

# Currents

*Penn State Capital College Alumni Magazine*

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# Welcome to Currents

## *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 2004-2005 academic year. I always welcome Fall convocation – All-College Day. This particular occasion is a favorite one of mine. It's symbolic, marking the official start of a new academic year. And, as many of you have shared with me over the years, this day at its best “rallies” us around the college – the camaraderie – the catching up – the information sharing – all serve to energize us in anticipation of the new academic year and, perhaps more importantly, make for the more vivid and fondest of memories of years past.

This is a perfect occasion to reflect on our collective achievements. It is a well-deserved indulgence. Certainly, the timing couldn't be better. We're completing our three-year strategic planning cycle and about to start the next. It's also a time to take stock of the challenges we face – some rather sobering national challenges facing higher education. I will have met my own expectations today if I can bring a sense of confidence for meeting these challenges and for setting new goals for our college that aim even higher.

How are we doing? We are doing well. No, better than that, we are doing incredibly well and for all the right reasons.

We are engaged in our broader communities. We figure prominently in the life of our surrounding communities, lending expertise to business, government, and community organizations concerned with education, transportation, economic development, cultural arts and history, better government at the state and local levels, and the quality of life, including the environment, health, and children and families. Our communities are living laboratories. This is public scholarship – the academy's way of serving the greater public good – at its best. There is an interdependence and expectation from our public and various stakeholders that we cannot disappoint. And we have not. Timely? Yes. In 2005, the University celebrates its 150-year anniversary as the Commonwealth's land grant institution of higher learning.

How are we doing? Our new-found role as a comprehensive college has extended our reach and capability, and our public has responded enthusiastically. This is a milestone year for us. Lower division (the freshmen and sophomore years) is now in place at our Harrisburg campus. Two more baccalaureates – the Interdisciplinary Humanities and Information Sciences and Technology – have been, as of this fall, added to our Schuylkill campus's growing degree portfolio. Our graduate enrollments are the highest in our history. This, coupled with the increased baccalaureate capability at our campuses, enable us to serve our regions far better than ever before and to accommodate the full continuum of contemporary learners, from the full-time traditional age student attending day classes, to the returning adult student and part-time working professional graduate student attending evening classes.

We are achieving excellence in all the right places. Also a central strategic theme for the College.

The University, rightfully so, covets accreditation for its academic programs where such accrediting bodies exist on a national scale. We continue to advance on these fronts. We hold national accreditation in Business Administration with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), in Public Affairs with the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA), in Engineering and Engineering Technology with the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). Our programs in Engineering Technology were reaccredited, and our teacher education programs are in the preparatory stages of initial accreditation with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). This is wonderful, wonderful news. Congratulations to the school directors, program heads, faculty, and staff for their contributions to these important accomplishments.

And we're setting new records in securing sponsored dollars. During the last fiscal year, the College received 85 awards totaling a record \$4.3 million. This is a remarkable increase over the \$2.4 million in fiscal year 2002-03 and \$2.3 million for 2001-02. And the good news continues. In just the first two months of this fiscal year – July and August – we have received 13 awards totaling \$581,439. Congratulations to the principal investigators and project directors. We deeply appreciate your diligent and scholarly efforts.

How are we doing? We are Penn State, after all, and good stewards of the University for all the reasons cited and more.

There are challenges, and I would be remiss not to remind us of those President Spanier has identified as having significant impact on how the University recruits and retains students. One of the most pressing challenges facing us is the changing demography of our state, notably the slow population growth forecast for Pennsylvania, a shrinking pool of high school graduates, an aging population, and modest population diversity in the Commonwealth.

We're seeing increased competition emerge among institutions of higher education. This is especially true for institutions, public and private, which are largely dependent on local, in-state enrollment for their sustained viability, and for public institutions which are becoming increasingly dependent on tuition dollars as state resources decline.

College costs money. The average debt now carried by our students is \$18,000. Nearly 60% of Penn State Harrisburg students receive some sort of financial aid, and over 80% of local students who attend Penn State Schuylkill received financial aid (loans, grants, scholarships and work study). Raising private dollars is a way of life for us at our campuses.

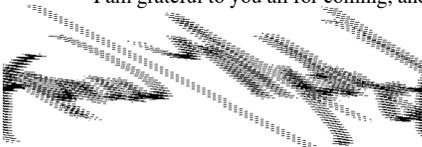
These challenges are real. Our current standing and strength of history and traditions suggest we will continue to fair well. And we'll do so by demonstrating our continued commitment to our core mission of access and quality. We value timely curriculum and program development, effective teaching and learning, sound advising and counseling, public scholarship and research, co-curricular activities that build leadership and responsibility, and fundraising in support of scholarships and sponsored projects – all these merit our undivided attention and good work, especially in challenging times.

Each of us here at All-College Day contributes to the quality of our students' learning experiences and adds value and meaning to a Penn State education on their behalf. Thank you for your continued dedication.

I am grateful to you all for coming, and I do hope you find the remainder of the day satisfying and the year productive.



**Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.**  
Provost and Dean



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

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Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.

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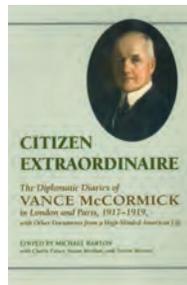
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## Penn State Capital College's Office of Alumni Relations is sponsoring the following events in 2005:

### Hershey Bears Game

January 22, 2005

Hershey vs. Philadelphia  
Dinner and Ticket to Game

### Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Happy Hour

April 7, 2005

Manayunk Brewery and Restaurant  
Manayunk, Pa.

### Bus Trip to University Park

Tour Beaver Stadium and have an afternoon of museums and shopping  
Saturday, April 30, 2005

Last one for several years -- make plans now to attend

For information, phone 717-948-6715  
or e-mail [capalumni@psu.edu](mailto:capalumni@psu.edu).

## Subscribe to Newswire!

Want to stay up-to-date on news and upcoming events at Penn State Harrisburg and Penn State Schuykill?

There are several electronic pathways at your disposal aimed at sharing information on the college and its two campuses.

First, there are newswires for the two campuses containing news and information and distributed by e-mail. To subscribe to the Penn State Harrisburg and Penn State Schuykill newswires, simply access the Web page at <http://newswires.psu.edu/>.

You can also check out the Events Calendars for each campus found on their homepages. The calendars list public events, lectures, and entertainment. Visit the calendars often and visit campus for an event.

## Pool Dedication

Wednesday, August 25, 2004



*The dedication of the new indoor aquatics facility on the Harrisburg campus Aug. 25 was a true community celebration. Shown cutting the ribbon for the grand opening are, left to right, James and Edith Booser, community residents who spearheaded the concept, Lower Swatara Township President Commissioner Franklin Linn, Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes, and Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers Chair Kevin Harter. The facility was created to serve the external community as well as the college.*



## 2000 Alumni Fellow Michael Coleman dies in Tennessee auto accident

Penn State Schuylkill's 2000 Alumni Fellow and December 2001 commencement speaker, Michael Coleman, died Sept. 11 from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Knox County, Tenn. He was 53.

The president of Alcoa Inc.'s Rigid Packaging Division in Tennessee since 1998, Coleman had the distinction of being an alumnus of both Capital College campuses, earning an associate degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from Penn State Schuylkill in 1975 and a bachelor's degree in the same discipline from Penn State Harrisburg in 1977.

He also served five years in the U.S. Air Force, achieving the rank of staff sergeant.

A native of New Philadelphia, Pa., Coleman is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, a daughter, Megan, and a son, Michael.



Michael Coleman

## Smarilli selected Alumni Fellow

In recognition of her success in professional life and her untiring commitment to her alma mater, Kathleen Smarilli is the 2004 Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Fellow.

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.



