

Penn State Harrisburg

Fall 2009

Currents

A Growing Endeavor



PENNSSTATE



Harrisburg

Greetings from the Chancellor



Madlyn L. Hanes
Chancellor

Penn State Harrisburg has begun another academic year from a position of strength, celebrating record accomplishments, despite the many challenges that have faced higher education. We attribute our success to many factors – solid demand for a Penn State education in the capital region; a talented cadre of faculty and staff who, in turn, attract and retain talented students; sound financial management strategies; and strong external support.

In April, the college received an extraordinary anonymous philanthropic donation of \$3 million, our largest single gift ever. The storyline, highlighted on page 10, had added intrigue and drew national attention because we were one of 20 colleges across the country to receive similar gifts. The effect of the gift is significant. It has provided us with leveraging power that is already resulting in direct financial benefits for students.

The greenhouse project featured in this issue of *Currents* exemplifies the impact of partnerships between industry and higher education. Very generous donations totaling \$650,000 from Ernst Seeds, Keystone Biofuels, Inc., Kunj Associates, LP, and UGI Utilities, Inc., will enable the college to construct a greenhouse on campus, the first phase of a Plant Biotechnology Research and Teaching Facility. The facility will advance burgeoning research of interest to Pennsylvania businesses and will enhance the teaching-learning enterprise and research opportunities for faculty and students.

While going green has become a popular mantra, the college has been a long standing regional “green” leader, both in sustainable development education and in research. Our engineering technology and engineering programs integrate sustainability throughout their curricula. And recent research activity, especially in runoff and storm water sustainability, biosolids, and biofuels, is advancing the University’s research reputation and capability.

We also are becoming an increasingly green campus, having introduced numerous energy-efficiency measures into our classroom and office spaces and our day-to-day operations. The commitment to sustainability is illustrated in our new student housing, scheduled to open in fall 2010. The new residence hall will be the first on campus to be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified and the first LEED-certified housing project for the University.

The college continues to attract students with an extensive portfolio of undergraduate and graduate degrees. Total enrollment has surpassed 4,000, a high-water mark. We are one of a very few institutions in the region, and perhaps the nation, with three strong and active points of entry – for freshmen, transfer, and graduate students – at the core of its mission.

In April, the University released an independent economic impact report detailing Penn State’s contributions as Pennsylvania’s largest economic engine. The University generated \$17 billion overall in 2008 with Penn State Harrisburg responsible for \$135.1 million of that amount and a direct employment impact of nearly 700 jobs. The college also has become a visitor destination in the capital region. Out-of-state visitors for conferences, sporting, cultural, and alumni events at Penn State Harrisburg spent an additional \$13.3 million.

Support for the college enables us to have a greater impact – on students’ lives and on the community – than might otherwise be possible. Many of you, our alumni, give back to the college in countless ways, and we are grateful. I invite you to remain connected and to take pride in your college – its continued growth, achievements, and standing as a regional leader in higher education.

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

Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.

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Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.

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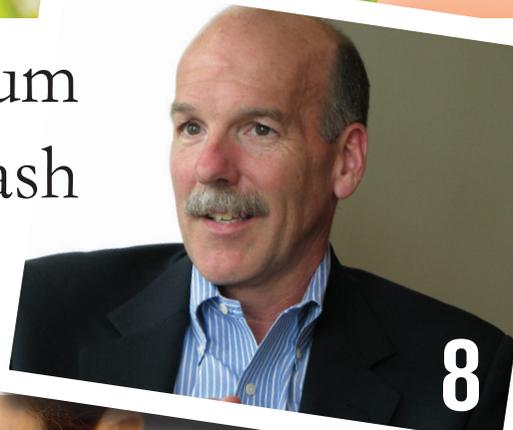
Opinions expressed are not necessarily shared by the college or the editors.

www.hbg.psu.edu

A Growing Endeavor

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This Alum Talks Trash



A Child of Revolution

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Blue and White – the New Green:
Read about Penn State Harrisburg's commitment to sustainability throughout this issue.



Cover: A new greenhouse will allow Penn State Harrisburg to expand opportunities for hands-on learning. Photo by Gini Woy Photography.

A Growing Endeavor

Greenhouse is Phase I of New Plant Biotechnology Research and Teaching Facility

Who knew that Rebekah Templin's part-time job conducting experiments in the small plant lab at Penn State Harrisburg would lead her to graduate school studying immunology and infectious diseases? As an undergraduate, she spent hours working with soybean seeds, hoping to help find a way to cut the plants' growing cycle, or introduce human interest proteins such as vaccines or antibodies into them through bioengineering.

A 2009 graduate in Life Sciences, Andrew Tran's work with Assistant Professor of Biology Sairam V. Rudrabhatla in the lab and in the classroom was career-defining, helping to shape his decision to pursue a job in plant biotechnology. As a student, Tran helped Rudrabhatla with efforts to genetically alter the oil-rich jatropha plant so that it can be grown in Pennsylvania, research that has captured the attention of Pennsylvania's biofuels industry.

Penn State Harrisburg's growing focus on biotechnology now has received an unprecedented boost from Pennsylvania businesses. Donations totaling \$650,000 from Ernst Seeds, Keystone Biofuels, Inc., Kunj Associates, LP, and UGI Utilities, Inc. will enable the college to build a 3,500-square-foot greenhouse on campus, an important first phase in a planned \$1.5 million Plant Biotechnology Research and Teaching Facility.

Currently, the college utilizes space in the greenhouses of the Milton Hershey School. Scheduled to be completed next year, the new greenhouse will meet exacting USDA and National Institutes of Health safety standards, allowing it to be designated as a Level Two facility for working with genetically altered plant materials. The greenhouse also will include a head house, a room used for preparing plants for research or classroom use.

"The new facility, both the greenhouse and the technologically advanced laboratories planned for Phase II, will be useful to faculty and students working in

"Industry support is vital, allowing us to expand our research capabilities in ways that might otherwise be impossible."



Seeds of Change

Research at Penn State Harrisburg aimed at reducing America's dependence on foreign oil while boosting the state's agricultural economy is showing early progress.

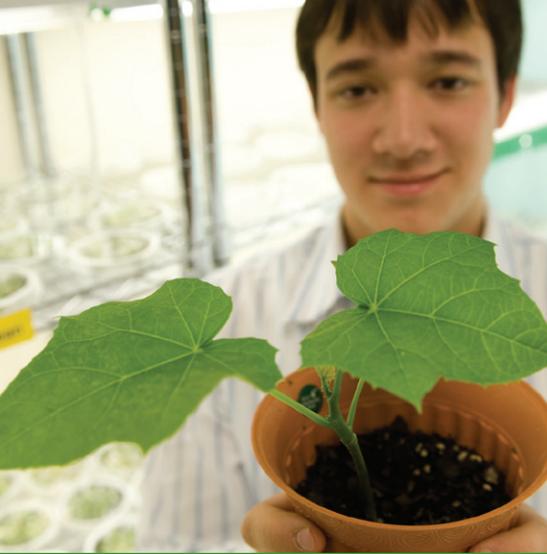
Assistant Professor of Biology Sairam V. Rudrabhatla is the lead researcher on a project designed to genetically alter the oil-rich jatropha plant, enabling it to flourish in Pennsylvania's climate.

Mary Seton with Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences calls jatropha an "intriguing contender" for the next generation of plants that can be used for fuel. "Backers say producing biodiesel from jatropha takes half as much energy as using soybeans. The pluses are adding up, but there's a problem – jatropha grows most comfortably in balmy places like India and Costa Rica."

The goal of the Penn State Harrisburg researchers is to change the plant so it can withstand Pennsylvania's sub-freezing winter temperatures while producing seeds year-round. The key is genetic re-engineering.

"We are about to introduce a gene into the plant which we are optimistic will make it impervious to cold temperatures here in the Northeast," Rudrabhatla said.

Rudrabhatla's work with the jatropha has been supported with grants from Penn State Harrisburg's Research Council and the regional Innovation Transfer Network, with additional support from Freedom Energy LLC and a Research Collaboration Fellowship from Penn State's Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences.



