

Fayette

NITTANY NEWSLINE

2010 ANNUAL



PENNSTATE



Fayette The Eberly
Campus

CAMPUS WELCOMES NEW CHANCELLOR
NEW EXCELLENCE FUND ESTABLISHED



*D*ear campus community and friends:

2010 was a year of many changes at the Penn State Fayette Campus. I was appointed interim chancellor shortly after the sudden death of Chancellor Emmanuel Osagie in mid-March. My immediate focus was to bring stability and direction at a time of difficult transition and build community by having us take the time to get to know each other.

The Mont Alto campus, where I served as director of Academic Affairs for eight years, sits in a rural setting much similar to the Fayette campus. Making the adjustment to the rustic charm of Fayette's beautiful campus and rural Fayette County was therefore quite seamless. I have gotten to know the campus quite well since then through town hall meetings with students, faculty, and staff, gatherings over punch, and brown bag luncheons with faculty and staff. I have observed the engagement of students through activities like THON, witnessed the scholarly accomplishments of faculty, been encouraged by the increased camaraderie between faculty, staff, and administrators, and feel very gratified by all of this.

I am pleased with the conversations I have had with many individuals and campus groups about their aspirations to see our campus accomplish its vision of being the finest student-centered university in our region. The campus' strategic plan, which outlines in detail many of the goals and objectives that are steering the campus forward, has been updated to ensure that it remains relevant. We will soon follow up with campus-wide conversations that will culminate in a collective articulation of our shared values and how they align with the strategic plan. I appreciate the consultative role the Advisory Board of Penn State Fayette and numerous friends of the campus have played in this regard.

Thanks to the generous welcome and camaraderie I received, I felt like I was already an integral part of the campus community even during my interim chancellorship. By June, barely three months after I arrived, the University was already seeking candidates for permanent appointment to the chancellor's post. I must express my sincerest thanks for the gracious nominations I received for this position and the candid conversations that were had during interviews with various campus constituents. I was even more gratified that I was selected for the permanent position, which I officially assumed on November 1.

Penn State Fayette has tremendous potential. We are making excellent progress towards our vision. Our strategic plan is serving us well as our compass, and our efforts in promoting shared governance are serving as the framework and catalyst for our continued progress.

Our campus already has many distinctions. As the only four-year institution in Fayette County, we are a vital source of intellectual capital for southwestern Pennsylvania. The majority of corporate recruiters have recently indicated in a *Wall Street Journal* survey that they have a preference for Penn State graduates because they are "bright, well-rounded students with the core competencies we desire." Our students can therefore be confident that their degrees have great value, that they have the potential to earn more over their careers, and that the worldwide network of Penn State alumni will be an invaluable lifetime resource. And, within the community, our university is positioned to be the first stop for ideas to boost economic development, for resources and expertise in a wide range of subject areas such as energy and sustainability, and as a venue for cultural, educational and athletic activities. Nonetheless, we will not rest on our laurels, for there is always more to be done.

In the years ahead, we will together, as a community and as a part of the larger region we serve, grow, prosper, and reach for the future of possibilities that we know beckons.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis K. Achampong". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Francis K. Achampong, Ph.D.

IN MEMORIAM

CHARLES "CHAS" WILLIAM MCKINLEY

86, died March 11. Charles was a Penn State Fayette Advisory Board emeritus member. He served on the advisory board from 1965-2010.

EMMANUEL I. OSAGIE

58, died unexpectedly March 9. A native of Nigeria, he served as chancellor of Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus since February 2007.

HELEN N. SNYDER

88, died May 6. Helen was a Penn State Fayette Advisory Board emeritus member. She served the advisory board from 1980-2010.

JAMES E. WORK

81, passed away January 27. James was a Penn State Fayette Advisory Board emeritus member and Penn State alumnus. He served on the advisory board from 1988-2010.

FAYETTE NITTANY NEWSLINE

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On the cover: Penn State Fayette Chancellor Dr. Francis Achampong (center) with Fayette's Student Government Association executive officers (from left) President Rebecca Johnson, Treasurer John Peck, Secretary Meagan Slates, and Vice President Corey Spaw.

PENN STATE FAYETTE WELCOMES NEW CHANCELLOR

by Christine Cox

November 1 marked the official start of Dr. Francis K. Achampong's tenure as chancellor of Penn State Fayette. Achampong's appointment followed a six-month, international search for a new chancellor following the unexpected death of former Chancellor Emmanuel Osagie in March.

As it turns out, Achampong had been preparing for a chancellor position even before the opportunity arose at Penn State Fayette. In his seventh year as director of academic affairs at Penn State Mont Alto, his previous position, he was contacted by Dr. Karen Wiley Sandler, chancellor of Penn State University's Abington Campus. "She asked if I was interested in a chancellor position she was aware of," explains Achampong. "I had not previously given any thought to becoming a chancellor, so I had a number of conversations with other chancellors and decided it would be a good career track for which I could prepare."

With encouragement from Mont Alto Chancellor Dr. David C. Gnage, Achampong was accepted into the Harvard Graduate School of Education to complete a certificate in Management and Leadership Education. He also became a Fellow of the American Council on Education from 2008-2009.

It was after that he came to Penn State Fayette to serve as interim chancellor. At the time, Achampong felt he had some affinity with the Fayette campus, not only from the standpoint of his experience working in the Penn State system, but because Mont Alto also is in a rural setting. Nonetheless, Achampong says, "I worked hard to learn all I could about the campus and the community."

From his first day as interim chancellor, he worked to bring stability and direction to the campus. It was his initiative and goal to develop a new diversity plan, build community and promote teamwork, and provide professional development for faculty and staff.

Now as permanent chancellor, he is looking ahead to the future of the campus



with potential new programs and facilities to house students, labs, and classrooms.

Achampong says, "I would like to establish new degree programs, an honors program endowment, a study abroad program endowment, and scholarships to benefit students who show academic excellence and financial need." As for facilities, on-campus housing is a major need. In addition, Achampong would like to see new baseball and softball fields come alive.

The chancellor is also raising the bar for the campus, striving to reach the next level of excellence, which includes research and scholarship expectations. "Whether people are aware of it or not, Penn State campuses have a higher research expectation for instructors and professors than state system schools," he says. "We have many research resources available for our faculty to use and it shows through their work. I want people to recognize Penn State Fayette as a quality campus with individuals who are not only instructors and professors, but also scholars."

If there is one thing Achampong has already proven to the campus and community, it is his dedication to Penn State Fayette. His leadership style is to lead by example, to serve as a role model, and to illustrate a passion for learning, goals for success and diversity. But overall, Penn State Fayette's newest chancellor is proud to bleed blue and white.

CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

NEW CERTIFICATE FOR REGISTERED NURSES

A 12-credit Continuing Education Nursing Management Certificate for registered nurses began in September. Monthly Saturday morning classroom meetings are paired with online instruction to meet availability for already working registered nurses. The program is being offered via Penn State Fayette's new Video Learning Network to other Penn State campuses, giving students from a distance the ability to participate in the certificate program.

KIDS IN COLLEGE

Argon ST in Smithfield, Pa., donated \$1,000 in scholarship funds to the Kids in College program, which enabled more than 20 local children, grades K through 6, to participate. Because of the funding, two area community groups, the Private Industry Council and Dads Matter, were able to enroll an additional group of children who may not have otherwise been able to attend. Argon ST's mission focuses on supporting charities that have an immediate impact on the community.

CSI: FAYETTE

In 2010, Penn State Fayette partnered with the Herald-Standard to present a series of community forums that examined topics related to local crime, drug culture and law enforcement. There were six free "CSI: Fayette County" ("Crime Subjects



At the first CSI: Fayette forum, Administration of Justice Professor Dr. Richard Ball (second from right) joined a panel of law enforcement representatives and Herald-Standard Executive Editor Mark O'Keefe (right) to talk about how Penn State's Administration of Justice program fits into the local community, and how it provides opportunities for students to prepare themselves for a career in administration of justice.

COAL AND COKE HERITAGE MUSIC FESTIVAL CONTINUES TO GROW



The third annual Coal and Coke Heritage Music Festival drew more than a thousand people to campus on September 11. The festival featured a variety of popular regional and local musical groups including The Clarks, Chris Higbee Project, Joe Grushecky, Harold Better, NewLanders, Augsburg German Band, Brass Knuckles Band, Jerry Onesi-Jack Nicolette Trio, and Stereotype, while local dance troupes dazzled attendees with their fancy footwork. Adding to the activities were arts and crafts vendors, food vendors serving a variety of ethnic specialties, and the ever-popular Kiddie Koal Mine. The Coal and Coke Heritage Center was a focal point of the day for tours and special displays highlighting the coal mining industry of the past and today. To honor the significance of the date, State Representative Deberah Kula was on hand to specially recognize first responders. And new this year was a salute to coal miners, as well as a fireworks display that capped off the day's activities.



Investigated”) forums that focused on crime in general, regionalization of police forces in Fayette County, issues and challenges facing local police forces, illegal drug activity in Fayette County, juvenile and gang-related crime, and sexual assault. A variety of experts from local law enforcement, the judicial system, social services agencies and Penn State Fayette faculty served on the panels, including Administration of Justice Professor Dr. Richard Ball, Assistant Professor of Administration of Justice Dr. Lawrence Driscoll, Nursing Instructor Damien Zsiros, Human Development and Family Studies Instructor Gina Jones, and Human Development and Family Studies Assistant Professor Dr. Jo Ann Jankoski.

The Coal and Coke Heritage Music Festival is designed to celebrate and honor the unique coal and coke heritage in southwestern Pennsylvania. Sponsors of the 2010 festival included Alpha Natural Resources, Geneva Marketing Group, Herald-Standard, The Advisory Board of Penn State Fayette, Gerome Manufacturing Company, CRH Catering, Gallatin Fuels, Atlas Energy, Stefano's Printing, Chestnut Ridge Studio & Forge, and Parkvale Bank.



DIVERSITY TASK FORCE GETS NEW LIFE AS COALITION FOR EQUITY

Efforts to celebrate diversity began in 2000 at the Fayette campus, under the guidance of Bill Fuller, the director of Student Affairs at the time. His support and the dedicated work of students, staff, and faculty led to the creation of the Diversity Task Force (DTF). The DTF sponsored many events for the campus and local community, including speaker events focused on the Holocaust, Asian culture, Indian art and history, gender and power, heterosexism, and activities for the annual MLK celebration. The DTF, however, disbanded by the end of the decade.

When the current chancellor, Dr. Francis Achampong, arrived in March 2010 he saw a need to revive diversity planning on a broader scale and he met with interested faculty, staff, and students about organizing diversity efforts. This led to the formation of the Coalition

for Equity (CFE), which was charged with developing a mission and vision statement. CFE also became a member of the National Association for Multicultural Education. Under the leadership of Dr. Danielle Mitchell, associate professor of English, the CFE developed a vision and mission to foster a climate of respect in which social differences are celebrated within the campus community.

The CFE held and sponsored many events in 2010, including the “Does God Exist?” debate with Dr. Michael Shermer, executive director for the Skeptics Society, and Dr. Doug Geivett, professor of theology at Biola University, squaring off and challenging the audience to look into the eye of their religious beliefs and explain the unexplainable.

During 2010, the CFE grew its membership with individuals who wanted to participate in activities that explored

social differences, cultivated respect, and celebrated the many diverse values, people, practices, and traditions that exist in the world.



by Lauren Danko

CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

—continued from page 5

COAL AND COKE BOOK

The Coal and Coke Heritage Center at Penn State Fayette published a book by John A. Enman, Ph.D., *Another Time Another World: Pennsylvania Bituminous Coal, Coke, and Communities*, that examines Pennsylvania coal and coke communities in such detail as to bring to light a great deal of information that was nearly lost. The book grew out of what was Enman’s 1962 dissertation on the Connellsville Coke Region. His search for information took him back to the beginning of coal mining in the Pennsylvania bituminous field.

Enman began transferring his dissertation manuscript and research materials to the Coal and Coke Heritage Center in 1994. Former Center Curator Pamela Seighman, Oral Historian Elaine DeFrank and Dr. Evelyn Hovanec, a co-founder of the Coal and Coke Heritage Center and primary book project coordinator, began editing and adapting the text, as well as gathering and selecting illustrations and photographs to complement the dissertation text.

Publication of the book was funded by contributions from the family of Max Nobel, Dr. Evelyn Hovanec and John Enman. The book is available at the Coal and Coke Heritage Center (www.fayette.psu.edu/coalandcoke).



Book cover photo by Rev. Edward C. Taje of Leisenring II (Bute) circa 1950.

A REMEMBRANCE

EMMANUEL I. OSAGIE, PH.D. PMP

February 11, 1952 – March 9, 2010

Dr. Emmanuel Osagie, chancellor of Penn State Fayette, died unexpectedly in March from complications due to an illness. He became chancellor of Penn State Fayette in February 2007. Osagie led the campus with energy and a vision that the Fayette campus would strive to become the region’s premier student-centered university. Among Osagie’s proudest achievements was the internationalization of the Fayette campus, including welcoming eight international students as part of the student body, and a partnership with Saveetha University in India to help educate nursing students.



