

Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Magazine

Currents



Greetings from the Chancellor

Welcome to the spring 2008 issue of *Currents*, your Penn State Harrisburg alumni magazine.

Each spring we recognize the many accomplishments of the college community. In the past few weeks, we have held our annual student awards convocation, honoring the best and brightest of our students, and our faculty and staff awards ceremony, recognizing the professional achievements and distinguished service of our colleagues. We also acknowledge those who have served the University for 25 years, and we bid farewell to those who are retiring.

Spring also marks what is typically our largest commencement ceremony of the year. Our featured speaker will be Ms. Shelley Clark Nickel, an accomplished Penn State graduate who is associate vice chancellor for planning and implementation with the University System of Georgia. Ms. Nickel was one of our two Alumni Fellows in 2007.

This spring's commencement is memorable in that it marks the first graduating class since the college began admitting freshmen in all majors in 2004. This was a transformational change for Penn State Harrisburg, and with it, the college became a fully comprehensive academic institution with program offerings for students at all entry levels, freshman through doctoral. A feature article in this *Currents* highlights several of our students, including some who arrived with that freshman class four years ago.

I am also pleased to report that the college now offers the region's only Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. Available to students beginning this summer, the program will fill a recognized need in the capital region for professionals in this field. We are grateful for the contributions of the technical advisory group which acted as a strong advocate for adding the program to our engineering and technology portfolio and advised on curriculum.

Considerable discussion nationally is taking place about the importance of engaging students in in-depth study that extends classroom boundaries, enriches the overall educational experience, and better prepares students for the global workplace. We are making excellent strides in this arena. For example, we encourage our students to participate in internships, study-related travel, especially international travel, and research with faculty. Happily, students have responded. They are increasingly engaged and are asking for more. I believe that making these kinds of opportunities abundantly available to our students distinguishes our character and commitment as a college.

Several articles in *Currents* illustrate how these in-depth, "high impact" activities are enhancing the student experience at Penn State Harrisburg. One student discusses his work on a research project, an opportunity afforded to him through the college's Center for Signal Integrity. Another student cites her internship as the highlight of her college preparation, helping her to define a clearer career path. Most notably, the photo essay on India features not only stunning photographs by an honors student, but also clear evidence of the benefits that activities such as study tours abroad can hold for student learning.

As we work toward providing even greater opportunities for our students, we are mindful that this is only possible with the support of the entire college community, including our alumni. I am pleased to announce creation of The Capital Society to honor and recognize those who, through their philanthropic investment, share a commitment to the continuing excellence of Penn State Harrisburg. This generosity enhances the academic quality, supports outstanding faculty, and makes the educational opportunity affordable to many of our students.

Indeed, we are grateful for all of the support our college receives. I encourage you to visit the Web site (www.hbg.psu.edu) to learn more about being a participating member of The Capital Society, to stay abreast of the college's activities and remarkable progress, and to keep us apprised of your own accomplishments. Above all, Penn State Harrisburg alumni are the greatest measure of the college's success.



Madlyn L. Hanes
Chancellor



Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.

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Madlyn L. Hanes, Ph.D.

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Faces on campus



Images of India



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Civil Engineering

Cover photo by Caitlin Downs.

Special thanks to students who participated in the feature starting on page 4. Pictured (l. to r.) in the photo illustration, pgs. 4-5: Tyler Stratton, John Howie, Phebe West, Kara Rowles, Sandra Adames, Keron Sypal, Tanina Besecker, Dave Crandall, Michael Quinones, Bill Thieu, Melanie Vissering, and Darren Cronk. Page 6 (l. to r.): Mark Kandrysawtz, Grace Lee, Samatha Bachar, and Matthew Christman. Individual photographs by Gini Woy Photography. Photo illustrations pgs. 4-5 and pg. 6 by Sharon Siegfried. Additional thanks to participants Holly Artz and Kevin Scharlau, not pictured.



The Face(s) of Penn

Spring commencement will mark the first graduating class of students who arrived as freshmen in 2004, the year the college began accepting first-year students in all majors. The arrival of underclassmen added another dimension to what had always been a diverse student body. Here's a collective glimpse of today's students – including several from the 2004 freshman class – with a look at where they're from, why they came, what they do, and where they're going.



Gibran Jones, 26
Harrisburg, PA
Information Sciences
and Technology;
Minor, Business Administration
Class of 2008

Why Penn State Harrisburg? I spent four years in the Army and lived in Georgia, Texas, and spent a year in Iraq. While there, my first nephew was born and I feared that when I finally got home, if I made it home, he would not recognize me. I had always planned to go to college and I finally had the resources to do so. I decided to attend Penn State Harrisburg because the location allowed me to be close to my family. My parents went to Penn State, so I knew I would receive a world class education from a highly reputable university.

Best Penn State Harrisburg experience? Watching the campus grow. When I came in as part of the first freshman class, I could not have imagined the campus being what it is now. There is so much to do and students have ample opportunities to be involved, to establish their unique mark on the history of the campus while helping it to grow at the same time.

When I'm not in class, I: Serve as the Northeastern Province Junior Province Vice Polemarch [an officer] for the international Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated which means I'm the highest ranking undergraduate member in the fraternity from Delaware to Maine.

Next destination: I plan on staying here through my doctorate!

Aspiration: Become CIO at a Fortune 500 company then start my own Fortune 500 company before the age of 50.

Alter egos: Bunton Waller Scholarship recipient, student worker in the Student Services Office.



State Harrisburg



Matthew Christman, 19
Camp Hill, PA
Nuclear Engineering
Class of 2010

Why Penn State Harrisburg? I was able to save money by living at home and commuting for my first two years. Also I have the luxury of taking my general education courses with much smaller class sizes.

When I'm not in class, I: Can be found doing back handsprings as a member of the college cheerleading squad or running fire calls as a volunteer for my local fire company.

Best Penn State Harrisburg experience: Playing forward on the soccer team, which competes at the NCAA Division III level in the North Eastern Athletic Conference.

Next destination: University Park.

Aspiration: Work at a nuclear power facility, preferably Three Mile Island.

Alter egos: Penn State Harrisburg Nittany Lion mascot; Eagle Scout.

On the side: I wish I could stay at Penn State Harrisburg to complete my bachelor's degree. Nuclear Engineering is only available at University Park. I will be one of about 60 students in that program.



Deena Mansukhani, 21
Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Economics
Class of 2010

Transferred from: American College of Dubai, Dubai, UAE

Why college in the U.S.? Ever since I was in high school in Australia, my brother told me about how good the colleges in America were, so I was really interested. Since then, I always wanted to follow his footsteps to graduate from an American college.

Best Penn State Harrisburg experience? Every day has been a great experience with the amount of new things I learn. The New York trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art recommended by my art history professor was a good way to comprehend the history of art in different countries.

Next destinations: University Park, then back to Dubai unless something great comes up here, and I've a fantastic offer in Pennsylvania or some big city like Chicago, Boston, New York, or Los Angeles.

Aspiration: Successful economist and/or financial analyst in an internationally known bank.

(continued on page 6)



Students at a Glance

**Undergraduate
Enrollment**
2,435

Full-time	Female
80%	46%
Part-time	Male
20%	54%

Average age 23

**Graduate
Enrollment**
1,472

Full-time	Female
12%	62%
Part-time	Male
88%	38%

Average age 32

Places they call home

62
Pennsylvania counties

34
U.S. states

24
Countries of the world

(continued from page 5)



Katie Fike, 21
Chambersburg, PA
Elementary Education and
Early Childhood
Class of 2009

Why Penn State Harrisburg? Size, location, and my program. I am from a small town and did not like the idea of attending a large campus. Harrisburg's campus is just the right size. It's not too big and it's not too small.

When I'm not in class, I: Can be found giving campus tours or visiting the Children's Hospital as a Lion Ambassador or serving as mediator, policy enforcer, friend, listener, and event planner as a Community Assistant in student housing.

Best Penn State Harrisburg experience: Joining Lion Ambassadors was the smartest thing I ever did. Joining this club opened up so many doors. It taught me that I was a leader and I was capable of making some kind of difference. If I had not joined Lion Ambassadors, I do not think I would be enjoying college as much as I am. Getting involved made a difference in my education.

Next destination: Master's study at Penn State Harrisburg.

Aspiration: Teacher; early childhood center founder.

Alter ego: Kappa Delta Pi, national education honor society president.

On the side: I love music! I have played the piano since I was five and the clarinet since fifth grade.



Camille Renae Campbell, 26
Enola, PA
Marketing; Management
Class of 2008 (Marketing)
Class of 2009 (Management)

Transferred from: Penn State Behrend to Harrisburg Area Community College.

Why Penn State Harrisburg? Many reasons, but foremost the dual admission plan with HACC which simplifies the process for students to move from HACC to Penn State Harrisburg.

When I'm not in class, I: Am a mother, so I don't really have free time. I love being a parent so I try to spend as much time with my 18-month-old as possible.

Next destination: This summer, I may intern at [local marketing agencies] Pavone and/or Hershey Philbin Associates.

Aspiration: My long term plans are typical of most students; I would love to join an organization that is challenging, preferably in a dynamic and evolving industry.

Alter egos: 2007/2008 Drs. Madlyn and Michael Hanes Scholarship recipient; Mu Kappa Tau: The International Marketing Honor Society president; Penn State Harrisburg Marketing Club president.

On the side: I grew up in Kingston, Jamaica. However, I've lived in the United States since 1994 and officially became a citizen in 2000.