Kathleen Smarilli

Smarilli, who earned a degree in General Arts and Sciences from the University Park campus in 1971, visited the Harrisburg campus Oct. 4 for discussions with students in their classes. She formally received the Alumni Fellow Medallion on Oct. 14.

Smarilli's career in banking has taken her to a top leadership position as the President of Wachovia's Central Pennsylvania Region. In this position, she is responsible for all retail, small business, and commercial banking activities in the region's six-county market area.

A veteran of 30 years in the financial services industry, her diverse and successful banking career includes senior management positions in commercial banking, consumer banking, and human resources.

Smarilli's commitment to her career is equaled by her service to the University and Penn State Harrisburg.

In her four years as chair of the campus Board of Advisers from 1999 to 2003, she helped guide the college's administration through a period of unparalleled academic and physical plant growth. She participated in five commencement ceremonies, the dedication of the new library, the successful Grand Destiny campaign, and the opening of new 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 partnership with Penn State's Erie and Great Valley campuses and the Smeal College of Business. And in fall 2003, the campus admitted first-year students in a program of study leading to six undergraduate majors. Following her service as chair of the board, she was presented the rare title of Lifetime Honorary Member. She continues active involvement with the board as chair of its Strategic Development Committee.

At University Park, she is immediate past president of the College of the Liberal Arts Alumni Society and in July was elected to serve a three-year term on Penn State's Alumni Council. In 2002, Penn State Capital College's chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma recognized her as its Distinguished Business Honoree.

A recipient of the Athena Award presented by the Capital Region Chamber of Commerce in 1997 and named one of Pennsylvania's "Top 50 Women in Business" in 1998, Smarilli has been involved in community activities affecting south central, north central, and western Pennsylvania. She is vice chairperson of the Pinnacle Health Foundation board and serves on the boards of PCI Insurance and the Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts. She also served on numerous boards in the Harrisburg region, including Leadership Harrisburg, Capitol Region Red Cross, Harrisburg Regional Chamber, Greater Harrisburg Foundation, Visiting Nurses Association of Harrisburg, and Theatre Harrisburg.

## Memory of a close friend perpetuated through scholarship for students

Through the efforts of a Penn State Harrisburg graduate and five dedicated friends, the memory of Matthew D. Brightbill is being perpetuated in a scholarship for students in the college's Structural Design and Construction Engineering Technology program.

For several years, a golf outing was conducted by the Brightbill family to raise funds to endow the scholarship in Matthew's name.

Now, a group of Matthew's friends have taken the lead and are making plans for the event's success to continue. Tom Posavec, who earned a bachelor's degree in Finance from the Harrisburg campus in 1993, and five others are continuing the effort to raise the funds needed to endow the Matthew D. Brightbill Memorial Scholarship. Matthew lost his life in a 1995 traffic accident.

"I've been blessed in life and I wanted to make sure we had a good start" to the friends' fund-raising effort, Posavec says. He became the lead sponsor of the June 2004 event at Range End Golf Club in Dillsburg which netted \$6,000 for the scholarship fund. In addition, the organizers have committed an additional \$12,000 in 2005 and 2006 to endow the scholarship. They've also set an ambitious goal for the June 2, 2005 outing – 280 golfers each playing in one of two rounds during the day.

Posavec is quick to credit Rick Wagner and Matt Rutter as the driving forces behind the June event's success. "Rick became the

quarterback and delegated tasks to all the volunteers," paving the way for the event which attracted 144 golfers.

Posavec, who went to Landmark Commercial Realty out of high school in 1986, is now a vice president with the Harrisburg firm specializing in office buildings and office space. "The six of us decided to pitch in," Posavec says. "Then we all asked what we were getting ourselves into."

What the six friends – Posavec, Wagner, Rutter, Dave Schell, Tony Fedullo, and Jeff Griggs – got themselves into was endless hours of planning, soliciting, and generating interest. Their efforts paid off with a range of prizes, more than 140 donated gift certificates for the participants, and a full field of more than 140 golfers.

Additional support came from Appalachian Harley-Davidson in New Kingston and Matthew's father, Bill Brightbill, with

Modernfold of Harrisburg.

Celebrities who attended the event included former Penn State football players Wally Richardson, John Greene, and Shawn Lee and former North Carolina basketball player Larry Smith. Matthew Brightbill's two favorite teams were the Nittany Lions and the Tar Heels. Prizes included a Jerry Stackhouse-signed jersey, Joe Paterno autographed football helmet, and four sets of golf clubs. The winning team consisted of Jay Depner, Tom Wolven, Denny Taylor, Rob Kline.



*Partnering to endow a scholarship in memory of their close friend are, left to right, Rick Wagner, Tom Posavec, and Matt Rutter.*

## Renaissance Scholarship honors William Davidson

The effort to create the first Renaissance Scholarship on the Schuylkill campus has received a \$20,000 contribution from the First Federal Charitable Foundation, Hazleton.

The Renaissance Scholarship, which needs an additional \$10,000 to be fully endowed, is being named in honor of Schuylkill campus faculty member Dr. William R. Davidson, former superintendent of the Pottsville Area School District, former First Federal Board member, and current Pottsville Area School Board member.

Contributions toward the William R. Davidson Renaissance Scholarship are being accepted from the community, advisory board members, faculty, and staff.

Renaissance Scholarships are granted to the top students among those who have the greatest financial need. These scholarships are designed to follow a student throughout his or her Penn State career provided the student continues to meet eligibility criteria.

Persons interested in supporting the Davidson Renaissance Scholarship are encouraged to contact Jane Zintak at 570-385-6260 or e-mail [jqz1@psu.edu](mailto:jqz1@psu.edu).

### Penn State Schuylkill



*The initiative to endow a Renaissance Scholarship in honor of Dr. William R. Davidson on the Schuylkill campus has received a \$20,000 commitment from the First Federal Charitable Foundation. The Foundation's executive director, Megan Kennedy, second from left, presents the check to campus CEO Sylvester Kohut Jr. Looking on are Dr. Davidson, left, and Foundation board member John W. Sink.*

## Area resident earns Penn State Schuylkill's Alumni Achievement Award

Area native and resident Anna "Abby" Laychock has been awarded the highest honor presented by the Penn State Schuylkill Alumni Society.

Dr. Laychock, a diagnostic radiologist with Pottsville Area Radiology, was presented the 2004 Alumni Achievement Award during annual reunion festivities on the Schuylkill campus.

Her college career began at Penn State Schuylkill and she went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Medical Technology from the University Park campus. Dr. Laychock then earned an M.S. in Microbiology from Penn State's College of Medicine in Hershey and an M.D. from the Medical College of Pennsylvania. Her residency in Radiology was completed at the College of Medicine in 1988.

She is a member of Penn State's President's Club, supports the James Beach Fund, and is active with the Schuylkill County Chapter of the Alumni Association.

In addition to her Penn State Activities, she is active with the local chapter of the American Cancer Society and the St. Clair Women's Club. She volunteers to present health awareness lectures each year through Pottsville Hospital and is an outspoken advocate for breast cancer issues.



According to John Simodejka, President of the Pottsville Hospital who nominated Dr. Laychock for the alumni award, she is "truly a credit to Penn State and an outstanding example of what an alumnus can achieve."

*Alumni Achievement Award winner Dr. Anna Laychock, center, is shown with Campus Executive Office Sylvester Kohut Jr., right, and Jeff Vrabel, chair of the Alumni Society's awards committee.*

## Charles Pearson joins campus Board of Advisers

Charles C. Pearson Jr., chairman of the board and the executive committee of Waypoint Financial Corp. is the newest member of Penn State Harrisburg's Board of Advisers.

Pearson, who was Waypoint's chief executive officer from 1998 to 2003, was previously president of PNC Bank's Central Pennsylvania Region. He began his banking career with Philadelphia National Bank in 1967 and in 1977 joined Hamilton Bank in Lancaster where he became executive vice president of the banking division. In 1984, he joined Commonwealth National Bank as executive vice president and upon its acquisition by Mellon Bank, was transferred to Mellon's Central Pennsylvania Region as its chairman, president, and chief executive officer.