During his time at Penn State Fayette, Osagie introduced a number of signature events to the campus including the annual Coal and Coke Heritage Music Festival; the CEO Conversations speakers series; the annual Blues and White Gala to raise funds for student scholarships; Science Forensics, a program that helps underachieving high school students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; the creation of a trading floor to provide an advanced learning environment for Fayette students; and other academic initiatives. Osagie also was active in the community, serving on the boards of a number of local organizations.

Born in Nigeria, he came to the United States in 1974 to attend college. Before coming to Penn State Fayette, he worked in postsecondary education as a teacher, professor, director, and administrator.

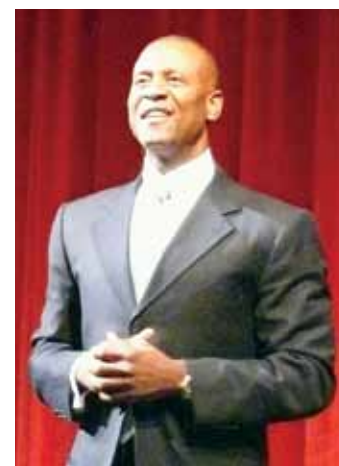
CEO CONVERSATIONS

2010 was a year of encouragement and engagement between CEOs and the Penn State Fayette community. Featured guests this year included William M. Lambert, president and CEO of Mine Safety Appliances Company; William C. McMullen, president and CEO of Whitney, Bradley & Brown, Inc.; Dr. Kenneth R. Melani, president and CEO of Highmark, Inc.; Scott O'Hara, executive vice president, president and CEO of Heinz North America; Curtis Aiken, president, CEO and founder of ProTech Compliance; and Kim Tillotson Fleming, president of Hefren-Tillotson, Inc.



Scott O'Hara

An initiative of the late Dr. Emmanuel Osagie and supported by the generosity of Joseph Hardy III, CEO Conversations began in the fall of 2007 designed to give students the opportunity to hear from and talk with key individuals in the local, regional, and national business communities about business, entrepreneurship and leadership. The events are free and open to the public.



Curtis Aiken



Dr. Kenneth R. Melani



William M. Lambert



William C. McMullen



Kim Tillotson Fleming

MATH TEACHERS LEARN NEW SKILLS

Penn State Fayette's Continuing Education office partnered with the Intermediate Unit One Center for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education and the Southwest Pennsylvania Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Network to host the first part of a three-year program to help area math teachers develop better mathematical content knowledge. Fifty-five math educators, in grades three through eight, who work in Washington, Fayette and Greene Counties in seven underperforming public school districts and one non-public school, met and talked about applying the content learned through this program into the classroom through research-based teaching strategies and being able to connect to authentic math experiences for students through business, technology and engineering partners.

PENN STATE FAYETTE PARTNERS WITH SAVEETHA UNIVERSITY

One of the late Chancellor Dr. Emmanuel Osagie's initiatives was the development of a partnership with Saveetha University in India to assist in the education of nursing students from that university. In March, a memorandum of agreement establishing faculty cooperation and an undergraduate degree program was signed. Nursing students enrolled at Saveetha University will take a pre-approved series of general education and nursing courses for two years. They will then apply for enrollment at Penn State. Those accepted will spend their third year at Penn State Fayette to complete their associate degree in nursing and take the exam for their registered nurse licensure. Their fourth year also will be at the Fayette campus to earn their bachelor of science in nursing.



Signing the memorandum of agreement are (from left) Saveetha University Vice Chancellor Dr. R. Rajagopal and Chancellor Dr. N.M. Veeraiyan, with the late Penn State Fayette Chancellor Emmanuel Osagie, and Fayette's Coordinator of Nursing Melissa Miner.

—CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

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Scholarship recipients, scholarship donors, sponsors, and family and friends gathered October 21 for the Scholarship Donor Dinner. At the event Penn State Fayette sophomore and Eberly Foundation scholarship recipient Zak Risha spoke about his college career and how the generosity of scholarship donors helped make it possible.



Singer, songwriter and guitar player Ryan Cabrera performed December 2 in the Maggie Hardy Magerko Auditorium.



The 29th Women's Day was celebrated at Penn State Fayette on May 20. The featured speaker for the 2010 Women's Day was Shannon Doyle, Miss Pennsylvania 2009.



The November 11 Veteran's Day observance was well attended and featured guest speaker Therman King, a veteran and current Penn State Fayette student, as well as the Fayette campus choir and Penn State Fayette's ROTC students.



Dr. Cyril H. Wecht, MD, JD, a recent Distinguished Forensic Scientist award winner and former coroner and medical examiner of Allegheny County, spoke at the campus October 21. As one of the country's leading forensic pathologists he spoke about, among other things, the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and Senator Robert F. Kennedy, the death of Elvis Presley, the O.J. Simpson case, and the JonBenét Ramsey case.



The "What Is Religion to You?" juried photography exhibit presented by the Coalition for Equity at Penn State Fayette opened October 12 and continued on display through January 12, 2011, in the Cultural Center. Danielle Mitchell (left), chair of the CFE, presented the jury's first place prize to Kern Little (center) for his work "God and Country" and Victoria Little (right) with the second place prize for her piece "Crosses Flowing in Every Corner."



Dr. Laurence Glasco, associate professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh, presented "An American Story: Teenie Harris Photos of Black Pittsburgh, 1940-1970" on February 24. The event featured photos taken by Charles "Teenie" Harris, a photographer for the Pittsburgh Courier.



The Lion Players presented its 13th annual production, The Comedy of Errors in April. One of Shakespeare's earliest plays, it is a farcical tale of mistaken identity with wrongful beatings, a near-seduction, and accusations of theft, infidelity, and madness.



Pennsylvania Sen. Richard A. Kasunic was honored as the recipient of the 25th Outstanding Fellow Award by the Advisory Board of Penn State Fayette May 13. He was recognized for his advocacy of higher education in Fayette County and his support of Penn State Fayette.



The "Food Dude," chef and writer Kevin Roberts, brought his culinary talents and humor to Penn State Fayette for a public presentation February 23.



The Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre returned to Fayette County and the campus May 6. The performance was a mixed repertoire of two ballet works, including "Company B," set to the swinging tunes of the Andrews Sisters, and "Step Touch," which featured classic songs that showcased doo wop favorites. The performance was supported by The Eberly Foundation.



John Riddle, Penn State Fayette's head librarian, presented this year's film festival "Films of Religious Life," to coordinate with the Coalition for Equity's theme in 2010. The festival featured movies that told how people have lived, thrived and suffered under various religions around the world, providing a broad perspective.