John Wallace Howie, 22
Philadelphia, PA
Finance and Management
Honors Program
Class of 2008

Why Penn State Harrisburg? Because of the close-knit community – the low student-teacher ratio, the small residential community, and the entrepreneurial opportunities that existed on campus. The fact that Penn State Harrisburg had begun to accept freshmen presented an opportunity to be a part of the growth and transition of Penn State Harrisburg.

When I'm not in class, I: Tend to my family-owned real estate company or work with the Multicultural Recruitment Team, an organization that I started as a freshman whose primary focus is to mentor and recruit high school students.

Best Penn State Harrisburg experience? The high school student shadow day that the Multicultural Recruitment Team hosted. Being a part of a group of committed college students who developed an event that enabled high school students to experience college life for a day while also giving the college students a chance to mentor and be role models was a very satisfying and enriching experience.

Next destination: I accepted an offer at Vanguard in their Acceleration into Management Program. This highly competitive program provides nine months of training, including three rotations in various areas of the organization. At the culmination, I will become a team leader (entry level supervisor) within one of the divisions.

Aspiration: Making a career at Vanguard and continuing to develop Overbrook Real Estate, LLC, a small real estate brokerage that my mother and I own in Philadelphia.

Alter ego: Bunton Waller Scholarship recipient.

On the side: I am currently working to expand Overbrook Real Estate, LLC into a full service real estate services firm, a concept that I developed into a full business plan during Dr. Robert Russell's Entrepreneurship class.



Nicole C. Estep, 29
Mechanicsburg, PA
Communications
Class of 2008

Transferred from: Harrisburg Area Community College

Why Penn State Harrisburg? I own my own business and help with a second family-owned business. Penn State Harrisburg was close to home and my degree is from Penn State, regardless of which campus I attend.

When I'm not in class, I: Could be working in a darkroom with the photography club or travelling around the world – most recently to Ecuador and Egypt.

Best Penn State Harrisburg experience: A marketing internship. It gave me a taste of what I was studying for and an idea of what I like doing and what I didn't like.

Next destination: Commencement, spring 2008.

Aspirations: Employment after graduation; Olympic medal.

Alter ego: Trainer of horses and riders. Right now I'm working toward the 2012 Olympics in London with a very talented horse.



Mark Kandrysawtz, 24
MBA
Mechanicsburg, PA
Undergraduate degree:
Anthropology, University of
Pittsburgh

Why Penn State Harrisburg? Best program in the area – convenient location and quality programs.

Why an MBA? Diversify my educational achievements and grow as a business professional.

When I'm not in class, I: Work full-time as public information officer for the Auto Theft Prevention Authority, a job that keeps me on the road quite a bit.

Next destination: Implement the knowledge that I am learning. Each class contributes to my ability to do my job better.

Aspirations: Continue the growth of my career in marketing and communications.

Alter egos: Runner, skier, golfer.

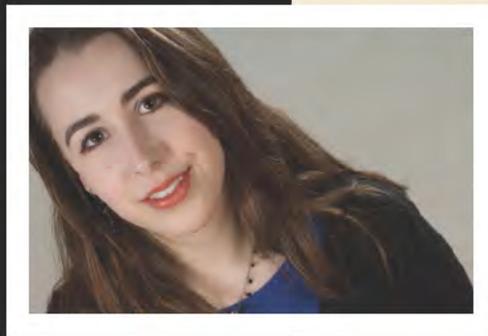
Images of India

Pushkar

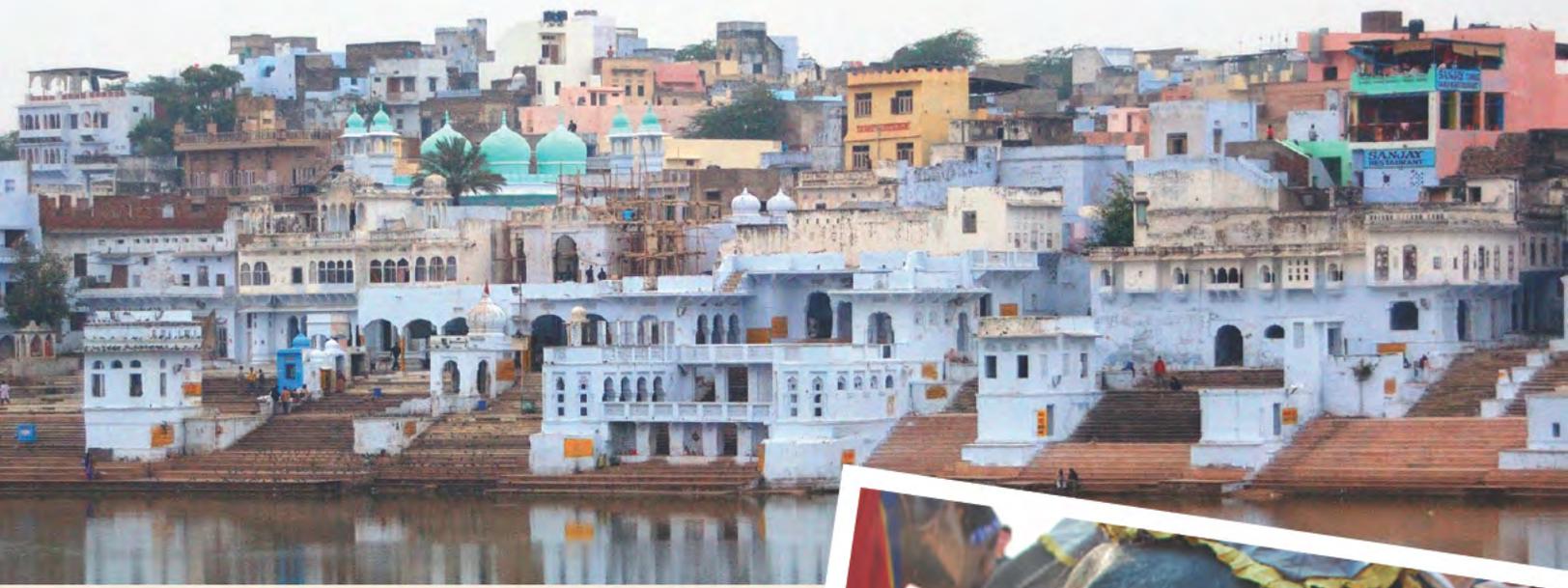


"Posing for tourists' pictures is a big market. The boy was one of many children in an area where craftsmen worked. (His relative was a potter who made beautiful clay pieces on a spinning wheel he powered by hand.) Some of the children wanted their picture taken just to see it. This boy picked up the goat and insisted 'Take my picture.' When I showed it to him, he asked for 15 rupees [about 38 cents]."

Aspiring photographer, Interdisciplinary Humanities major, and honors student Caitlin Downs decided she would immerse herself in India's culture during Penn State Harrisburg's study tour there early this year. Her images and observations capture the essence of India and illustrate the unique value of studying abroad.



Penn State students at the Taj Mahal, city of Agra



"Our last stop, Pushkar, is a holy city of Hindu pilgrimage, centered around Pushkar Lake. The lake is surrounded by temples and each set of stairs has a spiritual significance. But the city is also very Westernized. It has a Pink Floyd Motel and a Jim Morrison Hotel."

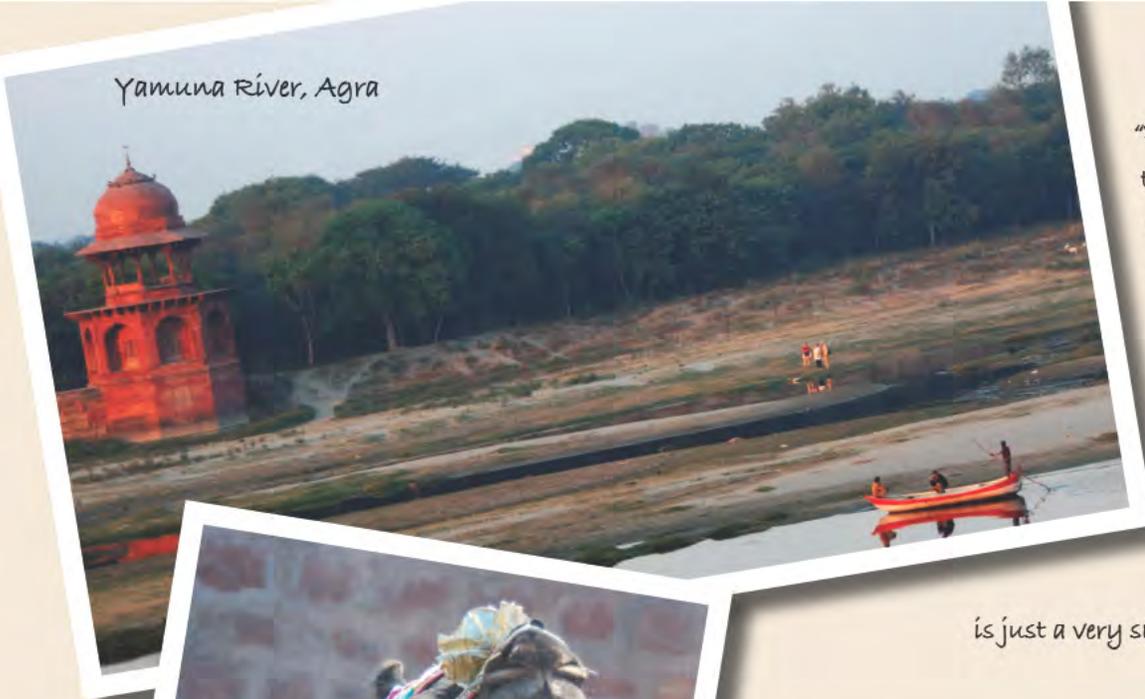
"Elephant rides are popular with tourists. Each day the owners hand painted them gorgeously, putting phrases oriented to English-speaking people down their trunks. One said 'Welcome,' but it was misspelled. It wasn't quite right, but the sentiment was the beauty of it."