He holds a baccalaureate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a master's in Business Administration from its Wharton School. He was a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy from 1961 to 1963, serving on a destroyer with the Pacific Fleet.

## Ciletti Memorial Library 10th Anniversary



## Birthday party for a library

You're invited to a celebration marking the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of one of the Schuylkill campus' true community resources - Ciletti Memorial Library. Mark the date of April 21, 2005 and join in the celebration which will also mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the campus and the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of Penn State.



## Penn State Schuylkill's annual Alumni Reunion

on May 1 offered fun educational activities for the entire family. Former Alumni Society president Liz Bligan '81/'89g, right, her husband Kevin '85, and their son Carl enjoy a "Fiddling with Physics" lesson from faculty member Dr. Michael Gallis.

## Ice cream sale supports Schuylkill scholarship

The Schuylkill County Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association has made a \$1,500 contribution to the Robert P. Swank Memorial Scholarship on the Schuylkill campus.

The scholarship, awarded annually, supports a Schuylkill County resident studying at the campus. The Swank Scholarship was initiated by Mr. Swank's daughter in 1955 and was fully endowed by the Schuylkill County Chapter.

Robert P. Swank, from Mahanoy City, was the oldest living alumni of Penn State at the time it celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He graduated in 1889, was admitted to the Bar in 1893, and practiced law in Schuylkill County.

The \$1,500 contribution was a result of the alumni chapter's annual Penn State Creamery Ice Cream Sale, held in early August each year.



*Celebrating a contribution to the Swank Memorial Scholarship are, left to right, Schuylkill Campus Executive Officer Sylvester Kohut Jr., campus Director of Development Jane Zintak, alumni chapter president Robert Bylone Jr., and chapter board members Diane Bylone, Kevin Bensinger, and Lynn Bucklar.*

## Schuylkill campus now offers six bachelor's degree programs



The list of bachelor's degree programs which can be completed in their entirety on the Schuylkill campus has grown to six with the addition of the majors in Interdisciplinary Humanities and Information Sciences and Technology.

"One of the major advantages of the Interdisciplinary Humanities major is its flexibility," says Dr. Patti A. Mills, Capital College Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs. "It provides the opportunity for a student interested in a broad-based liberal arts education to create an academic program to fit interests, abilities, and career or education plans," she continues.

Director of the School of Humanities Kathryn D. Robinson adds, "The major is attractive in that it serves the interests of nontraditional students who are returning to college after an absence or those who are entering higher education for the first time. The program serves a vast range of interests and career fields. Career paths may include teaching, corporate communications, media, advertising, marketing and sales, social service agencies, law, government, business, and nonprofit agencies."

The successful University-wide IST major is structured to provide students with the conceptual frameworks and skill sets necessary to compete and be productive in the "Information Age" and to meet a recognized need in the area for highly trained graduates to fuel the region's workforce.

"The goal of the IST program is not simply to train technologists, but rather to educate rounded professionals to utilize technology strategically in organizations," says Dr. Mills.

"These new degrees reflect Penn State's commitment to expand its academic four-year degree programs with a focus on new programs that will contribute to the economic development of the region and the state," according to Dr. Sylvester Kohut Jr., Schuylkill Campus Executive Officer.

## Ex-Lady Lion joins development staff



*Marissa Graby Hoover*

The captain of the Penn State women's basketball team which reached the Final Four of the 2000 NCAA Tournament has been appointed assistant director of development at Penn State Harrisburg.

Marissa Graby Hoover, a 2000 graduate of the University with a degree in Elementary Education, excelled both in the classroom and on the basketball court during her years at Penn State. She earned the Academic Achievement Award for the highest grade-point average on the team for three years as well as being honored as a three-time GTE Academic All-American.

In addition to the Final Four appearance, she was a member of the Penn State team which won the Big Ten Conference championship in 2000 and the Women's National Invitation Tournament in 1998. After graduation, she joined the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Scream of the WABA where she earned a spot on the all-star team while averaging 14 points and 11 rebounds per game.

"Without the full scholarship I received from Penn State in 1996, my education would not have been possible. The education and opportunities I received through Penn State have allowed me to create a better future for myself. Education is my passion, and I have always wanted to allow others like myself to have the opportunities to attend college and follow their dreams. This position (with Penn State Harrisburg) will allow me to better the future for many students and help improve the institution I believe in," Hoover says.

She went on to earn a master's degree in Sport and Recreation Administration from Temple University in May 2004.



*Dr. Carol Nechemias*

*"To increase mutual understanding among people of the world through an exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills by funding graduate study, advanced research, and teaching abroad."*

## Faculty member earns coveted Fulbright Fellowship

Dr. Carol Nechemias' Fulbright Fellowship is taking her from one geographic area defined by a river to another in Russia.

An associate professor of public policy on the Harrisburg campus, Dr. Nechemias will combine the fellowship with a sabbatical year to teach American government and public policy, as well as women in politics in Russia and the U.S., at Volgograd State University. She departed for Russia in early September.

Like Harrisburg, Volgograd is a regional capital near an international airport at the hub of an international highway system. It is even known for its fine chocolates and sweets. The city runs along the west bank of the Volga River which, just like the Susquehanna, is known for its beauty.

Her main teaching responsibility will be with two dozen fourth-year American Studies students at the university and she has no qualms about teaching U.S. government in a Russian university during the American presidential election. She will also be presenting colloquia throughout Russia and plans to visit friends and colleagues in St. Petersburg and Moscow.

The Fulbright Program, named for the late Sen. J. William Fulbright, confers scholar awards – grants and fellowships – to increase mutual understanding among people of the world through an exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills by funding graduate study, advanced research, and teaching abroad. Dr. Nechemias views a Fulbright Award where the recipient resides within the community as a form of living research in keeping with the mission of the program.

Originally named Tsaritsyn, Volgograd is situated on the steppe between the Don and Volga rivers. In 1925, the city became Stalingrad, and during de-Stalinization, it was changed to its present name. The city is home to 20 colleges, nine state and private universities, and 26 special secondary education, technical, and vocational schools.

## Technology upgrades on the Schuylkill campus

A significant commitment from the Herman Yudacufski Charitable Foundation and area resident Steve Cotler has fueled a \$160,000 project to upgrade the technology in classrooms on the Schuylkill campus.

Bolstered by a funding match from the University Committee on Instructional Facilities, the overall project enhanced six classrooms on campus, equipping them with the latest in instructional technology.

The classrooms, termed ITECs (Instructor Technology Classrooms), now contain an internet connection, instructor podium with a computer, plug-in capability for an instructor-supplied computer, CD Rom or CD/DVD drive, zip drive, remote/wireless mouse, ceiling-mounted video/data projector, microphone, audio system for multimedia presentations, room light controls, and a VHS/VCR or VHS/DVD combo unit. All six classrooms were also carpeted and new student stacking tables and chairs purchased.

"In order to continue providing the high-quality education expected of us, we need to upgrade our classrooms for our students and the general public," says Schuylkill campus Director of Development Jane Zintak.

"In business, government, education, and other sectors of the community, it is critical for professionals to have the ability to put technology to work," she adds. "To achieve these goals, classrooms must provide more than blackboards and desks. Classrooms need to be upgraded to incorporate the latest technological aids for teaching and learning."

The technology classrooms serve two major purposes on campus. First, they permit the campus to provide world-class instruction to its more than 1,000 degree-seeking students. Second, they enable the campus to meet the education, training, and business needs present in industry, government, and the general public.

