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Currents

Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Magazine

BUILDING SUCCESS FROM THE BASEMENT UP



Story on page 4



PENNSTATE



Harrisburg

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Greetings from the Chancellor...

Welcome to another issue of *Currents*, your alumni magazine. As this New Year begins, I am pleased to share with you news from your *alma mater*.

At Penn State Harrisburg, we are proud of the many contributions our institution makes to Central Pennsylvania. We take seriously our role as a vital partner for business and government, supplying an educated workforce and a place for continuing employee development. We are a multi-faceted resource and a cultural center, committed to the communities that define our region.

At the same time, we are grateful for the many benefits and opportunities that derive from our role in the region and from our ties to the people in it. Two fine examples of this symbiotic relationship are highlighted in this issue.

First is the story of Richard Ziegler, Advisory Board member and owner and founder of Ziegler Remodeling and Construction Company. Mr. Ziegler not only provided philanthropic support for the 8,500-square-foot "Ziegler Commons" patio adjacent to Olmsted Building, but also committed his company to its construction, donating time, energy, labor, and materials. His generous gift is among the largest ever to our College.

Mr. Ziegler has a distinguished record of giving to Penn State. He has endowed three scholarships, one at the College of Medicine, the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, and at University Park. After a visit to our campus and seeing with expert eyes its growth in beauty as well as size, Mr. Ziegler wanted to play a part in the positive physical transformation we were undergoing. A "commons" area would provide a gathering place for interaction and exchange among the members of the college community, its visitors, friends, and alumni. This was most appealing to Mr. Ziegler and to us as well. The Ziegler Commons is a magnificent addition to the College, completing the center plaza, and tying together the new student housing, library, and food court. We are grateful for his vision on behalf of our students and the broader college community. Mr. Ziegler has left a wonderful legacy for generations to enjoy.

You also will read the story of Webclients.net, a Harrisburg Internet marketing company founded by a former Penn State Harrisburg student. Webclients grew from a two-person start-up in 1998 to the over \$100 million company it is today. J. Alex Hartzler ('90, Econ), former Webclients' executive and son of our Associate Professor of Mathematics, Dr. Jefferson Hartzler, attributes the company's extraordinary success largely to the talent of the many Penn State Harrisburg graduates who are its employees.

Mr. Hartzler and Mr. Aleksandr "Alex" Guk ('00 CompSci), vice president of technology at Webclients, recently established a Trustee Scholarship at the College. Thanks to their generosity, future computer science students with financial needs will have access to a Penn State education. We were honored to have Mr. Hartzler as our fall 2005 commencement speaker. At the ceremony, he told his story to the graduating class. His message of entrepreneurship and collaboration was inspirational. Mr. Hartzler reminded us that college is a wellspring of life's opportunities for success and personal satisfaction.

The University created the Trustee Scholarship Program in 2002 as a way to make a Penn State education available to academically qualified students who have financial need. With a goal of raising \$100 million in privately endowed scholarships over five years, the University has agreed to match five percent of gifts or pledges made to the program at the campus or college of the donor's choice.

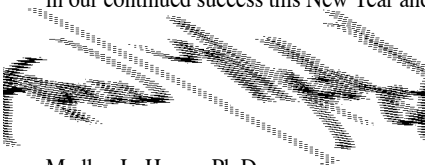
The Trustee Scholarship Program illustrates the University's commitment to accessibility. Recently, my husband Michael and I created a Trustee Scholarship at the College. We are very pleased to help meet the critical need of providing support for students who otherwise might not be able to attend Penn State. We've heard from three of our scholarship recipients, and the joy in learning about their progress is profound.

Our campus is fortunate to receive support in many forms. Recently, Cisco Systems of California donated valuable equipment for use in the School of Business Administration's courses. A PPG Foundation gift to the College's educational outreach institute will provide matching scholarship funds for schoolteachers to obtain professional development. Local business, Brenner Family Dealerships, has provided funding for the purchase of supplies and equipment for our renewed intercollegiate athletic program. Generous support of this kind helps the College provide the best possible experiences for our students and strengthens its ability to serve the region, in return.

As you read about the achievements of our alumni, faculty, and students, as well as the ways in which the region responds to our presence, I hope you feel great pride in your association with the College. You play an important role in our continued success this New Year and well beyond.



Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.
Chancellor
Penn State Harrisburg



Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.
Chancellor
Penn State Harrisburg

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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

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On the cover

Alex Guk, standing, and Alex Hartzler played key roles in the remarkable success of the Harrisburg-based Webclients.net – along with scores of Penn State Harrisburg graduates.

Building Success from the Basement Up

First row, from left to right, Adam Neiderhiser, Ton Huynh, Scott VanHorn, Beth Dougherty, Jeff Chung, Brian Clapper, Jennifer Davies. Second row, Casey Heckard, Albert Baldassarre, Inna Stolyarov, Erica Cleland, Charles Daniel, J. Alex Hartzler, Aleksandr Guk. Third row, Alexey Tararakin, Jeremy Lumpkin, Jason Gamble, Daniel Hemmerich. Fourth row, Kevin Ricords, Daniel Tekely, Judd Davis.



Little more than seven years ago, J. Alex Hartzler, a 1990 Penn State graduate, was working as a corporate finance attorney. Aleksandr “Alex” Guk, an immigrant from Belarus, was a Computer Science student at Penn State Harrisburg and working as a programmer in a “dotcom” start-up housed in the Holiday Inn East basement in Harrisburg.

This past June, that start-up – Webclients.net – was sold for \$141 million. And its 100-plus employees work in a mansion overlooking the Susquehanna River. Hartzler, Guk, and a host of other Penn State students and graduates were the driving force in building the company, literally, from the basement up.

Riding the Internet Wave

Webclients.net was the brainchild of Mounir Elabridi, a former Penn State Harrisburg student. His concept – online advertising that allowed advertisers to track marketing results and pay for only those that result in leads and sales – was revolutionary in 1998 and impossible prior to the Internet.

Guk recalls first meeting Elabridi in a mathematics class taught by Dr. Jefferson Hartzler, Alex Hartzler’s father. When Elabridi approached Guk with his business idea, Guk was intrigued. “I saw his idea was a good one,”

Guk says, “and I was available to try it. He needed development help.” With Guk’s willingness to help for modest compensation, Webclients.net, had its first employee.

By late 1999, Webclients grew to include 20 employees, most of them Penn State Harrisburg Computer Science graduates. With the company’s growth came the need for a more standardized business approach.

Alex Hartzler, who met Elabridi through Chamber of Commerce contacts, joined the company first as general counsel. In 2002, Elabridi returned to his home of Morocco and sold his interests in the company to Hartzler, then executive vice president, and two others: Joshua Gray, chief executive officer, and G. Scott Piotroski, chief operating officer. Hartzler stresses that each brought complementary strengths to Webclients’ management team.

“The company had the vision to move forward, but it was lacking in execution. Our goal became to build the structure,” explains the energetic Hartzler. His role: bring order to the business side of the business – legal, human resource management, sales, corporate development.

The approach worked well – Webclients’ revenues tripled between 2000 and 2003. But this growth also brought the company to a crossroads that led eventually to its sale.

(continued on page 5)



(continued from page 4)

“It’s one thing to run a business well; it’s another thing to see where the trends are going,” Hartzler says. “After the ‘dotcom bust,’ we saw a resurgence in the Internet among fundamentally sound companies, like ours. We asked ourselves if we should stay small or try to become a bigger player. We could see that becoming bigger was the way to go.”

A first step was moving from leased office space into their own building. Hartzler, Piotroski, and Gray purchased the property at 2201 Front Street in Harrisburg (former headquarters of the Merchants and Business Men’s Mutual Insurance Company) intending to lease unneeded space. Instead, Webclients ended up filling the entire building.

Next came planning for corporate growth. “Market forces prevented us from buying other companies,” Hartzler explains. “So we considered going public to tap the public capital markets and we also spoke to potential buyers.” The result: ValueClick, Inc., an industry leader in Internet marketing, purchased Webclients.net in June 2005.

Putting Central Pennsylvania on the Internet Marketing Map

Keeping Webclients in Harrisburg was part of the purchase agreement. But Hartzler says it wasn’t a hard sell.

“From a business perspective, Harrisburg makes sense,” he said. “The region is a cost-effective place to do business and recruit people. We have good employees or we wouldn’t have been so successful to begin with and most of them are from right here in the area.”

During the sales process, Hartzler was asked frequently, “Is there access to talent?” His response was “Absolutely, yes! Our relationship with Dr. Thang Bui (chair, Computer Science program) was instrumental in our ability to attract talent. Penn State Harrisburg was a very important part of making our business successful.”

And, it continues to be so. Today, 22 employees are Penn State Harrisburg graduates from various programs; four are currently pursuing master’s degrees. Guk, Charles Daniel, and Jeff Chung, the company’s original programmers, are still on board. Daniel is a research and development software engineer, Chung is senior systems administrator, and Guk is vice president of technology.

Webclients boasts more than 190 clients, including AOL and Discover Card. Revenues for 2005 could top \$80 million, nearly 10 times that of five years ago.

Hartzler recently left Webclients to head WCI Partners, LP, a real estate investment fund. But he still speaks enthusiastically and proudly about his experience. He says that with the help of many Penn State Harrisburg graduates, “We created a great company and put Harrisburg on the Internet marketing map.”

Contributing to the Community

Webclients’ leaders have given back to Central Pennsylvania immeasurably. Keeping the headquarters in Harrisburg and continuing to recruit employees locally demonstrate commitment to the region. Now, Hartzler and Guk have shown their appreciation in yet another way. The two recently contributed \$50,000 to establish a scholarship at Penn State Harrisburg. The Webclients.net Trustee Matching Scholarship in Honor of Founder Mounir Elabrudi will aid Penn State Harrisburg Computer Science students who have financial needs.

“Mounir (Elabrudi) came to Penn State Harrisburg and through that connection, he gave me and others an opportunity,” Hartzler explains. “Without him, my life would have been very different. I am grateful.”

Charles Daniel is equally appreciative. “The education I gained from Penn State and the wonderful opportunity offered to me by Mounir Elabrudi with Webclients.net were the most challenging and best things to ever happen to me,” he says.

Undoubtedly, Penn State Harrisburg’s relationship with Webclients has been mutually beneficial. The college’s graduates helped build Webclients into a multi-million dollar company. In return, the company hires Penn State graduates and contributes to the local economy and to Penn State Harrisburg directly.

Hartzler summarizes it simply. “This is an excellent example of a town/gown relationship that should be encouraged.”

“We have good employees or we wouldn’t be so successful.”

J. Alex Hartzler



Trustee Scholarships Encourage Endowments

Penn State University’s Trustee Matching Scholarship Program encourages the establishment of endowments to provide essential support for need-based scholarships. The University makes annual additions to the spending accounts of these scholarships equal to five percent of the original gift. Because the average spending from an endowment is five percent of its market value over the preceding three years, the matching, in effect, doubles the funds available.

University-wide, Penn State is adding a minimum of \$1 million each year through 2006-07 to trustee scholarships, making at least \$5 million available.

For more information on the Trustee Matching Scholarship Program or the Webclients.net Trustee Matching Scholarship in Honor of Founder Mounir Elabrudi, contact the Penn State Harrisburg Office of Development at 717-948-6316.

Aleksandr Guk

Aleksandr Guk didn't emigrate to America "to get wealthy."

His good fortune has come as a result of a college friendship coupled with hard work and a Penn State Harrisburg education.

He left his homeland of Belarus and settled in Pennsylvania for the same reason millions of people have for centuries – freedom.