Rajasthani dancers and musicians, Mehrengarh Fort, Jodhpur.

(continues on page 10)

Yamuna River, Agra



“Probably overlooked by thousands of people busy taking pictures of the Taj Mahal, this scene unfolds naturally right behind the World Wonder. The Yamuna River, a major tributary of the Ganges, was packed with people walking, camping, riding camels; this

is just a very small section of it.”

“The animals, especially the elephants, were trained to pose for people. I don't know if the camel was really smiling, but I snapped the picture and he stopped.”

“I loved the irony of this scene. The sign reads ‘Learn English at the Village Restaurant,’ illustrating the role Westernization plays in India and how development is centered on a Western-derived sense of achievement – where you should be and how to communicate with the world. Beside it is a traditional aspect

people associate with India – the sacred cows that roam the streets. The juxtaposition of those two things with the backdrop of the city were significant.”



(Dancers, from page 9)

“Many who perform at the fort, live at the fort in what would have been servants’ or soldiers’ quarters. Historically, the Rajasthanis were travelling performers; they were among the first gypsies. Some of them told me ‘My grandfather’s grandfather first taught us how to do this.’ Whether it was a dancer or puppeteer, everyone had an amazing lineage and tradition behind them.”



Street in Jodhpur

"This architecture is very different from the more traditional mosques that we saw. Part of the wall to the inner city, it was built so the Harem women could watch processions through the city without being noticed. It's a romantic structure in a surprising location on a busy street with markets on both sides and hawkers very aggressively trying to sell goods because that's their livelihood. In the midst of the chaos you see this beautiful, serene architecture. Chaos and serenity are side by side throughout India. Everything's in an unbelievable state of cohesion. One minute you're in a crowd, the next, you're alone."

Palace of the Winds, Jaipur



Photo by Andy Colwell

THON— It's for the kids

Can pain and exhaustion feel good?

Sure – if they come from participating in the annual Penn State Dance Marathon, the two-day, no-sitting, no-sleeping fundraiser that benefits the Four Diamonds Fund in the fight against pediatric cancer.

This year, four Penn State Harrisburg students withstood the 46 hour "dance," commonly known as THON. The event in the Bryce Jordan Center at University Park broke all records, raising \$6.6 million and bringing the total generated since its inception to more than \$50 million.

MBA student and 2007 Information Systems graduate Augie Bravo and Communications major Matthew Mahoney said fatigue and pain are the low points of the endurance test to raise funds, but both point to "the kids" – cancer patients who receive care provided by the Children's Hospital – as their inspiration.

"I realized that [participating] means so much more than any amount of pain or fatigue... I love these kids. They inspire me."

A combat-tested Marine Corps veteran, Bravo was overwhelmed by THON. "It is truly one of the most incredible experiences of my life," he said. "Words cannot adequately describe the emotion, the energy, and the exhaustion ... The kids come because of us [to support the dancers]; they can't understand that we have all come because of them."

Mahoney recalls that during THON he felt a tug at his sleeve and looked down to see a small boy looking up. "He looked me right in the eye and said 'thank you for dancing.' I knew right away he was one of our THON kids... I realized that [participating] means so much more than any amount of pain or fatigue... I love these kids. They inspire me."

Other Penn State Harrisburg dancers were Adam Porter, a sophomore Public Policy major and Maruja Rosario, master's student in Humanities.

Center receives support

Penn State Harrisburg's Center for Signal Integrity has received \$70,000 in support from Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Central and Northern Pennsylvania, a statewide network that promotes economic growth and job opportunities through investments in high-tech innovation.

The center aims to align Penn State Harrisburg's research with area connector companies, integrate signal integrity into its electrical engineering curriculum, develop education courses for the local workforce, and aid in product development.

Signal integrity is the engineering field that analyzes electrical interconnectors – found in many consumer electronic products – to improve the design, reliability, and performance of digital systems. Signal integrity addresses the timing and quality of electrical signals – does the signal reach its destination when it is supposed to and does it arrive in good condition?

A career-building byproduct of the center is the research opportunity it provides to students. For example, junior Electrical Engineering Technology major Andrew Rosenbaum is tackling a project to examine the causes of variances in signals.

"This opportunity helps me to get to know some of the companies and what they do, helping to guide my college path," Rosenbaum said. "It's an excellent way for the college to work with local connector companies and help integrate students into the workforce."

Center co-director Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering Aldo Morales said the center provides companies with links to Penn State Harrisburg resources – labs, faculty, student expertise – and to similar centers at University Park.

A number of area firms have become supporters or partners of the center. Tyco Electronics has signed a membership agreement, while Phoenix Contact recently made a financial commitment to its activities. Tyco, Amphenol InterCon, and Yazaki North America are represented on the center's steering committee.



New Olmsted entrance opens



The new front entrance to Olmsted Building was formally opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 1. Leading the festivities were (l. to r.): Project Architect Anna Childe; Faculty Senate President Toni DuPont-Morales; Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes; Student Government Association President Sabar Safae; and Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Mukund Kulkarni.

Grant will fund national study of early childhood programs

Penn State Harrisburg faculty member Dr. Richard Fiene is one of three University researchers awarded a \$130,000 grant from the New York City-based Foundation for Child Development to conduct a national study of early childhood professional development programs.

An associate professor of human development and family studies, Fiene was awarded the grant along with Dr. James Johnson and Dr. Kate McKinnon from the Penn State College of Education.

The national study comes after a similar University-supported study by the three faculty members into the effectiveness of professional development of early childhood teachers in Pennsylvania. Considered pivotal in the Commonwealth, that study found quality of care suffers if early childhood teachers are not trained specifically to work with children in the pre-kindergarten through third grade age group. This and other findings in the study have shaped Pennsylvania policy, playing a part in the Commonwealth's recent decision to institute new certification requirements related to early childhood education, Fiene said.

Pennsylvania's move also makes the new study a timely undertaking.

Fiene and his colleagues will study universities and colleges nationwide to analyze certification and degree programs for early childhood teacher preparation. "Our hope is that this study will provide a blueprint for change that states can use in making early childhood professional development more effective and efficient," Fiene says.



Alma mater honors Chancellor Hanes

Penn State Harrisburg Chancellor Madlyn L. Hanes has been honored as a “Distinguished Alumnus” of the University of Florida.

One of the university’s most significant awards, it is presented to alumni who have brought honor and prestige to the university through their accomplishments and service. Dr. Hanes will receive the award at the university’s commencement ceremonies on May 3.

The university’s president, J. Bernard Machen, said Hanes is “an excellent example of what our students should strive to become as they step off campus and into the world as graduates of the University of Florida.”

Hanes holds three degrees from Florida – a B.A. in education with a major in language arts, an M.A. in speech-language pathology, and a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction with a specialization in reading and language disabilities. Chancellor at Penn State Harrisburg since 2000, she first joined Penn State in 1988 and has served as chief academic officer at Penn State Brandywine and Penn State Great Valley.

Author of numerous books, articles, and technical reports, Hanes also has presented more than 300 papers and invited addresses at national and international meetings. She also serves on the boards of several national and regional organizations.

Hanes chairs the national executive board of the American Council on Education (ACE) Network, Office of Women in Higher Education and serves on ACE’s Commission on Women in Higher Education, and on the board of the Council of Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). Regionally, she serves on the boards of the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra, the Modern Transit Partnership, the Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania, and the Harrisburg Regional Chamber. In 2004, the chamber recognized Hanes with its Athena Award for individual achievement in the professional advancement of women.



College now offers Civil Engineering degree

Penn State Harrisburg now offers the capital region’s only bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering.

Introduced to fill an identified need in the region, the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering will be available to students beginning this summer.

First- and second-year students now can begin to schedule courses needed to prepare for the major, but juniors will not be able to begin the major until fall 2009.

Professor of Engineering Y. Frank Chen is the program coordinator.

“Our stakeholders – students, employers, advisory boards – have all asked us to add Civil Engineering to our list of programs,” says Dr. Omid Ansary, director of the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology. “We did market studies, feasibility studies, and requested input from professionals in the field as well as area firms. The response was an overwhelming interest in the program. With our mission to serve the public, this will meet an identified need.”

The program fills an identified need in the region.

The new Civil Engineering major will be similar to the long-established and respected program offered by the College of Engineering on the University Park campus, “but with some exceptions to meet area industry needs,” Ansary adds. “The curriculum is focused to serve the business community and to meet stated needs in the workforce.”

Civil Engineering will complement the college’s highly regarded program in Structural Design and Construction Engineering Technology. Associate Professor of Engineering Joseph Cecere says, “We need both programs to fully serve students and employers in the region.”

“Penn State Harrisburg is a regional leader in engineering and engineering technology education and it has long been our focus to better serve the region in these disciplines,” Ansary says. “Civil Engineering follows the Electrical Engineering and Environmental Engineering degrees which the college started in the past few years.”

The program curriculum has five components – environmental, structural, construction, transportation, and water resources – and flexibility for students to concentrate in a specific area.