Biodiesel production from jatropha is up and running in other parts of the world, Rudrabhatla said, adding that the prospects of introducing the plant to Pennsylvania are exciting and numerous. The seeds produce more oil per acre than crops such as corn and soybeans, the plant can grow in poor soil, freeing more productive land for food crops, and it is an effective stream buffer because it reduces erosion and absorbs nitrogen in the soil, he said. Even the material left after the oil is extracted is an organic fertilizer.

Ben Wootton is president of Keystone Biofuels, Inc. and an advocate for the biodiesel industry. He said the prospects for the research are huge, calling jatropha a win-win situation because of its advantages over other crops. “When the food vs. fuel debate comes – and it will – jatropha could be leading the way in biofuel development while not taking away from food commodities,” he said.

From Andrew Tran’s perspective as a recent graduate, the research has additional advantages. He began working with jatropha as a student assisting Rudrabhatla. He praised Penn State Harrisburg’s commitment “to involve students in cutting-edge research projects with faculty that are practical and can directly benefit the region’s quality of life.” He added, “It’s been a real learning experience and exciting to work on a project involving new research. I am very optimistic about the prospects for jatropha, both for the biofuels industry and Pennsylvania agriculture.”

ecology and plant sciences and to environmental engineering faculty who collaborate with those in life sciences,” said Dr. Omid Ansary, director of the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology. “It will enable us to foster new research and teaching opportunities and to prepare students for new employment options.”

Connecting with business and industry is essential to making all of this possible, according to Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes. “Industry support is vital, allowing us to expand our research capabilities in ways that might otherwise be impossible,” she said. “Ultimately, our students benefit through added opportunities for hands-on learning, state-of-the-art facilities, and faculty who are conducting cutting-edge research.”

The benefit to students is one reason UGI has supported the project. “Hands-on experience for students is a better way of learning,” said Vicki Ebner, the company’s vice president of operations. “The greenhouse will allow students to witness things firsthand, rather than just reading about them in a book or on the Internet.”

Economic Impact – And More

Research conducted on campus also directly benefits Pennsylvania’s economy, providing new technologies and products and a skilled workforce. The greenhouse donors have expressed a keen interest in the research underway at Penn State Harrisburg and its implications for their industries. But it is the vision of what is possible with the new facility that most excites them.

Andy Ernst is vice president of Ernst Seeds in Meadville, Pa. He appreciates the technology being used by the college’s researchers on plant breeding and evaluation and says the studies could revolutionize the industry. “What used to take place in the field over the course of a season now can be done in a lab, in a controlled environment, tested and changed as necessary. This saves time and money,” he said. “We’re already seeing exciting results.”

Ernst is equally enthusiastic about the impact for Pennsylvania: “Creating this facility at Penn State Harrisburg and providing more opportunities for students will lead to more and more competent people in our industry. The training that will result will be valuable to us as a business and to Pennsylvania.”

Ben Wootton, of Shiremanstown-based Keystone Biofuels, is an accountant turned biodiesel advocate. As president of one of only four biodiesel companies in the state, he spends much of his time promoting the environmental benefits of the industry. And he practices what he preaches. Both of his vehicles – a car and a Harley – run on biofuel and his home is heated with it. “I think turning to environmentally friendly energy sources is the right thing for us to do as



Interest
in supporting
the greenhouse
lies in the potential
held within for a
discovery that
leads to a better
environment.

continued on page 6



Dr. Sairam V. Rudrabhatla

a country,” he said, “and for me as a parent.”

Dr. Rudrabhatla’s research into the jatropha plant caught Wootton’s attention, as he looked for alternative fuel options. “The prospects for this research are huge,” he said. “Jatropha puts out much more oil than soybeans or corn and can be grown on marginal lands. It’s a win-win situation.”

Beyond biofuels, Penn State Harrisburg faculty also are working on new research technologies in green building design and construction, alternative waste water treatment, and the use of plants for pollution clean-up of contaminated soils or water.

As president of the research, management and consulting firm Kunj, Kiran Patel understands the impact that a research success in any of these areas might have on a company’s bottom line. He also understands the importance of industry investment in higher education. But his interest in supporting the greenhouse lies in the potential held within for a discovery that leads to a better environment. He articulates quite simply the broad impact: “You, me, we all gain from this,” he said.



Rendering of new student housing



Construction begins



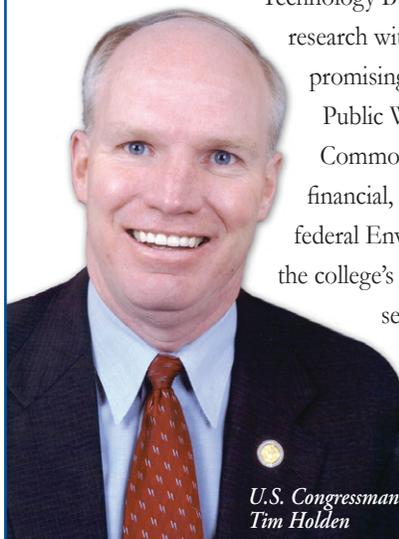
The list of the building’s green features is extensive, including renewable bio-fiber paneling, built-in recycling centers on every level, sustainably managed lumber, and recycled-content materials such as carpet, concrete, and steel.

Congressman visits campus

U.S. Congressman Tim Holden visited Penn State Harrisburg recently to learn about several environmental initiatives on campus.

A member of the U.S. House Agriculture Committee and a subcommittee looking into alternative energy sources, Holden visited labs in the Science and Technology Building. He heard firsthand about ongoing

research with the jatropha plant, considered to be a promising new fuel source. Holden also visited the Small Public Water Systems Technology Assistance Center, the Commonwealth’s leader in helping small systems overcome financial, technological, and training challenges. Aided by the federal Environmental Protection Agency and supported by the college’s Environmental Engineering programs, the center serves Pennsylvania’s 9,000 small water systems and also enables faculty and students to undertake research aimed at assuring safe water supplies. In 2008, more than 1,500 water system operators participated in training offered by the center.



U.S. Congressman Tim Holden



New student housing showcases sustainability efforts

Penn State Harrisburg's new student housing, now under construction, is planned to be the first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)-certified building on campus, and the first LEED-certified housing project within the University. Growing enrollment at Penn State Harrisburg prompted the project, which was designed with energy considerations and sustainability at the forefront.

According to Christopher Hurley, the University's senior director of housing and food services for Commonwealth Campuses, the building also includes features suggested by students. "We met with Penn State Harrisburg students to gather their input about what they would like to see in the new housing," he said. "This is an exciting project for us and the students."

Scheduled for completion in fall 2010, the \$10 million, 30,000-square-foot structure will house 100 first-year students.

The list of the building's green features is extensive. It includes renewable bio-fiber paneling, built-in recycling centers on every level, sustainably managed lumber, and recycled-content materials such as carpet, concrete, and steel. Local resources will be used to support neighboring businesses and cut transportation costs. Other green features include energy-conserving heating and cooling units and energy-efficient lighting systems with motion sensors, and sinks, showers, and toilets that reduce water usage.

The east-west orientation of the building will provide optimal energy conservation and natural lighting and exterior shades will moderate seasonal changes in sun angles. Stormwater will be irrigated to rain gardens that use drought-tolerant, native species plants to help establish a healthy ecosystem.

Safety is another priority in design of the building. It will be equipped with a state-of-the-art sprinkler and fire/smoke detection system, keyless wireless card access for all student room doors, and security surveillance at entry doors. The latest in wireless technology for student computers will be included as well.

Energy saving measures go to new heights

Penn State Harrisburg continues to add energy efficient features into its facilities. Two new classrooms, one shown here, are a showcase for efforts to cut costs and reduce our carbon footprint.



Heating and cooling are computer-controlled, with temperatures maintained during the day and automatically reduced at night.

Energy-conserving light fixtures are used in all classrooms and occupancy sensors activate lights when they are needed and turn them off when they are not.

"Daylight harvesting" systems automatically adjust artificial light according to how much natural light is available.

The University's "Big Fix" software allows public computers throughout campus to be shut down automatically when not in use, reducing power costs by 80 percent this year.