In Guk's case, it was freedom of religion. As a Christian growing up in what was then the Soviet Union, Guk saw firsthand the discrimination leveled upon his friends and family by the atheist-supporting government. Even with the fall of Soviet dominance in Europe, the decades-old discrimination practices were slow to die.

Taking advantage of a U.S. government program for victims of religious persecution in the former Soviet Union, Guk came to the U.S. in July of 1997, following two sisters who had settled in the area and "eager to continue my education."

His first step after schooling in Belarus, which included four years studying robotics at a technical college, was to master English. He initially tackled English as a Second Language studies at Harrisburg Area Community College and later added computer and general education classes.

Guk enrolled in the undergraduate Computer Science program at Penn State Harrisburg in the fall of 1998 and found the college to be "most accommodating." And during his first semester, his life began to change when he met fellow classmate Mounir Elabrudi in a course on mathematical modeling taught by Dr. Jefferson Hartzler.

Mounir approached Guk on his concept for creating an Internet company. "It sounded interesting," Guk reflects. The transplant from Belarus joined the Moroccan Elabrudi in November of 1998 to form the firm which would become Webclients.net.

That company which started with those two employees in the basement of a Holiday Inn and \$400 in start-up money was sold for \$141 million to ValueClick, a California-based leader in Internet marketing, in 2005.

But Guk, who remains with Webclients.net as its vice president of technology, did not forget his start at Penn State Harrisburg. He and business associate J. Alex Hartzler, the son of Dr. Hartzler, recently funded a Trustee Matching Scholarship at the college in honor of Elabrudi.

The scholarship, Guk explains, "is for deserving students who want to get an education. I'm happy to help with that. I can now provide for my own children. Some parents cannot. I'm happy to help them."

Beginning as early as this spring, deserving Penn State Harrisburg students will receive much needed financial aid through a scholarship established by a grateful 2000 Computer Science graduate from Belarus.



Hartzler and Guk Establish Trustee Scholarship

J. Alex Hartzler and Aleksandr "Alex" Guk recently donated \$50,000 to establish the Webclients.net Trustee Matching Scholarship in Honor of Founder Mounir Elabrudi at Penn State Harrisburg. Hartzler and Guk were instrumental in the success of Webclients, a company created by Elabrudi in 1998 while a student at Penn State Harrisburg. The scholarship will aid Computer Science majors with financial need who are enrolled or planning to enroll at the college.

An Internet advertising company, Webclients grew from a two-person operation to a multi-million dollar corporation. Hartzler joined Webclients in 2000 as general counsel with other management duties. By 2002, he became a part owner and held the title executive vice president. After leading the sale of Webclients.net to ValueClick, Inc. for \$141 million in June 2005, he left to become president of WCI Partners, LP, a real estate investment fund.

Alex Guk graduated from Penn State Harrisburg's Computer Science program in 2000 and was Webclients' first computer programmer. Today he is vice president of technology.

Hartzler and Guk have opposite personalities. Hartzler is outgoing and talkative; Guk is shy and soft spoken. And their paths to Penn State differed greatly. Hartzler, with an Economics degree from Penn State, jokes that as a baby he "learned to walk in the cow barns at Penn State" because his father was in graduate school there. Dr. Jefferson Hartzler is associate professor of Mathematics at Penn State Harrisburg.

Guk studied robotics at a technical college in his home country of Belarus before emigrating to the U. S. in 1997. Speaking little English, he enrolled at HACC to learn the language and later enrolled at Penn State Harrisburg because the campus "appeared friendly about transferring my credits."

Despite these differences, the two share a commitment to Penn State and to Penn State Harrisburg in particular.

"Mounir (Elabrudi) came to Penn State Harrisburg and through that connection gave me and others an opportunity for which I am grateful. Giving to Penn State Harrisburg makes sense . . . a fifth, at least, of (Webclients') employees came through the Penn State Harrisburg partnership," Hartzler says. "Our relationship with Dr. Thang Bui (chair, Computer Science program) was instrumental in our ability to attract talent. Penn State Harrisburg was a very important part of making our business successful."

Guk likewise emphasizes the value of education. Working in various summer jobs, he says he learned the long hours and difficult labor that many people endure just to provide for their families.

"Many people cannot provide a college education for their children even though they are good parents," he explains. "I am happy that I can help them (through the scholarship)."

While the scholarship will affect future generations of Penn State students, Hartzler and Guk have made a mark on many already.

"I have continued to learn a great deal after my graduation thanks primarily to Alex Hartzler and Alex Guk," says Daniel Hemmerich, a lead software engineer at Webclients.net and 2003 Computer Science graduate. "Each has provided unique insights on approaches to our development of industry-leading technology and business models. They have given me great opportunities for which I am extremely thankful. The contribution of this scholarship . . . is a continuing demonstration of their devotion to the PSU community."



J. Alex Hartzler

Hartzler addresses graduates



Penn State Harrisburg Commencement

J. Alex Hartzler, president of WCI Partners, LP, a Harrisburg real estate investment fund focused on urban real estate development projects, served as the keynote speaker at the college's fall commencement ceremonies.

Hartzler, the former executive vice president of the Harrisburg-based Webclients Inc., addressed graduates during December 17 ceremonies at the Giant Center, Hershey.

At Webclients, Hartzler was also a member of the board of directors and a shareholder, involved in strategic and corporate development and oversight of the human resources and legal departments and the account executive team.

While at Webclients, he recruited, hired, and developed more than 70 employees – many of them Penn State Harrisburg graduates – and was instrumental in the firm's purchase by ValueClick for \$141 million. Hartzler was an associate attorney specializing in corporate finance at Buchanan Ingersoll, P.C., in Harrisburg, from 1995 to 2000.

A daily class reunion at Webclients

Any given day at Webclients.net is like a Penn State Harrisburg class reunion.

A Harrisburg Internet marketing firm which began with a concept developed by a Penn State Harrisburg student, Webclients' first two employees were products of the college's Computer Science program. And the list of alumni helping build the firm while singing the college's praises continues to grow.

Webclients currently employs 22 Penn State Harrisburg graduates. Most are from the Computer Science program, which has built a reputation for excellence recognized by graduates and employers alike. And those alumni know who to credit for the program's success.

Ask the graduates, "Who made a difference?" and the names of various professors surface again and again. They praise faculty for showing them how to apply theories to the "real world" and for paving their entry into it through job referrals and networking introductions.

Former Webclients executive J. Alex Hartzler said the company often turned to Dr. Thang Bui, Computer Science department chair, when it needed to recruit talented employees. Daniel Hemmerich ('03), Webclients lead software engineer, learned about the job opening from Dr. Bui, whom he credits with guiding him to expand and improve his problem-solving skills.



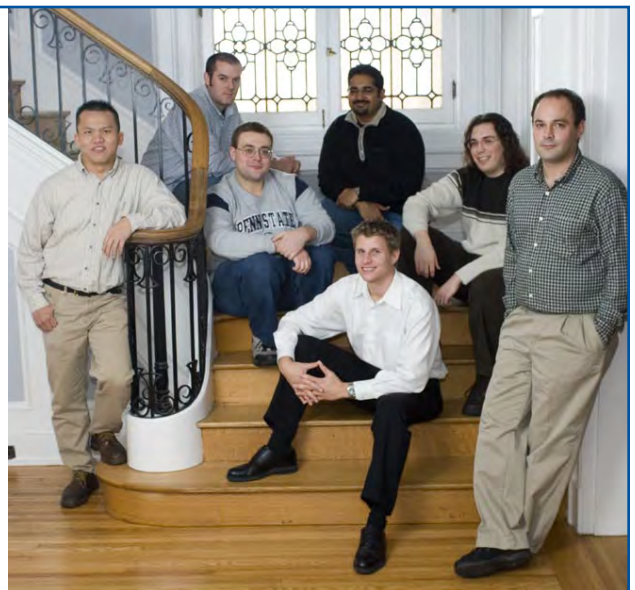
Dr. Thang Bui

"The theories and ideas learned in our courses laid a great foundation for us to build our real-life experiences and skills upon," says Charles Daniel ('00, '04g). A research and development software engineer, Daniel was one of Webclients' first employees. He met founder Mounir Elabridi in Dr. Jefferson Hartzler's math class.

Daniel also praises Dr. Bui. "He had a great impact on my understanding of theoretical computer science," Daniel says. Assistant Professor Linda Null's classes, he says, taught "what it was like to actually design, develop, and test software projects from beginning to end. It allowed us to fine tune our software design skills in a relatively risk-free environment."

"Like many professors, Dr. Bui is smart and hardworking," says Webclients Database Administrator Kevin Ricords ('02), who is working on his master's degree at the college, "but most important is his ability to teach, motivate, and challenge us."

Amidst the praise, the graduates are honest, too. Brian Clapper ('03), a software engineer, cites Dr. Hartzler as a standout for him. "He was probably the first and only prof I had for a math class that made class interesting and actually made me want to go," he says. "It may have been the only math class that I did not (skip) a single session...."



From left to right, Ton Huynh, Brian Clapper, Alexey Tararakin, Dan Hemmerich, Charles Daniel, Daniel Tekely, Jeremy Lumpkin.

Penn State Harrisburg Intercollegiate Athletics

Ex-Nittany Lion basketball captain Rahsaan Carlton named athletic director

Harrisburg native Rahsaan Carlton, captain of the 1997 Nittany Lion basketball team, is now directing the intercollegiate athletic program at Penn State Harrisburg.

A Susquehanna Township High School graduate and a four-time letter-winner under head coaches Bruce Parkhill and Jerry Dunn at University Park, Carlton became director of athletics at the college in September, orchestrating the effort that has brought intercollegiate athletics back to campus after an absence of more than a decade.

A 1997 Penn State graduate with a bachelor's degree in Recreation and Parks Management, Carlton had been a recreation specialist with the Montgomery County (Md.) Department of Recreation since January of 2001.



Rahsaan Carlton



Soccer team paces return of intercollegiate athletics

The men's soccer squad led a triumphant return of intercollegiate athletics to the college last fall.

Women's volleyball, fall baseball, and cross country joined soccer as varsity sports were reintroduced at Penn State Harrisburg after an absence of more than a decade.

Coach Mark Brown's soccer team surprised the league by compiling a 10-3 regular season record and advancing to the conference semi-finals where it dropped a tough 3-2 decision to defending champion Penn College.

The semi-final, played on the Penn State Harrisburg field, saw the home squad shut out the visitors in the second half, but not unable to overcome a 3-1 halftime deficit. PSH got a goal from freshman Omar Andres Palacios (Miami, Fla.) in the first half and a score from sophomore Daniel Saenz (Ephrata, Pa.) in the second.

The squad was paced during the year by freshman defender Brian Clements (Highland Park, Ill.) who booted home 15 goals and added five assists. Senior forward Afolabi Oyelowo (Harrisburg) added eight goals and an assist and Saenz chipped in with six goals and a team-leading seven assists.

A number of outstanding performances highlighted the fall schedule of the baseball team which compiled a 4-9 mark as it prepared for the spring portion of its slate which begins April 1 with a doubleheader at home against New Kensington.

Sophomore catcher Matt Carroll (Lemoyne, Pa.) was the offensive leader for coach Bob Mashmeyer, batting at a .455 clip to pace

the squad and tying for the top in runs (11) and hits (15). Teammate Chris Blazi (Middletown) led in RBIs with 10 and tied for the lead in runs and hits.

