

Vol. 15 • No. 1 Fall 2002

# Currents

*Penn State Capital College Alumni Magazine*

**Penn State Harrisburg  
2002 Alumni Fellow  
Hasu P. Shah**



**Penn State Harrisburg • Penn State Schuylkill**

**Penn State Schuylkill  
2002 Alumni Fellow  
Jacqueline L. Russell**



**PENNSTATE**



**Capital College**

**PENN STATE**  
*Making Life Better®*

# Welcome to Currents



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

## *Greetings from the Provost and Dean...*

It is an absolute pleasure to greet all of you and to extend my best wishes for the 2002-2003 academic year.

We have emerged from a year of planning—strategic planning—that lays out our expectations and our directions. The planning process has allowed us to look at who we are—and what and where we want to be. We find ourselves in an increasingly competitive environment, coupled with a struggling economy and a world turned upside-down by unthinkable events. We continue nevertheless to do what we do best—to educate. We take solace in that.

Our plan is an ambitious one. I'll be the first to admit that we've laid out an enormous schedule of tasks to achieve our strategic initiatives. As we proceed, I caution us not to lose sight of the overarching themes that give purpose to our plan.

Our strategic themes speak volumes about what we value. They are: educational excellence, learning technology, diversity, and alliances and partnerships. I need to expand a bit more on the latter. We value alliances and partnerships both internal and external. The partnerships and alliances we form internally enable us to function as one university, as one college—the title we took for our strategic plan. Those we establish externally sustain us as a vital part of the intellectual, cultural and economic development of our surrounding communities. I am pleased to report that we've made progress on a good number of our initiatives already.

Under the theme of Educational Excellence: We have new and expanded programs. Our School of Business Administration is extending the MBA to Lancaster and has launched the first cohort of our on-line MBA via the World Campus in partnership with our colleagues in the Smeal College, Great Valley, and Behrend.

The Master's degree in Criminal Justice, developed by our School of Public Affairs, and the minor in American Studies, developed by our School of Humanities, were approved by the Board of Trustees. These programs are available to students this year.

In Fall 2003, we will admit first-year students to the Harrisburg campus in five additional majors—electrical engineering, environmental engineering, structural design and construction engineering technology, mathematics, and computer science. This meets an important strategic priority—that is, to introduce additional lower division study at the Harrisburg campus in selected programs. We received funding from the Whitaker Foundation to move us forward. Thanks to excellent leadership from our School of Science, Engineering, and Technology and Offices of Development and Research and Graduate Studies, we're well positioned to realize growth in these disciplines on behalf of the region.

Under the themes of Diversity and Learning Technology: Our commitment to diversity and global education is invigorated. Our Summer Reading Program is a fine example. This is an innovative enterprise launched last year for incoming freshmen by School of Humanities faculty at our Schuylkill campus. We have adopted it as a best practice and included our incoming students at Harrisburg. Students, faculty, and staff read James McBride's *The Color of Water* last summer. This year we read Simon Wiesenthal's *The Sunflower*. Students and faculty interact on-line over the summer months, exchanging reactions to these powerful books. Fall student convocation extends the conversation in live, real time. The program and its effective use of technology, incidentally, were cited in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Under the theme of Alliances and Partnerships: The College continues to offer the M.Ed. in Teaching and Curriculum, under the direction of the School of Behavioral Sciences and Education, to additional student cohorts across the state in collaboration with Commonwealth College campuses. With over 1,000 students at seven locations, it's the highest-enrolled graduate program in the University. We are making our mark.

Our Schuylkill campus has partnered with the School of Nursing and the Geisinger Health System in Danville in response to the critical shortage of registered nurses in Central Pennsylvania. The program will afford 40 hospital employees the opportunity to pursue an associate degree in nursing on-site and be eligible to sit for the national exam for registered nurse licensure.

Plans are well underway to implement the Harrisburg Semester under the direction of our School of Public Affairs. The Harrisburg Semester will offer undergraduate students interested in political science, public administration, non-profit management, public policy, community development and related areas a semester-long opportunity to live, work, and study in the capital city. Beginning Spring 2003, the program will open to Penn State students across the Commonwealth. This initiative holds great promise as a signature program for the College.

The College, under the direction of the School of Behavioral Sciences and Education, is now home to the Capital Area Math and Science Institute. Funded by the Whitaker Foundation, the Institute is a principal source of professional and curriculum development for teachers in math and science. The Institute has a rich history. Since 1997, more than 2,000 teachers from 100 schools and 28 districts in the region have participated in the Institute's professional-development programs. We have the very real potential for making a significant impact on math and science education. Clearly, this has all the makings of a signature program.

You've heard me say numerous times that we want to be the college of first choice for our students. We watch this carefully. We want our students to enjoy a productive college experience. We're doing well on these fronts. Our students report high satisfaction; 88 percent of Harrisburg's and 62 percent of Schuylkill's first-time students selected our campuses as a first choice. This is an excellent portfolio, made more so with increases in our student retention and graduation rates. These are significant measures for us ultimately to assess the success of our strategic planning.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Madlyn Hanes". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

## PROVOST AND DEAN

Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.

## BOARDS OF ADVISERS

### Harrisburg Campus

Kathleen Smarilli, chair  
Kevin Harter, vice chair  
Paul Coppock, treasurer

### Schuylkill Campus

Allen E. Kiefer, president  
Charles M. Miller, first vice president  
Jack T. Dolbin, second vice president  
Darlene D. Dolzani, treasurer

## DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT - Harrisburg

Marie-Louise Abram

## DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT - Schuylkill

Jane Zintak

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Jay Browning

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - ALUMNI RELATIONS

Laurie Dobrosky

## ALUMNI SOCIETIES

### Harrisburg Campus

Richter L. Voight '99g, president  
Carol S. Ranck '97g, vice president  
Evon G. Williams '73, secretary  
Michele E. Hart-Henry '88, immediate past president

### Schuylkill Campus

Liz Bligan '81, president  
Joel Koch '83, vice president  
Frances Gravish Sonne '73, secretary/treasurer

## EDITOR

Steven D. Hevner  
Manager, Public Information and Publications

## GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Sharon Siegfried

## EDITORIAL BOARD

Marie-Louise Abram

*Director of Development, Penn State Harrisburg*

Jane Zintak

*Director of Development, Penn State Schuylkill*

Laurie Dobrosky

*Assistant Director, Alumni Relations*

Rebecca Gardner

*Director, Marketing Communications*

William J. Zimmerman

*Director, Student Activities and Marketing*

Steven Hevner

*Manager, Public Information and Publications*

CURRENTS is published by the Penn State Harrisburg Public Information Office. News, story ideas, and address changes should be sent to:

Steve Hevner

Penn State Harrisburg

Olmsted W-101 • 777 W. Harrisburg Pike

Middletown, PA 17057-4898

SDH4@psu.edu

William Zimmerman

Penn State Schuylkill

200 University Drive • Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972-2208

WJZI@psu.edu

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

Penn State encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact Steve Hevner, 717-948-6029, in advance of your participation or visit. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce. U.Ed. HB 03-77

Visit our websites at: [www.sl.psu.edu](http://www.sl.psu.edu)  
and [www.hbg.psu.edu](http://www.hbg.psu.edu)

# Inside Currents...



page

## 5 Farewell to Meade Heights



## 6 Alumni Fellows



## 8 Freshman Study



## 10 Summer at Monticello

## Remembering September Eleventh



Associate Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs William Mahar speaks to those attending the September 11 remembrance ceremonies on the Harrisburg campus. Seated are other participants in the observance, left to right, Assistant Professor of Public Policy Matthew Woessner, Associate Professor of Humanities and History Louise Hoffman, Student Government Association President Parul Luthra, and Associate Professor of Humanities and Philosophy Glen Mazis.

