirt wasn't even in my size."

Vice Dean of Students Horatio Polinez explains, "We're trying to get them off the campus. They don't represent any of our ideals as a University. But our hands are tied."

"What measures have you taken to remove them from campus?" inquires Pretentious Press reporter Jonathan Johnson.

"Well, I went over to their house the other day and I went 'Shoo, shoo. Get out of here,' but it didn't work," concludes Polinez.

The fraternity may not bode well with the general population, but they don't let that affect the mission they seek to carry out.

"All my life I've faced little to no adversity. And that's boring. I was raised in upper-middle class suburbs, but I've always wondered what life would be like at Guantanamo Bay. Well, now I don't have to wonder," eloquently concludes club member Erik-zander White.

He continues, "Besides the girl in the red morphsuit who keeps turning off our water supply, nothing will get in our way."





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Spicy Things To Do On Valentine's Day With That Special Someone

By: Autumn Sancho

Are you tired of swiping on tinder? Tired of sitting through countless romantic comedies alone? Or are you just plainly desperate for love, affection, and a reason to keep holding on in our terrifying economy, political climate, and capitalistic society? Well, look no further! Here's a convenient guide of tips and ideas that have been scientifically proven to woo that special someone!

1. Impress your partner in the bedroom with a sensuous rendition of Scotland the Brave on your Bagpipes.
2. Take turns shredding paper together on your Swingline Stack-and-Shred 80x Auto feed Shredder, Cross-cut, 80 sheets paper shredder.
3. Set aside a respectable 3 hours to take the PSAT together (with a #2 pencil, of course) and if you're feeling extra spicy, take the SAT afterwards.
4. Blindfold your partner and surprise them with a daring trip to your local DMV. Extra points for every employee who yells at you and for every hour you spend contemplating your will to live.
5. Listen to 6 hours and 11 minutes of the 99 most essential Gregorian Chants on YouTube (For an optimal experience, do it in the dark).
6. Gently probe your partner for their opinion on the 1996 JonBenet Ramsey case.
7. Reveal deeply embedded psychological childhood traumas such as your parent's 2008 divorce which left you with crippling commitment issues.
8. Sign up for a wholesome, hands-on couples workshop on autopsies.
9. Buy a bouquet of red roses, a box of chocolates, and an engagement ring and give it to the person you've been seeing behind your partner's back.
10. Listen to all 39 KidzBop CDs.

Here are some reviews from our happy and satisfied readers!

T-Bone

My wife left me and I lost the kids in the divorce. I've gained 30 pounds, I have high blood pressure, and every night I cry myself to sleep and every morning I put on a brave mask to face this goddamn cruel world.

David Aaron

I followed the 4th tip and I've been trapped inside the DMV for a whole week. I lost my girlfriend in the first hour after she asked an employee for a cup of water and they executed her on the spot. I've been waiting in line so long I've forgotten what I'm waiting for. The lights are shutting down one by one and the elevator music has stopped playing. I don't even have a car.

Martha Foley

I asked my partner for his opinion on the JonBenet Ramsey case. Turns out he was the one who killed her. We are no longer together



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The Phases of the Master Plan as the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse

By: Sarah Baker

Pace University's home website describes the "Master Plan" as the physical embodiment of Pace's mission, which is to provide students with an education that fits the demands of the changing market. One particular change in the market that Gen Z is familiar with is the upcoming apocalyptic doom that we will be facing as a result of climate change.

Just as we prepare for the inevitable in our own career paths, Pace University hopes to prepare us for the inevitable apocalypse by implementing a Master Plan that will get us market-ready for our doom.

Phase 1: A Home for Dyson College of Arts and Sciences, or "Conquest"

Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

— Revelation 6:1-2

The "White Horse" of the apocalypse is the introduction of a home for Dyson. Since Dyson is the home for liberal arts students, the ones who study humanities, it only makes sense that Pace has chosen to have this branch of the university represent the White Horse, which is often interpreted to be Jesus Christ. This makes sense, and as a Dyson student, I can confirm that we are the lord and saviors of Pace University.