Freshman pitcher Wesley Erdman (Halifax, Pa.) compiled a 2-1 record and a 4.55 earned run average in 18 innings while another freshman, Greg Yetter (Steelton) was 1-2 with a team-leading 28 innings on the mound.



Coach Kevin Larkin's women's volleyball team got off to a slow start, but finished strong. Reflecting on the season, Larkin said, "The season began with a few losses, but after spending valuable time on the court, the team became more comfortable playing together and its record improved."

He points out that "as the second half of the season began, we would have the opportunity to again play teams that defeated us early on. We played at a higher level, taking Mont

Delaware County in three."

With a 6-6 mark, the team entered the conference playoffs where it began by stopping Hazleton in two straight games. "We then took on Beaver and lost the first game, but came back to win the second, forcing a third game. We fell behind 8-0, but battled back to tie the score at 13-13 before losing the final two points and ending our season."

Statistical leaders were sophomore Jayme Michael (Bellefonte) with 62 kills and 56 aces, junior Verna Kanova (Harrisburg) with 119 assists, and senior Alexis Campbell (Highspire) with 57 blocks.

Penn State Harrisburg Intercollegiate Athletics

Teams off to good starts

Men's and women's intercollegiate varsity basketball has returned to Penn State Harrisburg in competitive style.

Although faced with building teams literally from scratch, head coaches Marissa Graby Hoover and Kirk Ream assembled squads which have quickly made their presence felt in the Penn State University Athletic Conference.

Prior to the holiday break, the women's team chalked up a 2-2 record, dropping a season-opening heartbreaker to Abington, 42-40, before reeling off impressive wins over Worthington Scranton (92-53) and Schuylkill (80-56). The Lady Lions lost a close 66-63 game to New Kensington on snowy December 9 to finish out the early portion of the schedule. Only five points shy of a 4-0 record, the team returned to league action January 12 at Hazleton.

Brooke Conjar (Steelton-Highspire H.S.) is the early season offensive leader, averaging nearly 19 points per game, followed by co-captain Kayma Sonii-Ricks (Edison Township) at 15.25, and co-captain Nichole Adams (Newport) at 12.75. Adams also leads in rebounds with 39.

The men's squad opened its season with an 80-64 setback at the hands of a strong Abington team, but rebounded to clip Beaver, 70-65, in its home opener. Following a 72-53 loss to DuBois, the Harrisburg team ran off victories over Worthington Scranton (76-63) and Wilkes-Barre (75-31).

Harrisburg then traveled to East Stroudsburg University for the Pocono Rotary Classic where it fell to Division II Pitt-Johnstown, 107-46, and Penn State Schuylkill, 70-60. The 3-4 Lions returned to action January 7 at home against New Kensington.

Through the first seven games, sophomore guard Abe Hintz (Annville-Cleona H.S.) is the scoring leader at 18.5 points per game, followed by senior guard/forward Nealy Rawlings (Roxborough H.S.) at 13.8. Rawlings also has the single game high of 26 points against Worthington Scranton and 25 against Schuylkill. Freshman guard Padraic Wood (Hershey H.S.) chips in at 9.8 points per game.

For sports schedules and news, visit the Web at www.hbg.psu.edu.



Mid-Day Madness kicks off seasons

Mid-Day Madness came to campus October 15 as the men's and women's basketball teams celebrated the return of varsity intercollegiate competition to the college.

Sponsored by the Brenner Family Dealerships, Mid-Day Madness included a chance to win a new car, a free youth basketball clinic, a men's team scrimmage, skills demonstration from the women's team, an alumni basketball game, and contests offering \$100 gift certificates from Dick's Sporting Goods and money prizes from Integrity Bank. And one lucky student had the opportunity to win a semester of books courtesy of Smith Barney Citigroup.

Although one student had an opportunity to win a new car by netting four different basketball tosses in 24 seconds, his effort fell short as did the student trying to earn a semester of books.

The youth clinic was well-attended with an estimated 60 schoolchildren from the Middletown area gaining valuable pointers from the players and coaches.

For schedules and information on the Penn State Harrisburg intercollegiate athletic teams, visit the Web at www.hbg.psu.edu.



The Brenner Family Dealerships in Harrisburg not only supported Mid-Day Madness to kick off the basketball season on campus, it has donated \$5,000 to the Penn State Harrisburg intercollegiate athletic program. The donation will go toward purchasing equipment and supplies. Shown are, left to right, women's basketball coach Marissa Graby Hoover, athletic director Raasaan Carlton, Brenner managing partner Tom Couch, and Mike Brenner, owner and president.

Capturing memories...

Students collect oral histories from area World War II veterans

Each day, more than 1,000 World War II veterans die.

Their personal accounts of the conflict are buried with them.

History is deprived of their remembrances – sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes euphoric.

Many of those same veterans have been reluctant to share their personal recollections of the global conflict, choosing not to revisit old, many times horrific memories. Aptly termed “America’s Greatest Generation,” these veterans, male and female, quietly, many times humbly, live out their lives and never tell the world the stories of their war.

Thanks to a group of Penn State Harrisburg students, the oral histories of 12 World War II veterans have been saved and will become part of the Library of Congress’ Veterans History Project.

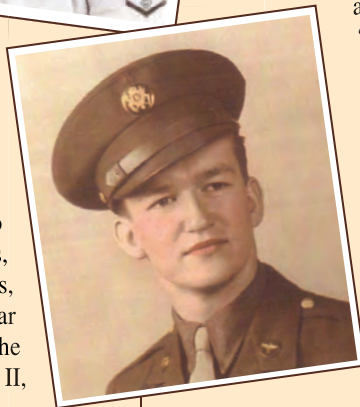
Less than 19 million war veterans live in the United States today. To honor the veterans for their service and to collect their stories while they are still alive, the U.S. Congress created the project. The effort calls upon the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to collect and preserve audio- and video-taped oral histories, along with documentary materials such as letters, diaries, maps, photographs, and home movies of America’s war veterans and those who served in support of them. The Veterans History Project covers World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam, and Persian Gulf wars.

The impetus for the collection of oral histories came from Penn State Harrisburg Associate Professor of Humanities and History Louise Hoffman, who relates, “I found out about the Veterans History Project last year and promoted it as part of my spring semester history course, *The World at War, 1939-1945*.”

Dr. Hoffman adds, “While the course was not specifically on oral history, the students all read the best book on the subject, Donald A. Richie’s *Doing Oral History: A Practical Guide*.” In addition, a local oral historian with a national and international reputation, Dr. Linda Shopes from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, consulted with Dr. Hoffman in advance and guest lectured on the project to the class.

“Whenever I teach the course on the Second World War, I ask the students to read a first-hand account of the war – an autobiography or memoir,” Dr. Hoffman explains. “The 12 students (out of 24 in the course) who were able to complete these oral histories did more than read about someone’s war experience. They had an extended conversation with someone who participated in the war. Some of the interviewees also showed the students diaries, photographs, postcards, and other materials from their wartime past. The war came alive for these students.”

Student Tara Dowell’s interview with Middletown resident Richard Leggore, who was 8 at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor, included



these comments: “My sister’s husband. He was an MP out here at Olmsted (the former air base which is now the home to Penn State Harrisburg and Harrisburg International Airport). That’s where my sister met him. He was guarding German prisoners during the war out there. We had German prisoners at Olmsted...and we (kids) used to go down there and sit by the fence and watch ’em out in the area they strolled in. We used to heckle ’em until the MPs would come and chase us off. We did a lot of playing war. You know, we’d build bombers out of slabs of wood or old doors or whatever we could find and pretend we were bombing Germany. And we played down near the railroad, fighting the Japanese.”

An Army veteran from Lancaster who is Jewish, Lawrence Richterman, recounted to student David Bomenka: “We didn’t really know about the Holocaust yet. But we knew it was pretty bad for Jews over there with being dragged off to concentration camps and so forth.” (Later he helped liberate two camps). “Before the krauts left ... they rounded everybody into buildings, then set the buildings on fire and shot these poor guys as they ran away.”

Student Jenna Carpenter interviewed Miriam H. Mueller, who served with the Navy as a gunnery instructor at the Ground Training School at the Atlantic City Naval Air Station during the war. “My brother was a pilot in the Pacific. He flew a B-26 and we were a very patriotic family and I wanted to join the service, so I did! ... We did not see combat, but we did see hardships from our pilots. We lost many of them in the marshes and out in the ocean because, I guess in those days the aircraft were not quite as dependable as they are today. We taught these pilots on what they called synthetic devices. One was a 3A2, which was for fighter pilots. They were sitting in a mock-up airplane in a seat and we sat down as if we were sitting in front of that airplane. And we actually ran a plane on the screen in front of us that we could shoot at and we could tell if he had actually shot the plane down.”

Even humorous memories of the war are included in the oral histories. Student Brooke Conjar’s interview with her aunt, Mary Elizabeth Miller Chambers, included thoughts on the outbreak of the conflict. “My dad, the father of 12, was all thrilled (when the U.S. joined the war). He said to my mother and us (children) ... ‘Boy, I am going down to enlist.’ My mother ran down the alley the next day and saw a man that worked on the tables where you had to go in and sign up. She said, ‘Please don’t let my husband go back in the service.’ He said, ‘You don’t have to worry.’” Chambers said she always wanted to go into the service. “The VFW in Steelton is named after my uncle Lawrence. He is the first man from Steelton killed in the First World War. I chose the Army especially because I wanted to get overseas. I assisted an ophthalmologist, Capt. Fisher (who treated and conducted surgery on servicemen with eye injuries).”

“This project was a lot of work for the students. But it was also very meaningful, particularly when the students were interviewing members of their own family or close neighbors or friends,” says Dr. Hoffman.

Medal of Honor recipient Randall Shughart

Fraternity members spearhead renaming of post office for Medal of Honor recipient

The Newville Post Office in Cumberland County, Pa., will soon be named after Medal of Honor recipient Randall Shughart, thanks to the persistence of a Penn State Harrisburg student organization.

Memorial Day ceremonies this year will rename the facility after Army Sgt. First Class Shughart, who was killed while trying to save the crew of a downed Black Hawk helicopter in Mogadishu, Somalia.

President George W. Bush in December signed a resolution to rename the post office. The resolution was spurred by a petition circulated by members of the college's Chi Gamma Iota, a fraternity of military veterans and active duty personnel. The organization is the oldest continually operating student fraternity on campus.

Shughart, from Newville, and Army Master Sgt. Gary Gordon, both Delta commandos, dropped from their helicopter in 1993 and worked their way toward the downed Black Hawk during a battle in Mogadishu. The two rescued Army Chief Warrant Officer Michael Durant outside the helicopter.

Durant would eventually be captured by Somalis and released. Shughart and Gordon held off Somali gunmen until they were overtaken and killed. Both would be awarded the Medal of Honor and their efforts captured in Mark Bowden's book, *Black Hawk Down*, which was also made into a movie.

Durant, now retired from the Army and residing in Alabama, was one of the petition signers.

Robert Ford, a Chi Gamma Iota alumni member from Marysville, said he is pleased his organization's project achieved its goal to honor Shughart. "Now every kid in town will see his name on the post office and learn why its up there and what Randall Shughart did," Ford said.

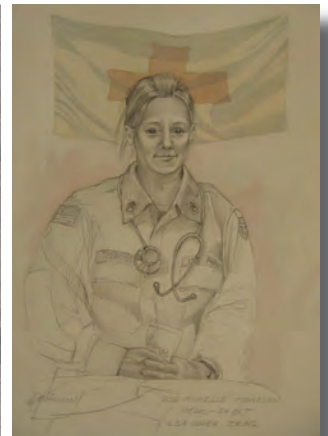
Chi Gamma Iota is working with the Joint Veterans Council of Newville to dedicate the post office's name change at a ceremony following the town's annual Memorial Day parade on May 29. Ford said a delegation of Medal of Honor recipients and military representatives will participate in the ceremony with plans to have Black Hawk helicopters land in the park across from the post office that day.