## Welcome Aboard!



*Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Society President, Chris Barrett '84, center, welcomes new board members Jessica Gray '98, left, and Paul E. Buber '82. Jessica is the Executive Director, Majority Caucus Chairman's Office for the State House of Pennsylvania and Paul is Assistant County Controller in Schuylkill County. Chris is the Assistant General Manager of Revenue and Administration, Dutch Wonderland Family Entertainment Complex.*

## American Studies students' efforts result in 'Citizen Extraordinaire'

Ten years of research and editing by more than 50 Penn State Harrisburg American Studies graduate students reaches a high point this fall with the publication of *Citizen Extraordinaire: The Diplomatic Diaries of Vance McCormick in London and Paris, 1917-1919*.

The 500-page volume, published by Stackpole, will help fill a gap in World War I scholarship and integrate McCormick's observations with those of other diplomats and aides to President Woodrow Wilson.

Edited by Associate Professor of American Studies and Social Science Michael L. Barton and graduate students Cherie Feiser, Susan Meehan, and Teresa Weisser, *Citizen Extraordinaire* will be a major component in a November exhibit on McCormick at the Historical Society of Dauphin County. The volume consists of transcriptions and annotations of the diaries as well as essays and illustrations.

In 1919, the victors of World War I gathered in Paris to negotiate peace and determine the fate of the world. Among the American delegation was Vance McCormick, a member of a prominent Harrisburg family. After studying at Yale, he pursued an illustrious career in business and politics, including mayor of Harrisburg, publisher of the *Patriot* newspaper, manager of President Wilson's 1916 re-election campaign, and director of the War Trade Board, which organized a blockade of Germany and its allies. He also served as the "accountant" at the Versailles Peace Talks, responsible for establishing the amount of war reparations owed by Germany. The edited McCormick diaries chronicle his diplomatic duties in London and Paris.

In addition, the introduction written by Dr. Barton includes little-known facts about McCormick – the Progressive, the moralist, the Yale loyalist, and the FDR adversary. "The book is the climax to 10 years of faculty-student-historical society-foundation collaboration," Dr. Barton observes.

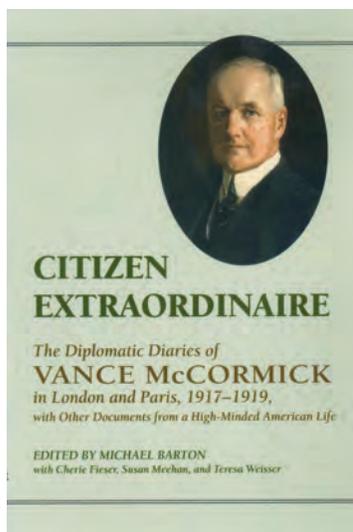
The book represents only a portion of the overall work by American Studies students in the ongoing effort to organize and edit the McCormick Family Papers. Funded by a \$50,000 grant in 1999 from the McCormick Family Trusts to Penn State Harrisburg's Center for Pennsylvania Culture Studies, the research and archiving involves materials from nine boxes of letters, diaries, account books, genealogical data, privately printed travel accounts, newspaper clippings, photographs, and other documents housed at the Historical Society of Dauphin County.

In their time and place, the McCormicks wielded significant influence in industry, banking, journalism, local and national government, and religious life. The ongoing work documents the family responsible for leading Dauphin Deposit Bank, the Harrisburg *Patriot*, Pine Street Presbyterian Church, iron mills, coal mines, farms, and a number of other notable institutions and landmarks in the capital city.

"Years of editing the handwritten manuscripts and printed materials have enabled the graduate students to create extensive documentation for the interpretation of the McCormicks' impact on the local and national scene," Dr. Barton points out stressing that graduate students actually began work on the papers in 1993.

He adds, "Without the permission and cooperation of the Historical Society, which has the McCormick papers in its possession, the project would not have been possible. The Society has been very generous in accommodating student research and work."

As part of the project, a Web site has been established which will eventually make all the McCormick family papers "available to the entire world," Dr. Barton says stressing that the entire effort is indicative of the American Studies program's focus on outreach to local historical agencies and institutions. The site can be accessed at [www.hbg.psu.edu/hum/McCormick/](http://www.hbg.psu.edu/hum/McCormick/).



## Penn State Harrisburg

### Collaboration reorganizing city archives

The Harrisburg city archives are getting a long-awaited re-establishment and reorganization, thanks to a creative collaboration involving Penn State Harrisburg graduate students in American Studies.

The archives, for years boxed in storage in a city facility and inaccessible to the public, will be organized by the students "at no cost to the city," reports Dr. Michael L. Barton, faculty adviser to the project. "Two students are already beginning the process of setting up the archive with technical assistance from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission," Dr. Barton adds.

The effort, which may take years to complete, will include cataloging and establishing finding aids, he says, noting there is an emphasis in "getting it (the archives) workable."

"The internships will provide our students with a wonderful opportunity to learn archival skills," says Dr. Barton. "This project is a true example of a productive city-state-Penn State collaboration."



Dr. Michael L. Barton

P e n n S t a t e S c h u y l k i l l

*Scholarship Dinner Honors 65 Students*

More than 100 guests were on hand to honor 65 Schuylkill campus students who received more than \$87,000 in awards and scholarships during the 2003-04 academic year.

Guest speaker for the annual Scholarship Dinner was Col. Jeffrey B. Miller, Pennsylvania State Police Commissioner, who holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the Harrisburg campus.

A major focus of the recently completed Penn State Grand Destiny Campaign was the creation of additional scholarships to aid deserving students. Schuylkill campus Director of Development Jane Zintak reports impressive progress in that area. "In 1995, we had six scholarships; now we have 34 at Schuylkill."



*Scholarship Dinner guest speaker Pennsylvania State Police Commissioner Jeffrey B. Miller, right, and Capital College Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes are joined by Schuylkill campus CEO Sylvester Kohut Jr., left, and Student Ambassador Gregory Biolotto.*



*Caitlin Holden, recipient of the Fred and Helen Ciletti Scholarship, and her guest Patrick Troutman.*

*Scholarship recipients thank their benefactors*



*Jessica Reed, who received the Robert P. Swank Memorial Scholarship, and Schuylkill County Alumni Chapter president Bob Bylone.*



*Dr. Mary Feeney Bonawitz, right, and Julyn Stay, recipient of the Dr. Irving M. Bonawitz Award.*

Penn State Harrisburg

# Scholarship Dinner Honors Students

*Scholarship recipients  
thank their benefactors*

For many Penn State Harrisburg students, endowed scholarships are a path to a coveted degree and a productive career. Those students had an opportunity to say thank you to scholarship benefactors during the annual scholarship dinner on campus.

For some students, scholarship assistance is the difference between staying in school and dropping out, yet “only a small percentage of students are benefiting from endowed scholarships,” said Director of Development Marie-Louise Abram. “The college is grateful for the ongoing support from its friends and alumni, but qualified students are still in need of financial assistance.”

In an ongoing effort, Penn State Harrisburg is striving to increase the number of scholarships available to deserving students. During the 2003-04 academic year, 80 students received more than \$100,000 in assistance through endowed scholarships.



Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes, left, shares a moment with Hersha H. Shah, who with her husband, Hasu P., established the Shah Endowed Scholarship for Women in the School of Business Administration.



Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes, center, with James Mead, left, of the Mead Family Scholarship and the Olga R. Mead Scholarship, and Rick Barger, representing the Ernst and Young Scholarship.



Kevin Harter, left, chair of the Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers, and scholarship recipient Kris Altiero.



Norma Gotwalt, left, meets the recipient of her scholarship, Emily Ferguson.

Dr. Hanes speaks to those attending the dinner celebration.