New windows are low-E glass that insulates against heat and cold.

Tiered classrooms require less lighting to meet standards because occupants sit closer to the lighting source.





Practicing three R's means more green



The college's new Conservation Committee is energizing campus efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Committee Chair Jason Zubler, a grounds maintenance technician, said these practices are good for the environment and can lead to savings, too.

"Recycling alone can lead to considerable cost savings," Zubler said. "Each time a dumpster has to be emptied by a trash hauler, it costs \$300." Thanks to an expanded and aggressive recycling program, 29,000 tons of materials were recycled in 2008, returning \$3,000 to the college. The program began with a basic recycling program for students, and now extends beyond paper, glass, and plastic to include everything from building materials to pre-consumer food scraps. Recycling totals from 2008 included 18 tons of scrap metal, five tons of computers, and three tons of rubber tires.

In addition, the college landscaping operation recycles all waste materials. "We recycle or reuse everything," Zubler said. "We make mulch, we compost, and we are constantly looking for ways to improve."

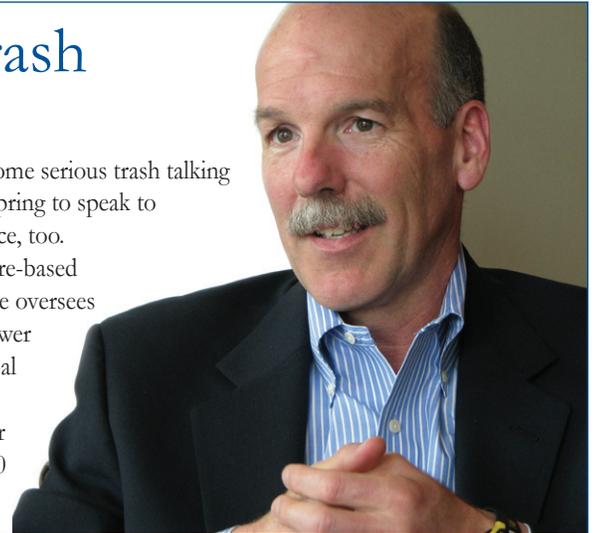
In addition to affecting the bottom line, Zubler said, recycling "eases the burden on landfills and incinerators, reduces soil and water contamination by diverting toxic materials from the waste stream, and helps to conserve valuable natural resources."

Alum talks trash to students

Alumnus Mark Weidman did some serious trash talking when he returned to campus this spring to speak to students. But he offered good advice, too.

As president of New Hampshire-based Wheelabrator Technologies, Inc., he oversees the operation of the company's power facilities, 16 of which turn municipal waste into energy.

"The U.S. is the world's number one waste generator, producing 280 million tons annually,"



"The U.S. is the world's number one waste generator, producing 280 million tons annually."

said Weidman, a 1980 graduate of the college's Water Resources Engineering Technology program. By converting trash to power, Weidman said, Wheelabrator is in the middle of today's efforts to reduce, reuse, recycle, and recover. "We're considered renewable in many states and renewable energy is big today for sustainability. As an industry, we are green and growing," he said.

Since opening the nation's first waste-to-energy plant, Wheelabrator has processed 190 million tons of municipal waste. Depending on its content, one ton of trash produces about 575 kilowatt hours of energy. Each day, the company generates enough electricity to power one million homes, Weidman said.

Wheelabrator's Langhorne plant is the company's only waste-to-energy facility in Pennsylvania. It also is the most energy-efficient facility in the U.S., Weidman said. "It has the highest energy production per ton of waste processed of anything that we know of in the country," he said.

Five Wheelabrator plants burn alternative fuels, some of which are waste products. For example, the plant in Frackville, Pa., burns culm, a byproduct of coal mining. Other plants use waste wood and tires.

Weidman's enthusiasm for the technical and environmental aspects of his work is clear. But what he's most proud of professionally is Wheelabrator's safety record, he said. That record has earned the company OSHA's official designation as among the safest workplaces in the nation. "Only 2,000 workplaces out of seven million in the U.S. have this designation," Weidman said.

A native of Brownstown, Pa., Weidman transferred to Penn State Harrisburg from Harrisburg Area Community College. Between high school and college, and also during his years as an undergraduate, he took time off to earn money to pay for school. A product of that experience – and a love of the outdoors – was added motivation to complete his education and pursue opportunities in the environmental field, he said. Penn State Harrisburg's Water Resources Engineering Technology program (the predecessor of today's Environmental Engineering bachelor's program) blended all of his interests.

Weidman relayed some of these personal experiences to encourage students. He admonished engineering students to take business and finance courses. "Learn the basics of project economics," he said. He recommended gaining international experience. "Work with a diverse group of people," he said. And his final advice reflected his own experience for achieving success through determination and hard work: "Remember, you get back what you give."

CAPITAL Society

honors college donors

Members of the Penn State Harrisburg Capital Society have contributed more than \$21 million to support the students and faculty of the college, and its Platinum Circle members have individually donated more than \$100,000. The Capital Society recognizes those who, through their philanthropic investment, share a commitment to the continuing excellence of Penn State Harrisburg.

The college honored donors at an October 1 dinner presentation that also highlighted the college's international students and faculty. A video produced by Associate Professor of Humanities and Communications Catherine Rios and Penn State Harrisburg students featured recent international study tours, including last year's trip to the Cannes Film Festival, and illustrated the impact private giving has on a student's college experience.

To see the video, or learn more about the Capital Society, visit www.hbg.psu.edu/philanthropy.



Esau Collins, a graduate student in Public Administration from Liberia, talks with Assistant Professor of Chemistry Balwant S. Chohan during a reception at which students and faculty from 11 different countries met with other guests to discuss their home countries and cultures.



Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes



Capital Society Platinum Circle Members

Left to right, front row: Russell E. Horn, Sr., Dr. Madlyn L. Hanes, Ben Wootton, (Keystone Biofuels, Inc.), Andy Ernst, (Ernst Seeds), Kiran Patel, (Kunj Associates, LP), Stephanie and Richard E. Ziegler, (R.E. Ziegler Remodeling & Construction).

Back row: Brian Funkhouser, (Buchart Horn, Inc., Basco Associates), Dr. Joseph Cecere, (Lawrence L. & Julia Z. Hoverter Charitable Foundation), Gerald K. Morrison, Roger W. Schiller, Mary F. and Dr. Richard R. Young, Dr. Michael L. Hanes.



Camilla Robinson, an officer with the London Metropolitan Police Force, is pursuing her master's degree in Criminal Justice at Penn State Harrisburg by taking advantage of a "career break" (sabbatical), which the police force offers.

Turkey • India • Germany • Liberia • Honduras • United States • Korea • Japan • United Kingdom • Nigeria • Kuwait



Mystery gift aids students

In April, Penn State Harrisburg received a historic philanthropic contribution. At \$3 million, it was the college's largest single donation. What made the gift even more extraordinary is that its donor is anonymous. The gift is providing an unprecedented boost to aid students and develop programs. Already, 78 students have received scholarships.

Penn State Harrisburg is one of 20 colleges, all run by women, collectively receiving more than \$100 million from an anonymous donor – or several anonymous donors – in the last year or so. The colleges received almost identical instructions. Each time, the money was mailed by an intermediary for the donor who requested that the money go to minority and female students.

Penn State Harrisburg's Development Office received two checks, each for \$1.5 million, along with correspondence from a representative communicating on behalf of the donor. "The checks and correspondence being dated April 1st did give us pause, but immediate follow up with the donor's representative put all worries to rest of any April Fool's Day tricks," said Jason Ketter, director of development.

"The philanthropist requested that half the total gift be used for scholarships, particularly for women and minority students," Ketter explained. "The other \$1.5 million will be used for high-priority initiatives at the college, all of which ultimately benefit students, as well."

To date, the college has allocated portions of the gift to several programs. The first \$1.5 million was placed in an endowment for women and underrepresented students with \$150,000 being awarded annually through interest and matched funds from the University. The remainder of the gift, also placed in endowments, has been allocated to each of the five academic schools that comprise the college, the Penn State Capital College Harrisburg Semester, the Chancellor's Excellence Fund, and a Holocaust program fund that supports Holocaust and Jewish studies.