Bon-Journey, a tribute band that showcases the music of Bon Jovi and Journey, rocked the Maggie Hardy Magerko Auditorium February 4.



Penn State Fayette Advisory Board members and friends of the campus toured the newly renovated gardens surrounding the University House at a special event in July. Tours were led by the landscape designer, Phyllis Gricus (third from right).



Science Forensics: An Academic Pathway in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics completed its fourth year. Dozens of high school students who are part of the program returned again to Penn State Fayette for the special summer camps where they explored an array of STEM subjects.



2010's Martin Luther King Jr. observance on January 19, featured a performance by Umoja, an African dance and drum ensemble.

DALAI LAMA EXPERIENCE A POSITIVE ONE

I went to see the Dalai Lama speak in Toronto with almost no expectations, due to the fact that the only knowledge that I had of him and the Tibetan Buddhist religion came from the movie *Seven Years in Tibet*. When I heard about the October trip to see him speak, I jumped at the chance to find out more about a religion that I knew very little about.

The city of Toronto, Canada, it turns out, has a significant Tibetan population, and a visit from the Dalai Lama was a big event for them. They came in their traditional clothing, with babies wrapped in silk and the women in flowered aprons. In the end, the crowd reached over 10,000. There were traditional Tibetan dances, and a ceremony in which Tibetan monks cleansed the stage of all negativity. I was somewhat in awe when I saw the sign welcoming "His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama." The expectation mounted as Buddhist monks brought out a carpet, several floral arrangements and a large, ornate chair. But, despite the pomp and ceremony, when the Dalai Lama appeared he was all simplicity and goodwill.

The Dalai Lama's speech was simple as well, urging us to cleanse our thoughts of negativity so that we will be able to be kind to others. The speech ended with questions, the most interesting of which was, "Could a woman ever be Dalai Lama?" The Dalai Lama acknowledged that a woman would make a good Dalai Lama, but, since there had never been one, it was unlikely to happen.

by Rita Krater



From left: Gib Prettyman, Lindsey Jones, Rita Krater, Kathy Ianamorelli, Carrie Girton, Linda Kaiser, Chuck Broadwater, and Susan Crampton-Frenchik.

DON'T DIS ON MY ABILITIES CHALLENGE



Penn State Fayette students, faculty, and staff were invited to participate in special activities April 7 that included sight, sound and wheelchair challenges, as well as guest speakers, including student Donald Morgan (above). The Student Government Association hosted the event so members of the campus community could learn more about disabilities and their fellow students.

CETES REACHES NEW MILESTONE IN 2010

by Peter Eberle

In 2010, the Penn State Fayette student small business incubator, CETES (Center for Entrepreneurial Teaching and Education Services), reached a milestone of success as a result of its student undergraduate applied research program. One of the first student businesses launched, Just Simply Clean, achieved considerable growth in 2010, reaching employment of three full-time and more than twenty part-time personnel, and annual sales over \$200,000. This commercial cleaning business, with clients in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Maryland, was started in 2008 by two Penn State Fayette students, Galadriel Strauser and Luke Horton, as a part of an undergraduate research project. Galadriel is an Organizational Leadership (OLEAD) major; Luke is a business administration major.

CETES enables entrepreneurial-minded Fayette students who have a serious interest in a business idea to investigate and assess their plans and dreams of becoming future business owners. Since its creation in 2007, the CETES incubator has been instrumental in helping students create more than seven businesses in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

STUDENT NEWS BRIEFS

THE INTERNATIONAL FLAVOR OF FAYETTE GROWS

Penn State Fayette welcomed five new international students to the campus in the fall, bringing a total of nine students from around the world. The new students include Xing Gao from Beijing, China; Sul Gi “Athena” Han (right) from Seoul, South Korea; Malavika “Monica” Mathur (center) from Bangkok, Thailand; Anisha Nayak (left) from Kuwait City, Kuwait; and Mingxun Wang from China.



FAYETTE STUDENTS RESURRECT *THE ROARING LION* NEWSPAPER

by Rachael Franks

The Roaring Lion newspaper, which hasn't had much progress in the previous years, was resurrected in fall 2010 by Zak Risha. Risha, who aspires to be an English teacher, wanted to bring back the student newspaper because he thought it could benefit the campus—he was disappointed that the paper was inactive when he arrived as a freshman. When asked what his goals were for the paper, he responded, “The primary goals for *The Roaring Lion* this year was to lay a foundation so the club could continue and even thrive in the future of Penn State Fayette.” This would be done by simply and consistently publishing a quality issue every month.

The Roaring Lion staff includes writers Rachael Franks, Maria Gialone, Brett Gibson, Athena Han, Anthony Polinvalle, Jerome Ean Stafford and editor-in-chief, Zak Risha. They offer editorials from things like the popular show *Jersey Shore* to student interviews. The newspaper also provides its readers with updates on future events and news that happens around campus.

The staff tries hard to produce an interesting paper for all the students and faculty each month. *The Roaring Lion* takes a lot of time and effort, but, with the help of all the staff, the job gets done.

As for the future editor, Risha advised, “Be ready to put a lot of work into it if you want the paper to be successful.” Additionally, he said it's important to find reliable people to work with because each issue brings an abundance of work.

Since the students revived the newspaper, it has become very popular.

SCHOLASTIC EXCELLENCE FINALISTS

Finalists for the Scholastic Excellence Award included (from left) Jessica Smell who presented “Literature as Medicine for the Soul: Processing Traumatic Experiences through Writing,” Brittany Mihalko who presented “It's Pretty Easy Going Green,” and Amber DiDominic who presented “Power to the Wind.” Smell was the award recipient.



Penn State Fayette student Randy Chambliss and Karen Keedy, EOC educational advisor at the Penn State Fayette office.

PERSEVERANCE AWARD RECIPIENT

Penn State Fayette student Randy Chambliss was honored by the Educational Opportunity Center of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Chambliss received the EOC Perseverance Award at the EOC's annual open house in late September. Chambliss is currently in his second semester at Penn State Fayette, majoring in organizational leadership.



ASHRAE SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Morgan Najewicz, a junior at Penn State Fayette, has been awarded a \$3,000 scholarship from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. According to Associate Professor of Engineering David Meredith, this is only the second time a female engineering student has received this scholarship. Najewicz is working to complete two associate degrees at one time, Building Environmental Systems Technology and Architectural Engineering Technology.

—STUDENT NEWS BRIEFS
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PENN STATE FAYETTE THON IS ON TOP, AGAIN

by Zak Risha

Penn State Fayette continues to dominate at Penn State's well known charity, THON. THON is an annual fundraiser which benefits the Four Diamonds Fund, whose focus is on fighting pediatric cancer. Despite competition with larger campuses, Fayette came out on top among the Commonwealth Campuses as we raised \$75,830.25 for 2010.

