

Currents

Penn State Capital College Alumni Magazine

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Greetings from the Provost and Dean...

(Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes' State-of-the-College remarks to faculty and staff at the recent All-College Meeting.)

It is an absolute pleasure for me to greet you all and extend my best wishes for the 2003-2004 academic year. I always welcome this particular occasion. It's the one time each year when the senior administration, the Faculty Senate President, and I have the opportunity to greet the College community—the faculty and staff together—in as large a crowd as we can manage.

We're emerging from a year of planning—integrated planning, strategic planning, and now master planning. We have a great deal of activity underway. And we have challenges that present themselves as well. Not the least of which are challenges of the fiscal kind facing our nation, our state, and our University. But for every challenge there is opportunity. My message to you today is just that. We have opportunity.

We've taken our planning very seriously as a College. Good planning—planning with vision—has brought us along quite nicely and has brought us opportunities—happily, some unexpected and some ahead of schedule. These are opportunities that will accelerate our progress toward achieving goals and the mission we've laid out for the College.

It's often said that timing is everything. I believe that. Timing can be off—it can be premature, it can be elusive. But for us at this milestone in our history—at this juncture in the evolution of this College—timing is magical, even against the backdrop of economic instability. We have planned well, and opportunity awaits us. It's truly an exciting time in the life of the College. Good planning and fortunate timing have taken us there.

Opportunities. Let me talk about master planning. Capital College, as you know, is the first college to participate in the University's renewed cycle of master planning. Schuylkill is in the throes of the process with a November date for the plan to be passed before the Board of Trustees. Harrisburg is beginning its process and will look to mid-to-late spring to seek Trustee approval. We're following an ambitious schedule.

Central to this process is a ten-year vision that lays out our growth in size and mix of students, anticipated staffing needs and programs. The exercise ultimately will identify needs for our physical plant and our academic and co-curricular facilities.

Without question, this presents a timely opportunity. The master planning process is an invitation to accelerate our strategic direction. It's an avenue for us to shape our own destiny, to present on the record a vision for the College and to map out our future for the next decade.

Our ten-year vision for the College is ambitious. It should be. Bottom line: We look to grow, and to distinguish ourselves unambiguously. We look to identify our niche and, where distinction merits, to assume, on behalf of the University, a lead role in the region and the nation. We will be smart and deliberate about our growth. We will focus on the following:

- increasing the baccalaureate degree options at the upper division at Schuylkill,
- admitting first-year, first-time students at Harrisburg (more lower division),
- introducing additional selected graduate programs,
- retaining our student populations, and
- sustaining our current market share.

The master plan complements our strategic plan and pushes us forward. We will have license to grow, not at the expense of other campuses, but to attract new students to our College campuses who would otherwise not attend the University. We will grow with guiding principles. We'll introduce new programming that is responsive to demonstrated market needs that builds on existing program and faculty strengths, and captures new student audiences.

Schuylkill. The Schuylkill campus is and should be the region's first choice for baccalaureate education. We know that nearly 1 in 10 Schuylkill County residents with a college degree attended Penn State Schuylkill. Schuylkill will

continue to attract traditional-aged, full-time students and serve as a gateway to the University. That's our history. That's our strength.

We've been experiencing a steady shift in the mix of baccalaureate students in the majors we have already in place at Schuylkill. Five years ago, upper division students accounted for nearly 10% of the Schuylkill student body. They now represent nearly 20%. Over 100 of the juniors and seniors attending Schuylkill today began at the campus as first-year, first-time students. As we add upper division programs, we will attract new student markets, including the returning adult learner, and retain students who will choose to complete their baccalaureate education in its entirety at the campus.

Harrisburg. The Harrisburg campus will grow at both ends of the continuum. First, lower division. Beginning fall 2004 we will admit first-year, first-time students at the Harrisburg campus. This will give the College local presence and visibility in the capital region and the opportunity to capture new undergraduate student audiences for the University.

For the first time, Penn State Harrisburg will be fully integrated into the University's admissions process with a clear message of access. Of course we will need to pay particular attention to the retention of lower division students throughout their baccalaureate programs and to sustain the cooperative arrangements we've enjoyed with HACC and other local institutions in our dual admissions and transfer programs.

We will manage growth at the graduate level at the Harrisburg campus by introducing new programs and building on our current portfolio of postbaccalaureate educational opportunities—including certificate programs. Harrisburg is and will remain the lead regional institution in graduate education. That's a strength we've enjoyed for some time.

Our plans are ambitious, yes. We are nevertheless well positioned to accomplish them. As a College, we serve a full array of student populations, from lower division students who will complete their baccalaureate with us to those headed for University Park, from freshmen to doctoral students, transfer students, full-time undergraduates, part-time graduate students, day and evening, residential and commuting students. We operate at the extremes. We serve our region and contribute in significant ways to the University's national standing as a major research university.

We will be concentrating our efforts at all the major points on the academy's continuum. At Harrisburg—lower division and graduate programs. At Schuylkill—more baccalaureate options. These initiatives are critical to our ongoing success and are central to our College's ten-year vision. Opportunity? Yes it is.

All-College Day is a special occasion to meet colleagues, share ideas and collaborate on future projects. Your presence and your commitment to the College are absolutely treasured and I am grateful to you all for coming and I do hope that you find today satisfying and the year productive. I thank you very much.



Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.
Provost and Dean
Penn State Capital College

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Madlyn Hanes". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.
Provost and Dean
Penn State Capital College

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Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.

SCHUYLKILL CAMPUS EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Sylvester Kohut Jr., Ph.D.

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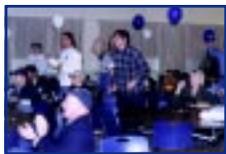
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Inside Currents...



page

4

Alumni Weekend

Penn State Harrisburg reunion Oct. 24, 25



5

Indoor Pool

Aquatics facility under construction



6,7

Grand Destiny

Capital College campuses celebrate campaign



8

Alumni Leadership

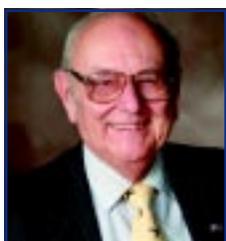
Joel Koch new Schuylkill Society President



11

Honors Project

Student's research focuses on Centralia



14

Profile of a Friend

Ralph Peters remains committed to the college



16

Faculty Member Honored

Clemmie Gilpin presented President's Award

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<http://newswires.psu.edu/>.

Alumni Weekend Oct. 24, 25

How long has it been since you visited your alma mater? Been thinking about seeing all the changes at Penn State Harrisburg first-hand?

If you've not visited the campus in several years, you will most likely be pleasantly surprised with all the changes – the library, new student housing, an indoor swimming pool, new food court, new programs, and new faces.

You can enjoy the “new” Penn State Harrisburg and take a walk down memory lane at the same time when you attend the annual Alumni Weekend festivities Friday and Saturday, Oct. 24 and 25.

An impressive array of events and activities for the entire family is on tap for Alumni Weekend beginning with the annual awards reception and dinner Friday evening. Saturday will feature tours of campus, educational presentations from faculty and staff, a special Kids College for children, lunch in the new food court, and a TV tailgate party for the Penn State-Iowa football game.

Highlights of the Saturday luncheon will be a “state-of-the-campus” address from Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes, an update on the campus Alumni Society from president Richter L. Voight, and a visual journey through the history of the campus with Dr. Michael L. Barton.

Special reunions for the classes of 1973, '83, '93, and '03 will be featured in addition to the XGI fraternity and former residents of the dorms.

Online registration for the weekend is available on the Web at www.hbg.psu.edu/alumni or by phoning 717-948-6317.

Events Schedule Friday, Oct. 24

Alumni Awards Reception
6 to 8:30 p.m.
Capital Union Building

Saturday, Oct. 25

10 a.m. to noon
Registration in the new food court in Olmsted Building

10 to 11 a.m.
Tours of campus

11 to 11:40 a.m. and
11:45 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.
Educational programs
Kids College for children

12:30 p.m. – Lunch
Greetings from the Provost and Dean

2:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Stroll the campus, visit the library and bookstore, tour the former dorms

To Be Announced
TV Tailgate Party for the Penn State-Iowa football game



The face of Penn State Harrisburg continues to change.

Remember Heindel Library on the first floor of Olmsted Building? It's now a spacious, inviting food court which will be the site of the Alumni Weekend luncheon on Saturday, Oct. 25.

Zoffinger selected Alumni Fellow

The career of Penn State Harrisburg's 2003 Alumni Fellow, George Zoffinger, has reached the pinnacle of the sports and entertainment world.