College co-sponsors science and engineering fair

Several hundred middle and high school students who had researched topics ranging from solar energy to the association between adolescent smoking and personality gathered this winter at the Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts in downtown Harrisburg for the 51st annual Capital Area Science and Engineering Fair. Penn State Harrisburg joined other area colleges and universities, the Whitaker Center, and the Harrisburg Patriot-News as co-sponsors of the fair which encourages students to explore their world through hands-on research.



John C. Whitehead, The Patriot-News

Ketter named development director



Carl Socolow Photography

Jason W. Ketter brings nearly 20 years of experience to his new position as director of development at Penn State Harrisburg. He will oversee development and alumni relations.

Most recently Ketter was vice president of institutional advancement at Delaware Valley College in Doylestown, Pa. He has held development positions at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh; Widener University; and Albright College. His career has also taken him overseas, to the Sultan Qaboos University in the Sultanate of Oman. Ketter holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Iowa, a master of public administration from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, and an MBA from Kutztown University.

Ketter says he looks forward to getting to know alumni and friends of Penn State Harrisburg and to helping them find opportunities that are most meaningful to them in support of the outstanding faculty and students. Passionate about education, Ketter says "education is a passport to future opportunities for today's students, and is critical to their success in competing in a global market."

Outside of work, Ketter, who resides in Reading, Pa., studies for his classes, in pursuit of another degree, and enjoys his family. "My wife, Nayana, is from Sri Lanka, and our two children speak their mother's language as well as English, so I don't know what is going on most of the time in my house as my Sinhalese isn't all that good," he laughs.

Survey: Penn State touches one in two households in Pennsylvania

In a recent survey, Penn State Harrisburg's Center for Survey Research found that 47 percent of a representative sample of Pennsylvanians said they have been touched by Penn State over the 12-month period immediately preceding the survey. This indicates that Penn State provides essential services, information, and support to more than 2 million households in Pennsylvania each year, accounting for approximately one of every two households in the Commonwealth. The Center administered the survey, known as "Penn State Touch," on behalf of Penn State Outreach.



As a land-grant university, Penn State's mission includes teaching, research, and service, a pledge that takes the form of hundreds of Penn State services – like summer camp programs such as Penn State Harrisburg's Kids College or the research assistance provided by the Survey Center – that touch the lives of people throughout Pennsylvania and beyond.

King productions mark 10th anniversary



With the determination "to show the Black family in a positive light," Assistant Professor of Sociology Dorothy E. King has collaborated with Penn State Harrisburg for 10 years to produce an original drama each year in celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

"I am saddened by the types of plays and movies I see about the Black family,"

King says. "I feel a need and responsibility to balance that out...."

Originator of PenOwl Productions, King creates the play each year to entertain and educate, using Rev. King's legacy to frame the story. For example, the 2007 production, "Mr. Dr. Lehrer, Friend," centered on connecting with other ethnic groups and in 2008, "My Appalachian Heart" focused on social action, with people improving life in a West Virginia town.

King says PenOwl, with an ensemble group of about 20 core performers, is "nomadic," performing at numerous locations – churches, synagogues, schools, colleges. "We operate in the spirit of community theater and the message is the most important ingredient," she adds.

King has taught at Penn State Harrisburg for 15 years and stresses PenOwl is a multicultural organization, not limited to African American plays and dramas. "My long range plan is to produce plays written by living playwrights and bring those playwrights to the venue," she says.

The King Day productions at the college traditionally draw hundreds of people, from on and off campus.

Engineers Week Council honors faculty member

Penn State Harrisburg Senior Instructor in Engineering AB Shafaye has received the Central Pennsylvania Engineers Week Council 2008 Technical Achievement Award.

The Technical Achievement Award recognizes an individual who is not a registered professional engineer, but has made notable contributions to the engineering profession and its principles of practice. Director of the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology Omid Ansary received the honor in 2005.

American Library Association praises book

The American Library Association and its *Choice* magazine have praised the new book from Penn State Harrisburg faculty member Dr. James T. Ziegenfuss Jr.

Customer Friendly: The Organizational Architecture of Service, published in 2007, is among those listed as "Outstanding Academic Titles" in the January issue of *Choice*, "reflecting the best in scholarly titles reviewed" by the magazine. The ALA reports the list of honorees contains approximately 10 percent of 7,000 works reviewed in *Choice* each year.

Li appointed to governor's advisory committee

State Secretary of Public Welfare Estelle B. Richman recently announced the appointment of Erik Li, director of Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs' Information Technology Center, to the 58-member Pennsylvania Governor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities.

Li is the only IT professional on the committee which brings together people from different backgrounds to serve the Commonwealth's disabled community as a consultant to the Governor's Cabinet for People with Disabilities.

Professor named editor of new journal

Penn State Harrisburg Professor of Management and International Business Refik Culpun is editor of the new publication *International Journal of Strategic Business Alliances*.

To be published four times per year, the print and online journal "aims to foster the creation and dissemination of knowledge on strategic business alliances from various perspectives including economic, organizational, and strategic management."

Faculty article earns national award

An article co-authored by Dr. Eugene Boman, Penn State Harrisburg associate professor of mathematics, has been honored as the best for 2007 by the Mathematics Association of America.

Boman, Dr. Richard Brazier, Penn State DuBois associate professor of mathematics and geology, and former student Derek Seiple will receive the Carl B. Allendoerfer Award for their article "Mom! There's an Astroid in My Closet!" which appeared in the April 2007 issue of the association's *Mathematics Magazine*.

The Allendoerfer Awards, established in 1976, are given for articles of expository excellence published in *Mathematics Magazine*.

College offers community diversity certificate



Penn State Harrisburg now offers an undergraduate Diversity in Community certificate program aimed to help people overcome challenges from misconceptions arising about differences in race, gender, disability, sexuality, and background.

"These challenges serve as barriers to be overcome in the business and market environments, in the halls of government, in schools and higher education, nonprofit

organizations, and social service agencies if our communities are to be communities in more

than just name,"

said

Associate Professor of Sociology Kamini M. Grahame,



the certificate program coordinator.

Designed for working professionals, concerned individuals, and students,

the 15-credit certificate contains choices of courses in race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, and class and age, and electives in diversity-focused offerings in the college's schools of Behavioral Sciences and Education, Humanities, Business Administration, and Public Affairs.

"The certificate in diversity should appeal to anyone who feels under-prepared or ill-prepared to work in diverse settings or those who desire to explore a new, more critical approach toward questions of justice, power and diversity," said Dr. Grahame. "Students will benefit as they increase their knowledge of the underlying sources of bigotry, homophobia, racism, sexism, and the like."



Biographer says author is as interesting as her book

To Kill a Mockingbird, the twentieth-century's most widely read American novel, has sold 30 million copies and still sells thousands a year. Yet, despite the book's perennial popularity, its author, Harper Lee has become a mysterious figure, refusing since 1964 to give interviews or talk about her novel.

Charles J. Shields brought to life the high-spirited and occasionally hard-headed author in a 2006 biography and *New York Times*



bestseller, *Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee*.

During a presentation at Penn State Harrisburg, Shields framed *To Kill a Mockingbird* as a successful risk and illustrated how, often, an author's life is as interesting as her literary efforts.

Nell Harper Lee left law school at age 21 to become a writer. "She worked as an airline ticket agent for eight years and although she wrote, never submitted her work for publication," Shields said. Then one Christmas, friends gave Lee a blank check to cover a year's expenses so she could write a book. Writing five days a week, she related what she knew best – life in a small Alabama town in the 1930s. Shields said the book's two main characters are modeled after Lee and her father.

The publisher rejected Lee's first manuscript, which she continued to rewrite for two and a half years. Lee's frustration boiled over one night and she threw the manuscript outside.

A conversation with her editor finally prompted her to reclaim the pages and complete the book.

Shields described the book as Lee's attempt to vindicate her father who had lost a court case defending two black men accused of murder in 1919. "She wanted to describe her father's virtues and give him a courtroom success," Shields said, noting that Lee's father never again argued a criminal case.

Lee hoped reviewers would give the book a merciful death after it was published in 1960, Shields said. Instead, it earned Lee the Pulitzer Prize for Literature, and brought with it notoriety which she eschewed.

Lee "abhorred being famous," Shields said, "She only wanted a hymn to her father and to prove she could write." In 1964, she ceased giving interviews. Rumor has it that a second Lee book exists, but it likely will only be published after her death.



You might know Grant Imahara as part of the "build team" on the popular show *Mythbusters*. But how about as the Energizer Bunny's driver or *Star Wars*' R2-D2 operator?

In February, Imahara brought his program "Inside the Scientist Studio" to campus, profiling his experiences.

An electronic and radio-control specialist, Imahara says he does more than play a geek on TV. "I AM a geek on TV," he says.

Imahara explained how he and the other mythbusters put urban legends to test, answering such vexing questions as: Can talking on a cell phone while pumping gas really spark an explosion? (No.) Will a person's stomach explode after too much soda and Pop Rocks. (No.) And, can the jetwash from a 747 flip a taxi? (Yes!)

Imahara stepped the Penn State Harrisburg audience through memorable *Mythbusters* experiments that would violate fire and safety codes if performed outside of television, and showed special *Mythbusters* blooper footage. But all of it came with a friendly caveat – don't try this at home.

Before becoming a mythbuster, Imahara was an animatronics engineer and model maker for George Lucas' Industrial Light and Magic. He worked on movies including *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*, *Star Wars*, and *The Matrix Reloaded*. For *Star Wars*, he installed electronics in R2-D2 and was one of only three official operators of the robot in the U.S.