Our small campus of about 1,100 students often outraises larger campuses. At Penn State Fayette, students have led in fundraising totals eleven out of thirteen years. Over that time, the Fayette campus has raised over half a million dollars, and in 2010 Penn State as a whole raised over \$7.8 million.

The fundraiser is capped off with a forty-six-hour dance marathon at University Park in the Bryce Jordan Center. Fayette



was represented by thirty-nine students and six dancers in the celebration February 19-21, 2010. Fayette's THON Team Chair Elizabeth Wallace says, "Everyone on the THON team was so hard working; they never gave up. They know what THON is all about and they worked hard every day." As Wallace

suggested, the student body shows character as students face the freezing cold and sacrifice their spare time to combat one of the most deadly diseases. Without a doubt, this is an accomplishment Fayette should be very proud of as the campus contributes to the world's largest student driven philanthropy.



In February 2010, the snow started falling and seemed to never stop. Here a group of students brave the elements to get to class.

STUDENT NEWS BRIEFS

—continued from page 11

PINK OUT FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

The Penn State Fayette Nursing Association organized a Pink-Out Day October 27 in support of breast cancer awareness with a rally at noon at the Nittany Lion. The nursing students sold "Penn State Supports Pink" T-shirts and donated the profits to the nonprofit Dig Pink organization.



BALLOON LAUNCH SIGNALS THON

On November 10, Penn State Fayette THON Team students released 100 balloons to signal 100 days until THON.

LADY ROARING LIONS VOLLEYBALL DOES IT AGAIN

by Ryan Ehrie

In 2010, the Penn State Fayette Women's Volleyball team finished 14-2 in conference play, reeling off nine straight wins to finish the regular season and capping it with three playoff victories to take home their third straight Pennsylvania State University Athletic Conference championship—their fifth in the last six seasons. The championship qualified them for the USCAA National Volleyball Championships in Louisville, Ky., where they finished a program-best fifth in the nation. Overall, the Lady Roaring Lions finished 24-13, including wins over three NCAA Division III teams for the first time in program history.

Sophomore Leah Ambrosini received a number of honors, including first team USCAA All-American, All-PSUAC First Team, PSUAC Player of the Year, and she led the nation in hitting percentage. Junior Katie Sleasman was named



The Penn State Fayette Women's Volleyball Team. Front Row (from left): Marney Hillen, Jessica Wilson, Samantha Anderson, Ashley Knauer, Alex Rossi, Meghan Tirpak; Back Row (from left): Coach Kathy Hillen, Coach Marita Hunchuck, Katie Sleasman, Alaina Weiss, Lacey Mathews, Caitlin Fidel, Leah Ambrosini, Head Coach Nancy Wheeler.

PSUAC Setter of the Year and made the All-PSUAC First Team. Freshman Marney Hillen joined on the first team, while junior Alex Rossi was named to the second team. Head Coach Nancy Wheeler was named PSUAC Coach of the Year for the second consecutive season.

CROSS COUNTRY HOSTS FIRST INVITATIONAL

On October 2, Penn State Fayette hosted its first ever men's and women's cross country invitational, hosting seven schools for the women's 5K and men's 8K races. Penn State Fayette freshman Jennifer Naymick took home third place on her home course, while also running a personal best time. Naymick finished in the top ten in each PSUAC race she ran, including finishing sixth in the PSUAC Championships, held at Penn State Mont Alto, qualifying her for the USCAA Championships. At the USCAA Championships, Naymick became the second Fayette runner in as many years to finish in the top twenty, grabbing sixteenth place out of more than seventy runners.

ROARING LIONS GOLF SETS RECORDS

Sophomore Zack Rockwell became the first Penn State Fayette golfer to win a Penn State University Athletic Conference Tournament by taking the Penn State Mont Alto Tournament, played September 16. Rockwell won the tournament by one stroke. The team also set records, first by finishing a program-best third in the Red Poling Invitational and, two weeks later, besting their record by finishing second at the Penn State Greater Allegheny Tournament.



INTRAMURALS RETURN TO FAYETTE

More than 150 Penn State Fayette students participated in new intramural sports added in 2010. Dodgeball was introduced in the spring as the first official intramural competition held in several years. The Outdoor Adventure Club also sponsored the first ultimate frisbee intramural tournament in April. The fall season saw 4-on-4 flag football added to the list of sports, as nine teams competed in two divisions for the intramural champion crown. The year ended with wallyball, a version of volleyball played within a racquetball court.

FAYETTE HOSTS USCAA NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Penn State Fayette hosted the 2010 United States Collegiate Athletic Association National Basketball Championships for the second straight year, as thirty teams came to compete March 2-6. Forty-four games were played to crown champions in three divisions: Men's Division I (eight teams), Men's Division II (ten teams), and Women's (twelve teams). The Fayette men's and women's team finished tenth and twelfth, respectively. Fayette hosted every game, using both the Main Arena and Maltho Gymnasium. It was the first time that all 44 games were held on the same campus.



Mark John joined the Penn State Fayette Men's Basketball Team as the new head coach. John has a winning history as a coach at California Area High School, Connellsville Area High School, and Laurel Highlands High School. John played basketball at Bethany College, Bethany, W.Va., where he earned a national All-Academic Team nomination in 1998-99.

KEVIN MAXWELL: MAKING CONNECTIONS IN MATH FOR STUDENTS

“I hate math,” may be a familiar refrain for many college students, but Penn State Fayette mathematics instructor Kevin Maxwell helps students learn mathematical concepts and understand their value in the world and society we live in. From projects focused on designing a smoother roller coaster ride to determining the optimal seating location in a movie theater, Maxwell challenges students and helps them make connections with math.

A former actuary, Maxwell has been an educator for sixteen of his twenty-three post-undergraduate years. With nine teachers in four generations of his family, it was not surprising that he also made the career change. He taught middle school math for a year and then made the leap to college-level instruction. Then, in 1999, he came to Penn State Fayette as a full-time instructor of mathematics. He has been here ever since.

“I’ve never enjoyed a job as much as this one,” Maxwell says. “I could tell right away it was a good fit. I had a good feeling about the students and the faculty were very supportive. The transition from middle school was drastic, but a good one.”

Maxwell earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, and a master of arts in mathematics from The Ohio State University. At Penn State Fayette he teaches a wide range of math courses, from elementary geometry and basic math to calculus, analytic geometry and differential equations. And he brings those classes alive by sharing how class material can be applied outside of the classroom.



by Susan Brimo-Cox

He explains, “I’ve tried different things in classes over the years, such as service-learning projects, and I try to bring in examples from my previous career. That has a positive impact showing experiences outside of academia.”