Ketter stressed the importance of placing the funds in endowments. "These funds will be available annually – impacting and supporting students of today and tomorrow," he said.

"This extraordinary gift to Penn State Harrisburg is significant on many levels, not the least of which is its size – the largest single gift ever to the college," said Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes. "It comes at a time of tremendous growth for us, brought by the high demand for a Penn State education in the capital region. It comes at a time when financial need among our students has never been greater. And, it provides tremendous leveraging power, from which we can build even greater support for important priorities."

"It comes at a time of tremendous growth for us, brought by the high demand for a Penn State education in the capital region."



Fans get fired up



Penn State Harrisburg's Blue and White Society, dedicated to promoting spirit on campus, hosted a bonfire and pep rally October 6. More than 350 students cheered on the college athletic teams, listened to live music, and enjoyed renowned Penn State Creamery ice cream.

heard on campus

"No one has to go through life like I did – with a fat brain and a skinny body. Learn to love yourself!"

Michelle Garb, comedian, on her struggle with eating disorders, during a presentation on campus.

"Writing can have the same beneficial health effects that can come from exercise, meditation, sleep, or even prescribed drugs."

Julie Kearney, writing and rhetoric specialist and assistant professor of English composition and humanities.

"I can never change the hate with which I once lived and I will always hate the way I once was, but I now hope I can change others' views of racism."

T.J. Leyden, reformed neo-Nazi, on his violent history, during a presentation on campus.

"Decades of research prove any type of extrinsic reward, by and large, undermines motivation."

Barbara Marinak, assistant professor of education, arguing against pay for performance programs for students, in an interview with National Public Radio.

"To just sink those costs is the beginning of a new era for Wal-Mart."

Ray Gibney, assistant professor of management, on Wal-Mart's lost investment due to a new strategy to build fewer stores, in an interview with WITF.org.

Learn more at www.hbg.psu.edu.
Search by speaker name.



Institute's goal is top-notch child care

A training institute focused on improving the quality of child care in central Pennsylvania has a new home at Penn State Harrisburg.

Affiliated with the Penn State College of Health and Human Development since 1999, the Capital Area Early Childhood Training Institute (CAECTI) is now a part of the School of Behavioral Sciences and Education at Penn State Harrisburg.

Richard Fiene, principal investigator at the institute, said, "The institute's purpose is to improve the quality of care for young children by providing, developing, and coordinating a variety of professional development opportunities for child care providers in the capital region."

Supported primarily by the state's Department of Public Welfare, the institute's services include professional development opportunities in the Keystone STARS program, an initiative of the Office of Child Development and Early Learning to improve, support, and recognize the continuous quality improvement efforts of early learning programs in Pennsylvania.

With an estimated 1,400 child care centers and home-based care locations throughout the region, Fiene said, "the institute is designed to offer all providers with services, including Penn State credit and noncredit course offerings, on-site Keystone STARS technical assistance, and Early Childhood Mental Health Project services."

Fiene added that the institute is multi-faceted, also serving as an academic resource for Penn State students. "We will provide our undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity for internship and research projects, and we are also involved with the Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey with some of its residents in child psychiatry completing a rotation with us," Fiene said.

In partnership with Child Care Consultants, Inc., the institute serves an area which includes Adams, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York counties.



New Wellness Center aims to keep students healthy

The college has a new Wellness Center.

Located in expanded quarters in the Capital Union Building, the facility's mission "includes not only attending to students' medical needs, but helping them stay healthy as well," said Assistant Director of Wellness Programs and Services Marylou Martz.

"To more fully meet the needs of our growing campus community, the Wellness Center has become home to programming related to a variety of health-related topics, including seminars and screenings on wellness topics to better assist our students," she said.

The center now includes an additional exam room, a lab, a confidential waiting area, a wellness library, and a location for health screenings and inoculations.



Left to right, Andy Ernst, Ernst Seeds;
Ben Wootton, Keystone Biofuels, Inc.;
Kiran Patel, Kunj Associates, LP

Research

conducted by college faculty can provide a valuable, hands-on opportunity for students, better inform the professors as teachers, and be a boon for regional industries, by aiding product development and providing a more skilled workforce. And many times, the research has an even greater benefit.

Pennsylvania industries have supported creation of Penn State Harrisburg's new Plant Biotechnology Research and Teaching Facility for all of these reasons. Generous donations from Ernst Seeds, Keystone Biofuels, Inc., Kunj Associates, LP, and UGI Utilities, Inc. will enable the college to build a greenhouse, phase I of the multi-phase project, to expand studies in plant genetic engineering, the implications of which could lead to new energy sources, healthier food supplies, and clues for treating human disease.

Ernst invested in the greenhouse project because the company sees the value – and possibilities – in the research. “It could revolutionize breeding of perennial plants,” said Vice President Andy Ernst, “and providing students with training in these technologies will lead to more and more competent people in our industry.”

Ben Wootton, president of Keystone Biofuels, is excited about the potential that the oil-rich jatropha plant may hold as a renewable fuel source. Keystone's support will aid Penn State Harrisburg researchers studying ways to make the hot-climate jatropha thrive in Pennsylvania.

For Kiran Patel, president of the research, management, and consulting firm Kunj, offering support just seems like the right thing to do. “We always try to support green projects and to incorporate green principles in our business,” he said. “You, me, we all gain from this.”

UGI's Vice President of Operations Vicki Ebner agreed. She said supporting the greenhouse made sense, given her company's commitment to the communities it serves. “Any endeavor in which people are looking forward to the future and focusing on protecting the environment benefits all of us,” she said.

To learn more, contact the Development Office, 717-948-6316.

By the numbers

100

Additional students who can live on campus when new housing project is completed

See page 7.

280 million

Tons of trash generated in the U.S. annually

See page 8.

29,000

Tons of material recycled from campus in 2008

See page 8.

10

Age of Alina Fernandez when she learned she was Fidel Castro's daughter

See page 13.

\$3 million

Amount received by the college from an anonymous donor in April

See page 10.

3,000

Volumes catalogued by a Penn State Harrisburg student at Harrisburg's National Civil War Museum

See page 17.

A child of revolution

Castro's daughter describes life under his regime

Alina Fernandez, the daughter of former Cuban president Fidel Castro, has no desire to return to her homeland.

"I won't be the first one on the first plane (there) after he dies," she told a crowd at the Capital Union Building Student Center on October 6. "I am an enemy (of Cuba)" and would be treated like one, she said.

Born in 1956, Fernandez recalls watching cartoons on television as a child when one day they disappeared, replaced with images of men shouting for Cuban liberty. It was not until age 10 that Fernandez learned she was Castro's

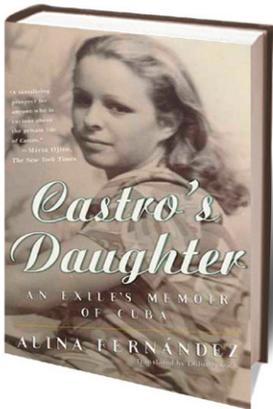
illegitimate daughter. Today she paints a bleak picture of the country her father led after overthrowing dictator Fulgencio Batista in 1959.

The revolution brought social and economic upheaval to Cuba, Fernandez said. "Cuban institutions were destroyed, religion was banished, freedom of the press ended, farms were taken over by the state, political opponents were executed, and hate of America was fostered," she said. "The purpose of a revolution should be to change or to improve, but in Cuba, the revolution is endless."

"The government now has total control of the people. Every neighborhood has people watching and reporting to the authorities," she said. Her mother, who remains in Cuba, is a "true believer" in the Castro regime, Fernandez said, yet she recalls that her grandmother referred to Castro as "the devil."

Fernandez's personal revolution began when she was in her teens. "The state owned our personal lives, and with the fall of the USSR, Cuba became an even more difficult place in which to live," she said. She later joined the dissident movement and began openly criticizing her father, a dangerous undertaking. In 1993, she escaped from Cuba by posing as a Spanish tourist. Now an American citizen, she resides in Miami.

Despite her own history, Fernandez expressed optimism that Cuba might one day become a democracy and said she favors the easing of U.S. restrictions against the country. "Things are changing," she said.