PENN STATE HARRISBURG AND PENN STATE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

## Introduce students to careers in science and technology

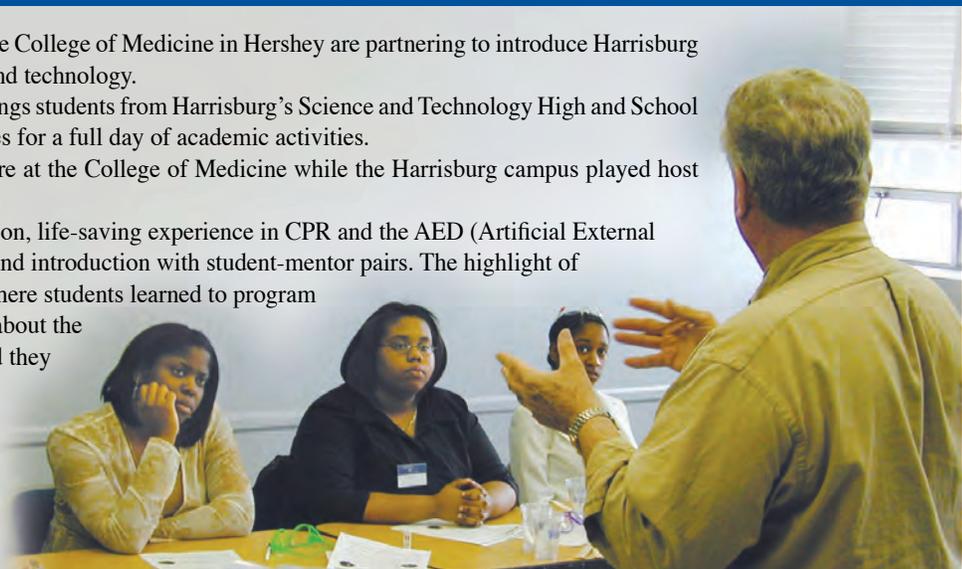
Penn State Harrisburg and the Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey are partnering to introduce Harrisburg High School students to careers in science and technology.

The “Community Partners Program” brings students from Harrisburg’s Science and Technology High and School of Business and Industry to the two campuses for a full day of academic activities.

January, March, and May programs were at the College of Medicine while the Harrisburg campus played host in February and April.

The January program featured a hands-on, life-saving experience in CPR and the AED (Artificial External Defibrillator) as well as a mutual interview and introduction with student-mentor pairs. The highlight of February’s program was the computer lab where students learned to program and race robots. In March, students learned about the range of health professions open to them and they visited the Life Lion hangar. In April, the visiting students became “Campus Scene Investigators.”

The program will continue throughout the 2004-05 school year.



### Alumni Association passes milestone

As Penn State was kicking off its year-long 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, its Alumni Association membership passed the 150,000 mark.

For the year ending June 30, the Penn State Alumni Association saw its greatest membership surge in nearly a decade, growing from 146,619 to 152,721 members – a 4.2 percent gain.

In addition to the overall gain in membership, life membership increased sharply as well, from 76,648 to 79,944, a gain of 4.3 percent.

The membership goal for 2004-05 is 158,619.

### Marian R. Walters appointed Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies

A leading researcher and authority in endocrinology has been appointed Penn State Capital College’s Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies.

Dr. Marian R. Walters, Professor of Physiology at the Tulane University School of Medicine, “comes to Capital College with excellent faculty and administrative credentials,” Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes said in announcing the appointment.

Dr. Walters has served as the Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Physiology and Director of the Leadership Core of the Tulane Xavier Center of Excellence in Women’s Health. While her primary professorial appointment had been with the Department of Physiology, she also held joint appointments in the Molecular and Cellular Biology Interdisciplinary Program and Cancer Center, and was an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Pharmacology. She will also be Professor of Physiology at Capital College.



Dr. Marian R. Walters

Her research record spans two decades and shows steady funding in support of her research and numerous publications in the premier journals in her field. She is cited as a leading authority in endocrinology, specializing in vitamin D physiology.

“Dr. Walters brings the skills of grantsmanship, faculty development, and research prowess to the position. Her record of contributions to faculty governance as a faculty leader will also transfer to her new post. Dr. Walters served as the Chair of Faculty Governance at Tulane, among numerous committee and special task force assignments. Her administrative experience and academic leadership are particularly relevant to the responsibilities assigned to the Office of the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies,” Dr. Hanes adds.

Dr. Walters earned her B.S. in Biology from Millsaps College, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Houston. After postdoctoral training in nuclear receptor mechanisms at Baylor College of Medicine and in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of California at Riverside, she joined the Tulane faculty. Promoted to Professor of Physiology in 1990, her research interests are in cell and molecular aspects of steroid hormone and vitamin D receptor signal transduction in a variety of physiological systems.

### Penn State Schuylkill



The Schuylkill campus cheerleaders, members of the Blue and White Society, and of course the Nittany Lion, constructed a float and participated in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Girardville this year.



## Course, lecture series focus on Susquehanna

Penn State Harrisburg, through its School of Humanities, is celebrating the Susquehanna with a year-long interdisciplinary study and a public lecture series.

As part of the academic offering, college faculty from a variety of disciplines will share their knowledge of aspects of the river – political, economic, environmental, history – with Eton Churchill and Glen Mazis the lead instructors.

In addition, a 10-part, free public lecture series entitled “Susquehanna River Voyages” has been established as an outreach ingredient to the three-credit course. Community residents are invited to attend the sessions at 7 p.m. in the Morrison Gallery of the campus library. The series began Sept. 14 with a lecture by Brook Lenker of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources on “Susquehanna River Voyages: Encountering its People, Places, Wildlife, and Stories.”

The public series continued on Oct. 5 when Cindy Dunn from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will discuss “The Birds of the Susquehanna” while archaeologist and writer on Native Americans, Joe Baker, will lecture Oct. 26 on “The People for Whom the River Bears Its Name: the Susquehannocks.”

On Nov. 18, historian Peter Seibert will speak on “Eighteenth Century Conflict: Paxton Boys, Native Americans, and Settlers” and environmental specialist from the Susquehanna River Basin Commission Krista Nelson concludes the 2004 portion of the series Dec. 2 with a view of “A History of Flooding in the Susquehanna River Basin.”



Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes, center, displays the check from the UPS Foundation to support student and alumni job searches through a career services guide. Also shown are, left to right, University Vice President for Student Affairs Vicky L. Triponey, Capital College Coordinator of Career Services Karl Martz, UPS Regional Director of Human Resources Chris Kain, and UPS Employee Relations Manager Tracy Newcomer.

## UPS donation bolsters students' job-search efforts

Capital College students and alumni have another tool to assist their job-search efforts as a result of a donation from United Parcel Service (UPS).

Building on its longstanding partnership with the college's Office of Career Services, a \$3,600 grant from UPS will facilitate publication of a career services guide which will be made available to undergraduate and graduate students and alumni requesting assistance.

The guide will profile Career Services resources and services, and is designed to include: a career planning model; how to apply to graduate schools; information on conducting a job search; internship help; resume writing; interviewing tips; and salary negotiations.

For a number of years, UPS has assisted students through its Earn and Learn and Recruiter-in-Residence programs on campus. The grant for the publication is the latest in its commitment to the college.

Chris Kain, UPS regional Director of Human Resources, says, “The grant program is part of the UPS corporate culture. We look to give back to the communities we serve.” He adds that the UPS Foundation is the charitable arm of the corporation and was “created with the purpose of giving back.”

The UPS Foundation also ties employee volunteerism to community and educational financial support. Through this initiative, UPS employees volunteer their time to assist students on the Harrisburg campus through the Recruiter-in-Residence program. By way of the grassroots effort, employees share advice and real-life experiences on the world of work with students. UPS managers and directors, including Employee Relations Manager Tracy Newcomer, assist students in their job-search efforts with advice on interviewing, resumes, and other ingredients key to landing employment after graduation.