Phase 2: A New Home For Lubin, or "War"

When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.

— Revelation 6:3-4

Pace really took a powerful anti-Lubin stance with this one. See, with the amount of "coffee" that is sure to be consumed by all of the business majors once Lubin has its own space, the student body is likely to be riled up to the point of rage, and this is sure to spark a war among them. Just as the horseman of war will take peace from the earth, Lubin will

take the peace from Pace University, just as they have with all of the available budget allocations from the school. Amen.

Phase 3: New Centers and Other Areas, or "Famine"

And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; but do not damage the oil and the wine." — Revelation 6:5-6

The official university website describes the new centers and other areas as enabling students to "integrate their academic and social lives," but really, this is a distraction from the fact that the caf is slowly burning out. They painted it a sickly green color to make the student population feel ill so we would eat there less and instead have our social gatherings take place in the new student areas, therefore decreasing the need to produce more food. The goal, if I'm right about this (and I've never been wrong before), is to starve us overtime. The weaker the masses, the more easy to control, which brings us to my final point.

Phase 4: A New Exterior, or "Death"

When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come." I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. — Revelation 6:7-8

Pace's final step in their evil "Master Plan" is a rather unexpected one. After giving us the glimmering hope of a new space for the Dyson College of Arts and Sciences, inciting a war among the Lubin students, distracting and starving us, Pace plans as their final step in our destruction to make us go outside, a place to which we are all allergic.

The website says this exterior space "reflects the aspirational nature of our students," but they know that after attending this university for as long as all of us have, our only aspiration is to the sweet release of death, so they really got semantical with that one.



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Pace Master Plan Drives Out Marginalized Stoop Kids

By: Adriana Chivil, Selini Drakos, and Rachel Cregier

Mango flavored smoke at Spruce Street signified one thing - Stoop Kids. Students who would hang out in front of said stoop and juul. Unfortunately, due to the university putting up glass where the stoop once stood, its children have mysteriously disappeared.

We spoke with D@bbi@nc@, the only OG Stoop Kid left behind, "We would, sometimes, dab at the same time. Dab Tuesdays," she stated.

One student with asthma talks to us about his experience, "I'm glad they're gone. I can finally breathe again," the weak nerd shares.

But where did the Stoop Kids go?

Our big break in the story came when Pace students informed us that the fruity smoke seeped into City Hall. "It smelled dank as hell," stated a City Hall security guard. Our investigation ensued, and a quick history lesson from a mediocre BuzzFeed video allowed us to conclude that the smoke was coming from the abandoned City Hall station. We made our way down in the early morning, while the Wall Street brokers were starting their day and the crack heads were going to sleep.

The smell was concentrated enough to physically be moved by a waving hand. Soon enough, our presence had alerted something in the old station, as confirmed by the harried sounds of running coupled with the crinkle of paper bags. Rounding a corner, we only managed to catch the glimpse of fleeing Timberlands before being blasted by the 1960s nostalgic hit "Aquarius" from Hair. The song echoed off the cave walls, once barren with olden dust and memories of days long past, now plastered with Joy Division posters and the Mayor of Toronto smoking salvia out of a Voss water bottle.

The Stoop Kids couldn't find identity in the University's newly refurbished campus. The Master Plan divided the muddled group of white, tangy smokers and disappeared them into the wind, never to be seen on campus again. The exposure of the Kids' shelter will allow for the plot thicken. How thick? As thick as the nicotine smog they live in. The interference of the outside world no longer limits them from the vape tricks and Supreme stickers shining proudly below their frozen fingers.





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Student Develops Intimate Imaginary Relationships with Neighboring Office Workers

By: Katelyn Cordwell

Earlier this month, The Pretentious Press spoke with John Street resident George Waters, who has had a peculiar experience this semester. The student explained that his room overlooks an entire office floor just a stone throw away. He maintains that this has led to the cultivation of some unique but dear relationships with the office workers.