George Zoffinger

As part of the Alumni Weekend events on campus, Zoffinger will be honored by his alma mater when he formally receives the Alumni Fellow Award

during the annual Awards Reception and Dinner Friday, Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. in the Capital Union Building.

The recipients of the Alumni Achievement and People to Watch awards will also be announced at the evening event.

The Alumni Fellow Award is the most prestigious honor given by the Penn State Alumni Association. Administered in cooperation with Penn State's academic colleges, the program gives recipients the opportunity to return to campus to share their knowledge and expertise with the University community.

Zoffinger's professional career has taken him to the pinnacle of the sports and entertainment world, but he has not forgotten his Penn State Harrisburg roots.

The President and CEO of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, Zoffinger has created the Zoffinger Family Fund Scholarship for “outstanding undergraduate students enrolled or planning to enroll in the School of Business Administration.” Zoffinger earned a B.S. in Business from the College in 1970.

As President and CEO of the Sports Authority since March 2002, Zoffinger is responsible for the continuing viability of the Meadowlands Sports Complex which consists of the Meadowlands Racetrack, Giants football stadium, and the Continental Airlines Arena. The complex contributes \$1.2 billion to New Jersey's economy and supports more than 7,500 full-time jobs.

The NJSEA also manages Monmouth Racetrack, Atlantic City Convention Center, Historic Boardwalk Hall, Wildwood Convention Center, and the New Jersey Sports Hall of Fame.

In 1990, New Jersey Gov. Jim Florio appointed Zoffinger, a resident of Skilman, N.J., to serve as the Commissioner of Commerce and Economic Development for the State of New Jersey. During his tenure, Zoffinger spearheaded the effort to bring the 1994 FIFA World Cup soccer games to the Meadowlands Sports Complex and he served as chairman of New Jersey's Host Committee for the 1994 World Cup games held at Giants Stadium.

Here's an opportunity for you to return to the classroom

When you take part in the Harrisburg campus Alumni Weekend Oct. 24 and 25, you and your family can "return to the classroom." But there will not be exams, papers, or projects. Information and enjoyment will be the order of the day.

As part of the ambitious schedule of events and activities for all ages, faculty and staff will present informative programs on topics of interest. And while the adults take in the programs, a special Kids College activity has again been arranged for the younger set. The lineup of presenters and topics includes:

Digital Cameras – Thinking of buying a digital camera? What is a megapixel? What's the difference between image resolution, camera resolution, and printer resolution? Carol McQuiggan and Michael Kalbaugh from the Instructional Services Department will answer these questions and more. You'll even take digital photographs.

International Programs – International programs and studies have always been a large part of the curriculum and experiences at Penn State Harrisburg. Dr. Clemmie Gilpin will present his thoughts and experiences on international programs, including the Peace Corps and Model United Nations.

International Education Opportunities – The School of Business Administration offers one of the few study abroad and internship programs in the Penn State system. Come hear about the program from Ella Dowell and Dr. Stephen Schappe and visit with alumni and current students who participated.

Job Search Strategies – Explore the career resources available to you as Coordinator of Career Development Karl Martz shows how to navigate the best Web sites for career planning and job searches. Learn about the services available to alumni through the Penn State Harrisburg Career Services Office.

Diary of an International Student – Ever wondered what it would be like to come to a strange country with strange customs for your education? Join Instructor in Electrical Engineering A.B. Shafaye for a sometimes humorous story of an international student's trials and tribulations in the U.S.

Kids College – Each summer, Penn State Harrisburg sponsors a popular day camp program called Kids College. Coordinated by Michael Corradino from the Office of Continuing and Distance Education, a sampling of fun Kids College activities are in store for children of kindergarten age and older.



Harrisburg campus Alumni Society President Richter L. Voight '99, left, welcomes four new members to its board of directors. They are, standing left to right, Thomas W. McConkey III '78, Controller, GGS Information Services, York; Louis Costa Jr. '03, accountant, Gotham Golf Partners, Harrisburg; and Charles Connor '70, Principal, Decatur School, Philadelphia. Seated is Karen R. Wilson, '96/'00g, program analyst for the state Department of Aging. If you are interested in serving on the Alumni Society Board of Directors, please e-mail the alumni office at capalumni@psu.edu or phone 717-948-6715.

Indoor aquatics facility under construction



The community initiative to place an indoor aquatics center on the campus of Penn State Harrisburg has become a reality.

Construction of the facility has begun and is expected to be complete by the end this year or early 2004.

The 9,000-square-foot facility will contain a six-lane pool and is designed to serve both the campus and community. Breslin Ridyard Fadero Architects of Allentown designed the facility with Lobar, Inc. of Dillsburg the contractor for the \$2.3 million project. State appropriation to the University directed \$1.8 million to support construction of the facility.

Making use of existing lockerroom facilities in the CUB, the center is being erected on the south side of the building. The exterior will be brick and limestone, blending into the look of the CUB, built in 1977. Large glass window walls will provide abundant natural light and attractive views of the campus.

The aquatics center's pool is designed to permit maximum program use for therapy, wellness, leisure, and competition. Persons on wheelchairs or those with limited mobility will be able to access the pool through the use of a lift. The facility will also include a six-lane lap pool with depths ranging from four to six feet.

The facility will feature a state-of-the-art climate control system which recycles heat and humidity. The system dehumidifies the room air and in doing so, will recover heat from the process to control the temperature of the pool water. The pool finish will be plaster with stainless gutters.

The design of the addition provides for future expansion of the CUB, which will be accessed by way of a wet/dry hallway.



SCHUYLKILL CAMPUS CELEBRATES GRAND DESTINY SUCCESS

The Schuylkill campus was a leader in the recently concluded Penn State Grand Destiny Campaign.

The University-wide, multi-year campaign exceeded its goal with a record \$1.3 billion total and Schuylkill led all Penn State units in the percentage of goal achieved.

Schuylkill campus Director of Development Jane Zintak notes that local contributions amounted to \$3.8 million, or 193 percent of the goal of \$2 million that had been established. She credited the local committee co-chairs, Joseph Schlitzer and Michael Mahalchick, with leading a strong local campaign.

The campus community celebrated the successful close of the campaign at its annual scholarship banquet. The program provides the opportunity for donors of endowed scholarships and awards to meet the student recipients of their gifts. Currently, the campus has eighteen endowed scholarships and awards.

Former lieutenant governor and former acting governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Penn State graduate Mark Singel, was the featured speaker.



Joining in the celebration for the Schuylkill campus Grand Destiny Campaign were, left to right, David Lieb, Executive Director of University Development; Dr. Madlyn L. Hanes, Capital College Provost and Dean; Jane Zintak, Schuylkill campus Director of Development; and Dale DiSanto, Director of University Development.



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Dr. Mary Feeney Bonawitz, donor of the Dr. Irving F. Bonawitz Award, visits with Anastasia Sborz, the award recipient.



Celebrating the success of Penn State's Grand Destiny Campaign are, left to right, Dr. Jack Dolbin, member of the local campaign steering committee; former Pennsylvania Lt. Governor Mark S. Singel; Dr. Madlyn L. Hanes, Capital College Provost and Dean; Dr. Sylvester Kohut Jr., Penn State Schuylkill Campus Executive Officer; and Joseph P. Schlitzer, local campaign co-chairman.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dragan (seated), representing the Frackville Class of 1947 Scholarship, with the recipient, Christopher Karpovich and his mother.

HARRISBURG CAMPUS CELEBRATES GRAND DESTINY SUCCESS

Campaign co-chair Gerald Morrison shares a moment with Carole Forker Gibbons.



Penn State Harrisburg celebrated the conclusion of its portion of the University's Grand Destiny campaign with a joyous gathering of friends.

The campaign closing celebration on campus brought "together people who believe in Penn State and who have committed to supporting a campaign that has enhanced the college's quality and accessibility," said Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes.

The Penn State Harrisburg campaign goal of \$8 million was not only met, but exceeded "because alumni and friends stepped forward to invest their financial resources to support the college's vision," Dr. Hanes added.

Director of Development Marie-Louise Abram commented that the campaign "gained new friends for the college and has resulted in a stronger donor base."

Gerald Morrison, a Penn State and Dickinson School of Law graduate who is an attorney and partner with the Harrisburg law firm of McNeese, Wallace and Nurick, and Kevin Harter, a Penn State Harrisburg grad who is senior vice president of the Life Sciences Greenhouse of Central Pennsylvania, served as campaign chairs.

Among the highlights of the Penn State Harrisburg portion of the Grand Destiny campaign was the presentation of the Berg Professorship in Engineering to the college by the late Frances Berg in memory of her husband, Quentin.