## "Currents" now on your desktop

You can now enjoy *Currents* magazine on your computer. This and three past issues can be accessed through the Penn State Harrisburg Web page at [www.hbg.psu.edu](http://www.hbg.psu.edu). Simply click on the "News and Events" link and you will find the issues.



## Society Leadership

Among the Harrisburg campus Alumni Society officers this year are, left to right, president Richter (Rick) Voight '99g, vice president Carol S. Ranck '97g, and Michele Hart-Henry '88, immediate past president. Evon G. Williams '73 is serving as secretary.

## College announces new public education partnership

The College has assumed management of a mathematics and science teaching institute that has been used by many midstate school districts.

The move is expected to improve the chances for obtaining grants to run the Capital Area Institute for Mathematics and Science, which is in Lower Paxton Township and has a staff of about five.

“Penn State does have the systems in place, and they have the legitimacy and the foundation, and they are well-known for getting grants,” said Patricia Garcia, executive director of the Council for Public Education, which ran the institute until July 1.

At least 600 central Pennsylvania teachers and administrators have received training at the institute. Nearly all districts in the region take part in the training, use the institute’s hands-on science kits, or get math and science curriculum help from the institute.

The institute is being operated as part of Penn State Harrisburg’s Center for the Improvement of Teaching and Learning, according to center director Dr. Steven A. Melnick. The center establishes research-based partnerships to improve the quality of teaching and learning in the schools of the Commonwealth, especially those located in central Pennsylvania, and serves as a regional clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination of research and knowledge on teaching and learning, generating solutions to educational problems through collaborative, action research activities in local K-12 school sites.

A team from Penn State Harrisburg, including Assistant Professor Caroline Owens and Associate Professor Judith L. Zaenglein, will guide the institute and develop policies, while Dr. Melnick is project director.

The change in oversight came after the institute’s long-range funding was jeopardized. For years, it relied on funding from an area foundation whose funds are scheduled to cease within the next five years. Dr. Melnick said Penn State Harrisburg’s Center for Improvement of Teaching and Learning has an excellent track record of working with school districts to obtain funding to reach goals, while sharing many initiatives to improve education and learning in the state. He expects the institute will become financially self-sufficient by getting grants and contracts under Penn State’s umbrella, citing the strong and ongoing track record it has built with local school districts.



Dr. Steven A. Melnick

## Education unit honors Dr. Hanes

Penn State Capital College Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes’ “devoted service to the advancement of women in higher education” has been honored by the American Council on Education Network.

As part of its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in Hershey, the Network’s Pennsylvania chapter presented Dr. Hanes with the Bette E. Landman Award. The ACE Network’s mission is to identify, develop, and advance women in higher education administration.

Dr. Hanes is a member of the national executive board of the ACE Network and has been a leader in the Pennsylvania chapter for many years. The award was presented at the Network Forum, a two-day leadership development program for women in higher education ready to move on to senior positions. Dr. Hanes has been a driving force in a succession of forums that have been an important step in preparing talented women for leadership. The organization says, “She has been a coach, mentor, role model, and friend to countless women and men wanting to move up the academic or administrative ladder.”

Named Provost and Dean of Penn State Capital College in 2000, Dr. Hanes joined Penn State in 1988 as chief academic officer at Penn State Delaware County. In 1995-96, she joined the neighboring Penn State Great Valley Graduate Center and served a dual role as the chief academic officer of both the Penn State Delaware County and the Penn State Great Valley campuses. In 1997, she was named chief executive officer of the Penn State Great Valley graduate campus and effective July 1998, head of its newly formed School of Graduate Professional Studies.

In addition to her role on the national executive board of the ACE Network, she serves on the Pennsylvania regional boards of directors of the Council for Public Education, First Union Harrisburg Region, Harrisburg Polytechnic Development Corporation, Harrisburg Regional Chamber, Modern Transit Partnership, and the Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania, and as a member of the ENVISION Capital Region Pre-K-16+ Education Action Team.

In 1997, Penn State faculty colleagues created the Madlyn L. Hanes Faculty Award to recognize outstanding and continuous contributions of faculty members to the campus community. In 1998, Dr. Hanes was the recipient of the Penn State Award for Administrative Excellence and in April 1999, the Great Valley Chamber of Commerce named her Visionary of the Year.



## Moving in!

*With the start of the fall semester in August, resident students on the Harrisburg campus had the pleasure of moving into all-new apartment-style housing. The 72 units house nearly 300 students in the area east of Olmsted Building.*

## Remembering “The Heights”

Meade Heights is now a part of Penn State Harrisburg history, no longer serving as a residence community for students.

The new apartment-style housing on campus spelled the end of Meade Heights, but its demise most certainly has not dimmed the memories of those students and faculty who called it home.

In a previous *Currents*, former Meade Heights residents were asked to share their recollections. The following are portions of some replies:

“I recently received my *Currents* magazine and saw the article on the closing of Meade Heights. I was one of the original RAs when Meade Heights opened in 1969. What a fun, crazy, and wonderful time that was. Being the first people to live in them, we had everything new: new furniture, new beds, new dishes, new vacuum cleaner, etc. I was a senior and lived on the first road coming in and was in charge of 80 juniors (boys mostly!).

“The guys next door were fun...I remember one wet spring day and how they pushed my car out of the mud where it was stuck on the front lawn and as I was gunning the car, I completely covered them with mud. I remember the roof parties on warm spring nights and the dinner get-togethers. Our house door was never locked, but to this day we know our year at Meade Heights was the most memorable of all our lives.

“Many still keep in touch through Christmas cards, phone calls, and visits. My best friends are my roommates from Capitol Campus that I still see today although we are hundreds of miles apart. Many of us married our college sweethearts...I met my husband my junior year and we just celebrated our 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary.

“It’s hard to believe 32 years have passed since Meade Heights opened, but I’ll never forget that first year. I am proud my two sons have graduated from Penn State, too. We’ll see you on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October.”