Provided by The Patriot News, photo by Sean Simmers.

"The purpose of a revolution should be to change or to improve, but in Cuba, the revolution is endless."



College Affairs Seminar



Members of the Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers and the academic program advisory boards participated in an October 8 seminar that provided an overview of the college's undergraduate, master's, and doctoral programs, and detailed the academic review process for new programs and courses. The seminar also featured a discussion of potential new degrees, minors, and certificates based on input from the advisory board members, many of whom represent businesses and industry in the capital region.

College and industry partnership earns \$600,000 grant

Penn State Harrisburg has received a \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to strengthen a regional college/industry research partnership.

The funding will support the Innovation Transfer Network (ITN) which brings together higher education institutions, economic development organizations, business, and government to provide companies with a gateway to reach faculty and accelerate commercialization of new products.

The NSF Partnerships for Innovation program grant “reflects Penn State Harrisburg’s shared vision with the Commonwealth’s goal for developing faculty/industry partnerships as initially established through the Department of Community and Economic Development for the Innovation Transfer Network,” said Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies Marian Walters, who received the funding.

The grant reflects “Penn State Harrisburg’s shared vision with the Commonwealth’s goal for developing faculty/industry partnerships.”



“The funding is an initial step in the college’s commitment to seek creative ways to sustain the ITN mission and also reflects Penn State Harrisburg’s interest in and commitment to developing stronger ties to other regional colleges and universities as all advance their research and educational agendas,” she said.

Other regional higher education partners in the program are Dickinson College, Cheyney University, Elizabethtown College, Franklin & Marshall College, Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, Lebanon Valley College, Messiah College, Millersville University, Penn State College of Medicine, Shippensburg University, and Lancaster General College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

“Penn State Harrisburg has played a key role in the ITN,” says ITN Director of Business Development Jennifer Hammaker. With partnering organizations including the Capital Region Economic Development Corporation, Lancaster Keystone Innovation Zone, and Ben Franklin Technology Partners, the ITN’s seed grant program funds faculty and business collaboration in up to \$10,000 increments. “It is a leading example of how to ignite entrepreneurial activity and interaction between faculty researchers and the business community at a relatively low cost,” she said.

Spring Open Houses



Doctoral Programs Information Night

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

6 p.m.

Penn State Harrisburg Library

Graduate School Information Night

Thursday, April 20, 2010

6 p.m.

Penn State Harrisburg Library

RSVPs are appreciated but not required.

Contact: hbgadmit@psu.edu

717-948-6250

Just a few miles from the Three Mile Island (TMI) nuclear facility,

Penn State Harrisburg played an important role during the March 1979 accident at the plant. Despite that the college was shut down, campus security forces maintained patrols throughout the crisis, and at the Secret Service Agency’s request, assisted with security for President Jimmy Carter’s visit to the site.

To mark the 30th anniversary of the incident this past March, an exhibit in the library featured the photographs of Robert Del Tredici and event-related memorabilia, from the common – newspaper clips – to the unusual – board games. Del Tredici chronicled the TMI disaster in his book *The People of Three Mile Island*.





“The availability of advanced degree opportunities is crucial in our industry's efforts to meet changing marketplace demands.”

New fund supports master's in Health Administration

Penn State Harrisburg's commitment to fuel the region's health care industry with highly trained administrators has received a financial boost from United Concordia Dental.

The company has pledged \$25,000 to create the United Concordia Dental Program Fund for Health Administration, which will support the master's degree program in the college's School of Public Affairs. The MHA program was introduced in January of 1997, in response to student and industry calls for a graduate program exclusively focused on health administration.

“We are pleased to continue our support of Penn State Harrisburg and its Master of Health Administration program,” said Chip Merkel, United Concordia's president and chief operating officer. “The availability of advanced degree opportunities is crucial in our industry's efforts to meet changing marketplace demands.”

James T. Ziegenfuss, professor of management and health care systems and the program coordinator, said, “In the midst of the current health care reform debate, this program support is a most welcomed contribution to our efforts to bolster the professional community with administrators who can adapt to the changing environment and design future health care systems.”

Students build nonprofit's Web site

A chance conversation at a youth football game between Assistant Professor of Information Systems Roderick Lee and Dan Shields, lead volunteer for the Harrisburg Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Foundation has led to a solution for a problem faced by the chapter.

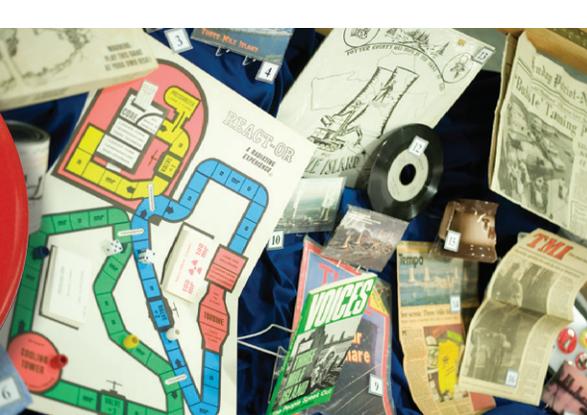
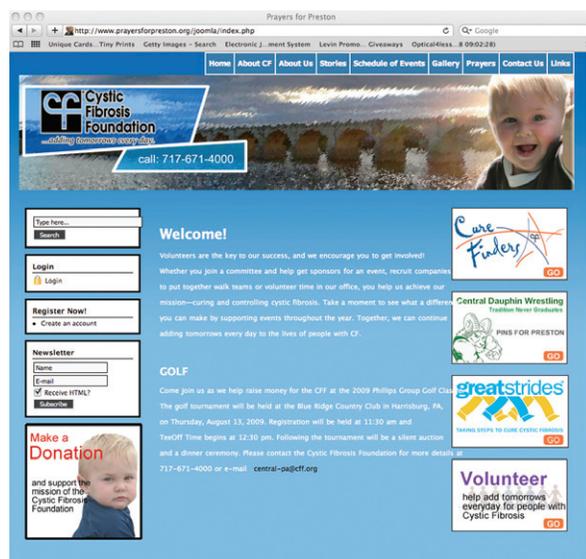
Shields, whose 20-month-old son has cystic fibrosis, explained to Lee that the nonprofit needed a Web site, but had limited finances for creating it. Shields' interest was piqued when Lee said he would run the concept by his Information Sciences and Technology (IST) classes. Lee's students routinely undertake projects to address the needs of area organizations, and this time three students volunteered.

The work of the IST majors – Daryl Hechanova, Kelsey Kerr, and Kevin Griffin – drew praise from foundation staff members and the site was officially “handed-off” late last year.

“We now have a much better way to communicate with our local families,” said Erin Velazquez, executive director of the foundation's Harrisburg chapter. “We have a small staff, but now we can disseminate information more efficiently by posting our newsletters online and providing e-mail contacts to the office.”

“This is definitely a win-win situation,” said Shields. “The work of the students has far exceeded my expectations. They did an awesome job.”

Visit the Web site at: www.prayersforpreston.org





“Penn State Harrisburg is the regional leader in engineering and engineering technology education.”

College adds Mechanical Engineering degree

New this fall, Penn State Harrisburg has added Mechanical Engineering to its list of programs, bringing the number of undergraduate engineering and engineering technology majors it offers to seven.

The program now is admitting freshmen but also is enrolling students transferring from other colleges and universities. Also, as part of the dual enrollment opportunity with Harrisburg Area Community College, students may begin their studies at HACC and then transfer to Penn State Harrisburg.

“Built around a broad foundation in physics, chemistry, and mathematics, mechanical engineering has the objective of educating graduates to be problem solvers,” said Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering Richard Ciocci, the program coordinator. “Penn State Harrisburg is the regional leader in engineering and engineering technology education. Mechanical Engineering follows the recently introduced Civil Engineering program and the established Environmental Engineering and Electrical Engineering programs on campus. By expanding our offerings, we are expanding our engineering core courses and our choices for students.”

The college also offers engineering technology majors in Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Structural Design and Construction Engineering.