Cumberland County State Representative Jerry Nailor, front row left, is shown with the Chi Gamma Iota delegation from Penn State Harrisburg – students and alumni – following a Capitol Rotunda press conference to announce the formal effort to rename the Newville Post Office in honor of Randall Shughart.

David Wayne Russell

Capturing the war through art



When American Studies graduate student David Wayne Russell was sent to Iraq for a tour of duty with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, his assignment was to "capture" the work of guardsmen in his art. Through drawings and paintings – 29 in one 40-day stretch, Lt. Col. Russell concentrated on "fast, on-the-spot work recording the history of the Guard in Iraq." He has done military and historical art work for the past 20 years with his efforts included in the Marine Corps Museum, Pensacola Naval Aviation Museum, and numerous commercial assignments. He retired from the Guard in October, ending 24 years of Marine and Guard service.

Alumni Award Winners



Christine Sears



Tom Posavec



Steve Burkholder



William Howe



Georgeanne Burkholder

The college honored five of its most distinguished graduates at its annual awards reception conducted as part of the “Connections” weekend celebration.

Honored were: Christine Sears, Alumni Achievement Award; Tom Posavec, People to Watch Award; Stephen Burkholder, Alumni Association Achievement Award; William Howe, Graduating Senior Award; and Georgeanne Burkholder, Graduate Student Award.

Sears, a 1977 graduate with a degree in Business, is senior vice president and CFO of Penn National Insurance where she began her career in 1980 as a financial analyst. She serves on the Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers and the School of Business Administration’s Advisory Council. The college’s chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, the national business honor society, honored her as its 2003-04 honoree.

Posavec, a 1993 bachelor’s degree graduate in Finance, is vice president at Landmark Commercial Realty, a Harrisburg firm specializing in office buildings and office space. He is also instrumental in organizing an annual benefit golf outing which has established and continues to fund a scholarship for students in the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

Burkholder, a 1994 graduate with a degree in Structural Design and Construction Engineering Technology, is president of S&R Enterprises and S&R Stud Welding in Harrisburg which he founded in 2003.

Howe, a Communications major from York Springs, was a dean’s list student, a member of the Lion Ambassadors, a columnist with the Capital Times, participated in United Way fundraising activities, and even served as the Nittany Lion mascot.

Burkholder is a teacher in the Middletown Area School District who completed an MBA at Penn State Harrisburg in 1998 and then returned to earn a Master of Public Administration in 2005. She has also served as an adjunct instructor in mathematics at the college.

‘LionLink’ provides career advice for alumni

When Ken Rohm, ‘86/’89g, recently retired due to health reasons, he wanted to stay active.

He and his wife, Sherri, decided to restart a small business they operated while Ken was pursuing his graduate degree at Penn State Harrisburg. As a grad student, he discovered that he had a talent for using mainframe and personal computers for statistical purposes.

They found that they shared a talent to create complex databases and conduct statistical analyses of the entered data. Soon, faculty members and students were asking them to work on research projects. They worked on master’s and doctoral projects, scientific research articles, as well as their own projects.

But, as Ken notes, “In the years since we graduated, our professional network (in this industry) had nearly ceased to exist on a functional level.” Now living in Arkansas, the Rohms were hoping to find individuals who could show them “the direction we needed to take to become known again.”



While browsing the Penn State Alumni Association Web site, Ken learned about LionLink.

LionLink is one of the many career service tools available to members of the Penn State Alumni Association and to all Penn State students. LionLink offers students and alumni the opportunity to connect with alumni career coaches for career advice and information and for professional connections. An Alumni Association member need not be interested in a wholesale career change to use LionLink, but might be looking for information about opportunities in a specific field in a certain city, for example.

For Ken and Sherri, LionLink career coaches answered their questions and offered additional resources and information. Ken was grateful to find “the right people” who could answer their questions and offer the suggestions they needed to restart their business. They corresponded with six alumni, working closely with two.

For more information about LionLink services and mentoring opportunities, visit the Web at www.alumni.psu.edu/career.



Students planning legal careers received an in-depth, personal look at the profession during a November forum with two Penn State Harrisburg graduates who are attorneys. The forum, organized by the Alumni Relations Office, featured William A. Behe, a 1976 Social Sciences graduate who is an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Middle District of Pennsylvania, and Bridget Montgomery, a 1986 Public Policy graduate who is a Litigation Coordinator and Equity Member with the firm of Echert Seamans.



Alumni speak with students about careers and law school

Alumni encouraged to make a difference in students' lives

Have you ever said to yourself, "I'll never make that mistake again!"

Or how about, "I wish I had known then what I know now."

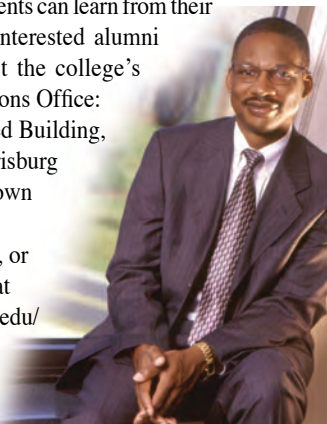
An innovative Penn State Harrisburg alumni program is designed to provide the insight of experience to students preparing to embark on a professional career after graduation.

The Mentor and Career Development Program serves as a vehicle to partner students with alumni who will mentor and advise them on a broad range of issues such as: selecting a major, career planning, steps to success before and after graduation, how to use a degree, networking opportunities, professional ethics, and the benefits of volunteering.

Through the program, mentors work with students either one-on-one or in groups and are available to speak to classes and student organizations.

Any interested Penn State Harrisburg alumnus is encouraged to sign up to be a mentor so students can learn from their experiences. Interested alumni should contact the college's Alumni Relations Office:

W-110 Olmsted Building,
777 West Harrisburg
Pike, Middletown
17057, phone
717-948-6715, or
visit the Web at
[www.hbg.psu.edu/
alumni](http://www.hbg.psu.edu/alumni).



Grad's book links ethics with success

A 1970 Penn State Harrisburg graduate has taken his experience from a lifetime in sales and crafted a book which links ethics and honesty to success and the development of professional skills.



Anthony Danna

Anthony J. Danna, who holds a bachelor's degree in Business from the college, is the author of *How to Develop Professional Skills & Techniques Based on Common Sense and Ethics* published by Trafford Publishing.

A resident of Birdsboro, Pa., Danna says, "Your first impression is that this is a book on selling techniques – which it is. After all, in one way or another, we are all in sales. However, my book is also based on ethics, honesty, character, and adherence to high moral values and standards.

"Each chapter in the book is grounded on the principles of applying common sense, integrity, respect, and fairness when interacting and dealing with others," he adds.

A Senior Account Executive with Ecommunications, Inc. in Lancaster, Pa., Danna points out that the book "is also meant to serve as an example to help people develop human relations skills and their own personal code of moral ethics and integrity. My intent is to deliver a positive message so that people will have the courage and confidence to use and apply these principles to successfully pursue their life goals."

The book presents guidelines on how to develop, practice, and implement techniques for successful professional selling based on common sense and ethics and reveals Danna's "110 Fundamental Secrets of Professional Salespeople."

Workshops lead to new book

For more than 25 years, Harrisburg resident Michael A. Sand, '75 MPA, has conducted practical workshops across the country for representatives of nonprofit groups interested in learning about effective management.

His new book, *How to Manage an Effective Nonprofit Organization* (Career Press, 2005) came as a result of a 10-part workshop he conducted on the subject for the college's Office of Continuing Education.

Topics include board development, fundraising, strategic planning, effective supervision, and coalition building.

Sand, who has also served as an adjunct faculty member for the college, has formed a Grant Writing and Grant Management Group which includes more than 30 experienced grant writers who assist in researching, writing, and managing grant funds.

He heads Sand Associates in Harrisburg, a management and consulting firm and can be contacted at MSand9999@aol.com.

Grant enables teachers to enhance skills in math and science

A Penn State Harrisburg educational outreach institute and PPG Foundation have partnered to enhance the skills of math and science teachers in Cumberland County.

The Capital Area Institute for Mathematics and Science benefited from a gift of \$4,500 from the foundation which was used to provide matching scholarship funds for Cumberland County schoolteachers to participate in sustained professional development activities.

Charles H. Hanley, the Carlisle agent for the foundation, made the presentation to the Institute.

“Research has shown that for sustained professional development, it is most important for teams of teachers to be formed, trained, and then to plan their curriculum and delivery as a focused team,” Institute Director Judith Zaenglein points out. “These funds from PPG Foundation will be used to provide matching funds for teachers as part of district teams in Cumberland County to participate in sustained professional development programs. Learning as a team will greatly increase the probability that the instructional techniques and materials will be used to enhance the classrooms in sequential years,” Dr. Zaenglein adds.

One teacher from Cumberland County wrote, “The CAIMS training I received has impacted my method of instruction in a dynamic manner. My science classes are developmentally appropriate, hands-on, and the students are actively involved in the scientific process. All of the investigations provide avenues to activate prior knowledge and build on it, working with materials, observing, recording in journals, and assessment tools. I believe that the students will be well prepared to exceed the expectations of the state standards. I am definitely a well prepared and confident teacher of science because of the CAIMS program. I think all teachers should receive this training.”

The mission of the Capital Area Institute for Mathematics and Science (CAIMS) is to improve research-based teaching and learning in the areas of mathematics and science preK-16 with a primary emphasis on long-term, sustained professional development of those directly involved in the education of children and youth. This also includes the support of educators, both pre-service and in-service, in order to help students attain high levels of mathematic power and scientific literacy.



“I am definitely a well prepared and confident teacher of science because of the CAIMS program.”



Wireless networking equipment is installed at the top of the heat plant on campus.



Wireless networking available throughout campus

Wireless networking is now available throughout most of the Penn State Harrisburg campus – inside and outside.

Students with laptops can conveniently and securely access the Internet, e-mail, and other online resources from the majority of the outdoor locations and most of the indoors, aided by two Vivato Wi-Fi (wireless fidelity) base stations and ten Vivato Wi-Fi Microcells installed by the college’s Office of Instructional and Information Technologies.

Dabis Camero, senior research engineer with IIT, was the network designer, programmer, installer and one of the primary promoters of the project. “We are very proud to be the first Penn State campus deploying an indoor/outdoor ubiquitous Wi-Fi network,” Camero said. “People on campus are impressed with this service.”

He adds, “The new system offers faculty, staff, and students a new way of working, encouraging innovation, communication, and collaboration. It also offers location flexibility and convenience for meetings, individual and workgroup academic practices, cultural exchange, and parallel networking. Students believe it to be a more efficient and effective way to work and they attribute great value to mobile computing.”

The equipment and technology were purchased and adopted from Vivato, Inc., a wireless systems infrastructure company headquartered in Spokane, Wash.

School of Business Administration faculty member awarded prestigious Fulbright Scholar Grant

Associate Professor of Professional Accountancy Jean Harris' one-year sabbatical at a graduate business school in Costa Rica has been bolstered by a coveted Fulbright Scholar Grant.

Dr. Harris, a longtime member of the School of Business Administration faculty, began her 2005-06 sabbatical teaching at the Costa Rican Instituto Centroamericano de Administracion de Empresas (INCAE) which operates under the technical supervision of the Harvard Business School. INCAE "is regarded by many as having the best MBA program in Latin America," Dr. Harris points out.