**Margaret Wuest Grim, Class of 1970**

*“I was saddened to hear that Meade Heights was being closed. Of course it has been 28 years since I lived there, so I would expect some changes to take place. Meade Heights means a lot to me, because it was where I met my husband. We lived next door to each other. Needless to say, by the end of the two years we had a path worn in the grass between the two houses — 840B and 842A Jones St. We will always remember Meade Heights and the walks we took through the development at night.”*

**John and Linda Long, Class of ‘74.**

“I got our letter about the demise of Meade Heights. Many memories came flooding back to me. PSH is where I met my husband in 1969. We were president and vice president of the Student Government.

“It was an unsettling time — the war, campus riots. (The shootings at) Kent State shut down our campus for a day and workshops and speakers were brought on board to settle the students. The student cafeteria in Olmsted became a protest center — Vietnam vets opposing the protestors.

“Through it all, Meade Heights remained the safe haven for all. Protestor lived next door to veteran and the good neighbor policy applied. I have movies of my two years at Capitol Campus — the carnival we sponsored for the town, the first graduation prom, and an aerial ride over the campus. It (the campus) was gentle, friendly, and family atmosphere. My husband and I have kept in touch with three other couples and we manage to gather at least three or four times a year. I am trying to get us all to go to the reunion on Oct. 26.”

**Linda DeCarolis Lewis and Dave Lewis, Class of 1970**

*“I lived in Meade Heights in 1969-1970 at 843B Jones St. — that is the end house on Jones. We used to play frisbee on what is now the airport connector. I have about 20 or so photos. Dr. & Mrs. Susskind and Dr. John Patterson appear in them... we had parties that the profs used to attend.”*

**Alan W. Gallagher, Class of 1971**

“I remember the excitement of being part of the living-learning experiment at Meade Heights in the 1970’s. We were one of several faculty families who got to know our students as neighbors. We lived and learned together.”

**Dr. Jack Susskind**



## College honors Alumni Fellows at both campuses

Two Penn State Capital College alumni have received the coveted Alumni Fellow Award. Judge Jacqueline Russell was honored at Penn State Schuylkill and Hasu P. Shah by Penn State Harrisburg.

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.

Judge Russell visited with classes and formally received the Alumni Fellow medallion on Oct. 3.

The Alumni Fellow presentation for Shah was a key ingredient in the annual Alumni Awards reception Oct. 25 in the Capital Union Building. That week, he also shared his expertise and experience with classes at the College.

Judge Russell is a trial judge in the Court of Common Pleas, 21<sup>st</sup> Judicial District in Pennsylvania. Upon being elected to the bench in 1997, she became and continues to be the only woman serving as common pleas judge in the history of Schuylkill County.

Her academic career began at the Schuylkill campus where she earned the President's Freshman Award in Business Administration. She completed her degree at University Park, graduating with highest distinction and receiving the Evan Pugh Scholar award.

Judge Russell then went on to the Dickinson School of Law where she earned numerous scholastic honors, and graduated summa cum laude and first in her class. After graduation, she clerked for a Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice, founded a law firm, and was appointed an assistant district attorney prior to her successful election run for judge.

Hasu P. Shah is the founder of Hersha Hospitality Trust and The Hersha Group of companies. As President and CEO, he directs the formulation and execution of Hersha's long-term strategy. Currently, The Hersha Group owns and manages 22 hotels on the East Coast of the United States. Hersha Construction has completed several new-build hotels as well as school renovation projects, while Hersha Interiors and Supply provides goods to hotels and motels from Massachusetts to California.

After arriving in the U.S. in 1964, Mr. Shah earned a degree in chemical engineering from Tennessee Technical University in 1967 and a Master's degree in Engineering Science from Penn State Harrisburg in 1974. Mr. Shah is also a graduate of Harvard Business School's executive MBA program.

His business achievements have been recognized through numerous industry awards and citations, including Ernst & Young and Merrill Lynch's prestigious Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 1995 and an extensive article in the Wall Street Journal in 1998. A nationally known philanthropist, he has instilled those values in the Hersha Group, and serves on the board of a variety of national educational, charitable, and civic groups. He serves as President of Pushti Marg of North America, an organization serving over 10,000 Hindu families in North America. He also currently serves on the Greater Harrisburg Foundation Board and is a past member of the Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers. In the past he has served on the boards of both the Capital Area Chamber of Commerce and the Capital Area Red Cross.



*Jacqueline Russell*



*Hasu P. Shah*

## Campus applauds Joseph Schlitzer

Joseph P. Schlitzer's tireless commitment to Penn State Schuylkill was formally applauded Oct. 2 when he was presented the 2002 campus Alumni Achievement Award.

President of First Federal's Insurance Division, Schlitzer for many years has played an active role in both his community and on the Schuylkill campus. As chair of the Penn State Schuylkill portion of the University's Grand Destiny Campaign, he has directed a fund-raising effort that is nearing its \$2 million goal. And as a member of the campus Advisory Board, he continues to play an indispensable role in assisting Penn State's academic and outreach missions in the region.

His community commitment was honored in 1966 when the Schuylkill County Chamber of Commerce named him its Business Man of the Year.

Schlitzer earned his associate's degree from Penn State Schuylkill and went on to earn a bachelor's degree at University Park in 1974.



*Joseph P. Schlitzer*

## Retired Army officer oldest College Ph.D.

Robert J. Gerard's doctoral degree was a long time coming and admittedly the result of a "backwards" journey.

The 71-year-old retired Army colonel and part-time college faculty member, Gerard became the oldest Penn State Harrisburg student to be conferred with the doctor of philosophy in Public Administration at May commencement ceremonies.

The Carlisle resident said, "Most college professors get their Ph.D. before launching their college teaching career, but I sort of did it backwards." Gerard started the doctoral program in 1992 while teaching at Mount St. Mary's College in Emitsburg, Md. It took him 10 years to complete his studies while teaching full-time. Gerard retired from the U.S. Army in 1982 after serving 31 years as an officer including service in the Korean and Vietnam wars.



*Robert J. Gerard*

## Expressing the ‘inexpressible’

A faculty member at Penn State Schuylkill is using poetry to capture and express what he calls the “inexpressible” of Sept. 11, 2001.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, Dr. Charles R. Cantalupo could not look at the photos of ancient Greek and Roman ruins in his campus office without being reminded of Manhattan on that fateful day. The Professor of English, Comparative Literature, and African Studies relates that his first reaction to the terrorist attacks was one of silence.

It was four months before the 22-year faculty member at Schuylkill found that voice in the form of poetry.

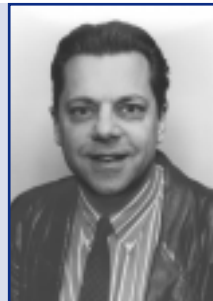
With Afghanistan’s liberation from the Taliban, Dr. Cantalupo wrote *Days of 2001*, capturing compassion and freedom in vivid imagery. He told the Pottsville Republican and Evening Herald, “They could just listen to a crummy little radio and hear music and say ‘I’m free!’ Or someone could just shave and say ‘Isn’t this great!’ That to me was a real image of freedom.”