To date, more than 70 Harrisburg campus students have taken advantage of the Earn and Learn program since its introduction in 2000. Through this opportunity, students who work 3.5 hours per day in the five-day work week are eligible for \$3,000 per year toward their tuition and a student loan program providing up to \$2,000 per year for four years. Students are able to defer paying back the principal borrowed on their loan and as long as they are employed at UPS, are responsible for paying back only half of the first year's loan amount. After two years, they are responsible for 25 percent of the principal and after three and four consecutive years, the student will be forgiven the entire principal of the loan.

Part-time student workers also receive fully paid medical and life insurance.

“We want a four-year commitment from students. It's best for the loan payback program. We want student employees to stay,” Kain adds.

## Medical Informatics study comes to the midstate

Three academic schools at Penn State Harrisburg have collaborated with the healthcare community to bring master's degree study in the burgeoning field of Medical Informatics to the midstate.

Created in partnership with healthcare organizations in the region, two new distinct but related options within the college's established Master of Science in Information Systems (MSIS) program are focused on filling the recognized workforce need in the area.

The Information Systems option in Healthcare Management and Delivery, partnering two respected graduate programs at the college – Master of Health Administration and MSIS – stresses the skills necessary to support healthcare organizations and enhance patient care through cutting-edge management of electronic records and information retrieval and analysis. Included in the curriculum is the use of information systems for strategic planning, total quality management, finance and budgeting, process control, and reimbursement management.

In the Information Systems in the Life Sciences option, created in collaboration with the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology, students learn to utilize information science to complement medical research targeting such areas as drug interactions and medical procedures. The option builds problem-solving and decision-making competencies to improve patient care through the analysis of information in the integration of clinical databases useful in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases.

## Robert Lau honored at Whitaker Center for Science and Arts

Penn State Harrisburg faculty member Robert C. Lau's significant impact on the cultural life of the capital region has earned him the Award for Distinguished Service to the Arts presented by Theatre Harrisburg.

Dr. Lau was the honoree and was formally presented the honor at the annual awards presentation held at the Whitaker Center for Science and Arts in Harrisburg.

Recognized as a distinguished organist, choirmaster, teacher, recitalist, and lecturer, Dr. Lau has gained international acclaim for his commissioned works and as a composer of more than 200 choral, piano, organ, and instrumental works. His works have been performed locally, throughout the U.S., at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, and the Notre Dame Cathedral and The Church of the Madeline in Paris.

Dr. Lau is past chairman of the Lebanon Valley College music department where he taught for 22 years. He is in his sixteenth year of teaching on the Harrisburg campus Humanities faculty. He also served for 20 years as an organist/choirmaster at Mt. Calvary Episcopal Church in Camp Hill and for more than 40 years as an organist and director at other churches in the region.

Dr. Lau serves on the board of directors of the Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, and is a former member of the Diocesan Commission on Liturgy and Music of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania.

## MPA program gains high ranking

U.S. News and World Report has again given an impressive endorsement of Penn State Harrisburg's Master of Public Administration program.

For the second ranking in a row, the MPA program was ranked 57<sup>th</sup> out of more than 250 at colleges and universities across the nation. Penn State Harrisburg's program is ranked on the same level as programs offered at Georgia Tech, Michigan State, the University of Connecticut, and the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

"This ranking testifies to the reputation for quality that our MPA program has within the larger public affairs graduate community," says Steven A. Peterson, Director of the School of Public Affairs. "And while it is gratifying to be ranked in the top quartile of all such programs, our challenge now is to redouble our efforts to gain an even greater reputation for the quality of our programming in the future."



*Christine Sears*

## Honor society lauds Sears

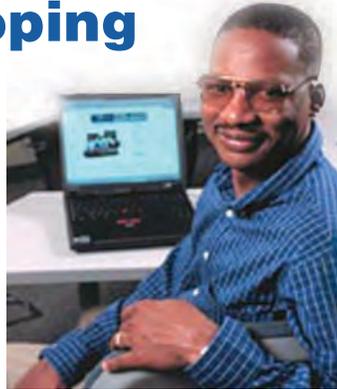
Christine Sears, senior vice president and chief financial officer of Penn National Insurance, is the 2003-04 honoree and has been awarded honorary membership in the Penn State Harrisburg chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, the national business honor society.

Sears, a 1977 Penn State Harrisburg graduate, has been employed by Penn National Insurance for 24 years and is a member of the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Active in the community, she is a member of the Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers, its School of Business Administration Advisory Board, the United Way of Greater Harrisburg, and the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg.

Dr. Melvin Blumberg, president and adviser to the Beta Gamma Sigma chapter and a professor of management at the college, said Sears was a "natural choice for the honor because of her professional and personal accomplishments and her status as a Penn State graduate."

## IST students developing Web site profiling Underground Railroad



Roderick Lee

A piece of Pennsylvania's past will come alive this fall with help from students enrolled in the University's School of Information Sciences and Technology (IST).

Students at Penn State Harrisburg and University Park will design and launch a Web site that will preserve the court records, newspaper accounts, and census data from Pennsylvania's Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad was part of the anti-slavery movement of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and was a network of people throughout Pennsylvania.

Overseen by IST's Computer-Supported Collaboration and Learning (CSCL) Lab, the project is funded by the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations and the Center for Anti-Slavery Studies.

"We are getting from Penn State a technology designed specifically to meet the needs of the Pennsylvania Underground Railroad Network," said Karen James, administrative officer for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's Underground Railroad History project. "We want to give people the tools to do historical research, and this Web site will be the best way to do that."

Historical information will be only a part of the Web site. It also will contain a calendar listing conferences, speakers and other events; discussion forums to foster collaboration and communication among Underground Railroad historians and students; and papers on 19<sup>th</sup> century Pennsylvania. The site will be implemented using CSCL's Basic Resources for Integrated Distributed Group Environments software.

Eventually, the site could contain an interactive map to link significant places such as African American settlements and Underground Railroad "stations" with documents and discussion about these locations from historical and 21<sup>st</sup> century perspectives.

"A lot of the materials are old, and they refer to buildings that are no longer there," said Jack Carroll, the Edward M. Frymoyer Chair in Information Sciences and Technology and the project's primary investigator. "We'd like to configure a map to directly show events and where they happened."

Besides four interns, the project will involve Penn State Harrisburg undergraduate students enrolled in IST 331 – Organization and Design of Information Systems – who will specify the site's requirements, said Roderick Lee, the instructor on the Harrisburg campus who will be teaching the class. Those students will work with stakeholders such as James to determine what kind of system will best support the site's goals.

"There is a lot of information available, but it is in different locations," said Lee, also a doctoral student in IST. "This project will collate that information."

The Pennsylvania Underground Railroad Network is a geographically dispersed, grassroots group. Facilitating the work of this diverse group of historians is also a project goal, said Carroll who sees the site as helping them collaborate and share information.

The National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom is an initiative of the National Park Service (NPS) with federal legislative support. NPS is coordinating the preservation and education efforts of community groups, statewide organizations, and researchers.

## Penn State Harrisburg

### Engineering technology programs reaccredited

Penn State Harrisburg's three undergraduate engineering technology programs have again earned reaccreditation from ABET, one of the most respected accrediting organizations in the nation.

The Mechanical Engineering Technology, Electrical Engineering Technology, and Structural Design and Construction Engineering Technology programs have been continuously accredited by ABET since 1973.

The accrediting team cited the "excellent working relationship between the upper college administrators, the Director of the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology, and the engineering technology program coordinators in its report and commended the new library on campus as a "significant addition." The report noted the programs contain "well-articulated" goals and singled out continuing professional development of faculty, the programs' advisory councils, the quality and currency of equipment and software, and student satisfaction.

ABET, Inc., the recognized accreditor for college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and technology, is a federation of 30 professional and technical societies representing these fields. Among the most respected accreditation organizations in the U.S., ABET has provided leadership and quality assurance in higher education for over 70 years.

## Wireless networking throughout Harrisburg library

The initiative to expand wireless networking throughout the Penn State Harrisburg campus now includes all three floors of its 115,000-square-foot library.