"This fall, INCAE became the first MBA program in Latin America to offer students the option to take all their courses in English," Dr. Harris reports. "During the fall term, I taught one course, Financial Statement Analysis, in English to 34 first-year students and this spring will instruct second-year students in Budgeting and Management Control."



"SOX represents the most fundamental and far-reaching regulation of financial reporting since the adoption of the Security and Exchange Commission Acts of 1933 and 1934."

Her Fulbright grant, which runs from January 1 to June 30, will be for Dr. Harris to investigate the impact of the Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) Act of 2002 on Latin American companies. "SOX," Dr. Harris says, "represents the most fundamental and far-reaching regulation of financial reporting since the adoption of the Security and Exchange Commission Acts of 1933 and 1934." She will be working with a team of leading academics from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico to research the impact of SOX on the regulatory structure of accounting, auditing, and corporate governance in Latin America.

SOX is relevant both domestically and globally. It requires managers to document internal control and to prepare assertions about internal control. Also, it requires external auditors to audit the assertions of management and to render separate opinions on internal control. SOX will directly affect foreign registrants with the SEC and may indirectly affect foreign non-registrants.

Passed in the aftermath of a wave of financial scandals, the goal of SOX is to increase investor confidence by providing assurance that financial statement information is credible. "The response of investors and creditors to companies that are in compliance with SOX has the potential to reduce the cost of capital for these companies," Dr. Harris says. "Thus, companies in Latin America may be able to reduce their cost of capital by complying with this new U.S. regulation."

As a research activity, Dr. Harris plans to investigate the effect of the financial regulation set forth in SOX on companies in Latin America. As a lecturing activity, she will also teach two accounting courses, giving special emphasis to the requirements of SOX.



Former Student Government Association President Rodney L. Horton's first attempt at public elected office was a successful one. Horton, a recent graduate with a degree in Public Policy, captured a seat on the Middletown Borough Council in the November 8 General Election. The 214 votes cast for him were the most for any candidate.

Student lands council seat

A conversation with a candidate for mayor in her native Paxtang led Public Policy student Heather L. Misiti to a seat on borough council.

Misiti, an undergraduate student who works full-time for a nonprofit organization as a toll-free hotline counselor for women in crisis pregnancies, spoke with mayoral candidates shortly before the Primary Election to determine their plans for the borough. One of the candidates thought Misiti "might be a good candidate for borough council, especially with my current studies at Penn State," she said.



Heather Misiti

She quickly mounted a successful write-in campaign for the Primary which resulted in her name being placed on the ballot for the General Election in which she captured the council seat on the Republican ticket.

Christ applauded by honor society

William Christ, retired executive vice president and COO of Hershey Foods Corp., has been honored by the Penn State Harrisburg chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma.

Christ, who holds an MBA from Penn State Harrisburg, was named Beta Gamma Sigma's 2005 Distinguished Honoree during ceremonies on campus. Founded in 1913, the organization's mission is to encourage and honor academic achievement and personal excellence in the study and practice of business.

A native of Johnstown, Christ was honored as a Penn State Alumni Fellow in 1991, is a former member of Penn State Harrisburg's Board of Advisers, and has taught classes at the undergraduate and graduate levels in the college's School of Business Administration.

DEDICATING *Ziegler Commons*

Richard Ziegler's generosity creates a first for the University

Richard Ziegler's generosity has not only provided an impressive enhancement to the Penn State Harrisburg campus, it has created a new model of giving for the entire University to consider.

When Ziegler Commons adjacent to Olmsted Building was dedicated in August, it marked the first time in the history of Penn State that a donor was the builder of the project being donated.

As a major ingredient in the college's master planning process, the design of the campus has purposefully tried to create space where people can feel comfortable gathering and talking. The initial concept for a simple patio outside the Olmsted food service facility was quickly discarded as not meeting the overall needs for space supporting large community programming.

When presented with the concept, Ziegler quickly stepped forward. The owner of R.E. Ziegler Remodeling and Construction Co., he not only provided the philanthropic support for the expanded 8,500-square-foot project, he committed his company to its actual construction, donating time, energy, labor, and materials. He also incorporated amenities such as electrical service so the new space will also support outdoor programming such as Club Fest, cookouts, live entertainment, and Spring Fling.

Director of Development Marie-Louise Abram reports Ziegler's gift is one of the largest ever received by Penn State Harrisburg.

At the dedication, Senior Director of Student Affairs and Enrollment Services Donald Holtzman said, "The result of Richard Ziegler's labors stand before you:

- A place where people can feel comfortable stopping and talking;
- A place where campus activities will bring our community together;
- A place of rest, celebration, and intellectual dialog;
- A place that will forever shape and influence who we are as a college community."

Ziegler decided to donate time and materials to build the commons after touring the campus. "Seeing everything else going on and all the changes they are making there, I wanted to be a part of it," he said. "It looks pretty neat. I'm proud of it."



Schaedler Yesco Distribution Inc. donated nearly 40 percent of the electrical equipment and lighting for the Ziegler Commons project. Richard Ziegler, right, and Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes, second from right, introduced Schaedler officials to the commons. They are, left to right, President Matt Brnik, CEO Jim Schaedler, and Sales Representative Diane Shellenhamer. Brnik is a 1978 Penn State Harrisburg grad with a degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology. His senior project, a round table, is still situated adjacent to the Science and Technology Building.



Ziegler selected Honorary Alumnus

Richard Ziegler's tireless and generous commitment to Penn State has earned him an honor placing him in the company of many of the University's illustrious leaders.

Ziegler, the owner of R.E. Ziegler Remodeling and Construction Co. in Lebanon, will be formally named an Honorary Alumnus during June ceremonies at University Park.

The Honorary Alumnus/Alumna Award was created "to recognize outstanding individuals, who, though not graduates of Penn State, greatly enhance the University through their commitment and service." The award is a life membership in the Alumni Association and a cast bronze medallion.

A member of the Mount Nittany and Atherton societies and the President's Club, Ziegler has created three Penn State scholarships in the past decade and is the donor of Ziegler Commons on the Harrisburg campus.

There have only been 75 previous Honorary Alumnus/Alumnae recipients. That list includes former Penn State presidents Milton Eisenhower, Eric Walker, John W. Oswald, H. Bryce Jordan, and Joab L. Thomas, current president Graham B. Spanier, and head football coach Joe Paterno.

Madlyn, Michael Hanes fund Trustee Scholarship

Penn State Harrisburg Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes and her husband, Dr. Michael Hanes, have established a Trustee Matching Scholarship at the college, following other donors who have made financial commitments toward creating these unique scholarships which aid needy students.

The Madlyn and Michael Hanes Trustee Matching Scholarship will provide financial assistance to undergraduate students enrolled or planning to enroll at Penn State Harrisburg who have a demonstrated need for funds to meet their necessary college expenses.

Penn State's Board of Trustees approved the groundbreaking philanthropy program in 2002 that makes donors partners with the University in supporting students. Through the Trustee Matching Scholarship Program, scholarship endowments will have their average payout matched, in perpetuity, from the University's operating budget.

For Trustee Scholars, receiving scholarship support can often make the difference between affording an education and giving up on their dreams. The unique matching scholarship initiative is aimed at keeping high-quality college education accessible to all qualified students, regardless of their financial means.

In consideration of the donors' willingness to support this important initiative, the University will make annual additions to the spending account for this scholarship equal to five percent of the initial pledge. The University will also match at five percent any additional contributions to be made to this fund prior to June 30, 2007 for this purpose. The Trustee Matching Scholarship will be administered by the Office of Student Aid. Each scholarship will be awarded for one academic year and may be renewed for subsequent years providing the recipient continues to meet the conditions of eligibility.



Dr. Michael Hanes and Dr. Madlyn L. Hanes

Additional student housing under construction

Penn State Harrisburg's resident student population will increase by 32 when the second phase of new housing on campus is completed during the spring 2006 semester.

The construction project comes in answer to increasing requests from freshmen for on-campus housing, says Senior Director of Student Life and Enrollment Services Donald Holtzman.

Lobar Associates of Dillsburg is the general contractor for the \$1.9 million, 11,000-square-foot project funded by University Housing and Food Services.

The new two-story student residence will look similar to the adjacent apartment-style housing constructed on campus in 2002 with only the layout of the interior altered.

While the 2002 construction to accommodate nearly 300 students features four single bedrooms in each unit, the new construction to house freshmen will include four units accommodating eight students each. Bedrooms large enough to accommodate two students, a full-size kitchen and dining area, living room, and bathrooms are featured in each unit of the new project.

"When the housing constructed in 2002 was designed, the focus was on older, upper division students since we did not have freshmen on campus at that time. Now, with the introduction of all four years of undergraduate study at Penn State Harrisburg, it has become essential that we also consider the needs of younger students," Dr. Holtzman adds.



Penn State Harrisburg 2005 Alumni Fellow

Pedro Cortes Alumni Fellow

Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Pedro A. Cortes is Penn State Harrisburg's 2005 Alumni Fellow.

Secy. Cortes was formally honored at the college's annual Alumni Awards Dinner Friday, Oct. 14 on campus.

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. Secy. Cortes visited the college Nov. 2 and 8, spoke with classes and hosted an open forum on Pennsylvania election law.

Secy. Cortes earned a Master of Public Administration degree from Penn State Harrisburg in 2000 and a Juris Doctor from the Dickinson School of Law of The Pennsylvania State University in 1999. He also holds a baccalaureate degree in hotel, restaurant, and travel administration from the University of Massachusetts.

He was nominated by Gov. Edward Rendell on April 2, 2003 and was confirmed by the Senate on May 13, 2003, making him the first confirmed Hispanic cabinet member in Pennsylvania history.



Pedro A. Cortes

Penn State Harrisburg grad a finalist for teacher of the year



Elise Kelly Berry

A Penn State Harrisburg graduate was among 12 finalists for the 2005 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year Award.

Elise Kelly Berry, who earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the college in 1975, is a seventh grade teacher in the Susquehanna Township School District.

Although she was not selected as Pennsylvania's nominee for the National Teacher of the Year program, she was honored just to be a finalist. The dozen finalists were chosen from 35 semi-finalists.

Berry has spent her three-decade-long teaching career in Susquehanna Township. She teaches seventh grade mathematics and has also tutored students, sponsored the school's ski club, and served as the teachers union's chief negotiator for 18 years.

Although she has been teaching for nearly 30 years, she has no plans to retire, "I love it, the kids are great." She also likes that as she gets older the kids seem to "treat me as the supreme authority, something I did not have as a younger teacher."

She vividly recalls having professors such as Richard Ammon and Clem Gilpin during her time at Penn State Harrisburg. She suggests that new education graduates, "listen and watch," before they take a teaching position. "Each school has a personality and you should be aware of the culture of the building."

The teacher of the year award is sponsored by the state Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National State Teacher of the Year.

Donation enhances network instruction equipment

The School of Business Administration's technology programs now have enhanced network instruction equipment, thanks to a generous donation from Cisco Systems of California.

Cisco, the worldwide leader in networking for the Internet, has donated two pieces of equipment valued at \$16,000 for use in senior-level credit courses and noncredit continuing education seminars in network security.

The equipment consists of a firewall that helps prevent network intrusions and a virtual private network (VPN) gateway which allows secure communications across public networks such as the Internet. The equipment provides hands-on exercises for students to learn how to correctly configure and test a firewall and permits students to learn about the VPN connections between the firewall and gateway.