He continued by pointing out, “Dealing with such horrors as 9/11, this you might say pushes contemporary writers a little more closely to dealing with conflict and the inexpressible... as maybe before we were writing about bird baths, love poems, and stock exchanges.”

A second poem inspired by the terrorist attacks, *Two for the WTC*, was written with his friend, Eritrean poet Reesom Haile. “Most of the people of Eritrea, where I was this summer doing research, in many respects felt the pain of the World Trade Center attacks as acutely as we did.”

Reflecting on the literary effort, he says, “After the initial silence and horror, the poetic impulse seeks to say something to help others to endure. War and conflict signal a break with the past ... something new has happened and something new has to be said and said in a new way.”

*(The Pottsville Republican and Evening Herald contributed to this story)*



Dr. Charles R. Cantalupo

*“After the initial  
silence and horror,  
the poetic impulse  
seeks to say  
something to help  
others to endure.”*

*Editor’s note: Associate Professor of Humanities and Philosophy Glen A. Mazis wrote the following poem in response to the September 11 attacks on America. He shared the work with those attending September 11 ceremonies on the Harrisburg campus this year.*

## September Eleventh of a New Millennium

This glide from the sky has none of the grace of birds wheeling in flight or leaves breezily spinning, even though we often see planes that way, this straight-line trajectory is fueled by hate and rather than alighting in a nest of care it strikes through the heart of humanity.

Like the image of bullets striking the head of Kennedy, we will dream fitfully at night of planes exploding glass and flame in two towers that fall with the same dead weight of violence as a young President toppled backwards into his limousine. Like dominoes, they are trying

To make us topple, too, into our nightmare of an eye for an eye. We will fall headlong, being pushed so, for there is no other way but down, yet, it can be into the arms of others where we open our eyes to their bright glance.

## Campuses mark anniversary of attacks

Both Capital College campuses marked the anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks on America with formal ceremonies and dedications.

On the Schuylkill campus, the ceremonies included the dedication of a tree planted in memory of former student Michael David Ferugio. An insurance broker, Mr. Ferugio, is the only known former Penn State Schuylkill student to die in the World Trade Center attacks.

Participants in the ceremonies included: Director of Student Affairs and Marketing William Zimmerman, the Rev. Karl Jones from St. Marks United Church of Christ, vocalist Dawn Hull from the Faith Worship Center, faculty member Dr. Charles Cantalupo, Imam Shiraz Monsoor of the Islamic Society of Schuylkill County, Arnold Delin of Oheb Zedeck Synagogue, the Rev. Edward O’Connor of St. Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church, the Hawk Mountain Highlanders, and Schuylkill Campus Executive Officer Sylvester Kohut Jr.



Imam Shiraz Monsoor of the Islamic Society of Schuylkill County shares thoughts at the Schuylkill campus observance of the September 11 terrorist attacks.



Campus Executive Officer Sylvester Kohut Jr. addresses those gathered for the September 11 observance at Penn State Schuylkill.

At Harrisburg, ceremonies and remembrances included the planting and dedication of a tree in memory of those lost in the attacks.

Associate Provost and Senior Dean for Academic Affairs William J. Mahar, Associate Professor of Humanities and History Louise Hoffman, SGA President Parul Luthra, and Assistant Professor of Public Policy Matthew Woessner offered thoughts on the tragedy during the outdoor services which concluded with Associate Professor of Humanities and Philosophy Glen Mazis sharing a poem he wrote in response to the attacks.

## College to offer 'Harrisburg Semester'

One of the added benefits of study at Penn State Harrisburg has traditionally been its close proximity to state government and the region's hub of business and industry.

The proximity provides undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity for internships, out-of-classroom experiences, and networking with business, industry, and nonprofits in the mid-state.

Beginning in January, that opportunity will be available to Penn State undergraduate students through an innovative "Harrisburg Semester" program.

An offering of the baccalaureate degree program in Public Policy of the College's School of Public Affairs, the Harrisburg Semester program will provide Penn State undergraduate students the opportunity for personal and professional experience in the workings of state government along with community development-related organizations and agencies. The students will live, work, and study in the capital city and will be selected for the program based on their academic performance and professional interests.

Harrisburg Semester students will spend more than three months in the capital city working as interns, attending classes, and participating in co-curricular activities in the region. The program will be housed at the Penn State Downtown Center, situated directly across the street from the Capitol on Third Street.

Associate Professor of Public Policy Carol Nechemias, the coordinator of the Capital College undergraduate major in Public Policy, serves as the Harrisburg Semester Academic Coordinator. Dr. Robert Surridge, director of the Downtown Center and an Affiliate Assistant Professor of Public Policy, coordinates the internships and is the instructor/facilitator of the Internship Seminar course.



## Freshman study to expand at the Harrisburg campus

Penn State Harrisburg's longstanding reputation for educating highly skilled engineers to fuel the region's business and industry workforce will soon include study at the freshman level.

Traditionally an upper division College delivering the junior and senior years of study in 27 baccalaureate majors, Penn State Harrisburg is accepting admission applications for freshmen in an academic program leading to its majors in Electrical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Structural Design and Construction Engineering Technology, Mathematical Sciences, and Computer Science.

In announcing the availability of freshman-level study in fall 2003, Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes said, "Penn State Harrisburg's reputation for high-quality education in engineering and science at the upper division level will now be available to freshmen and sophomores in these fields. With the generous support of community partners, this initiative will enable freshmen to begin and complete a nationally respected Penn State undergraduate degree here on our campus."

"We are confident our efforts will elevate interest in engineering education in the capital region," Dr. Hanes added. "And as a result of our continuing work with our colleague academic institutions, particularly Harrisburg Area Community College, we are creating additional educational options and pathways for students in the area."

Major external support for the new program of study aimed at retaining skilled graduates to fuel the economic vitality of the region and counteract a recognized brain drain has come from The Whitaker Foundation Regional Program administered by The Greater Harrisburg Foundation and the Tyco Electronics Foundation. The program of study is designed to link students from the outset of their college education with regional employers so the area retains a highly educated professional workforce.

For more than a century, Penn State has been recognized nationally for its high-quality engineering, science, and technology programs and graduates. Penn State Harrisburg, since its founding in 1966, has grown to become the regional leader for quality in educating engineers and technologists for the business and industrial workforce, conferring more than 6,000 degrees in those fields.



*Dr. Omid Ansary, right, with Associate Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs William Mahar.*

Designed to provide a unique educational experience for the entire four years of baccalaureate study, the program of study leading to the majors emphasizes internships and other out-of-classroom field experiences for students, with continuous exposure to the real world environment of business and industry. It also provides the flexibility for students to explore the different majors early in their academic studies, with a common pre-professional core of courses.

