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**PETITION** from cover

monitoring system to ensure that maintenance requests are addressed promptly and efficiently, rather than marked complete without checks," Cuiffo stated in the petition. "This should include regular inspections, transparent reporting, and an improved communication channel for students to directly express concerns and track progress."

The petition and frustration from students suggest that the real issue at play isn't one in the hands of Quinnipiac students, but an issue rooted more in facility management.

"My entire suite basically has put in work orders…and literally nothing's been done," junior finance major David Holtzman, a resident of The Crescent residence hall on the York Hill campus, said.

Cuiffo also touched on his experience filing work orders for broken laundry facilities. Calling back to a previous experience earlier this semester, he explained how he filed a work request on two different occasions for at least three broken machines, all of which were wrongly marked as completed, which he discovered shortly after. The issues remain unsolved.

Associate Vice President of Public Relations John Morgan said students are encouraged to use the Quinnipiac Student Government Association (SGA) as a haven to voice concerns and issues they want to see acted on.

"SGA has received an update from Residential Life that they are actively working to address the laundry room issues," SGA Vice President of Public Relations, Mia Gonzalez said. "Laundry rooms are being checked weekly, and Residential Life is working directly with the laundry service provider to identify and implement changes that will improve the efficiency and reliability of laundry services for students.

Given that issues regarding laundry disparities are just now becoming a pressing issue with the fall semester, Quinnipiac's Office of Residential Life sent out a university-wide email Friday, Oct. 30, addressing the concerns.

"The university is working with our laundry service provider to address reported equipment issues and improve the reliability of the machines," the email stated. "Specifically, the provider is conducting walkthroughs with members of our facilities team to resolve concerns and provide regular repairs on the machines."

It also mentioned that the residential assistants (RAs) on each floor of Quinnipiac's residential halls conduct weekly inspections of laundry rooms and report on identified equipment concerns for service. However junior sports management major and a resident of The Crescent residence hall Wyslla Dias begs the effectiveness of this strategy.

"Our RA that lives next door to us says she's put in multiple ones because it's the closest one to us," Dias said. "Like, we're like the next door over to us is the laundry room...she's put it in multiple times, and she said there hasn't been a response yet."

In regards to the email students received from the Office of Residential Life, time will tell if said issues are properly addressed and lasting changes are made.

"5 working washing machines for 1000 people in Crescent, fuck you Quinnipiac," an anonymous student on Yik Yak said.

# Quinnipiac professors present research at Menstrual Equity Summit

**By BRYCE INFALD**
Staff Writer

Quinnipiac University professors delivered current findings from their research at the Menstrual Equity Summit Oct. 27.

The Connecticut Diaper Bank has hosted multiple summits over the years to address menstrual equity in the state. The state's Department of Public Health has provided the organization with $1.95 million dollars in grant funds to provide qualifying public schools with free menstrual products to comply with a new state law. This law requires all public schools to give students access to free menstrual products.

"They do these Menstrual Equity Summits maybe not every year, but basically every year just for interested parties to come together, learn what they're up to, learn information about the state of menstrual equity in the state of Connecticut," Professor of Psychology Clorinda Vélez said.

Vélez stated that the state's Menstrual Equity Law stems from a larger goal to address factors that contribute to educational equity.

"What's come to the attention of legislators in somewhat recent years is that menstruation is actually a hurdle to achieving educational equity because people who menstruate, we don't like to talk about it, there's a lot of stigma, right, but it is actually a hidden barrier to accessing education," Vélez said.

After initially taking on this project, Vélez and Professor of Psychology Anne Eisbach started working with Professor of Anthropology Hillary Haldane, whose experience would assist them in their research.

"(Vélez and I) have both done a lot of research in psychology, but neither of us had done program evaluation and Professor Haldane had done program evaluation, albeit in other topics, so we…came together," Eisbach said.

Social work graduate student Alex Storm recently began assisting with the professors' project, including their presentation at the summit.

"They helped us with the presentation a bit, in looking through some of the data and helping with some of the slides," Eisbach said.

At the Mini Menstrual Equity Summit, retitled due to the event's shorter length, Haldane and Vélez presented some of their research, which will be completed following the grant's completion in December.

"We just shared a little bit of data. We're still collecting data, data collection is not done, but we just chose a couple of pieces of information from a couple of different data sources that we have to report out to the people who attended the summit about how that program is going thus far," Vélez said.

Their data collection methods have included surveying school officials, interviewing individuals from both The Diaper Bank of CT and public schools and hosting focus groups with students who are directly impacted by this law.