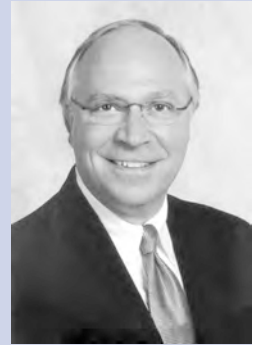
The equipment enhances the discussion of timely topics within the classroom and helps prepare students to manage information in today's threatened technology environments.



In honor of Janet Widoff's longtime service to the college as Director of Student Affairs, the Student Services staff, colleagues, and administrators purchased a painting in her honor which will hang in the food court. The art work, "Oxidation," is by local artist Mary Lundeen. Dr. Widoff recently retired.

New BOA member, officers

Robert L. Dawson, President and chief executive officer of HealthAmerica and HealthAssurance, is the newest member of Penn State Harrisburg's Board of Advisers.



Robert L. Dawson

Dawson, who was appointed to his current post in January, oversees health plan operations in Pennsylvania and Ohio for HealthAmerica and HealthAssurance and has more than 20 years of leadership experience in health care and managed care.

The Board of Advisers also announced the appointment of James C. Byerly as vice chair and Christine A. Sears as treasurer. Byerly is President and CEO of Byerly Insurance Agents and Brokers Inc. and Sears is senior vice president and chief financial officer of Penn National Insurance.

New director of student affairs

Long-time Penn State Harrisburg administrator, Dr. Felicia Brown-Haywood, has accepted the appointment as its director of student affairs.

In her new position, she will be responsible for administration of the college's student affairs programs and services while continuing her former role overseeing programming and services for international students and for intercultural affairs.

Dr. Brown-Haywood first joined the Penn State Harrisburg staff in 1987 as a student support counselor, serving in that role until 1990. She then spent a year as the assistant dean for intercultural advancement at Gettysburg College before returning to Penn State Harrisburg as manager of its Student Assistance Center and coordinator of student services and minority student affairs. In 2000, she was promoted to director of student support services and intercultural affairs.

2006 Chancellor's Lecture March 16

Award-winning illustrator and author of children's books, Brian Selznick, will deliver the 2006 Chancellor's Lecture Thursday, March 16 on campus.

The free public lecture will be at 7:30 p.m. in the Olmsted Auditorium, preceded by a reception in the Morrison Gallery of the library at 6:30 p.m. A book signing will follow Selznick's lecture.

A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, Selznick has illustrated nearly 20 books, including the Caldecott Honor book *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins*, the Sibert Honor book *When Marian Sang*, and the popular *The Doll People* and its sequel, *The Meanest Doll in the World*.

Additionally, he is the author/illustrator of the critically acclaimed *The Houdini Box* and he illustrated all of Andrew Clement's school stories, including *Frindle*, a two million copy best seller.

Selznick is an experienced lecturer who takes listeners through the process of researching historic visual materials and developing original artistic interpretations.

An accompanying exhibit of his work, on public display from March 14 through May 12 in the Morrison Gallery, is entitled "Art of the Picture Book." The exhibition will feature original drawings, three-dimensional models, and historic visual material created and used by Selznick to illustrate *Amelia and Eleanor Go for a Ride*, *When Marian Sang*, *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins*, and *Walt Whitman: Words for America*.

Selznick's appearance and exhibit at Penn State Harrisburg corresponds with his appearance at a March 16 conference sponsored by the college's Office of Continuing Education, "For the Love of Literacy: Reaching Today's Readers and Writers."

The conference will feature Selznick and renowned children's and young adult authors and illustrators Susan Campbell Bartoletti and Robert Bender. Those attending will learn about exciting ways to use literature with students. Workshops are designed to address state and national standards and will include information about current literacy practices from Capital Area Writing Project fellows and faculty.

Bartoletti is author of *Growing up in Coal Country* and *Black Potatoes, the Story of the Great Irish Famine* and Bender is author and illustrator of *Never Eat Anything that Moves: Good, Bad, and Very Silly Advice from Kids* and *Lima Beans Would Be Illegal: Children's Ideas on a Perfect World*.

For information on the conference, phone 717-948-6019 or e-mail slk32@psu.edu.

Brian Selznick



Brian Selznick, left, and book jacket from the Caldecott Honor Book "The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins."

Scholarship donor serving as mentor

Robert D. Plakus' commitment to Penn State Harrisburg goes much deeper than funding a scholarship for an undergraduate Environmental Engineering student.

He's developed a valuable alumni mentoring relationship with the scholarship's recipient, James C. Elligson.

A Scranton native, Plakus is a 1976 graduate of the college's first environmentally focused degree – Water Resources Engineering Technology. That program evolved into the Environmental Engineering Technology degree and eventually the current Environmental Engineering program.

After high school, Plakus spent a hitch in the U.S. Army as a lab technician and following his discharge, obtained full-time employment and began working toward his bachelor's degree. Following graduation, he re-entered the Army as a second lieutenant, spending the last 16 years of his career with the Medical Service. He retired in 1996 at the rank of major. While on active duty, he earned a master's degree in Environmental Engineering at Penn State's University Park campus.

Plakus and Elligson, a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps, have struck up an e-mail relationship through which the student is gaining valuable insight from his mentor. Plakus says, "I am very happy that my scholarship contribution can be of some help to you (Elligson) in establishing an excellent career choice plus better financial security for your future."

Plakus, who began his military career as an enlisted man during the Vietnam era, has been able to draw on his own Army and academic experiences to offer suggestions to Elligson. Citing the student's considerable workload, Plakus remembers "similar situations, but the work will pay off later."

He "highly recommended" Elligson take both the Fundamentals and Professional Engineer exams during his senior year. He stresses "it is amazing how much easier it is to take those tests when you are at Penn State Harrisburg in the active learning mode, versus waiting until four or more years later."

Plakus has also offered to e-mail current Army contacts in the event Elligson should choose to seek a commission upon graduation and has suggested several engineering firms in the midstate who hire environmental engineers.

Robert Plakus' financial commitment will continue to assist Environmental Engineering students following Elligson's graduation. His ongoing mentoring commitment could easily prove just as valuable.

Save the Date!

The third annual Penn State Harrisburg Day at the Harrisburg Senators will be Saturday, Aug. 26 on City Island. Picnic dinner and game ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children under 12.

Celebrity golf event nets \$6,000

For the second consecutive year, caring friends added \$6,000 to a scholarship fund at Penn State Harrisburg in memory of Matthew D. Brightbill.

The effort to endow the scholarship, which benefits students in the Structural Design and Construction Engineering Technology undergraduate program, began a number of years ago by way of a golf outing conducted by the Brightbill family.

In 2004, a group of Matthew's friends took the lead in organizing the celebrity "Brite 3" fund-raiser which netted \$6,000 in their first attempt. Again led by Penn State Harrisburg graduate Tom Posavec, the 2005 effort at Mayapple Golf Course in Carlisle involved 288 golfers who braved rain to raise another \$6,000 toward endowing the scholarship.

Celebrities attending the 2005 outing included special guest and keynote speaker Penn State women's basketball coach Rene Portland, former Penn State athlete Marissa Graby Hoover, Wally Richardson, Shawn Lee, John Greene, Tim Shaw, and Brandon Ream along with the Nittany Lion, Harrisburg City Islander professional soccer team head coach Bill Becher, and players Derek Potteiger, Matt Crist, and Steve Fisher, the University of North Carolina's Larry Smith, and Shannon Davidson of TV Channel 21.

The fund-raiser in 2006 will be on June 2.



Organizers of the "Brite 3" fund-raiser present a \$6,000 contribution to Marissa Graby Hoover, center, Penn State Harrisburg Assistant Director of Development.

Senior project fund in memory of Joseph Luchenister

A goal of \$25,000 has been established to create an Electrical Engineering and Electrical Engineering Technology Senior Project Fund in memory of Joseph Luchenister.

Mr. Luchenister died last spring after 17 years of service as the laboratory supervisor for the electrical programs in the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

The purpose of the fund is to help defray some of the cost of student projects – particularly the purchase of development systems needed for many types of programmable ICs, specialized sensors, and other items. In the past, several innovative projects have been hampered by the lack of funds to purchase the systems.



Joseph Luchenister

Persons wishing to support the fund are encouraged to mail a check payable to The Pennsylvania State University to the Development Office, Penn State Harrisburg, W-110 Olmsted, 777 W. Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057-4898. Included should be a note indicating the donation is for The Electrical Senior Project Fund, School of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

Students take honors in regional competitions

Electrical Engineering and Electrical Engineering Technology undergraduate student projects continue to impress judges at regional competitions.

Students from Penn State Harrisburg walked away with three second place awards in the annual Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Region 2 competition at Rowan University in New Jersey.

Penn State Harrisburg was the only entry to record runner-up honors in three categories. College and universities from Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, and the District of Columbia competed in five categories.

Taking honors for the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology were:

Ethics competition – Jonathan Scott, Mechanicsburg; Wesley Hill, Dillsburg; and Michael Adams Jr., Ephrata.

Robotics competition – Anthony Hutnyk, North Wales; Erick Schmitt, East Greenville; and Kevin Hott, Palmyra.

Project showcase (electronic price tags and database) – Anthony Buhay, Elizabethtown; Derek Handy, Harrisburg; and Ira Sharp, Mechanicsburg.

And a device developed by a two-student team to assist hearing impaired individuals earned a \$1,000 prize in a regional student design contest.

The "Hearing Assistive Device" took third place honors for the undergraduate duo in the fifth annual design contest hosted by Rochester Institute of Technology's Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Student Branch.

Marta Lee Kimmel, an Electrical Engineering student from Newmanstown, and Jonathan C. Shultz, an Electrical Engineering Technology major from Mount Joy, developed the device.

The project is designed for a person with sensorineural hearing loss. Through the use of a digital signal processing (DSP) board connected to a laptop computer, audio can be streamed in, amplified, compressed, and the frequencies shifted as necessary to bring the entire hearing spectrum into the range of a specific individual.

Student engineering projects receiving business assistance

Students in the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology will soon be receiving marketing support for their senior projects from their counterparts in the School of Business Administration.

Senior design projects many times provide an immediate opportunity for the Harrisburg Market Keystone Innovation Zone to meet its goal of keeping promising new entrepreneurs in the capital region. Through a unique partnership involving the KIZ and the college, SET students will receive assessment of the commercialization potential of their projects from the business students and faculty advisers.

The program, termed the Technology and Commercialization Assessment Partnership, will create combined teams of engineering and business students supported by their respective faculty advisers to intensely develop the technological design and perform an accelerated assessment of the project's commercial possibility.

The KIZ program recognizes that Pennsylvania's economic success depends on developing new economic opportunities. A prime source of that economic momentum comes from institutions of higher learning.

Recycling Center names director

The Commonwealth's effort to revitalize and strengthen the recycling industry across Pennsylvania is now being led by a respected expert in the environmental field.

The board of directors of the Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center (RMC) located on the Penn State Harrisburg campus announces the appointment of Warren J. Weaver as the center's first director.

A 10-year initiative to create a center to encourage the continued growth and economic health of the Commonwealth's recycling and reuse industry was rewarded in late 2004 with the start-up of the Recycling Markets Center.



Warren J. Weaver

Donations pave way for Energy Systems Learning Center

AmerGen Energy Company, the operator of Three Mile Island, and the Harry Erbe Trust, administered by Wachovia, are supporting the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology's startup of an Energy Systems Learning Center on campus.