The wireless availability enables library users to take advantage of the high-speed access without plugging their computers into the data ports available throughout the building.

Using endowment funds from Penn State Harrisburg's Library of the Future campaign, the College installed a wireless telecommunication system throughout the library in March. College students, faculty, and staff now have

wireless access to the Internet, the library catalog, subscription databases, and Penn State electronic resources at all locations throughout the facility.

With 600 data ports, wired network access has been available at 92 percent of all user seats since the library's January 2000 opening.

The library installation is part of a campus-wide wireless initiative led by the College's Office of Instructional and Information Technologies. The library now joins six classrooms on campus offering wireless networking to faculty, staff, and students, with further expansion to other areas coming in the near future.

## Collaboration with Harrisburg City Schools receives state support

Penn State Harrisburg's collaborative effort with the Harrisburg School District to improve the quality of instruction in mathematics at the elementary school level has received a \$204,000 boost from the state Department of Education.



Dr. Judith Zaenglein

The Capital Area Institute for Mathematics and Science, an outreach program of Penn State Harrisburg's Center for the Improvement of Teaching and Learning, is the recipient of the 2004 grant for the purpose of developing and offering professional development programs for improving teacher quality in math and science in the Harrisburg School District. The grant is renewable for an additional two years.

As part of its service to schools in the region, the Institute has sought grant funding that would provide professional development opportunities for school districts identified by needs assessments. One of those identified needs by the Harrisburg School District was elementary level mathematics.

"Collaborative planning with the school district resulted in a proposal with a goal to raise the quality of elementary school mathematics instruction by increasing the teachers' content knowledge, pedagogy, and leadership skills," reports Dr. Judith Zaenglein, the Institute's Director. Grant objectives include increasing teacher knowledge and use of current best practices in the teaching of elementary math and increasing student achievement and understanding of the basic concepts of math.

Dr. Zaenglein adds, "These goals and objectives will be accomplished by engaging the participants through a Leadership Academy, mathematics content courses, mentoring, team-based activities, and a focus on what it means to be an elementary teacher skilled in the delivery of high-quality mathematics content and instruction."

The development of teacher knowledge and skills will take place through the Leadership Academies offered each year of the project, specifically addressing research-based "best practices" in instruction and assessment. Academy learning will be supplemented and reinforced throughout the year by way of special topic workshops and other building-level activities addressing teacher-identified needs.

Project funds will be used to provide tuition support for teachers enrolled in graduate courses, to acquire instructional materials for use in the classroom, and to support building-level activities. The grant funds will also be used to evaluate the impact of the proposed activities on both teachers and students.

Presently, the Capital Area Institute for Mathematics and Science contracts with and serves 28 school districts in the region and has an impact on 2,000 teachers, with a potential impact on 50,000 students.

## Additional pathways to bachelor's degrees

Lehigh Carbon Community College students pursuing four associate degree majors now have additional pathways to bachelor's degree study at Penn State Schuylkill.

The two colleges formally signed articulation agreements paving the way for LCCC associate degree graduates to enter corresponding baccalaureate majors in Criminal Justice, General Business, Interdisciplinary Humanities, or Psychology on the Schuylkill campus.

The signings were conducted at LCCC's Morgan Center for Higher Education in Tamaqua. Signing the agreements were Penn State Capital College Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes and LCCC President Donald W. Snyder.

The articulation lays out an academic blueprint for students to earn an associate degree at LCCC in Criminal Justice Administration, Business Administration, Humanities and Arts, or Social Sciences prior to transitioning into a parallel bachelor's degree major at Penn State Schuylkill.

The purpose of the agreements, which apply to students at LCCC's four campuses, is to enable location-bound associate degree graduates the opportunity to earn a Penn State bachelor's degree without leaving the area. In the process, students earn associate and bachelor's degrees from two highly respected institutions.

"For 70 years, Penn State has offered world-class education in Schuylkill County. This articulation agreement with LCCC adds a new dimension to our commitment of providing quality education close to home for both traditional-age college students as well as returning adult students," said Schuylkill Campus Executive Officer Sylvester Kohut Jr.

*Capital College Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes, seated left, and Lehigh Carbon Community College President Donald W. Snyder, sign articulation agreements between the two institutions. Looking on are, standing left to right, State Rep. Bob Allen, State Sen. James J. Rhoades, and State Rep. David G. Argall.*



**Members of the Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Society provided a helping hand to students during move-in day at the start of the fall semester. Among those volunteering their time were Louis Costa '03 and Jessica Gray '98, both members of the Society Board.**

## Penn State Harrisburg grad earns Bronze Star, Soldier's Medal for actions in Iraq

Penn State Harrisburg graduate Gordon R. Moon has earned the Bronze Star and Soldier's Medal for his actions in Iraq with the U.S. Army's 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division.

Moon, a captain and company commander in Operation Iraqi Freedom, was awarded the Soldier's Medal for his actions in helping save a fellow soldier's life when a fire erupted in a captured munitions supply in Mosul. He was presented the Bronze Star for other actions during the conflict.

Moon earned a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education Social Studies in 1996. He is a native of New Cumberland and attended Red Land High School.

The fire which erupted May 22, 2003 ignited ammunition, forcing the evacuation of personnel and equipment outside the range of falling shrapnel and unexploded ordnance. During the evacuation, Specialist Paul Young suffered a severe shrapnel wound to his lower right leg which partially amputated the limb and severed two major arteries.

Without regard for their own personal safety, Capt. Moon and three others provided emergency lifesaving assistance to the wounded man. Exposing themselves to a constant hail of shrapnel and unexploded ordnance, the four applied a succession of three tourniquets to halt blood loss, stabilized

the limb, and infused the wounded soldier with four IVs. They administered to him for more than 30 minutes awaiting medical evacuation while under a constant barrage of deadly shrapnel.

The Army citation which accompanied the Soldier's Medal states, "Their personal actions were directly responsible for saving the life of SPC Young. In addition, their immediate assessment and actions were ultimately responsible for saving his partially severed limb, which surgeons were able to reattach.

Their willingness to place their own lives at risk in order to provide lifesaving assistance to a fallen comrade is an act of vigilance and heroism for which there is no parallel. Because of their stalwart actions, a soldier is alive today who would certainly have perished."

The Soldier's Medal is awarded for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy. The Bronze Star is awarded for heroic or meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an armed enemy.

Capt. Moon deployed his unit in March 2003 and returned to the United States in February 2004. After returning to Fort Campbell, Ky., the home of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, he was chosen to teach other Army officers at Fort Lee, Va.



*Capt. Gordon Moon '96, right, receives the Bronze Star from Maj. Frank Sturek for action during Operation Iraqi Freedom.*

## '81 grad Louis Fazekas returns from deployment to Kosovo

*Editor's Note: Louis Fazekas, a 1981 Harrisburg campus graduate with a Bachelor of Social Science degree in has two professions – Upper Allen Township Manager and an officer in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard. He sent the following to the college's Office of Alumni Relations earlier this year.*

"I recently returned from a deployment to Kosovo (July 12, 2003 to Feb. 26, 2004). I was the battalion commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 112th Infantry, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, out of Lewistown. My unit was mobilized on March 4, 2003 for a 12-month deployment as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, to include a five months of training at Ft. Steward, Ga., and Ft. Polk, La., followed by seven-month deployment to Kosovo as part of KFOR-5A (United Nations, U.S. Kosovo Force).

"I was assigned a 320-kilometer sector responsible for peace-keeping operations in a sector called Vitina Municipality. As the senior command, I handled all aspects of military operations within the municipality (about county size). We patrolled the border between the province of Kosovo and Macedonia for smuggling operations, as well as maintained freedom of movement for the Serbian and Albanian residents of the municipality.

"One of the major operations involving my battalion was to help facilitate the return of refugees who left Kosovo during the war in 1999 (more than 300,000).