Blue and white: the new green

Penn State Harrisburg's maintenance and operations crews use electric utility vehicles, including this mini-pickup, to help reduce fossil-fuel emissions from day-to-day activities.

To learn more, see pages 7-8.



facebook

Check out the Penn State Harrisburg Alumni and Friends Fan Page on Facebook. Keep in touch with classmates, share memories, and stay updated on what's happening on campus!

Postcards pushed the early 1900s envelope



They wouldn't rival a *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit edition, but in their time, these photos were as racy as it came.

A recent exhibit in the Penn State Harrisburg library displayed postcards featuring young women photographed from 1910-1920 by Mack Sennett, a famed silent film director. Until the early 1900s, women's bathing suits covered all exposed body areas and usually consisted of a full-length blouse and full-length pants. When the women's movement emerged and feminism was born, women's fashion experienced a new-found freedom.

Learn more about the library and its offerings at www.hbg.psu.edu/library.



Students help organize *Civil War archives*

Three Penn State Harrisburg American Studies graduate students – Emily DeSilva, Janie Cozzoli, and Todd Klokis – recently put their classroom knowledge to practical use at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg and now important archives are available to researchers and the public.

Klokis volunteered to organize the museum's 3,000-volume library collection. An invaluable resource for researchers, the collection was not organized or catalogued. Using special software, Klokis archived the volumes and documents into a searchable database.

DeSilva worked on a collection of letters by a Civil War newsman located in Charlottesville and his wife in Richmond. DeSilva transcribed and scanned 34 letters into high-resolution digital images for cataloguing.

"Preservation of original documents is critical," Curator of Collections Brett Kelley said. "Handling artifacts improperly can destroy them in time." The letters now will be available electronically, removing the danger of damage to the fragile originals.

Cozzoli also worked on a series of letters – these written by a New York soldier to his family during the war. The work was difficult because the soldier was not well-educated and his handwriting was poor. Using a magnifying glass – and a lot of patience – Cozzoli started by identifying words and then looking for similar letters in other words to transcribe the letters.

Museum Director Janice Mullin stressed the importance of the students' work, saying that they helped to return "things that belonged to people and the stories in them" to the public.

Criminal Justice major among first to gain national certification

Penn State Harrisburg's resident undergraduate Criminal Justice major is among the first in the nation to earn certification from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS).

The resident major joins those at the University of Baltimore and Fayetteville State University in North Carolina as the select three to be endorsed by ACJS in its first year of national certification. The ACJS, an international association, sets stringent standards for criminal justice degree programs, including quality faculty, sufficient resources for faculty and students, an appropriate curriculum, and the use of evidence-based outcomes to assess student learning.

Professor of Criminal Justice Barbara Sims, the program coordinator, said, "The ACJS Executive Board, along with the Academic Review Committee, worked diligently to ensure that criminal justice programs are held to as high a standard as are programs in other disciplines."

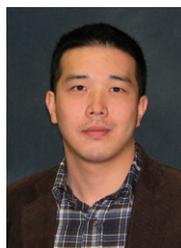
In addition to the certification for the undergraduate resident program, the Penn State Harrisburg Criminal Justice major delivered online through the University's World Campus also has become the first of its type to be certified by ACJS.



The Penn State
Harrisburg
Criminal Justice
major delivered
online also
has become the
first of its type
to be certified
by ACJS.

Criminal Justice grad garners honors

Joongyeup Lee came to Penn State Harrisburg in 2006 for a change in careers. With an economics degree earned in his native South Korea, Lee enrolled in the master's program in Criminal Justice and graduated in 2008.



Joongyeup Lee

At Penn State Harrisburg, Lee amassed an impressive record as a scholar. He earned the Outstanding Graduate Student in Criminal Justice Award and his research paper on drug profiling won first prize in a Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Justice Educators contest. And that was just the beginning.

Upon graduation, he earned a full scholarship to the criminal justice doctoral program at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Tex. He just completed his first year and was named winner of the university's prestigious Rolando del Carmen Award for Academic Excellence.

Associate Professor of Criminal Justice James Ruiz called Lee one of the most promising graduate students he ever taught. "He has a very bright future as a teacher and a researcher," Ruiz said. "He has been appointed to the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 2010 Program Committee. That he would receive this appointment as a first-year Ph.D. student is, as far as I know, very rare."

Chancellor re-elected to national accreditation board



Penn State Harrisburg Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes has been re-elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

CHEA is a national advocate and institutional voice for self-regulation of academic quality through accreditation. An association of 3,000 degree-granting colleges and universities, CHEA recognizes 60 institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations.

Joseph named Technology Educator of the Year

Assistant Professor of Information Systems Rhoda Joseph has been honored as Technology Educator of the Year by the Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania.

Joseph was recognized for her use of diverse technology tools in the classroom.

She has developed courses in e-business, and as part of the college's outreach efforts has participated in several on-campus workshops for students from area high schools who are interested in careers in information technology.

Faculty member honored by local chamber

Assistant Professor of Education Kimetta Hairston was presented the African American Chamber of Commerce of Central Pennsylvania Community Service Award at its 17th annual awards banquet.

Hairston also serves as president of the Pennsylvania National Association of Multicultural Educators regional chapter and as the vice president of the University Club of Central Pennsylvania. Her current research interests are in diversity and cultural awareness, gender identity, and the integration of diversity into higher education curricula and professional workplace environments.

Culpan named journal editor

Professor of Management and International Business Refik Culpan has been named editor-in-chief of the new *International Journal of Strategic Alliances*.

The journal's aim is to foster the creation and sharing of knowledge on strategic business alliances from various perspectives, including economic, organizational, and strategic management.

A former winner of the college's Award for Excellence in Teaching, Culpan has authored three books and numerous journal articles. He teaches organizational behavior and development, strategic management, and international management.

Writing project received funding

Writing Instructor Jen Hirt received a \$5,000 fellowship in literature and creative nonfiction from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts to fund an essay project that has personal connections to her family's former greenhouse business and will assist her teaching efforts in the classroom.

College applauds faculty, staff award winners

Penn State Harrisburg recognizes faculty and staff excellence at its annual recognition program.

Winners this spring included:



Glen Mazis

Professor of Humanities and Philosophy

Excellence in Research and Scholarly Activity



Michael Barton

Professor of American Studies and Social Science

Faculty Service Award



Richard Ciocci

Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Faculty Advising Award



Marlene Sherwin

Police Services Officer

Staff Service Award



Patricia Johnson

Professor of Humanities and English

Kathryn Towns Women's History Month Award

Hoops standout recognized for classroom performance

Sandra Adames epitomized the term “student/athlete.”

Exceptional in the classroom and on the basketball court, Adames’ athletic and academic careers at Penn State Harrisburg captured the essence of what it means to be a student first and also an athlete.

Adames received the University’s Evan Pugh Scholar Award as a senior and was a May 2009 honors graduate in Elementary Education. Named for Penn State’s first president, the award goes to juniors and seniors in the top half percent of their respective class. Also a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, the Pontiac, Michigan native’s performance for the Lady Lion basketball squad equaled her success in academics.

A multiple selection as North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) player of the week over the past two seasons, Adames was also named to the second team all-conference team in her senior year and the third team as a junior. As a junior and a senior, the forward/center led the squad in points per game, rebounds, and blocks.

Adames was one of 44 Penn State Harrisburg athletes who excelled in the classroom during the 2008-09 academic year. The college was third in the NEAC in the number of scholar/athletes who had a grade-point average of 3.4 or higher.



NCAA advances athletic program’s membership quest

In August, the NCAA announced Penn State Harrisburg had received its approval to advance from the second to the fourth year of provisional membership during the 2009-10 season.

The advance means the college’s intercollegiate athletic program is entering its final year of provisional status and is now on track to become a full member of the NCAA’s Division III in 2010-11.

Lady Lions

Women’s tennis team registers historic firsts

The women’s tennis team this spring registered three firsts for the college’s intercollegiate athletic program.

Coached by Becky Cecere, the team took the 2008-09 North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) regular season championship and followed that with the team tournament title – both team firsts for Penn State Harrisburg.

In addition, Cecere was named Conference Coach of the Year, another first for the college.