Another milestone reached as a result of the campaign was the addition of scholarships for deserving students. In the last academic year, the Harrisburg campus awarded scholarships funded by private support to a total of 165 students.

Harry Yaverbaum chats with Nancy Aronson and her daughter, Lauren.



Board of Advisers Chair Kevin Harter and new board member Nancy Aronson, right, are greeted by Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes



Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes welcomes Board of Advisers treasurer Paul Coppock and his wife, Alison.



Emily Ferguson, a senior majoring in elementary education and one of the students who benefited from an endowed scholarship, speaks to the celebration gathering.





Liz Bligan



Liz Bligan '81, '98g, who just completed a term as the first president of the Penn State Schuylkill Alumni Society, has been elected to a three-year term on the University's Alumni Council, the governing body of the Penn State Alumni Association. She will serve as co-chair of the Membership Committee.

Judge Charles Miller presented Outstanding Alumnus Award

A highlight of the April alumni reunion on the Schuylkill campus was the presentation of the Outstanding Alumnus Award to Schuylkill County Judge Charles M. Miller.

Judge Miller, a native of Frackville, began his college studies at Penn State Schuylkill and later earned a degree in economics with honors from the University Park campus. He received his juris doctor degree from the Duquesne School of Law.

A member of the Penn State Club of Schuylkill County, his service to the Schuylkill campus began in 1984 with his appointment to its advisory board. He currently serves as vice president of the board and as a member of its executive committee.

Active in the community, Judge Miller is a charter member of the Schuylkill County Big Brothers/Big Sisters and has been active with the Knights of Columbus. He is a three-term president of the Frackville Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow.

Judge Miller and his wife Patricia are the parents of a son and daughter.

Company began at kitchen table

Jim Wallace's company truly began at his kitchen table. But it has outgrown that kitchen and the garage at his Ambler, Pa., home.

A 1974 Harrisburg campus graduate with a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering Technology, Wallace was director of engineering in 1986 at an Upper Merion firm when the company closed down its electronics division. He moved on to write software for a French company.

When that firm needed 10 cables to connect its medical product to personal computers, Wallace enlisted a friend to assemble the cables on the kitchen table of his home. As the demand grew, he moved the assembly operation he called Electro Soft Inc., to his garage.

Then came a request for circuit boards. The orders multiplied and in 1989, the firm merged with ABC Electronics. The combined company had sales of \$100,000 with five employees in 1989.

The firm eventually moved to Willow Grove and in 1992 to Montgomeryville. The client list now includes the Department of Defense, FMC Corp., and Tyco Systems.

The firm Wallace created in his home had sales of \$4 million in 2002 and the workforce numbers 25 – including the assembler who assisted him at the kitchen table 17 years ago.

Joel Koch new Schuylkill Alumni Society President

Joel L. Koch '83, is the newly elected president of the Schuylkill Alumni Society, succeeding Liz Bligan '81, '98g, who served as the first Society president.

An Investment Representative for Edward Jones Investments, Koch resides in Schuylkill County with his wife and two sons. He holds an associate degree in Business from the Schuylkill campus.

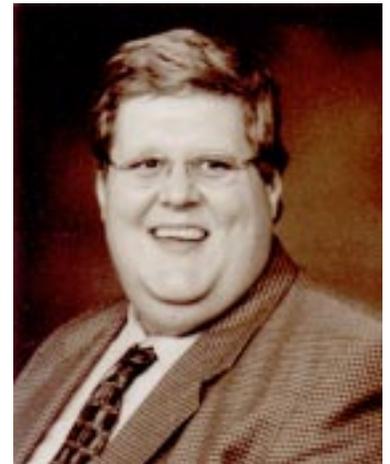
During his tenure as president, he hopes to increase the Society's visibility on campus and with alumni. "The reunion program we have been doing has been a great tool for us, but we need to do more," he says. Attendance at the reunion has been steadily increasing and he would like to see that trend continue.

The board's membership committee, headed by Barbara Kern '66, is responsible for the reunion planning. The board and committee decided to move the reunion to May 1, 2004 in hopes of increasing attendance. One of the day's highlights will be a presentation on the "History of Rock and Roll" by William J. Kelly, Head of the Integrative Arts program at University Park.

Koch would also like to see the Society have more interaction with students. "We need to work with students so they see the benefits of the alumni society and their participation in it before they graduate," he adds. Plans are being made for activities with incoming students, a speaker's bureau for student clubs, and a classroom mentor program.

The group also plans to be part of the networking opportunities offered by Capital College. When the college holds networking programs, "we want Schuylkill alumni to attend." Networking events are being planned throughout Pennsylvania and again in Washington, D.C.

He encourages all Schuylkill alumni to become involved with the Schuylkill Society. "We are working to have our committees staffed with other alumni, not just board members," he said. To be a part of the Schuylkill Alumni Society, please contact capalumni@psu.edu or call 570-385-6262.



Joel L. Koch

Hasu and Hersha Shah partner to create scholarship for women in School of Business Administration

Ask Hasu P. Shah to cite the reasons for his remarkable success in the hospitality industry, and he's quick to credit his wife, Hersha.

The founder, president and CEO of the Hersha Group of Companies, Hasu Shah directs the operations of a firm which owns and operates more than 30 hotel properties throughout the East Coast, a portfolio which exceeds \$100 million in assets, an additional \$75 million in projects under development, and a workforce of more than 1,000. But it all began when he and his wife purchased a hotel in Harrisburg.

Shah came to the U.S. from his native India in the 60s to study chemical engineering at New Mexico State University. Totally supporting himself while a student, tuition increases prompted him to transfer to Tennessee Tech where he earned his baccalaureate degree while working two jobs.

Newly married in 1967, he took a job with the New Jersey State Police Bureau of Investigations and 10 months later began an 18-year career with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the environmental field. During his employment with the state, he began to invest in apartments, houses, and small motels, rehabilitating them and making them profitable. He and his wife served as both the management and the maintenance staff. "I owe it all to her talent," Shah says of his wife.

The turning point in his business career came with the purchase of the Harrisburg hotel. Mrs. Shah "marketed the property, cleaned it up, oversaw the renovations, and built the business," her husband points out with pride. "Business increased from \$450,000 to \$900,000 in the first 18 months" due to Mrs. Shah's tireless efforts.

The Harrisburg venture was a "stepping stone to bigger business ventures," he says. And it marked the first property in which their two sons became directly involved with just about every aspect of the operation from the ground up. "I always wanted to own my own business. It just took me 18 years to do it," Shah comments.

With "the real start of Hersha Enterprises," Shah left his engineering position with the state in 1985 to commit full-time to business ventures. And Mrs. Shah was with him every step of the way.

A former member of the Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers, Shah also found time to earn a master's degree in engineer-

ing from Penn State Harrisburg and an Executive MBA from Harvard. His commitment to the college was formally recognized in 2002 when he was named an Alumni Fellow.

His enterprise continued to grow through the 80s and 90s as underperforming hotels were purchased, renovated, and stabilized. More companies – Hersha Construction, Hersha Supply, Hersha Hospitality Management, and Hersha Development Corporation were created. In the 90s, "we began to build our own hotels."

Hersha Interiors and Supply is a "nice, freestanding business" which manages the design, procurement, and installation of hotel furniture, furnishing, and equipment. Hersha Construction takes advantage of "our expertise in construction," Hersha Development "works hand-in-hand with construction services," and the hospitality unit directs day-to-day operations of hotels.

The company went public in 1999 as Hersha Hospitality Trust. "With the public offering, we were able to attract a higher level of talent in the core activities of the company and provide a platform for continued growth," he says. That continued growth now includes the development of seven new hotels "from the ground up," including four in New York City.

The Shah's two sons, Neil and Jay, are active in the corporation. Neil, now a member of the

Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers, serves as director of development, while Jay, an attorney in Philadelphia, is managing director.

Hasu Shah also says "the credit goes to the American people who accepted us." And as an indication of his family's business commitment, he adds, "we make sure our customers come back."

The Shahs strongly believe in giving back. Indicative of that commitment is the creation of the Hasu P. and Hersha H. Shah Endowed Scholarship for Women in the School of Business Administration at Penn State Harrisburg. The scholarship is to provide recognition and financial assistance to outstanding female graduate students. The scholarship for women is in recognition "of how Hersha was founded," he emphasizes. "My wife was at the helm as the business grew and was an almost unknown, secret part of the company."



Hasu and Hersha Shah with sons Jay, left, and Neil, right.

"I always wanted to own my own business. It just took me 18 years to do it."