Director of the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology Omid Ansary stresses, "Internships are designed early in the

course of study to place students in the field to assist them in selecting and confirming their choice of a baccalaureate program and career. A key ingredient to future success is the placement of students in the field early in their academic experience and continue that emphasis throughout their studies."

The program of study is based on the premise that forging stronger partnerships between the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology programs and the region's businesses and corporations will help retain skilled graduates who can contribute to the economic vitality of the region. The instructional and cooperative agreements with business and industry are designed to be sustained throughout the four-year educational program, building on the cooperation and collaboration to strengthen the available workforce for the region.



## Transfer agreement initialed

Students at Lehigh Carbon Community College's two campuses now have a seamless option to pursue a baccalaureate degree at Penn State Capital College.

Representatives from LCCC — based in Schnecksville with a branch campus in Nesquehoning — and Capital College recently announced a transfer agreement during a news conference.

Students studying for certain associate degrees at LCCC will know, under the agreement, that their credits will apply toward a bachelor's degree at the Harrisburg or Schuylkill campus.



Dr. Sylvester Kohut Jr.

Ginny Mihalik, LCCC's transfer coordinator, said at the news conference that it's important for students to know they aren't wasting time or money earning credits that will not be accepted if they seek a bachelor's degree.

"Education plays an important role in the economic health of any community," Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes said. She added that by giving local residents the choice to begin their college career near their homes and then continue on to a four-year institution would eventually enhance the quality of life in the region.

Signing the agreement with Dr. Hanes were LCCC president Donald Snyder and Schuylkill Campus Executive Officer Sylvester Kohut Jr.

## College introduces 20<sup>th</sup> master's program

Capital College's expanding list of graduate programs has reached 22 with the introduction of a master's degree in Criminal Justice.

The Master of Arts program builds on the highly successful undergraduate major in Criminal Justice in the School of Public Affairs and brings to 20 the number of master's degrees available at the College. Penn State Harrisburg also offers doctoral study in Public Administration and Adult Education.

The master's program in Criminal Justice is research based, designed to provide a solid foundation in a social systems approach to the discipline. It benefits from the interdisciplinary focus of many of the other graduate programs at Penn State Harrisburg, permitting a student considerable choice of electives to complement the required courses in the program. The program is designed to give students an advanced background in social scientific research, criminological theory, and criminal justice organization and management.

Strong ties developed in state, local, and federal law enforcement, corrections, drug treatment, victimization, and crime control policy organizations provide research and learning opportunities for interested students.

The 36-credit degree may be earned through full-time or part-time study. Most courses will be offered in the evening, although some may be offered during the day or on weekends.



Lori Howe-Gutierrez '89 Public Policy/'95 MPA, left, and Patty Johnson, '97 and a current MBA student, were among the 72 Penn State grads who attended a Lion Luncheon for alumni in state government at the Capitol in Harrisburg. The event was hosted by Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes and the Penn State Harrisburg Office of Alumni Relations.

## Religious, Philosophical Forum returns to Schuylkill

The Religious and Philosophical Forum on the Schuylkill campus began its annual series of lectures Sept. 27 with a look at "Christianity and Culture: Conflict, Convergence, or Conversation?"

Dr. Lee Barrett, the Mary B. and Henry P. Stager Chair in Theology and Professor of Systematic Theology at the Lancaster Theological Seminary, directed the discussion.

All installments in the Forum, with the theme of "Reflections of Light: Christian Themes from Diverse Perspectives," will be at noon in the R. Michael Fryer Conference Center on campus.

Other lectures in the series and guest speakers include:

**Oct. 25** — "A Scientist Searches for God" — Schuylkill campus Professor of Physics Michael Cardamone.

**Nov. 22** — "Creationism: What It Is and What It Isn't, a Theistic Evolutionist's View" — Paul Zell, Instructor in Geoscience, Penn State Altoona.

**Feb. 28** — "Real Evangelism in the Real Music World" — Sterling Koch, guitarist/vocalist, Victory in Heaven Blues Band.

**March 28** — "Health and Healing in the Church" — Dr. Kathleen Jones, psychologist and commissioned minister of health in the United Church of Christ.

"The Mysticism of the Eastern Church: History, Theology, and Practice" — Dr. Barbara Lutz, Schuylkill campus lecturer in behavioral science and education.

For more information on the Religious and Philosophical Forum, contact Dr. Donald Lindenmuth, 570-385-6065.

## Summer at Monticello strengthens American Studies course on Jefferson



Photo by Dr. Victor Viser

### Dr. George W. Boudreau at Monticello

“Representative Americans” approach, which examined the lives of Andrew Jackson, Catherine Beecher, and Walt Whitman, among others, to understand the eras in which they lived. In the past, Dr. Boudreau has developed and taught a popular course on Benjamin Franklin at Indiana University and the University of Pennsylvania to inform students about American studies and his era of interest, American colonial history.

“Jefferson is a natural choice to better understand the ways Americans understand themselves,” according to Dr. Boudreau. “He’s never that far out of our sight. His face and his house are on our nickel, his ideas on human rights and politics are core values for us today.” But Dr. Boudreau also remarks that our third president, who died July 4, 1826, is still extremely controversial. This course examines cutting-edge research on the Sally Hemmings-Jefferson story and looks at race relations among blacks, whites, and Native Americans in Jefferson’s era and the centuries that followed.

The ICJS was created in 1994 by the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, the private nonprofit corporation that owns and operates Monticello. It encourages research and education in Jefferson scholarship, including a limited number of competitively awarded faculty fellowships each year. Dr. Boudreau conducted his research at the just-opened Jefferson Library and at various Jefferson-related historic sites throughout Virginia. While he was a fellow, Dr. Boudreau resided just a half-mile walk up the “little mountain” from Jefferson’s home.

Monticello is the only American home, and the University of Virginia the only educational institution, on the United Nations’ elite World Heritage List. Jefferson created the University of Virginia at age 76.

Dr. Boudreau earned a doctorate from Indiana University-Bloomington in 1988 and has been a member of the College’s faculty since 2000. He is an associate of the McNeil Center for Early American Studies and editor of its annual *Early American Studies: Essays from the McNeil Center for Early American Studies*.

A summer at Monticello has enabled a Capital College faculty member to strengthen an American Studies course on Thomas Jefferson offered at Penn State Harrisburg.

Assistant Professor of History and American Studies George W. Boudreau’s summer at Monticello was the result of a residential fellowship he was awarded from the International Center for Jefferson Studies at Jefferson’s home in Charlottesville, Va.

While in residence from July 10 to August 10, Dr. Boudreau researched “Teaching Thomas Jefferson: The American Studies Representative Americans Approach and 21<sup>st</sup> Century College Students.” This research prepared Dr. Boudreau to teach a redesigned American Studies 100 course called “Thomas Jefferson and His World” this fall at Penn State Harrisburg. The redesign, augmented by his research at Monticello, proved successful. Dr. Boudreau reports that a class that normally attracted 6 to 10 students enrolled 29 students this past semester.