While visiting the students' dorm during the work week, we were struck by how close the two buildings were. We were also surprised that the student used 2 in 1 shampoo-conditioner. We quickly realized that we were dealing with a deranged maniac.

The student was happy to point out some of their favorite "friends." "Right there, with the blonde hair, the tall guy in the green top I call him Tom lol. Green is my favorite color." Green? Really? Right then and there we knew that our lives were in danger.

"The guy with the buzz cut is always at the coffee maker. He must be so jittery." The deranged student then started eating an apple with his teeth. I tried to call 911 but I was so scared I blanked and dialed customer service for MTA instead.

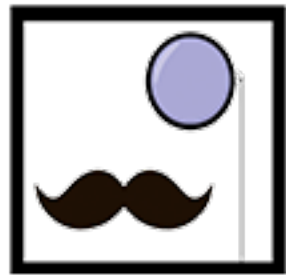
"Jeff is the boss, so I usually just refer to him as 'Father.' And Angela usually sits right in front of the window, but she's on maternity leave. And right there, with the brown hair and the tattoos," they took a moment to gather their emotions, there was an evident deep connection with this mysterious, Casanova type, "That's James. He's the love of my life. We just made eye contact one day and he looked away so quickly, I think he was a little nervous from the sparks. We have this fun game where I just stare at him all day and then he looks over and sees me and looks away as fast as possible. We love to have fun like that." This moment of sanity from George made us feel a bit safer in his room.

When asked if George had actually spoken personally with any of the employees, he became visibly irritated, so the subject was hastily dropped. "The thing with James is, well, we're going through a rough patch. He disappeared a few days before Valentines' Day, and didn't come back until the day after. I've come to the conclusion that he went on a romantic getaway with somebody that isn't me. Whatever, though. I'm not worried. He's young and handsome, he can see what's out there, but there's something special between us, I can feel it." This comment, along with the fact that George's bed did not have a duvet cover helped us decide it was time for us to leave.

George followed us out the door, "Yeah, I feel pretty lucky to be where I am. I never feel lonely; I just look out my window to all my pals. Sometimes, on sunny days, they close the shutters. I try to stay calm but, I just end up banging on my window, shouting 'Let me in!'"

George then gave an unnerving laugh, the laugh of a man who sleeps in a bed void of a duvet cover. We wish him well on his journey with the office workers across the street and hope that he buys the proper shampoo.





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Psychology Major Starts Own Practice - Sends Therapy Puppets to Students on Waitlist

By: Adriana Chivil

Pace psychology major Sarah Cooper has taken the initiative to start her own therapy practice. However, she doesn't have time to see all of her clients and has decided to give puppets to those on the waitlist.

Every student that has made an appointment has received a personalized puppet that meets all of their perceived needs according to their GPA and social media accounts. The revolutionary trend of companies buying public data has been turned around for the greater good. Mental health can be not only bought but improved.

"I'm very busy," Sarah says, "I thought that this was the best thing to do when I realized I couldn't think of anything better."

Sarah thought it was fair to send a 6cm long strand of string each to the last 50 students on the waiting list. "I love my new string. I can stare at it for hours and forget about my problems. It really works!" mentioned sophomore Art major Sienna Luxitive.

University band No Strings Attached has publicly voiced their disgust with the practice's outright disrespect of their brand. "We are #TornApart from the disrespect of what our band stands for. Mental health is a challenge, like a string. It can rip in half," stated No Strings Attached's Manager. (The band broke up shortly after)

"I'm afraid of puppets," says one student, "But it's nice to know that it cares about me. Actually I take that back. It's terrifying to think of an inanimate object can feel human emotions. I'm incinerating the puppet as soon as I get home."

Vice Dean of Students Horatio Polinez is getting involved with the trend by signing up for a puppet as well. Polinez and his puppet were seen together at a matinee performance of *Anastasia* wiping the tears from each other's eyes. However, a source says that Polinez's puppet has AI technology, with a secured camera in the puppet's eyes. The camera records Polinez's human behavior and manifested it into its own individual personality. The puppet escaped from Polinez's apartment on February 22nd, 2019 at approximately 8:19 PM. More details on the status and location of Polinez's puppet will soon follow.