Imahara also developed electronics for another popular character – the Energizer Bunny. He was responsible for all the electronics installation and radio programming on the current generation of bunnies and developed the custom circuit that cycles the Energizer Bunny's arm beats and ears. He even has been the Bunny's "driver," controlling his moves throughout commercials.

heard on campus

Civil rights advocate calls election "history in the making"



Acclaimed civil rights advocate Morris Dees, famous for his pursuit of hate groups in the United States, used the upcoming presidential election as the backdrop for his recent presentation at Penn State Harrisburg.

Founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center and 2002 recipient of Penn State's honorary doctorate in humane letters, Dees discussed challenges facing the nation today, including the election, increases in hate crimes and hate groups, and "the divide that separates our nation."

"We have a front row seat to history in the making," Dees said, emphasizing the magnitude of the possibility that the Democratic nominee will be an African American male, Barack Obama, or a female, Hillary Clinton.

Dees said the real question is "Can we really share power in this country with people who are different – a Black man? A woman?"

On the rise in hate activity, Dees said a recent Southern Poverty Law Center study noted a 48 percent increase in the number of active hate groups in 2007, bringing the estimated number of groups to nearly 900.

Dees added that "systemic bias and prejudice" are an equally prevalent problem. He gave examples of how bias subtly infiltrates daily activities, whether it is being passed up for a job interview because of the ethnicity of your name or being watched more closely by retail clerks because of your skin color.

"The biggest divide that separates us in this nation is along racial and economic lines," Dees said. "Understanding, acceptance, appreciation, and love for those who are different" will help to bridge the divide, he said. "America is great because of its differences, not in spite of them."

College authors celebrated

The college recognized the published works – including books on topics ranging from criminal justice to sacred music to terrorism – of 16 faculty members and a doctoral student at its Publishing Celebration this spring. Published in the past year were:

Treating Eating Problems of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Developmental Disabilities (Pro-Ed, 2007)

Richard Foxx, Professor of Psychology

Criminological Perspectives on Race and Crime (Routledge, 2007)

Shaun Gabbidon, Professor of Criminal Justice

From Pablo to Osama: Trafficking and Terrorist Networks, Government Bureaucracies, and Competitive Adaptation (Penn State Press, 2007)

Michael Kenney, Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Political Science

The Culture of Prison Violence (Pearson Education, 2008)

Donald Hummer, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

Handbook of Police Administration (USU Press, 2007)

James Ruiz, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Donald Hummer, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

The Meaning of Folklore: The Analytical Essays of Alan Dundes (USU Press, 2007)

Simon Bronner, Distinguished Professor of American Studies and Folklore

Hymns of Faith: A Collection for Organ (Sacred Music Press, 2007)

and *A Celebration Concert* (Hinshaw Music, Inc., 2007)

Robert Lau, Instructor in Music

The Cultural Record: Exploring the History of Collections of Recorded Knowledge (University of Texas Press, 2008)

Bernadette Lear, Behavioral Sciences and Education Librarian

Norfolk and Western Steam in Color (Morning Star Books, Inc., 2007)

Jeremy Plant, Professor of Public Administration and Public Policy

Seed Art: The Package Made Me Buy It (Schiffer Publishing Ltd., 2008)

Irwin Richman, Professor Emeritus of American Studies and History

Popular Culture and Entertainment Media in Adult Education

(Wiley Periodicals, Inc., 2007)

Elizabeth Tisdell, Associate Professor of Adult Education and Patricia Thompson, doctoral student

Handbook of Long-Term Care Administration (CRC Press, 2008)

Cynthia Mara, Associate Professor of Health Care Administration and Policy

An Introduction to Intel Assembly Language for The Essentials of Computer Organization and Architecture, Second Edition (Jones and Bartlett Publishers, Inc., 2007)

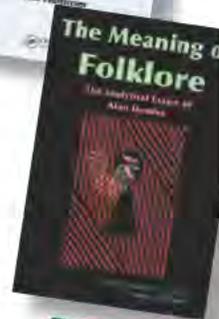
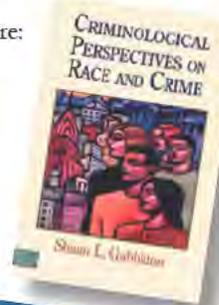
Linda Null, Associate Professor of Computer Science, and Julia Lobur, Lecturer in Computer Science

Benchmarking Procurement Practices in Higher Education (IBM Center for The Business of Government, 2007) and *The Green Baron: A Business Parable on Ecolution* (Trafford Publishing, 2007)

Richard Young, Professor of Supply Chain Management

Customer Friendly: The Organizational Architecture of Service (University Press of America, 2007)

James Ziegenfuss Jr., Professor of Management and Health Care Systems



Linda Null named 2008 Penn State Teaching Fellow

Associate Professor of Computer Science Linda Null is one of only three faculty members University-wide – and the first Penn State Harrisburg faculty member – to be named a 2008 Penn State Teaching Fellow and to receive the Alumni/Student Award for Excellence in Teaching.

The Alumni Association, the Undergraduate Student Government, and the Graduate Student Association established the Penn State Teaching Fellow Award in 1985 to honor distinguished teaching and to encourage and provide incentive for excellence in teaching. Recipients are expected to share their expertise throughout the University system during the year following the award presentation.

Dr. Null teaches some of the most challenging courses in computer science and has incorporated total quality management into her classroom to provide students with a sense of ownership over their learning. She has created multiple education software packages to help students acquire hands-on experience needed to understand advanced concepts.

In 2005, Penn State Harrisburg recognized Null's work as a graduate program coordinator, mentor, and instructor, giving her the college's Award for Excellence in Teaching. At the time, one student summarized the impact of Null's teaching, saying "I am thankful and fortunate to have been challenged in Dr. Null's classes so that I can walk away more prepared, more knowledgeable, and more confident."

Discovering Franklin's mystery acquaintance

Benjamin Franklin scholars, including Penn State Harrisburg Associate Professor of Humanities and History George Boudreau, have long considered the Junto as influential in Franklin's life.

Franklin established the Junto (Latin for "meeting") in 1727 for mutual improvement in Philadelphia. Also known as the Leather Apron Club, the group debated moral, political, and philosophical questions, and exchanged business knowledge. The Junto became the locus from which Franklin and his fellows created America's first public library and the American Philosophical Society, among other accomplishments.

Until recently, a mystery remained about how many men were members of the first Junto. Through tedious research, Dr. Boudreau has solved the mystery and identified a member not listed before.

"Writing in 1771, Franklin noted the names of 10 of his fellows who joined him to form the Junto in 1727. Yet when Franklin resumed his autobiographical account in 1788, he was careful to state that the original Junto had 12 members," Boudreau wrote in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*.

Boudreau questioned whether this was a mathematical error or if a twelfth man joined the artisans and shopkeepers who gathered each Friday night in early eighteenth-century Philadelphia. And if so, who was the mystery member?

He found the answer in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania archives in notebooks kept by Nicholas Scull, a surveyor and tavern keeper. "Scull's commonplace notebooks . . . held a remarkable find for Franklin scholars," Boudreau says. "It was in his Indian Head Tavern where the Junto first met until the group relocated to Scull's Bear Tavern in 1728. In January 1728, Scull began recording the Junto members' accounts (tabs) into his book. All the names

associated with the Junto were familiar, except one – John Jones, shoemaker."

Who was John Jones? Aided by the "shoemaker" label in Scull's accounts, Boudreau traced Jones' connections to Franklin's circle.

"He patronized Franklin's shop, purchasing advertisements and ink in 1730. In addition to the Junto, Jones followed Franklin into membership in the St. John's Lodge of the Freemasons, the Philadelphia Contributionship (fire insurance company), and in 1731, he was a founding member of the Library Company of Philadelphia, where he signed his name surrounded by fellow Junto members," Boudreau says.



Study examines toll road privatization

A new study by Penn State Harrisburg faculty member Dr. Peter Swan and colleague Dr. Michael Belzer of Wayne State University shows that privatizing toll roads may divert truck traffic to "free" roads, possibly resulting in more crashes and causing negative economic consequences.

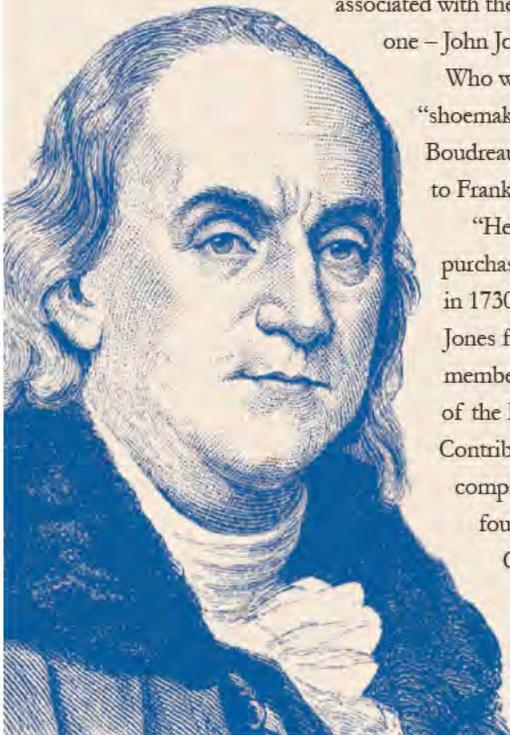
"While recently privatized roads do not have enough history to determine how high actual toll rates will rise, adequate data do exist to determine what happens when toll rates increase dramatically on state-run toll roads," says Swan, assistant professor of logistics and operations management.