Kathryn Robinson new director of School of Humanities

Kathryn Robinson is the new Director of the Capital College School of Humanities.

Formerly the Dean of Arts and Letters and Professor of Theatre at Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, Okla., her appointment was effective July 1.

In announcing the appointment, Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes said, "Dr. Robinson brings more than a decade of distinguished academic administrative experience to Penn State Capital College. Prior to her deanship at Northeastern State University, Dr. Robinson was Dean of Arts and Letters and Professor of Theatre at Southern Oregon University, and Director of the School of Performing Arts and Professor of Theatre at Louisiana Tech University. She holds a Ph.D. in Fine Arts Administration from Texas Tech University, an M.F.A. in Acting/Directing from Southern Illinois University, and a B.A. in Speech from Louisiana Tech University."

Dr. Robinson's record of creative accomplishments and service contributions is exemplary. Her scholarly credits include substantial involvement as an actor, director, artistic director, producer, dramaturge, and critic. Among her noted accomplishments are many national awards, including a number of prestigious honors from the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Dr. Robinson was the recipient of the Kennedy Center Medallions of Excellence (1985, 1986, 1993) and Career Achievement Award (1996). Internationally, she has served as a judge of the All-Europe Tournament of Plays (1991), as a United States representative to the International Theatre Festival in Sitges, Spain, and as organizational consultant to the inaugural Balkan Theatre Schools Conference in Sophia, Bulgaria.

Dr. Robinson has been an active and successful fund-raiser in support of various arts initiatives and educational programs including an art gallery at Northeastern State University, the Center for the Visual Arts at Southern Oregon, and Kennedy Center seminars. Her accomplishments extend to local arts and community organizations where she has played a pivotal role in the development of service learning partnerships.



Schuylkill reunion May 1, 2004

The award-winning Schuylkill campus alumni reunion returns on May 1, 2004.

The third annual event on campus will feature food, fun, and a presentation on the history of rock and roll by William J. Kelly, Head of Integrative Arts in the College of Arts and Architecture at University Park. Dr. Kelly has presented this lecture in the "Huddle with the Faculty" program series presented before home football games.



The reunion will also feature the presentation of the Alumni Achievement Award and educational seminars on "everyday physics," designing a Web site, and job search strategies for alumni.

Termed "Route 61 Revisited," the first Schuylkill alumni reunion won the award for best new program from the Penn State Alumni Association.

Look for information in the spring issue of *Currents* and on the web at www.sl.psu.edu

Meet-the-Dean Tour kicks off

Capital College Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes is hitting the road to meet with alumni.

A "Meet-the-Dean Tour" with Dr. Hanes kicks off Nov. 18 at the Duquesne Club in Pittsburgh and Nov. 20 at the Sheraton Four Points in York.

All Penn State Harrisburg and Penn State Schuylkill alumni are encouraged to attend and join in for food, prizes, and a virtual campus tour.

Stops in the tour in 2004 will include Philadelphia, Lancaster, and Washington, D.C. Those dates and locations will be announced in the spring issue of *Currents*.

For more information, visit the Office of Alumni Relations Web site at www.hbg.psu.edu/alumni.



Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.

University Park campus tour May 8, 2004



Want to get a behind-the-scenes look at Beaver Stadium?

How about a driving tour of the "hidden places" on the University Park campus?

These and more are in store for alumni of the Harrisburg and Schuylkill campuses when the Capital College Office of Alumni Relations hosts a tour of the University Park campus on May 8, 2004.

The visit will include lunch at the Nittany Lion Inn, the tour of Beaver Stadium including the lockerrooms and suites, stops at the "hidden places" on campus, tour of the Hintz Family Alumni Center, ice cream at the creamery, a visit to the Nittany Lion Shrine, and dinner.

Bus transportation will be available from the Harrisburg campus.

For more details and registration, visit the Web at www.hbg.psu.edu/alumni.

Undergrad student's honors project focuses on Centralia mine fire

For those who have forgotten, Centralia is still burning underground and the fire front is still moving. But for a Penn State Schuylkill Psychology undergraduate student, the Pennsylvania town has become the focus of research that broadened her interest in local history to include geology.

Melissa A. Nolter enrolled in the Geoscience 20 class at the Schuylkill campus and because she is a student in the Honors Program, asked if she could do a project to make the class an honors class. Dr. Daniel H. Vice, her instructor, suggested a paper, but left the subject up to her.

"I've always had a personal interest in local history. I knew the history of the fire and the Centralia community and the political history involved, but not the geology," Nolter told attendees at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Denver. "I did not know that the fire moves in fits and starts, sometimes not advancing at all and other times advancing rapidly."

Nolter learned a great deal about the geology of coal country, about mine tunneling and synclines, anticlines, and flooding. Temperature measurements made with a thermometer supplied by Nolter's father allowed her to measure where the edge of the fire front was and how it advanced through time. The thermometer was one usually used in metallurgical applications at high temperatures.

The Centralia underground coal fire started after the municipality burned the town garbage dump in 1962. Although it was thought all the mine holes were filled with non-combustible material, one remained open. The coal seam beneath the dump began to burn and, despite numerous attempts to extinguish the fire, it still burns.

"At one time, they dug a big trench to try to stop the fire, but they realized that the fire had already passed that point," says Nolter. "They filled the hole and eventually, the federal



government relocated nearly the entire town."

At one time there were four fire fronts in Centralia, but now only two remain, one to the west, which is still within the now-ghost town and one to the southwest, which is just past the town.

Nolter took temperature readings all over Centralia including from cracks in the ground that still emit heated gases from the fire to determine the location of the fire front. Temperature at the fire front on the surface is about 750 degrees Fahrenheit.

Nolter found that the average rate of movement of the fire is 66 feet per year. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection measures about 75 feet per year for the advancing fire front. "The reality is probably in between these measurements," says the Schuylkill student. "Some months nothing happens and then suddenly there is an advance, it is not the same every year, or even every month."

Nolter and Dr. Vice are working with Dr. Glenn Stracher, East Georgia College, and Dr. Tammy Taylor, Los Alamos National Laboratory, to investigate both the formation of minerals by the hot gases coming from the coal fire and the amount of carbon dioxide that is being given off by the fire.

Centralia's coal is anthracite, which is notoriously difficult to ignite. Nolter notes that when the fire is in a coal bed, it burns slowly and moves slowly, but when it hits one of the old, abandoned mine tunnels, it advances rapidly to the next bed. Experts predict the fire will burn for hundreds of years before it finally goes out.

'The Bloody Eighth' booked for another run

The Bloody Eighth is returning to the stage.

The first-ever musical based on Harrisburg, which debuted in 2003, will be presented at the Capital Dinner Theatre in Harrisburg Jan. 31 through Feb. 8. And the well-received effort has a direct Penn State Harrisburg link.

David Weisberg, a 1990 Harrisburg campus graduate with a degree in American Studies and who is now the chief executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg, had spoken with the owners of the theater about a play based on Harrisburg "in order to attract a local audience." Weisberg then contacted his former professor at Penn State Harrisburg, Associate Professor of American Studies and History Michael Barton, for recommendations. Dr. Barton is recognized as a leading authority on the history of the capital city.

Dr. Barton explained that his manuscript *Harrisburg's Old Eighth Ward*, would be a perfect story line. The Eighth Ward, which no longer exists, featured characters as varied as state senators and criminals, political bosses and tavern owners. Barton's manuscript became *The Bloody Eighth*.

Weisberg was co-creator and co-producer of the musical and pulled the team together for the production which was first performed last February. Information on the 2004 presentation is available at 717-236-3104.

As chief executive director of the Jewish Federation, Weisberg directs the umbrella organization that oversees all Jewish community activity in the Harrisburg area including the Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, and Jewish education. The Federation was formed two and one-half years ago with the merger of the United Jewish Community of Greater Harrisburg and the Jewish Community Center, both of which Weisberg directed.

A resident of Harrisburg since the age of two, Weisberg and his wife, Jill, are the parents of daughters Hannah, 14, and Alison, 12.

Course bolsters MBA grad's career in antiques

David J. Cordier earned an MBA from Penn State Harrisburg in 1991, but it was a course offered through the School of Humanities which has had a lasting impact on his "new" career.

A director of development for a nonprofit organization while he was pursuing his MBA, Cordier's one-week three-credit academic adventure with Dr. Irwin Richman into Arts and Decorative Arts in Pennsylvania provided him with a "boost in knowledge" and paved the way for full-time employment in antiques and collectibles.