In 2010, Maxwell received a number of honors for his expertise as an educator and advisor: the Penn State Fayette 2010 Teaching Excellence Award and the Ellen M. Laun Advising Excellence Award in May; and Educator of the Year presented by the Fayette Chamber of Commerce in December.

Other activities Maxwell is involved with include MATHCOUNTS, a national math contest for Fayette and Greene County middle-school students he has coordinated on campus for twelve years; as an instructor for Science Forensics, a special educational program developed by Penn State Fayette for high school students; teaching SAT preparatory classes through the campus’ Continuing



Education office; as a tutor in the campus’ Teaching and Learning Center; and more.

How does he help ensure student success? “I try to be flexible with students, such as if they need extra time to review or work with a tutor,” Maxwell says. “Keeping in touch with students helps, too—letting them know you’re available.”

FAYETTE PROFESSOR HONORED FOR PUBLISHING TWO BOOKS

Dr. Jerrold Hoeg, professor of Spanish at Penn State Fayette, was honored at a special Author Celebration October 12 at the Fayette Campus library for two of his latest book publications: *Reading and Writing the Latin American Landscape* and *Interdisciplinary Essays on Darwinism in Hispanic Literature and Film*. It was Hoeg’s second Author Celebration at the campus.

Hoeg has been teaching Spanish for over fifteen years at the Fayette campus and has published five other books. He has studied in Mexico and Spain, gaining a different perspective on both the culture and the language. Hoeg explains, “The background of writing both of these books is to be found in my own experiences learning about language and discovering there is not one established way of either learning a language or determining how it should be taught.

His research led him to dig deeper into the investigation of human nature, language acquisition, and how both have evolved. Hoeg says, “I became interested in learning about language at the biological level and have discovered everyone can learn a language, but the question remains, ‘What is language for and what can we do with it?’”

The books are available at Penn State Fayette’s bookstore in the Williams Building.



FAYETTE WELCOMES NEW FACULTY

DEBRA BROWELL Debra Browell joined the Nursing department as an instructor. She brings teaching experience to the campus from the Washington Hospital School of Nursing and Westmoreland County Community College. Prior to teaching, Browell was a staff nurse at the Washington Hospital in the orthopedic, obstetrical, oncology, and cardiac units.

ABIOLA FANIMOKUN, PH.D. is an assistant professor of business. Dr. Fanimokun's areas of specialty include entrepreneurship, strategy, and international management. She earned a doctorate of philosophy in business administration from Florida Atlantic University, a master of science degree in electrical engineering from Tennessee Technological University, and a bachelor of science in electrical and electronics engineering from Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile Ife, Nigeria.

RICHARD PHELPS is a new instructor of mining technology. With work in education, research and development, design, and permitting, Phelps has a thorough knowledge of the current mining industry. Phelps worked for ten years in the Pennsylvania mining industry and brings experience from mining in different parts of the United States to the Fayette campus.

PAMELA POLOGRUTO, DPT, is part of the new Physical Therapist Assistant department as the clinical coordinator and instructor. Dr. Pologruto has brought knowledge in orthopedic, neurological, cardiac, and respiratory diagnosis to the campus. She still works locally as a physical therapist.

JAMES (JAY) PRECHT, PH.D. joined the history department as an assistant professor of history. His research interests are 20th and 21st century American Indian history, Indian gaming, tribal politics, tribal-state relations, American Indians in the modern South, and American Indian identity in the South. He has written more than ten publications.



From left: New faculty members at Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus: Richard Phelps, James Precht, Ph.D., Debra Browell, Abiola Fanimokun, Ph.D., Stacy Sekely, Ph.D., and Pamela Pologruto, Ph.D.

STACY SEKELY, DPT, also joined the new Physical Therapist Assistant department as program coordinator and instructor. Dr. Sekely, an American Physical Therapy Association credential clinical instructor, has over ten years of teaching and working experience in the physical therapy field.

MEET OUR NEW STAFF



Two new faces joined the staff at the campus in 2010! From left: Jed Friend joined the Outreach and Continuing Education team as administrative support assistant. He is responsible for editing and preparing educational training documents for programs provided by The Center for Community and Public Safety. Lindsay Bolt is our newest admissions counselor. She works with high school students who may be interested in attending Penn State after graduation. She came to the Fayette campus with five years of experience in admissions-related work.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Awards, publications and other special achievements in 2010

RICHARD BALL, PH.D.: Ball co-authored the book *Criminological Theory: Context and Consequences*. It was published by Sage Publications in November 2010.

SUSAN CRAMPTON-FRENCHIK, PH.D.: Crampton-Frenchik published the proceedings "Digging Deep: Literary and Environmental Territory in JMG Le Clézio's *Ourania*," in *Rondas Literarias de Pittsburgh 2008-2009*, Ed. Gregorio C. Martin, Duquesne University Department of Modern Languages. She also presented the following conference papers: "Rewriting Grace and Place: Poetry as Prayer in the works of Marceline Desbordes-Valmore" at the Conference on Christianity and Literature, Grove City College, Grove City, Pa., March 2010; "Letters Home: Writing Love and Family in Malika Mokeddem's *Je dois tout à mon oubli*" at the Pennsylvania

Foreign Language Conference, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pa., September 2010; and "Traveling Light: Identity Through Mobility in the works of Malika Mokeddem" at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association Conference, Atlanta, Ga., November 2010.

SHARON HARROLD, PH.D.: Harrold received the Adjunct Teaching Excellence Award.

JERRY HOEG, PH.D.: Hoeg received the 2010 Scholarly Excellence Award. He signed an advance contract with the University Press of Florida for a book titled *Afro-Latin American Religion and the Environment*. He edited numbers 14 and 15 of the journal *Ometeca* and published the following articles and book chapter: "Consilience,

—FACULTY SPOTLIGHT
continues on page 17

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS BRIEFS

FRANK GEORGIANA
PUBLISHES BOOK

Penn State Fayette Library Assistant Frank Georgiana Jr. published a book titled *T/E Ratios and Steroids: The Gray Areas of Athletics*. The book examines why and how athletes are permitted to use anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs at the collegiate, professional and international levels. Georgiana has been studying the subject since 1970 and his research led him to speak with representatives of major league and collegiate sports organizations and the International Olympic Committee in order to prepare the manuscript.

FOND FAREWELL

Janet Gibson retired from Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus in December 2010. Beginning in 1983, she worked part time for the Registrar's Office, the Bookstore and the CEO's Office before joining the campus staff full-time December 1985 for a post in the Development Office.