The study concludes that if governments allow private toll road operators to maximize profits, higher tolls could divert trucks to local roads. As an example, the study estimated that for 2005, a for-profit, private operator of the Ohio Turnpike could have raised tolls to roughly three times what they were under the public turnpike authority, resulting in about a 40% diversion of trucks from the turnpike to other roads.

For economic and social reasons, the number of diverted trucks is important to individual states and the nation, Swan says.

First, many of the substitute roads are two-lane highways, often with higher crash rates than the turnpike. Second, increased traffic reduces the quality of life for communities located along diversion routes and dramatically increases maintenance costs for these roads. Finally, higher truck tolls negatively impact the economy. Motor carriers eventually pass all tolls to consumers in the form of higher prices for goods. Diversion also reduces the trucks' efficiency because they are taking a second-best route; the resulting loss of efficiency can stifle economic activity.

Swan and Belzer's study questions whether it makes good policy sense to substitute the existing system of funding with one that uses widespread tolls and grants long-term leases to private enterprises operating for profit.



Awards Convocation recognizes faculty, staff

Faculty and staff members received major college honors during Penn State Harrisburg's annual Awards Convocation March 26.

Termed a “consummate scholar” by one of her nominators, **Dr. Elizabeth Tisdell** was honored for bringing strong interests in gender, race, diversity, and equity issues to the doctoral program in Adult Education. Her current research focuses on how underlying spiritual commitments influence the educational practices of a multicultural group of women educators. She has written three books, a monograph, and 22 book chapters, and has contributed numerous publications, conference proceedings, book reviews, articles, and papers.

Cited for his “remarkable record of accomplishment in the scholarship of service,” **Dr. John Haddad**'s contributions include guiding the college Honors Program, chairing the Regional Chapters Committee of the national American Studies Association, and serving as editor of the Middle Atlantic American Studies Association's newsletter.

Described as “innovative, enthusiastic, and dedicated” as coordinator of the college's Finance program, **Dr. Oranee Tawatnuntachai** was recognized for emphasizing interpersonal interaction with students and for incorporating various technologies into the classroom to facilitate student learning.

Mr. AB Shafaye has established a reputation for excellence in student advising and consistently receives the gratitude of graduates he continues to counsel. Alumni of the electrical programs spanning several decades point to his constant availability for advice and guidance when they were students and his willingness to continue the relationship after graduation.

Dr. Raffy Luquis co-chairs the campus Diversity and Educational Equity Committee Outreach/Linkages Subcommittee and serves on the Faculty Senate Committee on International and Intercultural Affairs. He helped create a graduate-level course, Multicultural Issues in Health, now a requirement for students in the Health Education master's program, and he has served with the American Association of Health Education, the AIDS Planning Coalition of Southcentral Pennsylvania, and the PA Department of Health's Asthma Disparity workgroup.

Mrs. Ella Dowell was honored for creating a welcoming climate at the college and for commitment to the college's international activities and students. Cited were her work with visiting students and her service as chair of Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day and the Martin Luther King Day poster project.

Mrs. Dawn Hamaty's list of contributions to the college is extensive. She has served as secretary of the Commission for Women and is the School of Business Administration representative to the United Way campaign. She has shared her expertise on the faculty and staff giving campaign, as an invited speaker at the National Consortium for Continuous Improvement, as a member of the college Diversity and Educational Equity Committee and a longtime member of the Judicial Affairs Hearing Board.

Ms. Lori Ricard recently chaired Penn State Harrisburg's Commission for Women (CFW) and revitalized the organization's programming. During her term, membership and CFW campus activities grew substantially. She helped the commission organize panel discussions, vigils, plays, and other events focused on women's issues, and dedicated her time to activities that raised several thousand dollars to aid domestic violence awareness and victim assistance programs in Dauphin County.



Elizabeth J. Tisdell
Associate Professor of
Adult Education
*Excellence in Research and
Scholarly Activity Award*



John R. Haddad
Assistant Professor of American
Studies and Literature
Faculty Service Award



Oranee Tawatnuntachai
Associate Professor
of Finance
Excellence in Teaching Award



AB Shafaye
Senior Instructor in Engineering
Excellence in Advising Award



Raffy R. Luquis
Associate Professor of
Health Education
Faculty Diversity Award



Ella A. Dowell
Administrative Assistant,
School of Humanities
Staff Diversity Award



Dawn L. Hamaty
Administrative Assistant,
School of Business Administration
Staff Service Award



Lori R. Ricard
Administrative Assistant,
School of Science, Engineering,
and Technology
*Kathryn Towns Women's
History Month Award*

PENN STATE HARRISBURG
CAPITAL
Society

Penn State Harrisburg is proud to announce the formation of The Capital Society to honor and recognize those who, through their philanthropic investment, share a commitment to the continuing excellence of Penn State Harrisburg.

The inaugural
CAPITAL SOCIETY GALA
will be held October 24, 2008.

To inquire about becoming a member of The Capital Society or to check the status of your membership, please call 717-948-6316 to speak with Jason W. Ketter, director of development (jwk22@psu.edu), or Marissa Hoover, associate director of development (mrg159@psu.edu). The Capital Society consists of four membership circles. For details, visit www.hbg.psu.edu/philanthropy/capitalsociety.

Scholarship will aid Penn State Harrisburg students

The family of well-known Harrisburg business leader Morris "Morrie" Schwab and the Phi Sigma Delta Sigma Educational Foundation have joined together to make a \$100,000 gift to endow the Morrie Schwab/Phi Sigma Delta Sigma Educational Foundation Trustee Scholarship to benefit undergraduates at Penn State Harrisburg.

The late Morris Schwab, a 1940 Penn State graduate, was CEO of Credential Leasing Corp. and an officer and board member of D&H Distributing Co. He served 12 years on the Penn State Alumni Association Executive Board and received its first Outstanding Alumni Council Member award.

Recently, Schwab and his wife, Linda, established the Schwab Family Holocaust Reading Room in the Penn State Harrisburg library. In addition to supporting Penn State Harrisburg through their family foundation and personal giving, the Schwabs have been steadfast supporters of many other areas of the University.

Phi Sigma Delta Sigma Educational Foundation was formed by alumni of the Penn State Sigma Chapter of Phi Sigma Delta fraternity. Although the fraternity ceased functioning in 2000, the foundation continues with a mission to provide academic scholarship support for Penn State students of good academic standing who have financial need.

Launched in 2002, the Trustee Scholarship program has a unique matching component. The University matches 5 percent of each gift annually and combines these funds with income from the endowment to increase the financial impact of the scholarship.

Players honored

Three Penn State Harrisburg basketball players have received post-season recognition. In addition to Seth Lewis (story below), men's team guard Abe Hitz was named third team all-conference. The Annville-Cleona High School graduate was fourth in the conference in scoring, averaging 20.1 points per game, second in free throw shooting at 85.5 percent, and fourth in steals at 1.84.

On the women's side, Sandra Adames (Pontiac Northern/Pontiac, MI) capped off an outstanding year by being named to the NEAC's third team. The junior led the Lady Lions in points per game (16.5), rebounds (14.5), and blocks (75). Those numbers were good enough for fourth in the conference in scoring, second in rebounding, and second in blocked shots per game.



Player splits time with growing business

As a student-athlete, Seth Lewis was faced with a dilemma.

Although only 21, he had created a successful landscaping business in the Harrisburg area which was making it difficult to continue his basketball career at Philadelphia University.

"While I was there (at Philadelphia University), I continued to grow my local landscaping business, so I had



to come home every weekend to work on it. I started the business when I was 15, but it's grown quite a lot since then," Lewis says.

To solve his dilemma, the Lower Dauphin High School graduate left Philadelphia, enrolled at Penn State Harrisburg, and joined

the men's basketball team, a move mutually beneficial for the 6-2, 210-pound Lewis and the team.

Quickly establishing himself as a main ingredient in coach Kirk Ream's attack, Lewis capped his first season with the Lions by being named NEAC Player of the Year and receiving first-team all-conference honors. He led the conference in scoring at 21-points per game and was second in rebounds, averaging nine per game.

"Basketball is an outlet for me because of my busy schedule," Lewis told the Harrisburg *Patriot-News*. "I feel like I need it. We're still in our growing stages here (at Penn State Harrisburg), but it's good to be a part of it."

Fall Sports Recap

The college recently recognized 12 student-athletes who participated in fall sports at the annual banquet on campus. Dr. J. Nathan Althouse, the Penn State Varsity "S" Club development coordinator, was the keynote speaker.

The students honored and their majors included:

Men's Cross Country

Coach's Award – Bello Galadanchi, Science
Most Valuable Player – Seth Grove, Engineering

Women's Cross Country

Coach's Award – Mai Xiong, Science
Most Valuable Player – Mary Hennemann, Finance

Men's Soccer

Coach's Award – Justin Sheaffer, Mathematical Science
Most Valuable Player – Andrew Geib, Applied Behavioral Science

Women's Soccer

Coach's Award – Amanda Basile, Information Sciences and Technology
Most Valuable Player – Katelyn Roberts, Criminal Justice

Women's Tennis

Coach's Award – Jessica Karl, Criminal Justice
Most Valuable Player – Ashleigh Roach, Elementary Education

Women's Volleyball

Coach's Award – Michelle Herb, Kinesiology
Most Valuable Player – Jayme Michael, Communications

For the fall season, the men's soccer squad compiled an 8-9-2 overall mark and was 4-3-2 in the North Eastern Athletic Conference, reaching the conference championship tournament. The women's soccer squad was 4-10-1 and 3-5-1, women's tennis was 1-11 and 1-5, and the women's volleyball unit compiled a 10-10 overall mark, 1-5 in the conference.