The course introduced Cordier to Winterthur, the Delaware center for the interdisciplinary study of America's artistic, cultural, social, and intellectual past. The Winterthur visit and his later experience there as a student, strengthened Cordier's desire to enter the antique business full-time, which he reached in 2002 after 20 years.

In appreciation for the career-building experience, Cordier has made a generous contribution to the scholarship fund honoring Dr. Richman, one of Penn State Harrisburg's longest-serving faculty members. A Professor of American Studies and History, Dr. Richman retired last summer.

David and his wife, Sandra, had been collectors for many years when they began their antiques business in 1980. Initially they exhibited at area venues, and in 1988 opened a permanent display in Carlisle. As they became established, they exhibited at regional shows in Atlantic City, Baltimore, and New York City.

As the depth of their interest and knowledge increased, the Cordiers began developing a small market in original art from the 19th and early 20th centuries. While there are several contemporary art galleries in the greater Harrisburg area, the fine antiques establishments display very little, if any, original art from the period. This prompted the Cordiers to open a gallery which is now located at The Shoppes of Olde Borough Hall in Camp Hill, near their home. The Cordiers purchased the property several years ago and renovated the historic building.

Cordier Antiques & Fine Art Gallery, with more than 2,000 square feet of exhibit space, specializes in original art from the 19th and early 20th centuries (including oil paintings, watercolors and prints), while also exhibiting a full line of other decorative arts such as furniture, glass, porcelain, silver, estate jewelry, clocks and watches.

And it was through internet sales that David was able to expand his Camp Hill business. Selling "mostly smaller items, collectibles, and decorative objects," the online segment of his business has expanded so impressively that David now has three full-time employees working in that area. Cordier Antiques also conducts appraisals of antiques and personal property with another full-time employee assisting David in that effort. He also writes a bi-weekly column, "Eye on Antiques" for the Harrisburg Patriot-News.

For David Cordier, what began as an elective course en route to his MBA underscored the evolution of a career in antiques.



CORDIER
ANTIQUES
So fine art

Memorial expands holdings

A memorial to a former Schuylkill student is helping others learn about bipolar disorder and the problems faced by abused women.

Penn State Schuylkill's Ciletti Memorial Library recently benefited from memorials for a former student.

Maribeth C. Shea died in 2001 and her family wished to remember her in some tangible manner. Her family and friends contributed memorials to purchase volumes for the Ciletti Memorial Library on the Schuylkill campus in her memory.

Two areas of interest for Ms. Shea were bipolar disorder and the problems of abused women. The library's holdings in these areas have been expanded and have formed the basis of a strong collection that will benefit others in need of information on these topics.

The books purchased to date as a result of memorial contributions in honor of Maribeth include:

Abused Women and Survivor Therapy: A Practical Guide for the Psychotherapist, Lenore Walker; *Angry Men and the Women Who Love Them: Breaking Cycle of Physical and Emotional Abuse*, Paul Hegstrom; *Battered Women and the Law*, Clare Dalton; *Battered Woman Syndrome*, Lenore E.A. Walker; *Bipolar Disorder: a Cognitive Therapy Approach*, Cory F. Newman; *Bipolar Disorder: a Guide for Patients and Families*, Francis M. Mondimore; *Chain Chain Change: for Black Women in Abusive Relationships*, Evelyn C. White; *Convicted Survivors: the Imprisonment of Women Who Kill*, Elizabeth D. Leonard.

Ditch That Jerk, Pamela Jayne; *I Closed My Eyes: Revelations of a Battered Woman*, Michele Weldon; *More Than Victims: Battered Women, the Syndrome Society, and the Law*, Donald A. Downs; *New Hope for People with Bipolar Disorder*, Jan Fawcett; *No Safe Haven: Male Violence Against Women at Work and in the Community*, Mary P. Koss; *Survival Strategies for Parenting Children with Bipolar Disorder*, George T. Lynn; *The Bipolar Child: the Definitive and Reassuring Guide to Childhood's Most Misunderstood Disorder*, Demetri F. Papolos; *The Bipolar Disorder Survival Guide: What You and Your Family Need to Know*, David J. Miklowitz; and *You Can Be Free: An Easy-to-Read Handbook for Abused Women*, Ginny NiCarthy.

Alumni Mentor program seeks volunteers

Remember when you were an undergraduate student at Penn State Harrisburg and were looking for career advice from a professional?

As a graduate, you now have the opportunity to share career-related information and experiences with a current student through the Harrisburg campus Alumni Mentor Program.

Volunteers are needed to share their knowledge and skills with students, offer "real world" advice, and to share their professional network with a future colleague.

It will not take a great deal of your time, but you will have a career-building, lasting impact on a student.

To register as an Alumni Mentor and for information on the program, visit the Web at www.hbg.psu.edu/alumni or phone the Alumni Relations Office at 717-948-6715.

MPA grads serving in key state government positions

Two graduates of Penn State Harrisburg's Master of Public Administration program, Pedro Cortes and Jeffrey Miller, are playing pivotal roles in the administration of Gov. Edward Rendell.

Cortes is Secretary of the Commonwealth and Miller is Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police.

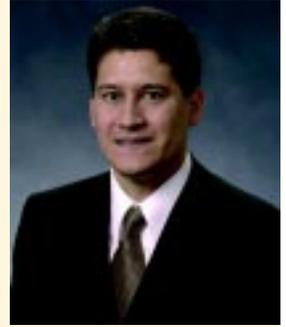
The former Executive Director of the Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs, Cortes earned an MPA from Penn State Harrisburg in 2000 and holds a law degree from Penn State's Dickinson School of Law.

A Harrisburg resident and 10-year state employee, Cortes worked for the Civil Service Commission and the Department of Welfare before his commission appointment. The Secretary of the Commonwealth, with a proposed \$105 million budget, also oversees charitable organizations, corporation records, the state athletic commission, and 27 boards that grant professional and occupational licenses.

Col. Miller was nominated by Gov. Rendell to serve as the 18th Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police on January 9 and was unanimously confirmed by the Senate on March 24.

A native of Harrisburg, Col. Miller earned his MPA in 2001. He enlisted in the Pennsylvania State Police in July 1984. Following academy graduation, he served as a Trooper at the Bedford, York, and Harrisburg stations, was promoted to corporal in 1988, sergeant in 1990, lieutenant in 1993, captain in 1995, and major in January 2002. During his progression through the ranks, he served in various assignments including patrol, internal affairs, drug law enforcement, and criminal investigation. He was assigned as the Director of Legislative Affairs in March 2000.

He served as keynote speaker for Penn State Harrisburg's May 2003 commencement ceremonies.



Pedro Cortes



Jeffrey Miller

'72 course 'has lasted a lifetime'

It's been more than 30 years since Robert Francis was an undergraduate at Penn State Harrisburg, but the years have not dimmed the impact a faculty member had on his life.

After reading the article on the scholarship created in honor of Professor of American Studies and History Irwin Richman in the last edition of *Currents*, Francis contacted the campus Office of Development indicating his intention to donate to the scholarship fund. "Although I have been trained as a city planner, I have had a lifelong appreciation of the arts that I owe entirely to Dr. Richman's courses," he wrote. Francis graduated from the Harrisburg campus in 1972 with a bachelor of social science degree. He is employed as the executive director of the Regional Youth/Adult Substance Abuse Project at Burrough's Community Center in Bridgeport, Conn.

In addition to his contribution to the fund, Francis also wrote to Dr. Richman. Portions of his letter follow:

"Thirty-one years ago (faculty member) Tom Knight told me that I needed a 'little rounding,' so he recommended that I take your Art and Architecture class. When I walked into class that first day in the winter term of 1972, I didn't know what to expect. Art and architecture had not been a large part of my Western Pennsylvania upbringing. I came to your class with no real expectations and I left your class with an appreciation of art and architecture that has lasted me a lifetime."

Efforts continue to fund Lesniak Scholarship

Efforts continue to create a scholarship honoring long-time faculty member Robert J. Lesniak, who died Aug. 29, 2001.

Dr. Lesniak, the architect of the college's master's degree program in Training and Development, retired due to illness in December 2000 as associate professor emeritus of education. His teaching career at the Harrisburg campus spanned 31 years.

At the time of his retirement, Dr. Lesniak's academic and staff colleagues initiated the scholarship effort in honor of his untiring commitment to students. The Robert Lesniak Scholarship Fund will provide support for undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in Capital College education programs.

Individuals and organizations wishing to contribute to the scholarship fund may do so by phoning the Office of Development at 717-948-6316.

Retirement dinner to honor Dr. Irwin Richman

It's not too late to support the Irwin Richman Scholarship on the Harrisburg campus and join in the retirement celebration for one of the college's longest-serving faculty members.