"I redeployed my battalion back to Ft. Dix, N.J. on Feb. 27, 2004 and demobilized on March 10, 2004. On March 27, 2004, in an official ceremony held at Ft. Indiantown Gap, I relinquished command of 2nd Battalion, 112<sup>th</sup> Infantry after nearly four years. On April 17, 2004, in another official ceremony at Ft. Indiantown Gap, I assumed command of the 166<sup>th</sup> Regiment (Combined Arms), which is part of "The Army School System" for the Mid-Atlantic Region (Region B - Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia), one of only 6 Regions in the United States. I will be promoted from Lieutenant Colonel to the rank of Colonel as part of my increased responsibility. In my previous position, I was responsible for one battalion, now I have three battalions, plus a medical training company under my command. We are responsible for operating an Officer Candidate School, a Noncommissioned Officers Academy and a General Studies Battalion, which houses over 550 soldiers at peak capacity. In addition, we also teach courses to active duty and National Guard personnel stationed at Ft Steward, Germany and Kosovo.

"In my full-time job, I am the Township Manager for Upper Allen Township in Cumberland County. I manage a First Class Township with a population of over 15,000."



*Louis Fazekas*



## Student projects assist communities and individuals

Businesses, nonprofits, and even individuals benefit from the work of students in the engineering and technology undergraduate programs at the college.

Most programs require a senior project for graduation in which students, working mainly in teams, design, manufacture, and test their inventions – many times with support from the business community.

This year, 19 projects ranging from a pull-behind bicycle cart to a hose-washing machine for a fire company, to an automated welding machine, and even a voice-controlled wheelchair were successfully completed by seniors in the programs.

One of the challenges tackled by the students was the result of a request from Penn State Harrisburg graduate Bruce Rambacher, who contacted the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology inquiring about any mechanical inventions that could help his son get around. Jason Rambacher has a rare genetic defect that affects language development and motor skills.

To assist Jason, students Jennifer Heitzenrater and Christopher Renner of York, Matt Russell of Shippensburg, and Stewart McPherson of Harrisburg designed a pull-behind bicycle cart. The project took three months to complete. “We had to come up with a design and have it approved,” McPherson told *The Harrisburg Patriot-News*.

Another public-service project saw four students develop a hose-washing machine for a Lehigh County volunteer fire company.

Mechanical Engineering Technology student Tracey Barnes, a fire police officer and wife of a firefighter, created the hose-washing machine with classmates James Payne of Asbury, N.J., Michael Kulp of Wiconisco, and Mantik Chung of Philadelphia. The machine was developed for the Lower Macungie Fire Co. in Wescosville.

Seniors in the Electrical Engineering, Structural Design and Construction Engineering Technology, and Electrical Engineering Technology majors also completed projects including a voice-activated wheelchair developed by Dave Showalter and Wen-Gueng Lie.

A public demonstration for family, fellow students, and friends is also a key ingredient in the senior projects for all the engineering and technology seniors at the college.



This year, 19 projects ranging from a pull-behind bicycle cart to a hose-washing machine for a fire company, to an automated welding machine, and even a voice-controlled wheelchair were successfully completed by seniors in the programs.



## Obituaries

### Dr. Rupert F. Chisholm

Dr. Rupert F. Chisholm, a founder and longtime coordinator of the college’s doctoral program in Public Administration, died unexpectedly at his Biglerville, Pa., home on Sunday, April 18.

As Professor of Management who served at the Harrisburg campus for 30 years, he was highly respected for his untiring commitment to scholarly research, teaching, to his students, and to the community at large. His book, *Developing Network Organizations: Learning from Practice and Theory*, was published in 1998 and he was the author of more than 40 scientific publications.

Funeral services were in Gettysburg on April 22 and the college hosted a celebration of Dr. Chisholm’s life and career on April 29. Dr. Chisholm is survived by his wife, Dr. Virginia Schein, four children, and a sister.

**Rita M. Higgins Coccia**, '74 BUS, Arlington, Va., retired from the U.S. Postal Inspection Service in 2003 and is currently employed by Unisys Corp. managing process improvement. E-mail: RMCoccia@cox.net

**Frank D. Balon**, '82 MDET, Freeland, Pa., recently began his 22<sup>nd</sup> year as a mechanical engineer at the Tobyhanna Army Depot, Tobyhanna, Pa. His job responsibilities include manufacturing and process engineering support for various fabrication and overhaul missions. His specific duties include weld fixturing design and rubber mold design. E-mail: frank.balon@tobyhanna.army.mil

**James Jackson Romeo**, '86 SDCET, Glenwood Springs, Colo., has earned registration as a Professional Engineer in Colorado. He owns his own structural design consulting business in Glenwood Springs. E-mail: romeorom@rof.net

**Rodney Abrams**, '88 SDCET, South Orange, N.J., is a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve and has returned from a six-month deployment to Iraq where he was stationed in Baghdad. E-mail: abramspe@optonline.net

**Dr. William H. Maurer**, M.Ed. '88, has been appointed Executive Director of Elementary

Operations and Special Projects for Midland Independent School District, Midland, Texas. Dr. Maurer supervises principals and programs on 25 elementary campuses serving approximately 12,000 students. Dr. Maurer earned an Ed.D. in Education Administration from Texas Tech University. E-mail: wmaurer@esc18.net

**Laura Karinch Duran**, '89 HUM, Lebanon, Pa., has created her own public relations consulting and commercial writing business. She formerly was a communications supervisor and corporate spokesperson at Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station and an account executive at Godfrey Public Relations in Lancaster. E-mail: duran@paonline.com

**Maureen D. Ward Gallo**, '89 MPA, Lebanon, Pa., is executive director of the Schuylkill Alliance for Health Care Access, Pottsville, and in 2003 was named one of the top 50 women in business in Pennsylvania. E-mail: maurengallo@yahoo.com

**Dr. Mark D. Howell**, '90g, AmStud, is chair of communications at Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, and the author of *From Moonshine to Madison Avenue: A Cultural History of the NASCAR Winston Cup Series*. He was a recent one-hour guest on KQED radio in San Francisco, speaking about current NASCAR events.

**Jodi Young Weeks**, '92 CrimJ, Savannah, Ga., is co-owner of a telecommunications firm, Young Weeks LLC, with her husband, Mark, whom she married on June 28, 2003. They celebrated the birth of daughter Josie Anne in April 2004. E-mail: jaywtc@bellsouth.net

**Rick A. Gottlieb**, '92 FIN, Palm Harbor, Fla., has been promoted to vice president/sales with Lucifer Lighting Co., San Antonio, Texas. E-mail: gottlieb@tampabay.rr.com

**Christine Strouse Treadwell**, '95 BS/'03 MBA, married Albert E. Treadwell on Oct. 25, 2003. They reside in Enola, Pa. E-mail: pookiedook@aol.com

**Matthew T. Schwenk**, '02 MRKT, Pine Grove, who attended the Schuylkill campus from 1997 to 2000, is employed by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board at Strawberry Square, Harrisburg. Matthew married the former **Amy S. Burton**, '01 MNGMT, on June 14, 2004. She is employed by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection as chief of construction contracts. E-mail: schwenk55@hotmail.com

## alumninews



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# Wiest honored for 50 years of service

**F**or one-third of Penn State's 150 years, Fred J. Wiest has helped guide the growth of the Schuylkill campus. Appointed in 1954 to what is today the Penn State Schuylkill Advisory Board, Wiest was honored for his 50 years of continuous service in July. A Schuylkill County native, Wiest earned degrees from Swarthmore College in 1937 and Harvard Law School in 1940. He is a member of the law firm of Williamson, Friedberg and Jones in Pottsville. Wiest, center, is presented a gift from the campus from Dr. Jack Dolbin, left, Advisory Board second vice president, and Campus Executive Officer Sylvester Kohut Jr.



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