Erik Keptner earns Alumni Achievement Award

Erik P. Keptner, '94 PUBPL, senior vice president of marketing and advertising for Giant Food Stores, has received the Penn State Alumni Achievement Award presented by the University's Alumni Association.

The Alumni Achievement Award recognizes alumni 35 years of age and younger for their extraordinary accomplishments. Recipients are nominated by an academic college and invited by the University President to return to campus to share their expertise with students, faculty, and administrators.

Keptner oversees marketing, advertising, public relations, sales development, consumer research, and category management for Giant Foods. He is responsible for development and execution of consumer marketing strategies that drive sales, profitability, and brand image.

After graduating from Penn State Harrisburg, he was employed by the Pennsylvania State Data Center on campus before earning an MBA from Temple University and beginning his career at Giant. He has held the positions of consumer research manager, director of consumer research, and vice president of consumer insights and sales development.

Giant Foods operates more than 140 supermarkets in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia and is one of the Commonwealth's largest employers.

Previous Alumni Achievement Award winners from Penn State Harrisburg were Stephen C. Burkholder, '92 SDCET, and Alexander A. Guk, '00 COMP.



Erik Keptner

Business school cited for best practice

The Penn State Harrisburg School of Business Administration's commitment to assure that students learn has earned praise from the world's leading accrediting body.

AACSB International – the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business – recently cited as a “best practice” the school's initiative to gauge student learning and the effectiveness of instruction in its programs.

“The team was impressed with the school's [learning] assessment program” the accreditors said, adding that programs run by the campus are “outstanding.”

The endorsement resulted from AACSB's peer review of the school, necessary to maintain accreditation.

“For years, higher education has developed curricula and courses in response to business, industry, and students,” explains Acting School Director Stephen P. Schappe. “We've regularly surveyed students, alumni, and our advisory boards

on what kind of job we were doing. But these are indirect measures. In 2003 AACSB began to emphasize ‘assurance of learning,’ and mandated that all accredited institutions develop internal measures to judge their students' level of learning.”

In response, the school established learning goals and objectives and developed direct measurement techniques. It also created an assessment committee. “The goals are stated up front in all courses and should reflect the skills and knowledge areas that are most valued and should be demonstrated by graduates,” Dr. Schappe says. “For example, our students and graduates must be effective communicators and critical thinkers.

“The process identifies things we do well and things we can improve upon. It's a fact-driven process.”



Stephen Schappe



MPA program ranked among nation's best

The national reputation for Penn State Harrisburg's Master of Public Administration program continues to escalate.

In its newest rankings of public affairs graduate programs throughout the nation, *U.S. News and World Report* places Penn State Harrisburg's MPA program at number 51 out of 269 colleges and universities. The ranking establishes the program among the top 20 percent in the country.

The college's MPA program is housed in its School of Public Affairs, designated the flagship school in public affairs for the University.

“This ranking testifies to the reputation for quality that our MPA program has within the larger public affairs graduate community,” says Dr. Steven A. Peterson, director of the School of Public Affairs. “And while it is gratifying to be ranked in the top 20 percent of all such programs, our challenge is now to redouble our efforts to gain an even greater reputation for the quality of our programming in the future.”



Take me out to the ballpark

Save the date and join us at the ballpark!

What:

Penn State Harrisburg Family Day at the Harrisburg Senators

When:

Friday, June 20, 2008
Picnic at 5:30 p.m.
Game at 6:35 p.m.

Where:

City Island, Harrisburg

Tickets:

Adults – \$20
Children (ages 3-12) – \$10

Registration:

www.hbg.psu.edu/alumni
or
717-948-6715



Blue & White Society hosts first pep rally

Blue and white poured through the Capital Union Building this winter as students, faculty, and alumni participated in the college's first pep rally since the intercollegiate athletics program was re-established in 2005 after an absence of more than a decade.

Hosted and organized by the Blue & White Society, the January 22 rally kicked off men's and women's basketball games against Lancaster Bible College.

The Blue & White Society is the student contingent of the Penn State Alumni Association, the largest dues-paying alumni association in the world. Penn State Harrisburg's Society was established during the fall 2007 semester and currently has 142 members. The Alumni Association and the Blue & White Society are the keepers of Penn State pride and traditions.

"The Pep Rally was planned to get students involved in Penn State Harrisburg sporting events. The Blue & White Society wants more students to attend games and support campus activities," explains Blue & White adviser Alison Simpson, '03 SPCOM.



Boobies Ball supports breast cancer awareness



The first college campus to host a dance to support a local breast cancer awareness foundation, Penn State Harrisburg's Lion Ambassadors on March 28 hosted the third annual "Boobies Ball," helping to remind young women to "feel your boobies."

Feel Your Boobies Foundation (FYB) creator, Middletown resident, and former Penn State Harrisburg adjunct professor Leigh Hurst was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004 at the age of 33. "Feel Your Boobies started as an accident after I designed shirts for my friends simply to remind them to do breast self-examinations," she said.

Ten thousand t-shirts later, the foundation has grown significantly. Hurst no longer teaches and instead tends to FYB full time. Frequently asked to speak at colleges and health-related events, Hurst said Penn State Harrisburg provided the model she now uses for other colleges interested in helping to support the foundation's efforts.

FYB targets women under 40, an audience that Hurst says often doesn't realize they are at risk for breast cancer and may not think about self-examinations. FYB uses unconventional methods – like airplane banners flying above the Jersey shore or the Boobies Bus, a custom wrapped Toyota Scion – to position its catch phrase and promote breast cancer awareness. "We believe that seeing this message gets people talking in a light-hearted way about a serious topic," she says, "and if you're thinking and talking about 'feeling your boobies' then there's a better chance you'll start to do it."

With Hurst on hand and more than 130 students attending, this year's Boobies Ball raised \$2,200, doubling last year's total.

Grad named state's chief accounting officer

Penn State Harrisburg graduate Anna Marie Anderson, '85 P ACC, has been appointed the Commonwealth's chief accounting officer. A Camp Hill resident, she previously served the Office of the Budget as assistant director for Commonwealth accounting and reporting.

A Certified Public Accountant and Certified Government Manager, Anderson has 28 years of experience in Commonwealth accounting, auditing, and budgetary and financial reporting. She is a member of the national and Pennsylvania chapters of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Association of Governmental Accountants.

As chief accounting officer, Anderson will lead comptroller operations, providing accounting, auditing, payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, contract management, and financial reporting services to Commonwealth agencies. The budget office's Office of Comptroller Operations provides financial support services to all agencies under the governor's jurisdiction and ensures accountability for funds.



Anna Marie Anderson

Alumni couples gather



Ivan Sears, '82 BUS, and wife Christine, '77 BUS, attended the Alumni Couples Dinner, February 9 on campus.

1986 grad named PUC bureau director

Robert F. Wilson, '86 MBA, is the new director of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's Bureau of Fixed Utility Services (FUS).

"During his nearly 30 years of service at the Commission, Bob has been a key adviser to the Commission, as well as other state officials, on important public utility matters," Chairman Wendell F. Holland said.

Since 1978, Wilson has served various roles at the PUC. He is a Certified Public Accountant, past chairman of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants State Committee for Members in Business, Government and Education, and has served on the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants State Committee for Legislative Affairs and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Government Committee.

The Bureau of Fixed Utility Services advises the PUC on technical issues related to energy, telecommunications and water/wastewater; offers policy recommendations on rates, tariffs and regulatory matters; processes fixed utility applications for PUC authority; and coordinates emergency operations of utilities.

Alumni by the numbers

Source: Office of Alumni and Development, 2007-08

31,158

Number of living Penn State Harrisburg alumni

49

Number of states in which Penn State Harrisburg alumni live (If you've recently moved to South Dakota, please let us know.)

40

Number of countries in which Penn State Harrisburg alumni live

Three deployments later, grad earns two master's degrees

If perseverance and time management lead to success, recent Penn State Harrisburg graduate Matthew Scott Lemmon is on the fast track.

When he walked across the stage at December commencement to be awarded not one, but two master's degrees, it marked the end of an unpredictable five years.

It took Lemmon five years to complete his MBA and Master of Science in Information Systems studies – a reasonable time frame for most students working on a single degree. But his five years also included a marriage and three deployments to active military duty.



Matthew Lemmon

Lemmon, who earned a bachelor's degree in Information Systems from the college in 1999, decided to pursue a master's in 2002. "I decided there was a window of opportunity to do this before other obligations got in the way," Lemmon told the *Carlisle Sentinel*. He was married that year and decided not to put off graduate studies any longer.

Two months after he began, the radio communications systems operator for the Air National Guard's 193rd Special Operations Wing was called to serve in Ecuador. He returned 50 days later and was called again – for 45 days in the Persian Gulf.

Upon his second return, he temporarily put his studies on hold while starting a new job as a database administrator/applied engineer at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle.

When he resumed studies, he enrolled in a concurrent program that enabled him to earn the two master's degrees. But again duty called and he was off to the Persian Gulf. After his final return, he began his academic pursuit with earnest. He credits Penn State Harrisburg for helping him reach his goal. "The support received from the School of Business Administration, individual faculty on deferred grades and assignments, and other student services was phenomenal," he said. "For those reasons, I presented [the college with] two American flags – to Chancellor Hanes, for the campus, and to the School of Business Administration in the spring following my last deployment."