Persons who make contributions to the Richman Scholarship will be invited to attend a Nov. 6 dinner in Dr. Richman's honor, celebrating both the scholarship and his commitment to Penn State Harrisburg students since 1968.

Dr. Richman retired last summer as Professor Emeritus of American Studies and History. The scholarship in his honor will go to an incoming or continuing full-time American Studies graduate student on the campus.

For information on how to contribute to the scholarship, contact the Office of Development at 717-948-6316.

PROFILE OF A LOYAL FRIEND Ralph Peters is unwavering in his commitment to the campus



Ralph Peters

Penn State Harrisburg has changed considerably since its creation in 1966. New buildings, new programs, new faces.

One dedicated friend of the college, Ralph Peters, has played a part in many of the changes in the same way he has worked for a half-century to improve the quality of life in the midstate.

Now 80 years of age, but showing no signs of slowing down, Peters has built a successful engineering business in the same thoughtful, caring manner he has constructed a legacy of service to the community rarely matched in the Harrisburg area.

The Chairman and CEO of Benatec Associates, a progressive, employee-owned engineering, planning, and environmental firm based at Capital City Airport in New Cumberland, Peters' affiliation with Penn State Harrisburg began "when Dr. Theodore Gross came to Penn State Harrisburg." Gross, appointed Provost and Dean in 1979, "noted that the campus needed an advisory board to help it move forward." In Gross's consultation with community leaders regarding the creation of the board, Peters was endorsed

as the person who could get the project moving ahead. He had served as President of the University Center of Harrisburg for seven years – a partnership among Penn State, Penn, Temple, Elizabethtown, and Lebanon Valley. "It was the toughest job of my life," Peters adds.

"I said yes to Ted and 'recruited' the first members to serve as the Board of Advisers," Peters said. "We got a dedicated group." That initial commitment to the Harrisburg campus led to terms as the first chair of the Board of Advisers beginning in 1979 and the eventual designation as honorary lifetime member for Peters in gratitude for his unwavering support.

He has been honored by Penn State as an Alumni Fellow and as a Distinguished Alumnus and in 1984 received the Penn State Harrisburg Provost's Community Service Award. His list of service awards from community or organizations fills an entire page.

Peters sees Penn State Harrisburg as a "golden opportunity" that should continue to grow and expand. "The new campus housing and state-of-the-art library are wonderful," he adds. He underscored his enthusiastic commitment to the campus when he and his wife funded the Ralph Peters Renaissance Scholarship for full-time undergraduate students.

Peters' affiliation with Penn State actually extends to his undergraduate days at University Park where he earned a degree in Business in 1948 after active duty service in the Army during World War II. Following graduation, he was employed by the University as an assistant to the budget officer.

Then, in 1954, he received a call from Dr. Louis Berger, "a brilliant, respected professor" who had known Peters when Berger was a faculty member at Penn State. Berger had formed an engineering firm in Harrisburg and asked Peters to join him as his financial officer. Peters eventually became senior vice president. The Berger firm was sold to a multi-national firm in 1968 and Peters stayed on in Harrisburg, forming his own management consultant business. In 1971, he and several others purchased the domestic portion of his former firm. "I didn't want to work with a big corporation. I preferred the advantage of knowing and working closely with employees," he stresses.

That decision led to the creation of Benatec Associates, now with a staff of more than 130 professional, technical, and support personnel. The firm regularly appears on *Engineering News Record's* prestigious list of the top 500 design firms nationwide. In addition to the New Cumberland headquarters, Benatec has offices in Greensburg and Harrisburg, Columbus, Ohio, Hurricane, W.Va., and Rockville, Md.

While building his own business, Peters did not turn his back on the community. A tireless worker for causes and charities, he and attorney Edward First saw a need to create an organization not present in Central Pennsylvania to "confront challenges to the community." That concept led to the "Committee of 15," a behind-the-scenes group of influential community leaders who became an independent unit that "worked quietly" and was instrumental in fostering area changes, including the birth of the Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts and also the light rail concept. "We discussed issues and how to confront them," Peters says of the Committee which was "the precursor to the Envision program."

Peters and his wife of 55 years, Jane, are the parents of four adult children and grandparents of two and he admits to "slowing down to 45 or 50 working hours per week" in addition to his commitment to the community. But the midstate admonishes Peters to remain a role model to inspire others who can benefit from his vast experience.

Kevin M. Harter leads advisers



Kevin M. Harter

Kathleen Smarilli's term as chair of the Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers has ended, but her tireless service to the college has not.

In her four years at the helm of the Board, Smarilli helped guide Penn State Harrisburg's administration through a period of unparalleled academic and physical plant growth. Her commitment to the college has earned her the rare title of lifetime honorary board member.

The President, Capital Region, Wachovia Corp., Smarilli will continue active participation on the Board as immediate past chair and as chair of its Financial Development Committee.



Kathleen Smarilli

During her years as chair, Smarilli participated in five commencement ceremonies, the dedication of the new library, the successful Grand Destiny Campaign, and the opening of student housing.

Academic growth included the introduction of undergraduate majors in Environmental Engineering and English and master's programs in Criminal Justice, Environmental Engineering, the behavioral sciences, and an on-line MBA in conjunction with Penn State's Erie and Great Valley campuses and the Smeal College of Business Administration. For the fall 2003 semester, the Harrisburg campus admitted first-year students into six programs.

Kevin M. Harter, a Penn State Harrisburg graduate and senior vice president for business development for the Life Sciences Greenhouse of Central Pennsylvania, was elected to succeed Smarilli as chair. John Kirkpatrick, editor and publisher and president of the Harrisburg Patriot-News, is the new vice chair, and Paul Coppock continues as treasurer.

New members elected to the board include: Nancy Cramer Aronson, President of Capitol Commercial Corporation; Nancy A. Besch, Chairman of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners; Sheila E. Dow-Ford, Executive Vice President and Chief Counsel, Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency; Francis S. Soistman Jr., President and CEO of HealthAmerica and HealthAssurance; Christine Sears, Senior Vice President and CFO, Penn National Insurance; and Richard Ziegler, Owner/President, R.E. Ziegler Remodeling and Construction Co.

Another long-time member, Napoleon Saunders, former Business Administrator for the City of Harrisburg, has also been elected to lifetime honorary membership.

(Editor's Note: A number of Capital College students were called by the armed forces for duty in Iraq. Through e-mail, several of them have corresponded with faculty and staff at the college. Excerpts of their correspondence are reprinted here).

“Baghdad Diary”

From John Warford, Criminal Justice undergraduate student

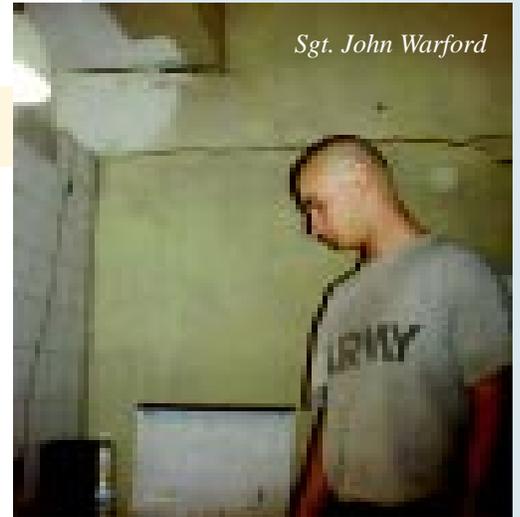
My name is Sgt. John Warford. I have been deployed since February, but have only been in Iraq since May. For the first three months of my deployment, I was stationed at Ft. Dix, New Jersey. When my unit and I left for the Middle East, I spent about three days in Kuwait, and then I and some people from my platoon were designated as advanced party, to go ahead of our unit along with the 2nd ACR (armored cavalry unit) to Baghdad to begin cleaning up our camp, which later was named Camp Muleskinner. We convoyed for three days through the Iraqi countryside with some minor difficulties along the way.

We were hauling a generator, but the trailer blew a tire, and the rest of our convoy proceeded on without us, leaving one other Hummer with us. We stayed at that spot for five hours with no word from our convoy, so we decided to leave the generator behind and try to catch up with them at Adler AFB. When we arrived, though, our convoy had not yet checked in, so we spent the night in a field. The next morning we had to fill the Hummer with fuel, but did not have time to wait in a 2.5-hour line, so we siphoned the fuel from a wrecked tractor trailer truck that was in the field where we had slept. Finally, we caught up with our convoy and proceeded to our camp. When we arrived, the place was a wreck: some buildings were blown up, and the ones that were standing were in really bad shape. Our camp was formerly one of Saddam Hussein's army colleges. We had to clean up anything from human waste on our floors to trash and rubble. The first two weeks we slept out on a cement pad or in our vehicles. We heard gun shots every night.