The learning center will promote the application of information technology in power engineering and energy systems education at various levels. It will offer virtual access to the energy systems' laboratory equipment for users at remote locations, host energy databases, and provide the infrastructure for creating and developing electronic educational games. The games will offer alternative approaches for learning about energy sources, conversion, and its uses.

Unique to the region, the center's ultimate goal is to serve as a hub for the energy industry in the area and provide up-to-date training and research on the latest technologies and systems. With the AmerGen and Erbe Trust donations, the school plans to begin the expansion of the center by introducing new power processing laboratory stations. The power processing system consists of an emulator and support hardware for training learners to design power electronic converters and to study their performance.

The center is designed to enhance the undergraduate and graduate engineering programs at Penn State Harrisburg and provide continuing education opportunities for employees at local energy industries.



Director of the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology Omid Ansary, left, AmerGen Vice President Rusty West, and Associate Professor of Engineering Peter Idowu.



Brenton Hake from Wachovia Bank, center, with Director of the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology Omid Ansary, right, and Associate Professor of Engineering Peter Idowu.

Research earns state award

Associate Professor of Environmental Engineering Yuefeng Xie is the recipient of the 2005 Professional Research Award presented by the Pennsylvania Water Environment Association.

Dr. Xie teaches in the graduate and undergraduate Environmental Engineering and Environmental Pollution Control programs at the college and is also co-director of the Small Public Water Systems Technology Assistance Center on campus. The center is supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and provides education for trainers and operators of small public water systems throughout the Commonwealth.

With more than 20 years of research experience in water and wastewater treatment, Dr. Xie's work focuses on the area of water disinfection, disinfection byproduct control, water reuse, and acid mine abatement. A registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania, he is also certified by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers.

The award was presented at the PWEA's annual technical conference and exhibition in Seven Springs.



Dr. Yuefeng Xie

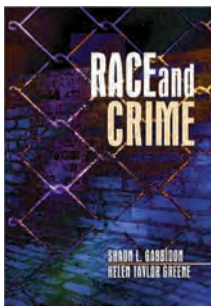
Research into race and criminal justice results in three books

A faculty member's continuing research into race and criminal justice issues has resulted in three books – all published in 2005.

Associate Professor of Criminal Justice Shaun L. Gabbidon, who has gained national and international notice for his scholarly efforts, is the co-author of *Race and Crime*, published by Sage Publications, and the co-editor of *Race, Crime, and Justice: A Reader*, published by Routledge, and *Race and Juvenile Justice*, published by Carolina Academic Press.

Dr. Gabbidon has also been appointed editor of Routledge's *Criminology and Justice Studies* book series.

Race and Crime provides a compelling analysis of the issues of race and crime in both a historical and contemporary context. The book presents information on



race and ethnicity and their impact on the administration of justice. Experiences of racial and ethnic groups (Asians, blacks, Latino(a)s, Native Americans, and whites) in America are examined, focusing primarily on their experiences in the criminal justice system. Unique coverage in this publication includes an overview of the history of collecting crime data; historical, contemporary, and nontraditional theoretical perspectives; the history of race and policing, the courts, sentencing, and corrections; and an overview of the historical context of race effects in juvenile justice.

Race, Crime, and Justice, co-edited with Dr. Helen Taylor Greene, is a comprehensive collection of the essential writings on race and crime. The book spans more than a century and clearly demonstrates the l n i d f f i c minorities have faced with the justice system. This anthology also covers all of the major topics and issues from policing, courts, drugs and urban violence to inequality, racial profiling and capital punishment.

Race and Juvenile Justice, also co-edited with Dr. Helen Taylor Greene and Dr. Everette Penn, is an edited volume offering a collection of readings that examine race and the juvenile justice system in a historical and social context. Part I of the volume is dedicated to each of the American racial/ethnic groups (African-American, Asian-American, Latino-American, Native-American, and White-American). These readings present the complexities of juvenile justice issues as they relate to each prospective group. Part II of the volume presents articles on Disproportionate Minority Confinement, the history of race in juvenile justice, gangs, the role of domestic violence in juvenile justice, and juveniles and the death penalty. The volume concludes with an article that examines delinquency prevention and intervention strategies.



Dr. Shaun L. Gabbidon

Society honors Dr. Gabbidon

Associate Professor of Criminal Justice Shaun L. Gabbidon has earned a prestigious honor from the American Society of Criminology.

At the organization's annual meeting in Toronto, Dr. Gabbidon was named the winner of the 2005 Coramae R. Mann Award, presented by the society's Division on People of Color and Crime.

The award is presented for notable contributions to the study of race, crime, and justice and is the division's highest honor. It is named in honor of Dr. Coramae Richey Mann who was a leading scholar in the area of race and crime.

Created in 1994, The Division on People of Color and Crime is the newest division within the society.

The American Society of Criminology is an international organization with the objective of bringing together a multidisciplinary forum fostering criminology study, research, and education. Membership includes practitioners, academicians, and students in the many fields of criminal justice and criminology.

Carlisle resident earns internship in office of the Speaker of the House

After winning a coveted graduate internship, Master of Public Administration student Jordan A. Slopey from Carlisle spent the summer in the Office of the Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives John M. Perzel (R-Philadelphia).

"I was grateful for the opportunity to continue to learn while working with such a talented staff," said Slopey. "Each day was a new challenge and a new opportunity to learn about the importance of political participation. My interest in politics, coupled with my educational goals, helped me prepare for the wide variety of assignments handled by the Speaker's office."

The daughter of Col. Dennis and Susan Mackie Slopey, Jordan holds a bachelor's degree from Allegheny College and in addition to her MPA studies at Penn State Harrisburg is also working toward certificates in Public Sector Human Resource Management and Public Budgeting and Financial Management at the college.

She assisted the Speaker's staff and House members with special events and projects, including researching material for an educational magazine and organizing an event highlighting women legislators and the importance of role models.



Rep. John Perzel and Jordan Slopey

Supreme Court on a personal level

Most students studying constitutional law gain their knowledge from readings and lectures. Students in Assistant Professor of Public Policy Matthew Woessner's class go straight to the source – the United States Supreme Court.

Each year, Dr. Woessner arranges for his Constitutional Law class to visit the Supreme Court, highlighted by a private session with one of the justices.

In 2003, the Penn State Harrisburg students met with Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and in 2004 it was Justice Clarence Thomas. Last November, the class listened to oral arguments before the court and immediately thereafter spent a private 45 minutes with Justice Antonin Scalia in the East Conference Room.

Dr. Woessner stresses the visits to the nation's capital are truly "an extension of the classroom." He builds lectures around the visit and works with the students to "cultivate good questions to make the session as productive as possible" since time is limited. "We ask about the workings of the court.

It's a valuable opportunity for students to ask questions on subjects such as procedure," he adds.

"It's one thing to read about constitutional law and the court in the book," he says, "but another to be able to ask questions of the justices and see their reactions. It humanizes the class and the court for the students."

While Justice Thomas opened his session with a "prepared speech," this year, Justice Scalia immediately opened the floor for questions of the group. "He was direct in his answers, but quite accommodating and respectful," Dr. Woessner points out. And the justice happily posed for photos at the end of the 45-minute session.

In summation, Dr. Woessner adds that the trips "build rapport in the class. We go on a journey together and the students bring their observations back to class, adding to the learning experience."

U.S. Supreme Court Visit for Constitutional Law Students



Each year, Assistant Professor of Public Policy Matthew Woessner arranges a field trip to the U.S. Supreme Court for his Constitutional Law students. In 2003, the students had a private meeting with Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. In 2004, they met with Justice Clarence Thomas. In November 2005, the group of students met with Justice Antonin Scalia, shown here in the center. Students joining Justice Scalia were, left to right, front row, Megan K. Cleary, Barbara J. Sadler, Linda L. Alonzo, Holly V. Scott, and Andrew P. Sellitti. Back row, Kathleen H. Winters, Kevin P. Larkin, James P. Dougherty, Dr. Woessner, Jeremy Kiehl, Hillary D. Isleib, and Morgan L. Rupp.

Help for New Orleans police begins at Penn State Harrisburg

Shortly after Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans in August, Penn State Harrisburg Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice James Ruiz received what some may consider an unusual request.

The plea came from the New Orleans Police Department.

A retired member of the NOPD, Dr. Ruiz had sent an e-mail to the listserv of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge in New Orleans immediately after Katrina had passed requesting information from anyone who might be able to respond. Two days later, he received an e-mail from the wife of an NOPD officer. She explained that she was responding from out-of-state where she had been displaced. She said that her husband was the quartermaster for the NOPD and provided Dr. Ruiz with his cell phone number.

After repeated attempts, Dr. Ruiz was able to contact the officer in the flooded city. Their phone conversation brought the request for uniforms or any garment which could be used to identify police. "The officers lost everything, including uniforms" in the storm's aftermath, Dr. Ruiz said. "They were patrolling the streets in civilian clothes. They only had their badges to identify them."

Dr. Ruiz quickly contacted the college's Public Information Office for assistance and was put in contact with WHP 580 radio in Harrisburg which interviewed him on his idea to raise funds to ship T-shirts to identify the police officers to New Orleans.

A news segment, on-air interview, and public service announcements resulted in an outpouring of public response and in less that a week more than 1,000 shirts with a large blue "Star and Crescent" NOPD emblem on the front and back and "New Orleans Police" written inside the crescent were on their way to the Big Easy.

Associate Professor of Criminal Justice Barbara Sims, a native of Northeastern Louisiana, and the students in the Criminal Justice Club also pitched in, raising funds which will be sent to an NOPD family identified by the local FOP Lodge. Dr. Sims serves as faculty adviser to the club.

Dr. Ruiz was also tapped by TV's national Fox News for his expert analysis of the situation in New Orleans following the devastation. Interviewed live on Sunday, Sept. 18, Dr. Ruiz discussed the problems associated with police operations without communications or resources to provide aid and assistance to those in need. Also discussed was the psychological impact on police officers and their families in light of the suicides of two NOPD officers shortly after Katrina.



Faculty members earn international, national, state honors

Gayle J. Yaverbaum

Professor of Information Systems Gayle J. Yaverbaum is the 2005 Association for Information Technology Professionals National Educator of the Year.

Dr. Yaverbaum was formally honored in October when AITP's Special Interest Group for Education hosted its annual Information Systems Educators Conference in Columbus, Ohio. She also delivered the keynote address at the event.

Dr. Yaverbaum, who serves as director of information technology programs in the School of Business Administration, has been instrumental in the development and implementation of accreditation of computing programs. She has been elected vice chair for operations for the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, regularly serving as a program evaluator and team chair. She is also one of the authors of the Information Systems Accreditation Standards and more recently the revised General and Information Systems proposed criteria.

She has been a leader in information systems curriculum development at Penn State Harrisburg and assisted in University-wide efforts which led to the development of the Information Sciences and Technology degree program.



Gayle J. Yaverbaum

Peter B. Idowu

Associate Professor of Engineering Peter Idowu's efforts to improve the quality of science education in Uganda have earned him an international award presented by the American Society for Engineering Education.

The coordinator of the college's graduate programs in Engineering Science and Electrical Engineering, Dr. Idowu was presented the ASEE Global Engineering and Engineering Technology Educator Award from the organization's international division. The award acknowledges engineering and engineering technology educators for their "exceptional contribution to global education."

In the summer of 2004, Dr. Idowu, Dr. Frank Duda of Grove City College, and Douglas Lauffer of Beaver County Community College embarked on a study tour of western Uganda in response to invitations from leaders in the Bunyoro-Kitara region to assess needs and challenges in science education.