American Studies, an intellectual movement that developed early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, explores the history, culture, arts, and ideas that combine to create the unique aspects of American culture. One of the earliest methods of that movement was the

## Host families sought for holidays

Can you imagine being in a foreign country during the holidays, far from family and friends? It would most likely be a very lonely time. Many of Penn State Harrisburg’s international students find themselves in that situation each year.

The largest international student population outside the University Park campus is at Penn State Harrisburg. Many international students must remain in the area during the holiday season for many reasons, including the cost of travel to their homelands. With most of the student body at home, the holiday break can be a bleak time for international students.

The Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Society and the College’s Office of International Student Affairs are partnering to find alumni and others willing to host a student over the holidays. There is no residential or financial involvement, just a commitment to make the holidays a bit brighter for others. Hosts could take an international student to a museum or sporting event, share a family meal, or include the guest in a social or cultural activity.

International Student Adviser Donna Howard says, “This program will give our international students a glimpse of American life beyond the classroom and college experience.”

For a host family application, contact Donna at 717-948-6025 or e-mail [djh1@psu.edu](mailto:djh1@psu.edu).



College benefactor Ruth Bennett, right, recently toured the Harrisburg campus with Director of Development Marie-Louise Abram after making a financial gift as part of the University’s Grand Destiny Campaign.

## New tennis courts at Penn State Schuylkill

Penn State Schuylkill students and the local community have a beautiful new tennis complex, thanks to the generosity of an area resident with strong Penn State ties.

Betty A. Tobias, Orwigsburg, has provided the local campus with newly surfaced courts, nets and dividers, ball curtains separating the courts, benches, a gazebo, and landscaping. An avid tennis player, Mrs. Tobias currently takes lessons from Dr. Mark Abel, a Penn State Schuylkill assistant professor of kinesiology, and saw the need for refurbishing the courts to "Penn State standards."

The courts were contributed by Mrs. Tobias in memory of her husband, A. Roger Tobias and dedicated to the memory of her father-in-law, Alfred J. Tobias. The elder Mr. Tobias was one of the early members of the Penn State Schuylkill Advisory Board, serving for over 40 years. His son, a Penn State graduate, also served on the Board until his death last spring. Mrs. Tobias was recently elected to membership on the Advisory Board.

Now known as the Toby 1 Courts, the name reflects Alfred J. Tobias' nickname, Toby. His son acquired the same nickname, and his father became Toby 1.

Mrs. Tobias noted that she was pleased to make this gift, as she, too, has become "Penn State Proud."



*The newly surfaced courts, gazebo, and landscaping at Penn State Schuylkill.*



*Betty Tobias, right, officially marks the opening of the tennis courts with Director of Development Jane Zintak.*



*Director of Capital College Libraries Harold Shill, left, and Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes stand in front of the study room established in memory of Jonathan Barger with Patricia and Richard Barger*

## Study room established by Bargers

Richard and Patricia Barger's longstanding support of Penn State Harrisburg now includes a study room in the campus library established in memory of their son, Jonathan.

Richard, a 1989 Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Fellow, is the chief financial officer for Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries in Mechanicsburg. A 1971 graduate in Business Administration, he formerly served on the campus Board of Advisers and is currently a member of the School of Business Administration's Advisory Board.

Commenting on the study room named for their son, the Bargers wrote, "Penn State Harrisburg is near and dear to our hearts. Knowing that Jonathan has been remembered in a special way deepens our feelings of connection."

## Faculty member's book profiles history and popular culture

Think of Dr Anita Vickers' recently published book, *The New Nation*, as an annotated cultural time line of the evolution of the United States from a far-flung colony of a European country through the early nationalist period to the period after the War of 1812 (roughly, from 1789—1816).

A Capital College associate professor of humanities and English, Dr. Vickers illustrates how popular culture developed, and shows how it was shaped by and leads to symbols, some of which will be recognizable as defining the nation to this day.

Our earliest culture turned away from its Eurocentric model as it encountered new and existing materials and values, and fashioned them into something peculiar to the new world. Dr. Vickers' book, published by the Greenwood Publishing Group, Westport, Conn., delineates adaptations of American homes and their furnishings, fashions, pastimes, hobbies, and entertainment from earliest models to the present day. Food, advertising, pastimes, music and the arts are examined as they appear along the timeline and evolve, so that the context within which wars, elections, other political and natural events occur frame them and illustrate the evolving America.

In *The New Nation*, Dr. Vickers has called upon her expertise in revolutionary and early national American literature, current and past popular culture, women's studies, music, literature and architecture as they echo back upon European and African cultures to form the unique American culture. This new book, published in June 2002, offers a wealth of facts, information, and interesting sidelights not readily available elsewhere, and certainly not in one source.



*Dr. Anita Vickers*

**R**uth Evinger had no children of her own to educate, so she decided she “wanted to do something for someone else’s children.”

She explains that her father was self-educated, but instilled the value of a quality education in his three daughters. A Harrisburg area resident “for a long time,” Ruth felt students at Penn State Harrisburg should benefit from her generosity.

Through a gift annuity, she has established a scholarship at Penn State Harrisburg in her name.

Fortunately, for the rest of her life, Ruth will enjoy the income from the gift annuity that she established for Penn State Harrisburg. A gift annuity provides donors with an immediate tax deduction and guaranteed income for life.

Interested in knowing more about gift annuities or other life-income gifts? Contact the Penn State Harrisburg Office of Development.

Address: Office of Development  
777 W. Harrisburg Pike  
Middletown, PA 17057  
E-mail: mla9@psu.edu  
Phone: 717-948-6316



*Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes and Ruth Evinger*

*"I wanted to do something for someone else's children."*

*Ruth Evinger, '36 LIB*



*The Whiting-Turner Contracting Co. in Baltimore, one of the largest firms of its type in the nation, has made a \$75,000 commitment to the SDCET program. The primary use of the contribution will be to help the program prepare for freshman-level study on the Harrisburg campus in fall 2003 including the creation of a drafting laboratory.*



*Whiting-Turner Senior Vice President Gary W. Hall, left, presents a check to Provost and Dean Madlyn L. Hanes while SDCET program coordinator Dr. Joseph Cecere looks on. Hall currently serves as the president of the SDCET Advisory Committee.*

## Capital Blue Cross aids IST students

Harrisburg-area based Capital Blue Cross is assisting Information Sciences and Technology students at Penn State Harrisburg with not only scholarships, but with career-enhancing internships.

Kent Whiting, vice president of information technology and a member of the College’s Information Technology Advisory Board, and James M. Mead, Capital Blue Cross President and CEO and a longtime friend of the campus, were instrumental in establishing the scholarship for students in IST which provides full semester tuition and an internship opportunity at Capital Blue Cross.

To be eligible for the competitive scholarships, students must maintain a minimum 3.2 grade-point average. For this academic year and the previous, two students benefited from the scholarships.