It took about a month and a half to get the camp operational, and it's still not up to standards. We finally, about three weeks ago, got porta potties to use instead of the wooden shack where every morning and evening we had to burn the human waste. To keep our water cold, we use ice that we buy from the Iraqis that is nondrinkable when it melts. The weather every day is hot and sunny, with temperatures from 130-145 degrees F during the day, dropping at night to about 110-114.

Things are starting to look up, though. We are getting air conditioners for our work and sleep areas, and just this past weekend they opened up the Olympic-size pool that was part of Hussein's college.

All in all, the living conditions are improving daily. I have learned from this experience not to take things for granted — things like running water, flushable toilets and being able to see friends, family, and loved ones whenever I want. I can't wait to come home to continue my everyday life and to return to Penn State to graduate.



Sgt. John Warford

From Aubrey Lynne Stover

First, I would like to thank you all for your support and all that has been done for me regarding “Operation Iraqi/Enduring Freedom.” I am currently at BIAF (Baghdad International Airport) with the 203rd MI BN. My orders are to come home around the beginning of October. This means I will not be able to attend fall semester-like I had hoped. I will, however, be DEFINITELY coming for the spring semester (spring 2004) and the summer semester (summer 2004). I already have my classes picked out of what I would like to take for both semesters. If possible, I would like to send them in for those two semesters-just in case I can't make it to a computer to enroll.

Capital College students serve in armed forces



Other Capital College students who have been deployed as a result of the war in Iraq include:

Edward Maddy, who has returned.

Kennith Ling, a freshman at the Schuylkill campus last year and who is now stationed in California.

Michael Barrett, now back at Schuylkill.

Michael Race, now back at Schuylkill.

Crystal Felix, deployed, returned, and has been deployed again.

'96 graduate serves Army in Iraq

Gordon R. Moon, who graduated from the Harrisburg campus in 1996 with a secondary education degree, is a company commander in charge of 130 troops in the 101st Airborne Division in Mosul, Iraq.

Moon was deployed in March in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Schuylkill Haven native earns coveted Penn State award

Recent Penn State Harrisburg graduate and Schuylkill Haven native Julie Stoyer Mann was only one of two students to earn the University's coveted Ralph Dorn Hetzel Memorial Award for 2003.

Mann, the daughter of Martin and Janet Stoyer of Schuylkill Haven, was presented the award April 26 during ceremonies on the University Park campus.

The Hetzel Memorial Award, named for Penn State's tenth president (1926-1947), recognizes a combination of high scholastic attainment together with good citizenship, participation, and leadership in student activities.

A U.S. Navy veteran and also a Schreyer Honors Scholar, Mann graduated from Penn State Harrisburg on May 17 with a degree in mathematical science and also earned certification in secondary education to become eligible to teach math.

She completed her student teaching at the Milton Hershey School while maintaining a 3.94 grade-point average for her studies at Penn State Harrisburg



Hetzel Award winner Julie Mann is flanked by mathematical sciences faculty members Dr. Winston Richards, left, and Dr. Thang Bui.



John H. Joseph

Ex-assistant provost dies at age 60

Dr. John H. Joseph, 60, former Assistant Provost of Penn State Harrisburg (1982-85), a member of its Education faculty from 1985-90, and most recently President of the University of Maine at Machias, died suddenly May 9 while preparing for the college's commencement ceremony.

"This is a sad, sad day for our state," said Joseph Westphal, chancellor of the University of Maine system. "John Joseph was a strong and visionary president who made great strides in building his university's quality and reputation."

Memorial services for Dr. Joseph, a York County native, were conducted in June in Harrisburg.

Clemmie Gilpin earns prestigious University honor



Clemmie E. Gilpin

Clemmie E. Gilpin, assistant professor of community systems and Afro-American studies and a member of the faculty at Penn State Harrisburg for more than 30 years, has earned the University's coveted 2003 President's Award for Engagement with Students.

The award is given to a full-time member of the University faculty "who goes beyond his or her responsibilities to engage and encourage students in learning, demonstrating deep caring and involvement with student learning." Dr. Gilpin received the award for his work as an outstanding academic adviser and student advocate and for his selflessness in assisting students.

He has won the Penn State Student Government Association's Faculty Adviser of the Year Award five times, the Provost's Community Service Award, the Faculty Senate Outstanding Service Award, and the James A. Jordan Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence. Thirty-one years ago, he founded and continues to lead the Model United Nations program at Penn State Harrisburg, a major outreach effort to high school students.

'Partners in Science'

A teacher from Cedar Cliff High School in Camp Hill and a Penn State Harrisburg faculty member have become "Partners in Science."

Amy Diehl of Mechanicsburg, who is currently pursuing a graduate degree in Environmental Pollution Control on the Harrisburg campus, and Associate Professor of Environmental Microbiology Katherine H. Baker, have received an award from the Franklin H. and Ruth L. Wells Foundation for a "Partners in Science" program. The program grant will support the two teachers' research over two summers. Their project is entitled: "Comparison of Physiological and Molecular Methods for the Determination of Sources of Fecal Pollution."

In this study, Baker and Diehl are evaluating and comparing three accepted techniques to develop databases needed to determine if the techniques are comparable. Samples from known fecal sources (sewage, manure, etc.) will be collected and fecal coliforms will be isolated using microbiological techniques.

The purpose of the research is to develop methods to reliably track and index the source of fecal pollution. Citing "no standard accepted method" presently existing to measure surface and groundwater contamination, the researchers will attempt to establish baseline procedures and measurements for future work in this area.



It's always better to match.

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Graduates become published authors

Three graduates of the master's degree program in American Studies on the Harrisburg campus have recently become published authors.

James McClure '94, managing editor of the York Daily Record, is the author of *East of Gettysburg: A Gray Shadow Crosses York County*, published by the York County Heritage Trust. It is the story of Confederate troops in York during the Civil War.

Dr. Helen Bradley Foster '87, an instructor of art history at the College of Visual Arts in St. Paul, Minn., is the author of "Village Architecture of the Morea," in *Houses of the Morea*, edited by Frederick A. Cooper. Her impressive chapter in Greek and English is on the contemporary vernacular housing of Greece.

Colette Silvestri of Enola is the author of the musical theatrical production *Zelda*, which enjoyed its first public reading at the Gretna Theater, Mount Gretna, in August. The show concerns the life of Zelda Fitzgerald, wife of novelist F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Commencement marshal appointed

A faculty member from the Capital College School of Business Administration will serve as commencement marshal at the Dec. 20 Penn State Harrisburg ceremonies at the Giant Center in Hershey.

Long-time faculty member Terence A. Brown, associate professor of transportation and marketing, has been appointed campus marshal by Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes. Dr. Brown is believed to be the first School of Business Administration faculty member to serve as marshal in the history of the Harrisburg campus. Professor of Physics Michael Cardamone serves as marshal at the Schuylkill campus ceremonies.

Citizens Bank, Penn State Harrisburg team up for Kids College

The educational partnership between Citizens Bank and Penn State Harrisburg culminated Aug. 14 when 40 area middle school students spent a day at the State Capitol as part of the Kids College camp in Youth Government.

The Youth Government camp was one of five 2003 camps in the Penn State Harrisburg Kids College summer enrichment program supported by Citizens Bank. The support included scholarships for deserving campers and guest speakers for the programs. Other camps included The Stock Market Game, mathematics, and a look behind the scenes at professions.

The Youth Government camp involved the middle school students in active legislative activities including the discussion of current events, the creation of legislation, research, parliamentary procedure, campaigns and elections. The highlight was a session of a model legislature in which students debated bills and voted on their passage.

On August 14 at the Capitol, regional management from Citizens Bank including Ray Spencer, Jennifer Helsel, and David Payne served ice cream to the students and accepted formal appreciation from Penn State Harrisburg for Citizens' role in making the camps possible. Citizens Bank also provided lunch after which Citizens governmental banker David Payne spoke to the students about the role of banks and businesses in helping shape public policy.

The day also consisted of the students meeting and speaking with state officials and the simulation of a legislative session.



Citizens Bank Senior Vice President Andy Klinger spent an afternoon with a Kids College class on the Harrisburg campus explaining the banking business.



Grad leads State Housing Finance Agency

Brian A. Hudson, a 1977 Penn State Harrisburg graduate with a bachelor's degree in Business, is the new executive director of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency.