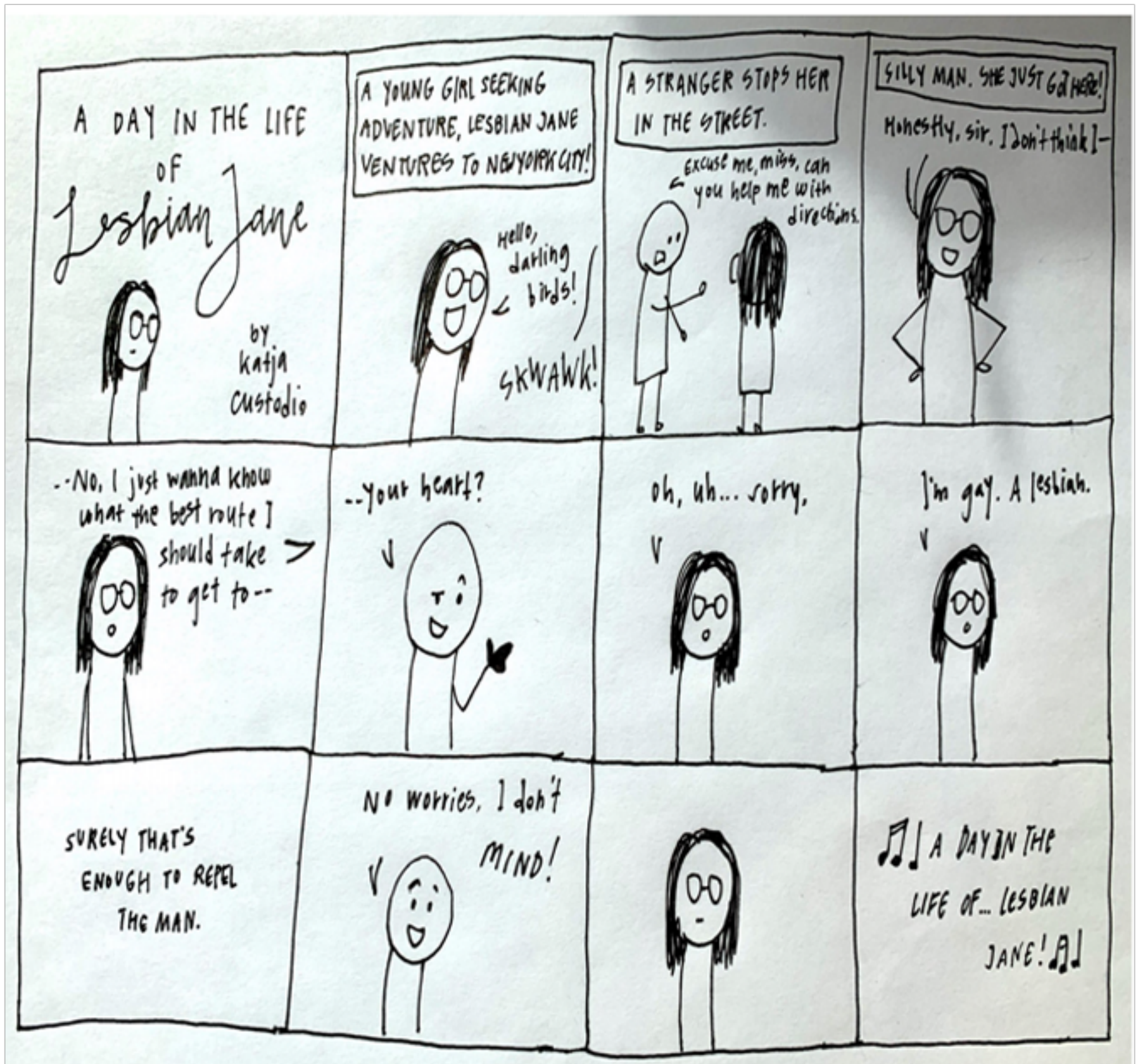


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This Month's Art

By: Katja Custodio





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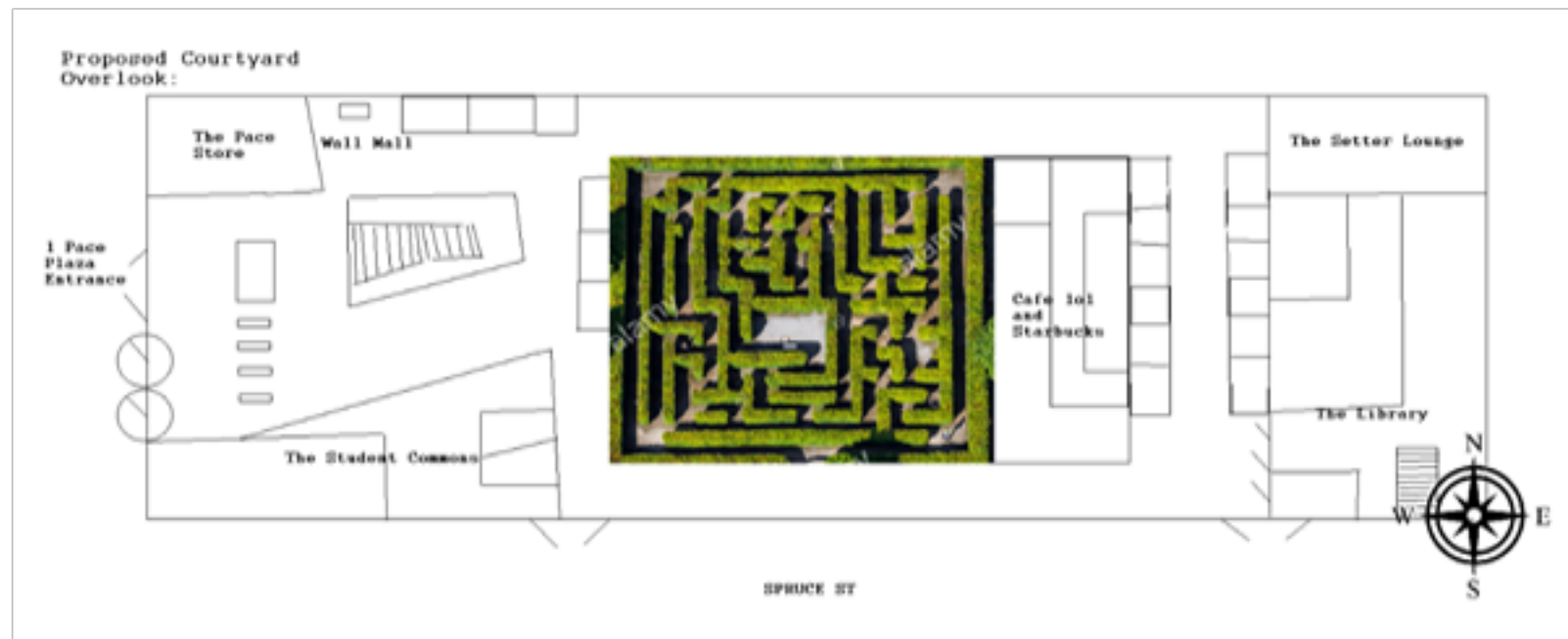
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New Admissions Test Requires Students to Navigate a Corn Maze to Gauge Their Ability to Navigate One Pace Plaza

By: Eren Sari

After kicking off the second semester with the ribbon cutting ceremony for the brand new West Wing, Pace University is already moving forward with its "Master Plan". Part of this involves creating a garden maze, shown below, to ensure with all of the construction changes that students will be able to find their way throughout the school.

A new policy is being implemented that requires freshmen to make their way through the maze in order to receive their acceptance letter. If they don't make it out within a certain amount of time, policy states that security must walk them out where they will then be tarred and feathered in front of the student body. This works two-fold, because if prospective students can't handle public humiliation of that caliber, Pace isn't the school for them.



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