## Harrisburg Society's new leader sets course



Richter L. Voight

It was only a few short years ago that I graduated from Penn State Harrisburg with a master's degree in Humanities. It was a hard-fought fight and one that few in the official Penn State family thought I would win when I first applied for admission to the program. In fact, I was denied admittance more than once, more than twice . . . and like a glutton for punishment, I kept coming back, each time with more resolve than the previous. I wanted a graduate degree. I wanted a graduate degree in that particular program. I would not be deterred in my quest for a graduate education at one of our country's finest research universities.

When I graduated, I left without any of the memories many of you gathered over the years on campus, living in the legendary Meade Heights, or participating in any one of the many activities available to you as students on our campus. What I took with me, however, was an education. One of the finest I could have hoped for at any institution in the land. I left with a sense of pride of accomplishment and pride in the degree that I had been awarded. I got what I came for . . . an education. And isn't that, after all, what we are all supposedly pursuing as students? The extracurricular activities are great, but the quality of our education is the key.

Shortly after I graduated, I received a booklet *How to Survive Life After Penn State*. Perhaps I am the only one who ever saw the humor in this, but I did find it mildly amusing that I had been surviving quite nicely, thank you very much, for years without Penn State and I didn't see how my life would change without two three-hour classes, two nights a week. I did take the first step, however, and asked the Alumni Office what exactly it had in mind for a recent graduate.

The rest is, as they say, history. In short order, I was asked to consider serving on the Alumni Society Board of Directors, to chair the Mentor Committee for two years, and now to serve as your President for the next two years. A whirlwind courtship for someone who had to fight his way in the door a few years earlier. But this is another challenge that I gladly accepted with the same resolve that I approached my graduate career.

We have a strong foundation in the Alumni Society, thanks to the efforts of our past-president, Michele Hart-Henry, and our dedicated board and staff. But there is more that we can and should do. I am hopeful that two years from now we will be able to look back and reflect on the renewed vigor in our Alumni Society.

It is my hope that we will look at the next two years as an opportunity to blend business with pleasure in support of education at Penn State Harrisburg. Part of the Capital College Strategic Plan, *One University, One College*, is to "increase alumni participation in the academic life of the College, including membership on technical and program advisory boards."

Accordingly, for the next two years I would like the work of our Alumni Society to focus wherever and whenever possible on assisting our administration with the development, administration, and implementation of its vision, its strategic plan.

For me, it's time to give something back for the education I received.

Richter L. Voight '99

## An award-winning welcome from the Schuylkill Society

Dear Fellow Alums:

Another school year has begun at the Schuylkill Campus, and your Alumni Society is working on ways we can help freshmen get into the swing of their new college life. The Student Interaction Committee of the Society is just one way that Schuylkill alums can re-connect with and give back to Schuylkill Campus.

The Penn State Schuylkill Alumni Society has had a busy year. Our April reunion, Route 61 Revisited, was very successful and a lot of fun. In fact, the Society was given the award for Innovative



Liz Bligan

New Program by the Penn State Alumni Association. We are very proud to receive this award so early in the life of the Society – it means we are starting off on the right foot and are on our way to building a strong Society that will succeed in fulfilling our mission to be an important support resource in the Penn State Schuylkill family and the primary mechanism for alumni support of the campus.

At the reunion, Allen Keifer, President of the Schuylkill Campus Advisory Board, received the very first Outstanding Alumni Award from the Schuylkill Society. Mr. Keifer, an alumnus of Schuylkill, has been an advocate for the Schuylkill campus for many years, and has contributed much of his time and abilities to the success of the campus. He is certainly a deserving honoree. On October 2, Joseph Schlitzer received the second Alumni Award at a reception on campus.

Now that we are an "Award-Winning" Society, I hope you will get on board and contribute a little of your time and talents to our continued success. There will be many opportunities for you to help current students, join the Society and campus in community service and get back in touch with the friends you made in your days at Schuylkill. We still need **you** to make this Society the best in the Alumni Association – the best Alumni Association in the country!

Speaking of the Alumni Association, by the way, if you are not already a member, or are an annual member rather than a Life Member, now is the best time to join, for two great reasons: first, for each person who joins through the Schuylkill Society's efforts, the Society will receive \$50 which will add to our ability to run effective and worthwhile programs. Second, the cost of annual and life memberships is going up in July 2003, so you can beat the price increase by joining now! Once you are a member of the Alumni Association, you are automatically (and at no additional cost) a member of the Schuylkill Campus Alumni Society. For more information, please call our offices.

All the best to you for the rest of this year and the upcoming holiday season.

Liz Bligan '81

## Winter Olympic memories

The Penn State Harrisburg class of 1978 was well represented at the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics.

In addition to Kurt Vicker '78 MET, profiled in the last edition of *Currents*, Dan Boyce, a '78 grad with a Bachelor of Social Science degree, writes that he "read with interest the article in the Spring 2002 edition about Kurt Vicker's participation in the Winter Olympics."

Boyce continues, "I spent my time at the Olympics as the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the Secretary, representative to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Olympic Intelligence Center.

"While in Salt Lake City, I was able to break away from my work-related duties to enjoy a number of Olympic events, most notably short track speed skating. However, the highlight of my Salt Lake tour was meeting Mike Eruzione, captain of the 1980 U.S. gold medal hockey team, and seeing torch he used to light the Olympic cauldron."



Mike Eruzione, left, and Dan Boyce

## Schuylkill Campus

**Suzanne K. Stubblebine**, '87 BusLog, Coatesville, gave birth to son Christian on July 26, 2001. E-mail: sstubblebineRD@aol.com

## Harrisburg Campus

**Dennis H. Hoover**, '69 MDET, Highland, Mich., retired from General Motors on April 1 after 33 years as a Senior Design Engineer on GM Truck-ABS/TCS Control Systems. E-mail: hooverdhj@aol.com

**Dianne L. Dorris Moll**, 70 EEd, Scottsdale, Ariz., is currently teaching computer technology to kindergarten through sixth grade students at All Saints Episcopal Day School, a private school for accelerated students in Phoenix. E-mail: diannemoll@aol.com

**Samuel J. Korson**, '71 BUS, Dumfries, Va., recently earned a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, and was appointed Jewish Lay Leader at the U.S. Coast Guard headquarters. He also became a grandfather in August 2001. E-mail: PSALUM71@aol.com

**Rocco (Rock) A. D'Emilio**, '77 Bus, Stowe, Pa., is employed by Associated Investigations Group, Pottstown, and has served as head varsity baseball coach the last seven years at St. Pius X High School in Pottstown. E-mail: RDATAIGL@aol.com

**Kathleen E. Albright Gross**, '78 SocSci, Owings Mills, Md., is currently serving as president of the American Radiological Nurses Association.