State Banking Secretary A. William Schenck III said the agency's Board selected Hudson because of his experience and reputation within the housing and finance community.



Brian Hudson

"Brian Hudson's credentials make him a natural for the position," Schenck said. "He is held in tremendous regard by his peers, and his twenty-eight years of Agency service give him the kind of first-hand experience that simply can't be found elsewhere."

Hudson, a resident of suburban Harrisburg, began his PHFA career as a staff accountant in 1975, while he was still an undergraduate. He held progressively more responsible posts after receiving his degree, including Manager of Investments and Director of Finance. He became Assistant Executive Director of Finance and Administration in 1989 and was promoted to Deputy Executive Director of the Agency in 1995.

Alumni Societies earn University Program awards

Penn State Capital College is two-for-two in picking up University-wide alumni association honors.

In 2002, the Schuylkill Alumni Society's "Route 61 Revisited" reunion earned the most innovative new project award from the Penn State Alumni Association.

The Harrisburg Alumni Society has now earned the same honor in 2003 for its September alumni reception at the State Capitol. The gathering, attended by 72 people, featured a college-wide update by Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes, door prizes, lunch, and networking with Penn State alumni working in state government.

Schuylkill Campus

Sandra M. Wolesschak, Orwigsburg, who attended the Schuylkill campus from 1965 to 1967, is a colonel (retired) in the U.S. Army Reserve, holds an MBA from St. Joseph's University, and is employed by Light Heigel Associates. E-mail: tschref@earthlink.net.

Jill Homovich Bobbin, '91 BUS, Schuylkill Haven, and her husband Vincent, '89 EET, celebrated the births of twin sons on Dec. 9, 2002. E-mail: vjbobbin@comcast.net.

Harrisburg Campus

Jerome M. Lacotta, '86 SDCET, Chalfont, Pa., passed the Professional Engineer exam in April 2003 and is employed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, King of Prussia. E-mail: jmlbml@aol.com.

Lisa Buntun McNaughton, '87 MIS, Harrisburg, is employed at Capital Blue Cross and is married to Sam McNaughton, '87. They are the parents of a son, Alexander. E-mail: lmcnaughton@aol.com.

Scott Thornsley, '88 MPA, Mansfield, Pa., is a professor of criminal justice at Mansfield University. Dr. Thornsley was one of the nation's most frequently quoted commentators during the sniper killing spree in the Washington, D.C. area. He appeared in more than 100 newspapers across the U.S., Europe, Canada, and the Middle East and was interviewed on MSNBC, CNN, CBC, and on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Judy Hricak, '89 HCOMM, has been named a senior associate with Gannett Fleming, an international consulting engineering and construction management firm based in Harrisburg. Hricak is also a vice president with the firm and also serves as vice president of marketing for GeoDecisions, the independent geographic information system and information technology division of Gannett Fleming.

Xiaoqing Zhu, '90g AMSTD, has been accepted into the doctoral program in art history at the University of Maryland. Xiaoqing plans to concentrate on comparative art history "between China and the West, mainly the U.S." After earning her master's degree, she taught at Harrisburg Area Community College.

Stacey Simmers Cleary, '93 BHum, Harrisburg, and her husband, Colin, celebrated the birth of son Nathan Joseph on July 25, 2002. Stacey was recently promoted to Assistant Director of Education, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, Enola. E-mail: stacey325@comcast.net.

Dennis Butler, '93 MET, Philadelphia, earned a J.D. from Temple University School of Law in May. He is employed by Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld in Philadelphia as a patent agent prosecuting U.S. and foreign patent applications in the mechanical arts. E-mail: dbutler@akingump.com.

Michelle B. Feingold Chumash, '94 Mgmt, Matawan, N.J., and her husband, Tzyika, celebrated the birth of son Dean on Oct. 8, 2002. E-Mail: Michelle@absolutad.com.

Susan E. Grubb, '94 MPA, is grants coordinator with Hospice of Lancaster County. E-mail: sgrubb@hospiceoflancaster.org.

Jonelle L. Bowlin Fazzolari, '94 EIEd, Harrisburg, is a first grade teacher at St. Margaret Mary School in Harrisburg and completed study in the Penn State Harrisburg Master of Education in Teaching and Curriculum and Reading Specialist Certificate in July. She resides with her husband and six-year-old son, Anthony. E-mail: JoFazz@aol.com.

Christine R. Strouse, '95 Mgmt, Enola, has returned to Penn State Harrisburg as a full-time MBA student and expects to earn her degree in August, 2003. E-mail: pookiedoak@aol.com.

David E. Gunsallus II, '95 SDCET, Lock Haven, is employed by Larson Design Group, Williamsport, and recently graduated from Leadership Clinton County.

Paul P. Nasados Jr., Baltimore, '95 SDCET, earned a Master of Engineering in Civil Engineering from the University Park campus and recently formed his own professional engineering services corporation, headquartered in Baltimore with additional offices in Pennsylvania and Delaware. Nasados, Inc.'s core interest and service is in the field of bridge engineering. The firm provides services throughout the northeastern United States and the Canadian Maritimes. He has a web site at www.nasados.com. E-mail: paul@nasados.com.

Edward A Kapelewski, SDCET '96, Greensburg, Pa., is employed as a senior engineer in the bridge group with GAI Consultants, Inc., Monroeville. He passed the Professional Engineer exam in October 2002 and is now licensed as a Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania. E-mail: edjukappy33@yahoo.com.

Brian K. Hair, '97 HCOMM, Carlisle, has accepted a position with Boehringer Ingelheim as a Pharmaceutical Sales Representative for the Harrisburg/Lancaster territory. He was the Sales Manger with Lemoyne Sleeper Company of Carlisle for the past eight years. E-Mail: bkhair11@aol.com.

Jaime Cardenas, '97 EET, Ellicott City, Md., recently joined Science Applications International Corporation after working for DCS Corporation in Alexandria, Va., for five and one-half years as a software tester. He also earned a master's in Engineering Management from George Washington University in 2001. E-mail: jcardenas2@csc.com.

Jason C. Anderson, '99 BS, a Lance Corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, was called to active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom while assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron 471, 4th Marine Air Wing, home based in Johnstown. The Air Wing's mission is to organize, train, and equip individual Marines and combat-ready groups, squadrons, and air defense units to augment and reinforce the active component.

Andrea L. Moyers-Bloss, '00 Principal Certification, York, is employed by the Columbia Borough School District. Andrea and her husband Glenn celebrated the birth of daughter Alexandra on Dec. 4, 2002. E-mail: moyes-bloss@suscom.net.

Kerry Monaco, '01 HComm, Long Island, N.Y., is the sports editor of the Southampton Press and won second place honors for Sports Writer of the Year for the second consecutive year. Kerry also married Philip Pecorino on March 29.

Robbie S. Badstibner, '01 SDCET, Germantown, Md., is a project manager with Hess Construction Co., Gaithersburg, and married Lisa Wilkes on May 5 in Frederick, Md. E-mail: rbadstibner@hessconstruction.com.

Angela Minner, '01 AMSTD, works for the former Immigration and Naturalization Service, now combined with Customs and known as the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection. Her home base is the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport after undergoing training in Georgia.

Rebecca A. Swab-Hudson, '02 HComm, was appointed a Police Communications Officer with the Pennsylvania State Police, Troop M, Dublin Barracks, in March. E-mail: swabhudson@aol.com.

Obituaries

Matthew K. Ginther, 19, a Criminal Justice major at the Schuylkill campus, died Aug. 22 in Philadelphia. He was a son of David B. and Kim McKeon Ginther of Schuylkill Haven and a graduate of Blue Mountain High School.

Michael T. Atkinson, 35, of 513 Laurel Terrace, Pottsville, died Aug. 1 in Berks County, as the result of an automobile accident. He was a second-year student at the Schuylkill campus and the son of Thomas Haviland and Agnes Hydro, Tamaqua.

Penn State Schuylkill student Ryan W. Collins, 18, of Birds Hill Road, Pine Grove, died Sept. 5 in Pine Grove Township. He was a son of Robert and Lola Wolfe Collins and a 2003 graduate of Pine Grove Area High School.

alumninews

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- Harrisburg Campus
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Last name _____ First name _____ Middle initial _____
 Maiden Name _____ Graduation Year _____ Years at Schuylkill _____ Degree _____
 Last name _____ First name _____ Middle initial _____
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 State _____ County _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
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 Street _____ City _____
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 Other news (activities, honors, births, promotions, etc.) _____

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 or capalumni@psu.edu

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