Maya Davis (Bladensburg/Washington D.C.) and Sammi Hall (Lampeter-Strasburg/Lancaster) were named to the all-conference singles first team. The doubles team of Maya Davis and Alexa Watach (Susquenita/Duncannon) also earned first team selection in doubles.



Penn State Harrisburg acknowledges supporters of the Athletics Program Fund – David A. Brinjac, Brinjac Engineering and Stephen C. Burkholder, S&R Enterprises – and the following sponsors: Hometeam Brite3 Memorial Golf Tournament, Subway (Highspire and on Derry Street, Harrisburg), Pizza Hut, United Concordia Dental, Holiday Inn.

Communications student receives national award

Communications major Tianna Segneri was one of eight students in the nation to win a scholarship sponsored by the Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society. Created for adult learners, the society awarded the scholarships based on academic achievement, scholarship, leadership activities, and need.

Balancing full-time employment, family responsibilities, and an ambitious academic schedule, the Hershey, Pa. resident welcomed the assistance the \$1,200 scholarship provided.

“The scholarship serves as recognition of the hard work and effort I have put into achieving my goals, balancing my academic work with a full-time job and young son. Additionally, it alleviates a financial burden and I am able to continue taking classes at the same pace,” she said.

Christine Sears named 2009 Alumni Fellow

Christine Sears, '77 BA, executive vice president and chief financial officer of Penn National Insurance, is Penn State Harrisburg's 2009 Alumni Fellow.

The most prestigious award given by the Penn State Alumni Association, the Alumni Fellow Award goes to select alumni who, as leaders in their fields, are nominated by an academic college and accept an invitation from the University to share their expertise on campus. The award is a cast bronze statue and framed certificate.

Sears met with students in three Business Administration classes in October and formally received the Alumni Fellow award October 21 at ceremonies at University Park.

Sears has served on Penn State Harrisburg's Board of Advisers since 2003 and is its current chair. She also is a member of the School of Business Administration Advisory Council. In 2004, the college chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, the national business honor society, recognized her as its annual honoree.

Sears serves on the board of the United Way of the Capital Region and has been honored with Penn State Harrisburg's Alumni Achievement Award, as one of Pennsylvania's Top 50 Women in Business, and as a YWCA of Greater Harrisburg Tribute to Women in Industry honoree.



Christine Sears

Two graduates honored as Distinguished Alumni

Two of Penn State Harrisburg's many accomplished graduates – Ralph J. Papa, '69 SOC SCI and Jeffrey B. Miller, '01 MPA – have been honored as Distinguished Alumni of the University.

Papa, chairman of Citizens Bank in Pennsylvania, and Miller, director of strategic security programs for the National Football League, were honored this summer in formal ceremonies at University Park with six other Penn State graduates.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor that Penn State bestows upon a graduate. The award salutes the achievements of outstanding alumni whose “personal lives, professional achievements, and community service exemplify the objectives of their alma mater.”

Papa has spent his 40-year financial career at Citizens Bank and Mellon Bank. He has a long history of service to the University. He was named a 1990 Alumni Fellow and helped lead the committee that raised more than \$20 million in private funds to build the Bryce Jordan Center. Named Penn State's Renaissance Man of the Year 2000 in recognition of his leadership and support of community, business, and education organizations, Papa is a former president of the Penn State Greater Allegheny Advisory Board.

Miller is the former commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police who drew national accolades for his handling of the tragic Lancaster County Amish schoolhouse shooting. He was Penn State Harrisburg's commencement speaker in May 2003 and in 2007 was named a Penn State Alumni Fellow. A native and resident of Harrisburg, he served with the State Police for 24 years before joining the National Football League in 2008.

Papa and Miller join two other Penn State Harrisburg graduates who have been recognized as Distinguished Alumni: retired CEO of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority George R. Zoffinger, '70 BUS and retired U.S. Army Lt. General Emmett Paige Jr., '74 MPA.



Jeffrey B. Miller, Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes, and Ralph J. Papa

Alum named president, COO of Fulton Financial

Penn State Harrisburg graduate E. Philip Wenger, '87 MBA, has been promoted to president and chief operating officer of Fulton Financial Corp. A Pequea resident, Wenger has served as senior executive vice president for the Lancaster-based financial holding company since 2006.

With 30 years of banking experience, he is chairman of the Fulton Bank Board of Directors and treasurer of the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He also serves on the boards of the Fulton Opera House and the Lancaster County YMCA Foundation.



E. Philip Wenger

Economic Impact By the numbers

\$17 billion

Amount Penn State generates in a year for Pennsylvania's economy

\$135.1 million

Amount Penn State Harrisburg generates in a year for Pennsylvania's economy

\$7.9 million

Amount Penn State Harrisburg spent in 2008 for capital improvements, goods and services, and supplies

\$20.3 million

Amount Penn State Harrisburg students spent in Pennsylvania in 2008

\$13.3 million

Amount out-of-state visitors spent in 2008 for conferences, sporting, cultural, and alumni events at Penn State Harrisburg

Source: Tripp Umbach & Associates
Economic Impact Statement, April 2009

College honors alumni and students

Penn State Harrisburg recently honored alumni and students for their professional and campus accomplishments at the annual Alumni Awards Dinner, held this spring.



Honorees included:

Dr. Hooshang Heshmat, '77 MDET

Co-founder, President, and CEO
Mohawk Innovative Technology, Inc.
Albany, N.Y.

Alumni Achievement Award

Oscar D. Beisert Jr., '07 AMSTD

Architectural Historian
URS Corporation, Gaithersburg, Md.
2009 People to Watch Award

Robert M. Scaer, '94 MBA

President and COO
Gannett Fleming, Camp Hill, Pa.
2007 People to Watch Award

Michael J. Kotovsky, '08 COMP

Computer Science
Graduate Student Award

Katie L. Fike, '09 ELEM

Elementary Education
Graduating Senior Award

Dr. Richard R. Young, '93 Ph.D.

Professor of Supply Chain Management and Coordinator, Master of Business Administration Program
Faculty Advocate Award

Penny H. Carlson, '81 ADM J, '84 CN ED

Senior Division of Undergraduate Studies
Program Coordinator
Staff Advocate Award



Alumni News and Notes

1970s

Hayward M. Barton, '74 M AMSTUD, Sumter, S.C., is a retired colonel from the U.S. Army. He writes: "My American Studies degree has kept me teaching still at 78! Many thanks! My wife and I continue to travel the world."
E-mail: haywardb@uscsumter.edu

Michael A. Sand, '75 MPA, Harrisburg, published *The Essential Nonprofit Fund-raising Handbook* (Career Press 2009). He is the head of Sand Associates, a nationwide management consulting firm serving nonprofit agencies.
E-mail: www.sandassociates.com

Patrick M. Golden, '76 BUS, Dallas, Tex., is a senior program manager for EDS which provides business and technology solutions to clients worldwide. E-mail: patrick.golden@eds.com

Paul F. Polinski, '77 WR ET, Red Oak, Tex., has retired after 25 years working for the City of Dallas. He and other Penn State Harrisburg alumni caught up during a Penn State football tailgate co-hosted by Penn State Harrisburg and the North Texas Chapter of the Alumni Association. Fellow alumni attending: **Brian P. Patrick**, '84 BCT, President of American Concrete Institute, **Lisa Ridley Garrett**, '89 COMCL, Systems Project Manager for CitiCapital Technology, and **David G. Kissinger**, '89 EET, Manager-Measures Finance for BNSF Railway Company.
E-mail: pscpolinski@sbcglobal.net

Robert C. Thomson, '78 BUS, Harrisburg, retired as director of business operations for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

1980s

Robert D. Ketterlinus, Ph.D., '80 SO SC, Glenside, Pa, started a consulting business providing program evaluation, grantsmanship, and program development services to nonprofit organizations. He and his wife, Elizabeth, recently became grandparents.
E-mail: robert.d.ketterlinus.associates@comcast.net

Robbie Adler-Tapia, Ph.D., '82 BE SC, Tempe, Ariz., a licensed psychologist, has a practice specializing in working with child welfare and forensic

mental health and law enforcement. She is involved with the international organization EMDR HAPKIDS and co-authored *EMDR and the Art of Psychotherapy with Children*.
E-mail: dradler-tapia@cox.net