**Kevin P. Heberle**, '79 SDCET, Alamogordo, N.M., is employed by the City of Alamogordo and was married on June 8, 2001. He and his wife Dee Dee are the parents of two sons. E-mail: kheberle@ci-alamogordo>nm.us

**Nancy E. Kukulinsky**, '81 MBA, Mt. Sterling, Ky., has recently been named administrative director of the General Clinical Research Center at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine in Lexington. She also holds a Ph.D. and will continue as an independent health care/small business consultant along with her volunteer faculty appointment at the University. She is married to Jack R. Perry, M.D., Ph.D. E-mail: kukuline@bellsouth.net

**Sharon R. Morrow**, '85 Bus, Norwalk, Calif., has accepted a position with the Army Corp of Engineers as a contract specialist. E-mail: mormmoney@yahoo.com

**Kenneth E. Stiggers**, '85 AmStud, Jackson, Miss., is a production supervisor for Jackson's Public Access, Education, and Government cable

channels. In his spare time, he writes satire, poetry, and humor and performs at various venues. Recognized as the "resident African American satirist," he recently self-published his first book of prose, satire, and poetry entitled *Notes of Nebber 2B Scene: Silliness That Makes Sense*. He is also the producer of Jackson's only satire and comedy series called "Black Comedy."

**Brian P. Schanely**, '88 SDCET, Chalfont, Pa., is a structural designer for Spectrasite Broadcast Group, North Wales. He and his wife Deborah celebrated the birth of their first child, Samantha Lynn, on Feb. 8, 2002. E-mail: samalaba@netcarrier.com

**Mary Jane Thompson**, '89 HComm, Philadelphia, teaches first grade in the School District of Philadelphia and is currently pursuing a master's degree in elementary education at St. Joseph's University. E-mail: mjgirl1111@aol.com

**Charles M. (Chuck) Hess**, '89 SDCET, Lititz, Pa., is a partner in the engineering and landscape architectural firm ELA Group Inc. He and his wife Diana celebrated the birth of their first child, Victoria, on Feb. 20, 2002. E-mail: cmhess@elagroup.com

**Marvin Krone**, '89 CompSci, Woodbridge, Va., is a software engineer with Raytheon Systems Co. and is serving as a Division Governor for Toastmasters International, a volunteer education program. E-mail: marvink@erols.com

**Mitchell J. Sklar**, '89 SDCET, Chalfont, Pa., was recently appointed a Senior Structural Project Engineer with STV's Philadelphia office.

**Matthew D. Spatola**, '91 PubPol, Mount Joy, married on Aug. 11, 2001 and celebrated the birth of daughter Janna Nichole on Feb. 20, 2002. He has been accepted into the graduate studies program Millersville University

**Wendy Dunlap Bratina**, '91 SocSci, Harrisburg, is employed at Holy Spirit Hospital as a Teenline counselor and was recently named to the West Hanover Township Parks and Recreation Board. She and her husband William celebrated the birth of daughter Stephanie Ann on June 7. They are also the parents of sons Robert, 5, and Nicholas, 3.

U.S. Coast Guard Lt. **Dwight Collins**, '92 CrimJ, Key West, Fla., completed a master's degree in public administration from Webster University in July and recently moved with his wife, Cathy, to his new unit, Joint Interagency Task Force East in Key West. The task force's primary mission is counter-drug operations. E-mail: cathysyd@bellsouth.net.

**David K. Shenk**, '92 MPA, Lancaster, was recently promoted to vice president of operations at Pleasant View Retirement Community, Manheim. E-mail: dKeim-Shenk@aol.com

**Pam Bossard McDanolds**, '92 Engl, has recently moved to Hershey with her husband, William and daughter Sarah, 4, and son William Ryan, born August 2001.

**Rebecca E. Mullner Neeley**, '92 Acct., Cranberry, Pa., is employed by Callery Chemical Co., Evans City. Daughter Megan was born in November 2001 and Rebecca has written articles for *Small Town Life* and *North Hills Monthly* magazines. E-mail: jboneely@stargate.net

**Christopher F. Messner**, '93 SDCET, Mechanicsburg, has been promoted to Senior Civil Engineer at Benatec Associates, New Cumberland. In his position, Messner is a project manager/engineer responsible for complete design of complex highway projects.

**Don J. Koback**, '94 EIEd, York, is a fifth grade teacher in the York City School District after previously serving as a middle school teacher on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. He recently celebrated his 12<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Randall O. Wenger**, '95 BS PubPol, Lititz, is Executive Director of the Republican Committee of Lancaster County. He and his wife Barbara celebrated the birth of their first child, daughter Kirsten Michelle, on June 7, 2002. E-mail: rbwenger@ptdprolog.net

**Howard G. Hiestand**, '96 EET, was promoted to Captain in the U.S. Army in March and is now stationed at Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico. E-mail: Howard.Hiestand@U.S.Army.mil

**Mark J. Maloney**, '97 MBA, Ypsilanti, Mich., has been promoted to associate director working on the Common Systems Initiative for Borders Group Inc. E-mail: mj3165@att.net

**Linda L. Miller**, '98 TRDEV, Mechanicsburg, has been named Director of Major Gifts at the Shippensburg University Foundation.

**Arthur E Levandoski**, '98 Mktg, Scranton, is marketing coordinator for The Mall at Steamtown in Scranton. He also announces he will be married in September, 2002.

**Kimberly A. Leaman Gallucci**, '99 EIEd, Lancaster, worked for the Manheim Township School District as a second grade teacher and is now a stay-at-home mother with daughter Olivia, who celebrated her first birthday on July 31, 2002. E-mail: Kagemail@aol.com

**Jolene F. Mack Fogelsanger**, '01 Psyc, Carlisle, married Hugh E. Fogelsanger on June 1, 2002.

**Robin Elizabeth Rissmiller**, '01 HComm, and **John Andrew (Drew) Ames**, '00 HComm, who first met while students at Penn State Harrisburg, were married April 13, 2002. They reside in Harrisburg. E-mail: rer151@fast.net

**Currents is now online at [www.hbg.psu.edu](http://www.hbg.psu.edu)**

## alumninews

*Tell us about yourself.*

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

- Harrisburg Campus
- Schuylkill Campus

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle initial \_\_\_\_\_  
 Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_ Years at Schuylkill \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle initial \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other news (activities, honors, births, promotions, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send me information on:**

- Harrisburg Alumni Society    
  Harrisburg Volunteer Opportunities    
  Harrisburg Awards Program  
 Harrisburg Alumni Mentor Program    
  Schuylkill Alumni Society

**Please send to:**

Penn State Capital College, Alumni Office / 777 W. Harrisburg Pike / Middletown, PA 17057-4898  
 or [capalumni@psu.edu](mailto:capalumni@psu.edu)

# Remembering September Eleventh



*Penn State Harrisburg  
September 11, 2002*



*Penn State Schuylkill  
September 11, 2002*

*Both campuses of Penn State Capital College observed the anniversary of the September 11 attacks on America with ceremonies and tree dedications.*

**For stories on the observances, turn to page 7 of this edition of Currents.**

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

**Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Pennsylvania State  
University**