In her role as assistant to the director of development at Penn State Fayette, Gibson directed all gift processing, monitored the department budget, drafted and assisted in the preparation of proposals and correspondence, coordinated with the offices of central development, initiated calls and solicited appointments, and served as the resource person for the campus alumni society, among other duties.

Lori Omatick, Penn State Fayette's director of Development says, "Through her many years of dedicated service in development, Janet established strong ties with campus donors, alumni and friends, many of whom considered her to be a friend. She provided a superior level of service to campus constituents and was a consummate professional. Janet was well liked and respected by campus faculty and staff, as well as those she dealt with at University Park. In addition, she was a veritable 'walking encyclopedia' with regard to campus information and history. She will be missed both professionally and personally by those who knew and worked with her."

ART PROFESSOR
FEATURED IN EXHIBITIONS

Associate Professor of Art David DiPietro had his work featured in a number of special art exhibitions, including "Impressionist Landscapes on Canvas and Paper" at the Washington Street Gallery in Lewisburg, W.Va., October 1-November 1; a solo show titled "Italian Studies and Southwestern Pennsylvania Conclusions" at Vincent's Gallery in Uniontown, Pa., from November 6-21; the 15th Annual Regional Juried Exhibition at the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley, which began November 13; and he was awarded Best in Show at the "On a Clear Day" exhibit at the Greensburg Art Center/Rowe Gallery, September 11-October 2.

ADMISSIONS
COUNSELOR WINS
AWARD

Admissions counselor Apryl Kadish was awarded the Superior Service to Adult Learners Award from Penn State's Commission for Adult Learners. She received the award in May at Penn State University's Hendrick's Best Practices for Adult Learner Conference, attended by representatives statewide who work with adult students. The award recognized Kadish as an individual who has positively affected adult learners through direct service or by improving the campus environment for adult learners.

HOSPITAL ROOMS FULL OF ERRORS

On October 21 and October 28, Fayette's nursing students participated in an exercise called "Hospital Rooms Full of Errors" in the Allied Health Lab in the Biomedical Building. The activity was the brain child of nursing instructor Janet Knott, who set up "hospital rooms" with many errors that the students sought to identify. Knott describes the errors as "the kinds of things you don't want to see if you were ever in the hospital." The errors—some obvious, others more subtle—were designed to test the observational and professional skills of the nursing students.

Knott reports over a million errors happen in hospitals each year, many of which can be detrimental. "When the nurses go to the hospital, they are at the bedside. If they can pick up on errors, they can help prevent harm to patients and visitors," she explains. Errors included open medical records, erroneous patient wrist



bands, open and unsecured medications, outdated IV tubing, overflowing needle boxes, out of reach call bells, and more.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT —continued from page 15

Ecocriticism, and Environmental Destruction” in *Politics and Culture*, 4.1 (2010); “Why did Narrative Evolve?” in *Studies in the Literary Imagination*, 42.2 (2010); and “Like Water for Chocolate and Human Nature” in *A Recipe for Discourse: Perspectives on Like Water for Chocolate*, Ed. Eric Skipper, Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2010. In addition, Hoeg gave a paper titled “The Socio-Ecology of Afro-Brazilian Religion in Jorge Amado’s *Tent of Miracles*” at the IIX Congreso sobre las relaciones entre las Ciencias y las Humanidades at the University of Wyoming, and served as external reviewer for Rowan University, Bucknell University, Texas Tech University, and the U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program.

JO ANN JANKOSKI, PH.D.:

Jankowski received the 2010 Public Service Excellence Award.

DON LIDDICK, PH.D.: Liddick co-authored the peer-reviewed article: Liddick, D.R., Evans-Rhodes, D., & Hall, N. “Techniques of Neutralization and Radical Environmentalists: A Content Analysis of Anonymous Communiques from the Earth Liberation Front (ELF),” in the *International Journal of Sociological Research*, Vol. 3, Nos. 1-2 (Jan.-Dec., 2010).

KEVIN MAXWELL: Maxwell was awarded the 2010 Ellen M. Laun Advising Excellence Award and the 2010 Teaching Excellence Award. In addition, he was named one of the 2010 EducationWorks! Educators of the Year by the Fayette Chamber of Commerce Education Council.

MELISSA MINER: Miner co-authored, with Penn State Fayette Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Joseph Shostell, “Bridging the Gap Between Research Development and Utilization Among Nurses: Collaborative Model Involving Multiple Community Entities” in the *International Journal of Arts and Sciences*, 3(11). This paper was also presented at the International Journal of Arts and Sciences meeting, Orlando, Fla., in March 2010. Miner also co-presented “To Accelerate or Not to Accelerate: Our Experiences implementing a One-Year BSN Completion Program” at the Drexel University Nurse Educator Institute, Myrtle Beach, N.C., in June 2010 and the 37th Annual National Conference on Professional Nursing, Baltimore, Md., in October 2010; and “Successes and Pitfalls

or How We Survived and Thrived Implementing A One-Year Bachelor of Science Completion Program” at the Nurse Educator Institute, Branson, Mo., in April 2010.

EVELYN PLUHAR-ADAMS, PH.D.: Pluhar-Adams published “Meat and Morality: Alternatives to Factory Farming” in *The Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics* 23 (2010).

GIB PRETTYMAN, PH.D.: Prettyman was elected as a member of the Steering Committee and as chair of the Awards Committee of the international Society for Utopian Studies. He also presented his paper “Western Buddhism and the Critical Utopia” at the society’s conference at Wrightsville Beach, N.C. In December, he was awarded a sabbatical leave for academic year 2010-11 to work on his book, *Seeking the Way: Western Buddhism in Contemporary SF and Utopia*. He continues to serve as associate editor for *Resources for American Literary Study*.

JOHN RAPANO, PH.D.: Rapano presented three papers based on his dissertation: “Change and transformation in the human service workplace: A participatory action research approach” at the 60th Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Sociological Society at Mansfield University of Pennsylvania, Mansfield, Pa., October 2010; “Surfacing learnings about power in the university and the community in a doctoral student’s study of action research” at the World Congress of Action Research, Melbourne, Australia, September 2010; and “Trapped between Two Paradigms” at the Second International Conference on Qualitative Inquiry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, May 2010.