The team visited secondary schools, elementary schools, and two universities and identified a significant number of impediments to the advancement of science education in the region. Follow-up visits and dialogs with Makerere University faculty led to exploration of strategies for addressing the challenges, as well as initiation of a number of action plans.

A paper entitled "A Proposal for Partnership with Makerere University Toward Addressing Fading Interest in Science Education in Rural Western Uganda," coauthored by the three educators was presented at the 2005 ASEE conference and received a best-paper award nomination.



Peter B. Idowu

Samuel W. Monismith

Associate Professor of Health Education Samuel W. Monismith was honored in November as Teacher of the Year by the Pennsylvania State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance.

Dr. Monismith, the coordinator of the master's degree program in Health Education, formally received the honor during the organization's annual convention in Lancaster.

Active in local and national health-related organizations, Dr. Monismith serves as Pennsylvania's representative to the American Cancer Society's National Board of Directors and is an active participant with the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance.

In March, he was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award presented by the Pennsylvania Division of the American Trauma Society.



Samuel W. Monismith

Faculty member's research earns national award

A Penn State Harrisburg faculty member's depth of scholarship on the life and works of acclaimed African American author Charles W. Chesnutt has been recognized with a prestigious national award.

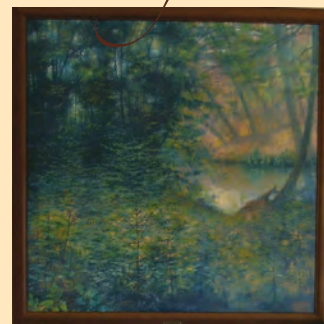
Associate Professor of Humanities and Writing Matthew Wilson received the Sylvia Lyons Render Award from the Charles W. Chesnutt Association at the American Literature Association Conference in Boston.

Dr. Wilson's most recent study of Chesnutt, *Whiteness in the Novels of Charles W. Chesnutt*, was published last year by the University Press of Mississippi. One of the most ambitious and influential African American writers of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Chesnutt (1858-1932) is recognized as a major innovator in American fiction. He is an important contributor to de-romanticizing trends in post-Civil War Southern literature and he was a singular voice among turn-of-the-century realists writing about race in American life.



Dr. Matthew Wilson

Donation of art enhances college library



The college library's desire to display pieces of art throughout its three stories has been enhanced by a donation from Florida resident Diane Lynne Chanako-Turner.

Chanako-Turner's presentation of a painting by her artist friend Mary B. Hochendoner was spurred by her visit to the library to view an exhibit of Hochendoner's work in 2004.

She writes, "My dear friend and fellow painter, Mary B. Hochendoner, recently had a very beautiful presentation and retrospective of her paintings and giclees at the Morrison Gallery. I attended the reception and was thrilled with Mary's paintings, which I have known and collected for over 25 years. I would like to give a giclee to the library of Mary's painting entitled *Light in the Woods*."

In accepting the gift, Library Director Gregory Crawford said, "The painting is an exquisite addition to our library. To me, one of the greatest needs of our library is quality pieces of art and this donation begins to fill that need."

Penn State Harrisburg Library Milestone

Penn State Harrisburg's library reached a milestone recently when the one-millionth student visitor passed through its doors. The symbolic one-millionth student, Penn State Harrisburg undergrad Hrish Shah from Minnesota, center, is shown being congratulated by Dr. Greg Crawford, director of the library, and Penn State Harrisburg Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes. The surprised Shah received gifts from the bookstore, college, and library in honor of his selection. Overall, there have been more than 1.5 million visitors to the library since it opened to the campus and public in January of 2000.



Library director

A familiar face is the new director of the Penn State Harrisburg library.

Dr. Gregory Crawford, who has served as head of public services for the library since 1993, was appointed to succeed Dr. Harold Shill who has joined the college's School of Public Affairs as professor of political science and information studies.

Dr. Crawford holds a bachelor's degree in Latin from Davidson College, an M.S. in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a Ph.D. in Communication, Information, and Library Studies from Rutgers University. He served as acting director of the library in 2002 while Dr. Shill was on sabbatical and was promoted to librarian this year.

Alumni News and Notes

Penn State Harrisburg

Barry A. Cupp, '74 WRET, Mechanicsburg, is the sewer system manager for Upper Allen Township and is responsible for administering all wastewater-related activities. E-mail: bcupp@upperallentwp.org.

Michael A. Sand, '75 MPA, Harrisburg, heads Sand Associates, a management-consulting firm. For more than 25 years, he has conducted practical workshops across the country for representatives of nonprofit groups interested in learning about effective management and has formed a Grant Writing and Grant Management Group which includes more than 30 experienced grant writers who assist in researching, writing, and managing grant funds. Sand's latest effort is a book, *How to Manage an Effective Nonprofit Organization*, released in August. The book was inspired by the nonprofit professionals who brought specific concerns and issues to his workshops. E-mail: msand9999@aol.com.

Christine Sears, '77 BUS, Harrisburg, is senior vice president and chief financial officer at Penn National Insurance in Harrisburg and was recently named to the board of directors of Community Banks, Inc. She also serves on the Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers and the advisory board for the School of Business Administration.



Christine Sears

Paul D. Ruby, '79 ED ET, State College, Pa., is owner of Paul D. Ruby Holdings, specializing in laboratory and research equipment sales. E-mail: pdruby@yahoo.com.

Robbie L. Adler-Tapia, '82 SocSci, Tempe, Ariz., is a licensed psychologist and therapist certified in EMDR – Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing – and is employed at H&R Counseling Associates. Dr. Adler-Tapia presented at the International Conference on EMDR treatment with children in Seattle in September and is conducting research with ChildHelp USA on the treatment of trauma in children. E-mail: dradler-tapia@cox.net.

Christopher S. Barrett, '84 PAcct., Hummelstown, has been appointed Executive Vice President of Sales and Marketing with the Pennsylvania Dutch Convention and Visitors Bureau in Lancaster. Prior to joining the bureau, Barrett was director of sales, government, and community relations for Dutch Wonderland Family Entertainment Complex. He also serves as president of the Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Society Board of Directors.

Thomas O. Dekle Jr., '84 HUM, Durham, N.C., is married to **Natalie V. Mykyta**, '85 HUM, and is vice president of ibm.com Small/Medium Business for IBM Corp. They are the parents of two children, Marie, 17, and Anna, 8. E-mail: tdekle@hotmail.com.

Bob Kunzinger, 89g HUM, Tidewater Community College in Virginia, is the author of the best-selling book, *Out of Nowhere: Scenes from St. Petersburg*, and the forthcoming *The Infant*. E-mail: bobkunzinger@yahoo.com.



Bob Kunzinger

Christopher T. Guear, '92 MPA, Burlington, N.J., is employed by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission in Trenton. He and his wife celebrated the birth of daughter Nicole Marie on June 26, 2005. They are also the parents of Matthew Christopher, born on June 25, 2003. E-mail: Ctguear@aol.com

Gregory F. Scott, '92 CEE, Pittsburgh, earned a master's degree in Civil Environmental Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in May 2005 and was selected Young Engineer of the Year by the Pittsburgh Section of ASCE. He is employed at Nichols and Slagle Engineering Inc., Moon Township, Pa. E-mail: gscott@nichols-slagle.com

Russell A. Duff, '93 MIS, Pittsburgh, married Maryann Bruno on June 25, 2005. Duff is a technology engineer with PNC Bank.

Ann Underwood Burns, '93 HUM, New Milford, Conn., was crowned Mrs. New Milford and went on to garner a top five spot in the Mrs. Connecticut pageant. E-mail: annb860@aol.com.

Gregory D. Stanton, '92 EET/'99 M.Eng., Palmyra, is an assistant professor at Penn State Berks teaching engineering and engineering technology courses. He is also serving as the program coordinator for the Electrical, Telecommunications, and Biomedical Engineering Technology programs at Penn State Berks. He and his wife Sheila and their five children relocated to Palmyra in 2003. E-mail: gdstanton@alumni.psu.edu.

Jay D. Wiederhold, '94 PubPol, Mechanicsburg, has been named president of the Pennsylvania Beer Wholesalers Association. The association is comprised of about 50 member companies statewide who purchase beer products in bulk at the industry level and then distributes them to individual retail outlets statewide. He was formerly the executive director of

the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Liquor Control Committee.

Linda A. Ranard, '97 MCP, Red Bud, Ill., has begun her dissertation at Argosy University, Sarasota, Fla., studying toward a doctorate in Pastoral Community Counseling. E-mail: ranardl@adorers.org.

David G. Schwenk, '99 EET, Shiremanstown, is employed by Instructional and Informational Technologies at Penn State Harrisburg. He and his wife, Margaret, are the parents of three children. E-mail: dgs119@psu.edu.

Amy J. Reiff Eckert, '99 PAcct, Lebanon, Pa., and husband **Travis Eckert**, '00 Eng, celebrated the birth of daughter Taylor Faith on Dec. 26, 2004.

Richard Saylor, '99g AmStud, is an archivist with the Pennsylvania State Archives and had his most recent article entitled "Major League Governor John Kinley Tener" published in the summer 2005 edition of *Pennsylvania Heritage* magazine.

June Burk Lloyd, '99g AmStud, York, retired in July after 16 years as librarian/archivist with the York County Heritage Trust. She was named librarian emerita and is now doing independent historical research.

Kimberly A. Leaman Gallucci, '99 EEd, Lancaster, and her husband, Daniel, celebrated the birth of their second daughter, Ava, on July 18, 2005. Daniel is a graduate of the Dickinson School of Law of The Pennsylvania State University. E-mail: kagemail@comcast.net.

David J. Strite, '01g CompSci, and **Lisa C. Strite**, '01g CompSci, reside in Apex, N.C., where David is a software engineer. Son Matthew was born on Dec. 7, 2004. E-mails: dstrite@softhome.net and lstrite@softhome.net.

Lisa D. Busch, '01 CompSci, and Martin Kreibe, '01 MET/'01 CompSci, were married on July 23, 2005. Lisa and Martin met while they were students at Penn State Harrisburg and they now reside in Wilmington, Del.

Jennifer D. Kasunick, '02g HUM, Hershey, and her husband Matt own and operate Budget Blinds of Hershey, a new franchise they purchased in April 2005. As well as co-running this business, Jennifer celebrated her fifth year as a standing committee member of and graphic designer for the Penn State Harrisburg International Film Festival. E-mail: kaswack@hotmail.com.

40
1966-2006



We're having a party!

The Harrisburg campus will mark its 40th birthday in 2006 and you are invited to join in the celebration.

A formal celebration is being planned for Oct. 27 and 28, 2006.

While the program is in the planning stages, alumni are encouraged to lend a hand. If you are interested in serving on the Penn State Harrisburg Anniversary Committee, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at 717-948-6106 or e-mail capalumni@psu.edu.

alumninews



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

Last name _____ First name _____ Middle initial _____

Maiden Name _____ Graduation Year _____ Degree _____

Last name _____ First name _____ Middle initial _____

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Business Name _____

Street _____ City _____

State _____ County _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Other news (activities, honors, births, promotions, etc.) _____

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- Harrisburg Alumni Mentor Program

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Penn State Harrisburg, Alumni Office / 777 W. Harrisburg Pike / Middletown, PA 17057-4898
or capalumni@psu.edu

Penn State Harrisburg

celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. You can become a visible and permanent part of its history by having your name, the name of a loved one, or your company engraved on a brick to be placed in the new Ziegler Commons. Each personalized brick costs \$150 and there is a maximum of three lines with 14 characters each. Just fill out the following form and return it to the Development Office.



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