While the calls to active duty were an unexpected disruption, Lemmon said the experience was positive. "Until you set foot outside the U.S., I don't think you appreciate how great we have it here. You come back with a profound understanding of how fortunate we are to be born here and live here."



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IST grad featured in tech publication

Jason Shanebrook, '06 IST, was profiled recently in *Techwire*, published by the Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania.

Shanebrook was the first recipient of the Council's TechQuest Scholarship. He now works at Med-Media of Mechanicsburg, where he develops applications for emergency services.

"The scholarship allowed me to focus on my academic and career goals and worry less about how to afford my education," Jason said, "I chose design and development because it gave me the flexibility to manage projects from start to finish. I went from a high school graduate who couldn't decide what direction I wanted to go, to a well-rounded individual with focused goals...Receiving the scholarship boosted my self-confidence. Knowing someone else thought I was doing well in college helped to keep me focused."

Alumni News and Notes

1970s

Daniel A. Marks, Jr., '73 ED ET, Green Island, N.Y., is currently a member of the Civil Air Patrol and a pilot. He has two children in college and still enjoys playing the guitar. E-mail: dmarks@nycap.rr.com.

Deborah J. Bertolet, '76 BUS, Lebanon, Pa., has been named president of the Lebanon Valley Council on the Arts. She is director of marketing at Heritage Commons in Lebanon. E-mail: djhb22@juno.com.

Pamela Eiceman Bianco, '77 B HUM, Bonita Springs, Fla., retired to Florida in 2004 after careers in teaching and real estate and would appreciate hearing from friends from classes and/or Meade Heights. E-mail: wirefox6@yahoo.com.

Robert L. Weinhold, '78 BBA, Dale City, Va., was hired recently by ProLogic Incorporated as deputy division manager for C4I Programs. E-mail: robleew@msn.com.

1980s

David J. Shelcusky, '80 BUS, Pottsville, Pa., recently acquired the assets of Charles M. Naspinski Tax & Accounting Service, Frackville, under his own Shelcusky Accounting & Tax Services, Pottsville. E-mail: taxprof@verizon.net.

William M. Lambert, '80 MET, Butler, Pa., was recently promoted to president and chief operating officer of Mine Safety Appliances Company (MSA) North America and MSA International. He was elected to the Board of Directors in December 2007 and will become CEO in May 2008 as part of the company's succession plan. E-mail: william.lambert@msanet.com.

Paul Rich, '81 MDET, Camden, Ark., was recently promoted to executive director of operations with Aerojet. He has two children, Caitlin and Brian. E-mail: paul.rich@aerojet.com.

Thomas P. Garry, Jr., '85 FINCE, Moorpark, Calif., joined Citibank as senior vice president, Media & Entertainment Finance in Los Angeles in July 2007. In September 2007 wife Zena gave birth to daughter Sophia Marie. E-mail: tpgarryjr@yahoo.com.

Christine L. Behney, '85 SCI, Reading, Pa., recently formed City Thrift Shop, a non-profit organization serving the local Berks County community with clothing and household goods for persons of need. E-mail: citythriftshop@aol.com.

David A. DuLac, '86 ELEM, Queenstown, Md., has been promoted to principal at Kent Island Elementary School in Stevensville, Md. E-mail: dulacd@qacps.k12.md.us.

Terry A. Masch, '86 FINCE, Harrisburg, has been named vice president and commercial-relationship manager with Sovereign Bank.

Patrick F. DiSante, '86 MPA, Harrisburg, has retired from his position as chief information security officer (CISO) with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. E-mail: pfdwht@verizon.net.

Bob Kunzinger, '89 M HUM, Virginia Beach, Va., has published his fourth book *PENANCE: Walking with the Infant* which has been nominated for five awards and is now available at Amazon and stores nationwide. He teaches and lives in the Bay region of Virginia. E-mail: rkunzinger@tcc.edu.

Julie Davis Echterling, '89 ACCT, Camp Hill, Pa., has a two-year-old daughter, Cassie, with husband Randal, and is expecting a second child. She has moved recently into a new home in Camp Hill and would love to hear from old friends. E-mail: jdavispsu@comcast.net.

1990s

Gregory D. Stanton, '92 EET, Elkton, Md., a licensed professional engineer in Pennsylvania and Maryland, was promoted to director of

operations and engineering Services with Smiths Detection in February 2007. He was appointed to Smiths Group Global Operations Council in January 2007. He has five children with wife Sheila. E-mail: gdstanton@ieee.org.

William C. Terrill, '92 CRIMJ, Okemos, Mich., has been promoted to associate professor with tenure in the school of criminal justice at Michigan State University. E-mail: terrillw@msu.edu.

Mary Hannah Newcomer Padilla, '93 ACC, Silver Spring, Md., has been admitted into the partnership of KPMG LLP effective October 1, 2007. E-mail: mhpadilla@kpmg.com.

David B. Blain, '93 P ACC, Harrisburg, has been promoted to principal with McKonly & Ashbury LLP. E-mail: dblain@macpas.com.

Chuck Wurzbach, '94 P ACC, Ambler, Pa., has been named partner at Buchanan Clarke Schlader LLP in Holmdel, NJ. E-mail: crwurzb@verizon.net.

Karin Wagaman Roth, '96 ABESC, Dover, Pa., is currently working as a medical assistance specialist at Colonial Park Care Center in Harrisburg. She has two boys, Joshua, 9 and Justin, 6. E-mail: karin.roth@yahoo.com.

Nadine Brown, '99 PUBPL, will return to Penn State Harrisburg in fall 2008 to attain her Master of Arts in American Studies. E-mail: nadinebrown@earthlink.net.

Kathleen A. Swailes, '99 P ACC, has started her own business, Commonwealth Accounting Solutions.

Makito Yurita, '99 M AMSTUD, was recently appointed assistant professor at Shimane University, one of the national universities of Japan. She will oversee the Center for Research on Teacher Education.

2000s

Rodney K. Royer, '00 INFSY, Myerstown, Pa., is president of Kingdom Computer Services, Inc., which was recently ranked as one of the top 20 local security system companies. E-mail: rodandmosel@comcast.net.

Aaron A. Young, '00 FINCE, Middletown, Pa., has been promoted to assistant vice president/commercial relationship manager with Sovereign Bank.

Dr. Stanley L. Mrozowski, '01 Ph.D. P ADM, Hummelstown, Pa., director of the Children's Bureau in the Pennsylvania Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, recently received the 2007 Marilyn Mennis Memorial Award from the Pennsylvania Community Providers Association, given annually to individuals that display leadership and dedication on behalf of Pennsylvania's children.

Brian C. Cline, '02 P ACC, New Cumberland, Pa., has been promoted to senior accountant with McKonly & Ashbury LLP.

Howard L. Rudnick, '02 MHA, has been appointed clinical faculty in occupational medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. He is also a clinical assistant professor of medicine at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center. E-mail: hrudnick@mail.med.upenn.edu.

Susan Biondo-Hench, '02 M HUM, recently earned the Folger Shakespeare Steward Award for her outstanding contributions to the innovative teaching of Shakespeare in American classrooms. She also founded student Shakespeare festivals in the region and edited a unit of a Shakespeare text book, used by secondary school English teachers around the world. She teaches at Carlisle High School.

Connie Zimmerman, '02 PUBPL, Steelton, Pa., has received the YWCA's Sarah Alyce Wright Award for her domestic violence advocacy efforts for the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg for two consecutive years. She also chairs the YWCA Advocacy and Public Policy Committee and is the vice president of the PA Women's Legislative Exchange.

Robert H. MacFinnes, III, '03 M HUM, recently completed his three-year clinical training program in family therapy to become a licensed therapist.

Mavis Nimoh, '04 MPA, has been named director of Dauphin County's recently reorganized department of

drugs and alcohol. She was former state manager of victim services for MADD Pennsylvania.

Richard Rabuck, '04 PUBPL, Jonestown, Pa., recently welcomed his first child, Reagan Elizabeth Rabuck, with wife Jessica Rabuck, '05 ELEM, on September 29, 2007. E-mail: rrabuck@pahousegop.com.

Sakari Sanders Morvey, '04 MPA, Columbia, Md., was married to Eric C. Morvey, '04 MPA, on September 1, 2007. E-mail: sakari.sanders@yahoo.com.

Amy E. Leonard, '04 PUBPL, Hummelstown, Pa., was recently named a development coordinator

with the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Pennsylvania. E-mail: aeleonar@hacc.edu.

Keith R. Cromwell, '05 M.ED., Lancaster, Pa., welcomed his first child, Benjamin Paul Cromwell on April 20, 2007. E-mail: keithcromwell@comcast.net.

Deena T. Sankari, '06 FINCE, Catasauqua, Pa., recently gave birth to a son on July 13, 2007. E-mail: dendouny84@yahoo.com.

Elizabeth Garber Lewis, '06 M AMSTUD, Lancaster, Pa., received the K-12 Distinguished Teacher Award for 2007 from the Pennsylvania Geographical Society.

David J. Boyd, '83 BBA, Fredericksburg, Va., was awarded the Department of State's State of the Art IT Award for leadership in the development of a fingerprint capture system to support federal interagency border security initiatives. E-mail: boyddj@psualum.com.



alumni news

Tell us about yourself.

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

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

Please send me information on:

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