

## Drew shows documentary 'Overdraft'; highlights key American economic issues

BY AMANDA TESAREK STUDENT LIFE & ARTS EDITOR IN STUDENT LIFE APRIL 5, 2013

"I know the consequences," Senate Budget Chair Kent Conrad said. "I know where this is headed and it is not a pretty picture."

This bleak quote begins the documentary "Overdraft", directed by Scott Galloway in collaboration with the Travelers Institute. The film is an attempt to identify and break down America's current economic problems into manageable terms that the average American is able to understand. The film features prominent public policy experts such as former President Bill Clinton, Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels and Newark Mayor Cory Booker.

Since the film's debut, the Travelers Institute has taken the movie on the road, presenting it at various colleges and universities in an attempt to inform the student population.

"The younger generation will bear the consequences of large debt decisions made now," said Joan Woodward, Executive Vice President of Public Policy at The Travelers Companies, Inc. and President of the Travelers Institute. "Getting jobs, paying back student loans, it's all linked to the health of the economy."

The Travelers Institute, according to Woodward, is a division of the Travelers Insurance Company that took on this project for the sole reason to share their expertise with the public for the general good of the population. Identifying areas of economic concern such as social security,

state debt, healthcare and defense spending, a huge achievement of the documentary is in its ability to portray all the issues through a non-partisan lens.

"It was a challenge to present such highly politicized issues in a purely informational and educational way," Woodward said. "We didn't want it to just be bipartisan, we wanted real solutions to get the budget back on track."

The screening of the film took place at Drew on Wednesday. An interactive panel featuring Phil Mundo, Professor of Political Science, Vanessa Van Brunt (C'92), Senior Vice President in the Financial Institutions Group at Wells Fargo and Woodward followed the screening. One student who attended the panel was Adam Clark ('16).

"I thought the film was put together very nicely and did a great job explaining some of the key issues we face in our nation," Clark said. "I think that it did a great job informing everyone, including people not interested or educated in politics at all."