Stephen Farkus, '83 BCT, Louisville, Ky., has worked for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for 17 years and was named its 2009 Project Manager of the Year.
E-mail: steve.farkus@us.army.mil

William R. Kistler, '84 ED ET, Dallas, Tex., is an associate with Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon and Williams, Inc., a consulting firm offering design services in acoustics, noise and vibration, and audio-video systems.
E-mail: bkistler@wjhw.com



William R. Kistler

Laura Miller, '85 MET, State College, is program manager of continuing education at Penn State, previously senior energy engineer at the Office of Physical Plant. Husband, Dan, '85 SDCET, is project manager at Pennoni Associates, State College. Son Evan is a Penn State student.
E-mail: ljm20@psu.edu

Carl J. Wunderler III, '86 BBA, Macungie, Pa., and wife Jennifer welcomed their son, Reese Michael, on October 4, 2008. They also have a daughter, Brooke Anne.
E-mail: cjbw_11@msn.com

Karen Chronister, '87 B HUM, York, has started a freelance commercial writing business. Web site: www.kchronister.com. She joined the Penn State York Alumni Board, January 2009.
E-mail: coffeebeanmusic@yahoo.com

Julie Davis Echterlint, '89 ACCT, Camp Hill, and husband Randal welcomed their second daughter, Samantha, in 2008. They would love to hear from old friends.
E-mail: jdavispsu@comcast.net

Bob S. Kunzinger, '89 M HUM, Virginia Beach, Va., wrote an essay listed in "Best American Essays 2008"

and published an award winning fourth book, *Meambile in Leningrad: Stories of the Siege*, September 2009.
E-mail: rkunzinger@yahoo.com

1990s

William Shrader Jr., '90 P ACC, Mechanicsburg, was promoted to vice president, real estate, Giant Food Stores LLC.

Gregory D. Stanton, '92 EET, Elkton, Md., a licensed professional engineer in Pennsylvania and Maryland, was promoted to vice president of global operations with Smiths Detection in August 2008.
E-mail: gdstanton@ieec.org

Timothy B. Rose, '93 ENVET, Boiceville, N.Y., accepted a position with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection as chief, wastewater treatment operations; is also professional engineer (NY), board certified environmental engineer (BCEE), qualified environmental professional (QEP).
E-mail: rosey@ulster.net

Valerie A. Kelley, '94 ELED, Mechanicsburg, and husband, Andrew, welcomed their second son, Michael Joseph, on May 15, 2009. He joins his brother, Matthew David, who is three years old. E-mail: vloze1972@aol.com

Diane Wenger, Ph.D., '94 M AMSTUD, Schaefferstown, Pa., published *A Country Storekeeper in Pennsylvania: Creating Economic Networks in Early America, 1790-1807* (Penn State Press). She teaches American history at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre.

James R. McFalls, '95 FINCE, Belleville, Ill., working on a 2nd Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) A+ certification in computers. He served for almost 14 years including four deployments overseas.
E-mail: jim.mcfalls@sbcglobal.net

Dale E. Potts, Ph.D., '97 M HUM, Veazie, Maine, received a Ph.D. in history at the University of Maine. He now teaches college history courses in eastern Maine.
E-mail: dale.potts@umit.maine.edu

Rena Wilson Fox, '97 M CP & SC, Hershey, started UnTapped Talent LLC, publishing company.
E-mail: rena@unt2.com

Babacar M'Baye, '98 M AMSTUD, Kent, Ohio, has published *The Trickster Comes West: Pan-African Influence in Early Black Diasporan Narratives* (University Press of Mississippi). He is an assistant professor of English and Pan-African studies at Kent State University.

Lennie Whitcomb, '98 TRDEV, Harrisburg, was appointed corporate learning manager with Gannett Fleming, Inc., an international engineering, planning and architecture consulting firm in Camp Hill.
E-mail: lwhitcomb@gfnet.com

2000s

April Hershey, '01 T C, Ephrata, was appointed Warwick School District's first female superintendent. She received her doctorate in educational leadership from Duquesne University.

Holly Fetrow Walker, '01 M ED, York, received her doctorate from Duquesne University.

Jeanne Campbell Suehr, '02 T C, North Irwin, Pa., earned honorable mention in the 2009 Carnegie Science Awards High School Educator category. She is a high school chemistry teacher in the Yough School District.
E-mail: jsuehr@excite.com

Lawrence Knorr, '02 MBA, Lewisberry, has been named director of information systems, Giant Food Stores LCC.
E-mail: lvknorr@gmail.com

Nicole B. McMullen, '02 M AMSTUD, Maui, Hawaii, has been named executive director of the Maui Historical Society. Formerly a historian at museums near her hometown of York, she moved to Maui in 2006.

William D. Allen, Jr., '03 IST, Palmyra, graduated from law school.

Andrew P. Samuelson, '04 T C, Carlisle, is the new principal of Hanover High School. Previously, he was the assistant principal at Littlestown Area Senior High School.
E-mail: samuelson001@hotmail.com

John Noll, '07 I HUM, West Brook, Maine, has daughter, Madison, born Oct. 26, 2007 with wife, Jessica Dixon Noll. E-mail: nolljohn@hotmail.com

Catherine E. Kirkham, '08 MHA, New Cumberland, was named executive director of Spang Crest Manor in Lebanon. She was chief executive officer and administrator of the Middletown Home.

Jennifer L. Reiner, '08 I HUM, Pottsville, was married to Timothy Reiner on June 19, 2008. She is the human resources administrator at Fleetwood Industries. She graduated from Penn State Harrisburg with the highest distinction and a 4.0 GPA. "Thanks, Penn State!" E-mail: jjreiner@comcast.net

A friendship reunion

What started in 1978 as a gathering to watch the Penn State-Pitt football game has evolved into a friendship that spans more than 30 years for these Penn State Harrisburg alumni who gathered this year at Lake Kewanee in the Poconos. Cindy and Wayne Spitzner write: We are engineers, managers, directors, school psychologists, sales/tech reps, teachers, and athletic trainers/referees, and we credit the longevity of our friendship to the great education we received from Penn State. We have supported each other through finals, first jobs, weddings, children, continuing education, graduations, moves, loss of parents, and serious illnesses. Our youngest member just celebrated her 50th birthday, and we have two "2nd generation" Nittany Lions in our ranks.



Back: Steve Wasser '78 MDET; Cindy Spitzner '78, SOC SCI; Ann Smullen; Robin and Bob '78 EDET Acker
Middle: Joe Kenas '78 MDET; Don Smullen '78 MDET; Wayne Spitzner '78 MDET
Front: Beth Kenas '77 BUS
Not pictured: Rich '79 MDET and Deb '99 B HUM Aiello; Bruce Symczak '78 MDET

alumni news

We want to hear from you!

Help us keep up with your whereabouts, activities, and achievements.

_____		_____		_____	
Last name	First name	Middle initial			
_____		_____		_____	
Maiden name	Graduation year	Degree			
_____		_____		_____	
Spouse last name	First name	Middle initial			
_____		_____		_____	
Home address	City	State	Zip		
_____		_____		_____	
County	Phone	E-mail			
_____		_____		_____	
Business Name		_____		_____	
_____		_____		_____	
Business address	City	State	Zip		
_____		_____		_____	
County	Phone	E-mail			
_____		_____		_____	
Other news (activities, honors, births, promotions, etc.)					

Please send me information on:

- Harrisburg Alumni Society Harrisburg Alumni Events Harrisburg Awards Program Harrisburg Alumni Mentor Program

Send updates to:

Penn State Harrisburg, Alumni Office, hbgalumni@psu.edu or 777 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057-4898

Penn State Harrisburg
777 West Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057-4898

Your Penn State Harrisburg Experience

Whether it was really groovy or totally awesome, we want to hear about it. Write to hbgalumni@psu.edu or visit us on Facebook. We'd love to hear from you.



*Then: At the campus front
entrance, circa 1980
Now: At the lion shrine
in front of the library.*