"We meet with a group of students and we ask them a series of questions about how the program is working at their school," Eisbach said.

These students have expressed positive feedback regarding the availability of menstrual products in their schools.

"(Students are) really grateful to have products and especially products in bathrooms," Vélez said. "They really feel like that makes a difference for them."

Findings from their research has indicated that menstrual products are now available in over 80% of school nurse's offices and female bathrooms. However, less than half of school all-gender and less than one third of male bathrooms have menstrual products. Some schools have also reported vandalism and other issues as a result of the law.

"There are some real challenges possible, right, like it's not going to be a totally smooth thing to go from not offering menstrual products in bathrooms to having them there," Vélez said. "There's going to be some hiccups, like where are you going to put them, some students might waste them, but it's maybe not as overwhelming as some of the schools had feared."

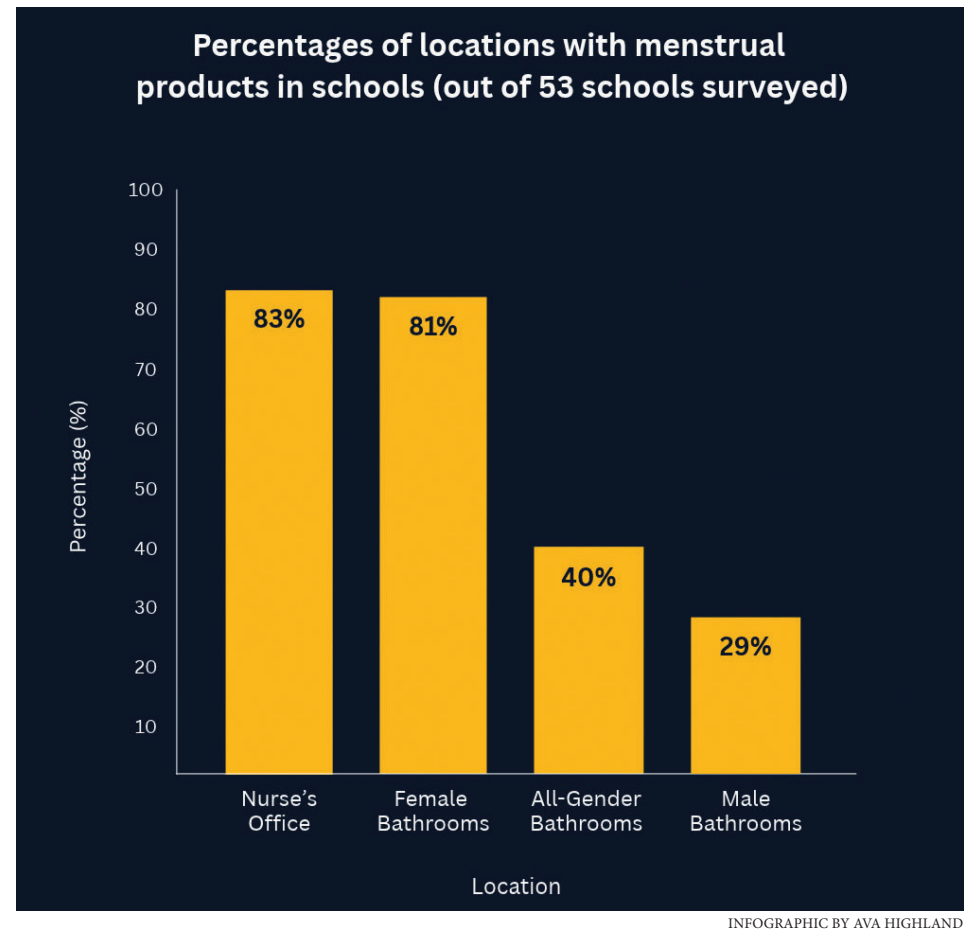
Aside from these issues, the grant, which has provided over 11 million menstrual products to public schools, has made it easier for schools to align their policies with state law.

"They really appreciate the money," Vélez said. "It was a huge benefit to them to not have to incorporate purchasing menstrual products into their already slim budgets. This two and a half year grant really was a relief to a lot of schools to not have to figure out what were they going to cut, how were they going to buy these products."

Outside of this Menstrual Equity Summit, the professors have had other opportunities to share and review findings. After the Diaper Bank's grant ends, they will submit their total findings to the Department of Public Health and the Diaper Bank.

"We've done periodic updates of our data and then we will be submitting a final report (in) the beginning of next year because the products will stop being distributed as we understand in December," Eisbach said.

These efforts by Eisbach, Haldane and Vélez will provide insight on the effectiveness of the Diaper Bank's grant in 2027.

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