

Presidential Candidate Platforms:

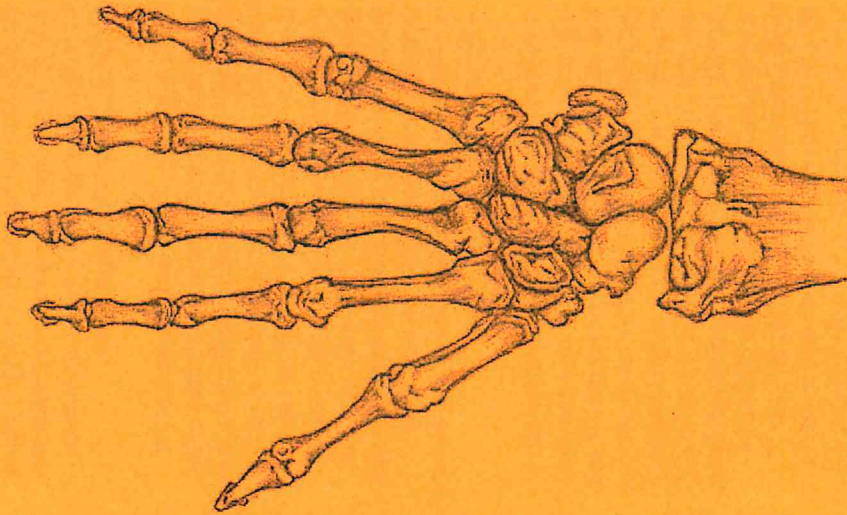
Immigration

Barak Obama supports a system that allows undocumented immigrants, who are in good standing, to pay a fine, learn English, and go to the back of the line for the opportunity to become citizens. He also supports protecting the integrity of our borders, and using additional personnel, infrastructure and technology on the border and at our ports of entry.

Newt Gingrich supports expanding the fence along the border. He also supports using the military to defend the border. He has proposed allowing illegal aliens to register, but failing to do so will lead to deportation. He does not support putting them in jail because that wastes tax payer's money.

Ron Paul has developed a 6 point plan to end illegal immigration. The first step is to physically secure the borders and coastlines. An example used by him was to "electrify" the fence along the Mexican American border. His next steps are to enforce visa rules, end amnesty, forbid welfare to illegal immigrants, end birthright citizenship (except for current citizens), and to pass true immigration reform.

Mitt Romney has stated his belief that some immigrants should be given an opportunity to apply for citizenship. But, depending on their criminal records, others should be barred and deported. He also believes state governments and the federal government should work together to pass immigration reform.



The Falling Apple



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SSH

Questions or comments? Let us know at [fallin-gapplecnu@gmail.com](mailto:gapplecnu@gmail.com). All emails will be read, but we reserve the right to not respond.

Bahrain police repel protesters in Manama

Security forces in Bahrain fired tear gas and stun grenades at protesters trying to occupy a landmark roundabout in the nation's capital on Monday, one day ahead of the one-year anniversary of the Gulf kingdom's popular uprising.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2012/02/20122131881317628.html>

Obama budget plan to tax the rich

US President Barack Obama has proposed to raise taxes on the wealthy in his 2013 budget. The proposal includes \$1.5 trillion (\$950bn) in new taxes, much of it from allowing Bush-era tax cuts to expire.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-17014744>
Israel Blames Iran for Twin Attacks On Diplomats

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Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu blames Iran and Hezbollah for a blast that ripped through a diplomatic car in India and what officials said was a foiled car bombing in Georgia.

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2012/02/13/146805879/israeli-blames-iran-for-twin-attacks-on-diplomats>

Nigerians living in poverty rise to nearly 61%

Poverty has risen in Nigeria, with almost 100 million people living on less than a \$1 a day, despite economic growth, statistics have shown.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-17015873>

Syria 'emboldened by UN inaction'

The failure of the UN Security Council to take action has emboldened Syria to make an "all-out assault" on opponents, the UN's human rights chief says.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-17018851>

U.S. to hold first talks with North Korea since Kim Jong Il's death

A U.S. envoy will meet with North Korean officials next week to test that nation's willingness to abandon its nuclear program, the State Department said Monday.

http://www.cnn.com/2012/02/13/world/asia/north-korea-us/index.html?hp=hp_t3

CNU's Religious Image

As the construction on CNU's chapel plows into its first stages, the question of what sort of religious image CNU wishes to portray becomes increasingly significant.

First, to clarify—the chapel is meant to be used for the ceremonies and activities of the many different faiths represented by the student body. The goal of this article is not to declare CNU as having a certain image, or whether or not that image is right or wrong. Rather, we believe it is absolutely vital that the student body of this school seriously consider the issues and questions inevitably raised through the construction of any sort of religious building.

Will the chapel have two sinks for the catering services of celebrations? Orthodox Judaism would require food that is kosher—meaning it cannot be prepared in the same place as food that isn't kosher. If the chapel has only one sink, that in effect makes it far more difficult for Jewish students and community members to partake in the use of the chapel for their ceremonies. Will the chapel face Mecca? The only faiths that wish to face a certain direction all point to the same destination, and this should have been considered when the initial plans were drawn.

These are only a few questions in regards to the construction of what must be a complicated building, but it is the answers to these small questions that can entirely craft the image CNU portrays to current students, prospective students, and community members. Failure to address these issues would be a rather poor message to send.

As silly as this may seem, the theme dinners held by the dining halls of CNU to celebrate certain times of the year also represent this issue strikingly well. Whether or not they call it a "Christmas dinner" or a "Winter Holiday

dinner," it doesn't rectify the vast majority of decorations being used as explicitly Christian. Having one or two other religious symbols does not make students of less popular faiths feel any less out of place in a theme meal with Santa running around. Other religious symbols should be just as prominently displayed.

The construction of the chapel is an idea worthy of merit—this is a common type of building in Ivy League schools and allows the student body to have access to a building that meets their religious needs. However, this can only be justified if all the students can have their religious needs met. If this means having two sinks, or allowing the local Buddhist temple to at times come and hold meditations with the students, then the administration must consider these needs as they are building this chapel, and forming the religious identity of CNU.

CNU has made vast progress over a short time period, and in doing so has attracted many different types of students and faculty. The chapel construction symbolizes the decisions that can either welcome these diverse students, or alienate them. For this reason, we of SSH encourage the students to have an open dialogue about how CNU should handle these issues, and the administration to handle them in the ways that will benefit the most students. To do otherwise is to craft for CNU a religious identity that would not support the sort of atmosphere an establishment of higher learning needs.