JOSEPH SHOSTELL, PH.D.: Shostell co-authored two peer-reviewed papers: “Molecular Phylogenetics and Phylogeography of the White-fronted Capuchin (*Cebus albifrons*; Cebidae, Primates) by Means of mtCOII Gene Sequences” in *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* (in press 2010) and, with Penn State Fayette Senior Instructor of Nursing Melissa Miner, “Bridging the Gap Between Research Development and

Utilization Among Nurses: Collaborative Model Involving Multiple Community Entities” in *International Journal of Arts and Sciences*. He co-authored the book titled *Biology, Evolution, and Conservation of River Dolphins within South America and Asia: Unknown Dolphins in Danger*, published by Nova Science Publishers, Inc., and has a signed contract with the same publisher for a new book about neotropical carnivores. Shostell presented the paper “Bridging the Gap Between Research Development and Utilization Among Nurses: Collaborative Model Involving Multiple Community Entities” at the International Journal of Arts and Sciences meeting in Orlando, Fla., in March 2010. He also had two grants funded: the LI-COR Genomics Education Grant for \$60,539 and the Department of Environmental Protection Illegal Dump Cleanup Grant (2009-2010) for \$27,729.42.

DAMIEN ZSIROS: Zsiros earned the Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) designation. With this achievement, Zsiros joined the ranks of only 171 nurse educators in Pennsylvania who currently hold this national credential.

MARKETING AWARD RECEIVED

Susan Brimo-Cox, director of marketing and communications, was honored by the National Federation of Press Women as a national winner in its 2010 Communications Contest. She received two awards, including second place in the category of “News or Feature Releases—Multiple Releases” for a series of press releases she wrote relating to the Blues and White Gala scholarship fundraiser in 2009. She was previously honored by the NFPW in 2005, 2002 and 1999.



National Federation of Press Women President Cynthia Price (right) presents national awards to Susan Brimo-Cox.

2ND ANNUAL BLUES AND WHITE GALA RAISES NEARLY \$26,000



The second annual Blues and White Gala scholarship fundraising event hosted by Penn State Fayette April 17 raised nearly \$26,000 for student scholarships. Nearly 125 people attended the black-tie event held at Nemaocolin Woodlands Resort. Local WTAE-TV anchor Michelle Wright was the gala's mistress of ceremonies, and popular entertainers No Bad JuJu provided the music. Both silent and live auctions were successful and gala attendees went home with some noteworthy items, including sports memorabilia, travel, shopping and dining packages, and much more.

The gala also provided the Fayette campus an opportunity to recognize two "Friends of Penn State Fayette," Pennsylvania Sen. Richard A. Kasunic and Centra Bank, represented by Centra founder and CEO Douglas J. Leech Jr. The special honors recognize those who have been very supportive of Penn State Fayette.

Some of the gala's key sponsors included 84 Lumber Company, Nemaocolin Woodlands Resort, Centra Bank, Elouise R. Eberly, Ford Business Machines, Joshua and Maria Swimmer, BAE Systems, Mr. and Mrs. W. Gerald Blaney, Ida M. Procyk, University Commons Student Housing, Williams, Advanced Acoustic Concepts, CRH Catering, Pennsylvania Services Corporation—An Affiliate of Alpha Natural Resources, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne H. Port, and Uniontown Mall.

The Blues and White Gala was conceived by the late Chancellor Dr. Emmanuel Osagie. In its two-year history, the gala has raised nearly \$60,000 for student scholarships.



EBERLY FOUNDATION EXCELLENCE FUND ESTABLISHED

With a commitment of \$200,000, The Eberly Foundation of Uniontown has endowed a fund to provide the leadership of Penn State Fayette with a permanent source of support. The Eberly Foundation made the pledge in support of *For the Future, The Campaign for Penn State Students*, Penn State University's current fundraising initiative.

Carolyn Blaney, president of The Eberly Foundation, explains, "The foremost goal of the The Eberly Foundation is student support, and this pledge will help to further that goal."

Support from The Eberly Foundation Excellence Fund may be used for a broad range of campus needs, including cultural events that bring together the student body and the community; short-term emergency funds for students whose families have been affected by deaths, job losses, and other changes that impact their financial circumstances; state-of-the-art technology and software that enable Penn State Fayette students to gain hands-

on experience with the tools of their future professions; and academic innovations, such as service learning or faculty/student research partnerships that require seed funds to secure results and obtain additional funding.

Chancellor Francis Achampong says, "The Eberly Foundation Excellence Fund will be a stable resource that gives our campus the freedom to seize new opportunities and meet unexpected challenges."



Carolyn Blaney, president of The Eberly Foundation, and Francis Achampong, chancellor of Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus.

DONOR HONOR ROLL 2009-2010

(July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010)



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The President's Club formally recognizes those individuals, couples, and organizations that are exceptionally generous in making a gift of \$2,500 or more to Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus.

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The Chancellor's Club formally recognizes those who contribute between \$1,000 to \$2,499 in annual gifts that provide Penn State Fayette resources to meet critical needs that are often unanticipated or for which adequate funds are not available.

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Penn State Fayette is grateful to its Fayette Ambassadors who contribute between \$100 and \$499. Their support is important to our campus community.

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 Samuel DiRocco
 Nelson and Beverly Domer
 David L. Dulik
 Samuel D. and Cynthia Dull
 Charles C. Eagle
 Ryan M. Ehrle
 Samantha J. Elleard
 Miriam C. Erinc
 Christopher B. and Rose Ann Erisman
 Philip E. Felgar
 John H. and Linda J. Fetchen
 James A. Filippone and Maryanne Kostura
 Filippone

George R. Flook
 Furnace Hill Photography
 Phillip J. Gaydos and Dolor N. Baltazar
 Cynthia Franks Gaynor
 Carrie Girton
 Roy A. and Eileen W. Glisan
 Jacqueline J. Goodwin
 Anthony and Paula Verry Gribble
 Judith Taylor Grove
 Mary P. Hackney
 Larry H. and Donna Casella Hahn
 Mary Ann Haney
 Calvin M. and Frances H. Hopper
 Phillip T. and Mabel A. Howard
 Mary E. Inks
 Kent A. Jones
 Herbert E. Jordan
 Michael A. Jordan and Tamera J. Kooser-Jordan
 David A. Kapalko
 Patricia Kelly
 Mrs. Nancy E. Kern
 Agnes D. Kinard
 Jeffrey and Teresa King
 Angela M. Lambo
 Harry S. Lee
 Edward R. and Dorothyanne S. Lipps
 Gary W. Livengood
 Edward D. and Peggy M. Lucas
 Ronald J. Maceyak
 Margaret A. Macho
 William F. and Sylvia Gallentine Martin
 R. K. Maxwell and Sarah S. Closser
 Paul T. and Susan Jean McCommons
 Danielle M. Mitchell
 Michael L. Nazmack
 David B. and Jenny Fleming O'Casek
 James M. Parnell
 John P. and Kathleen Rohall Pechunka
 Penn State Alumni Association
 Stephen Petruska
 Michael F. and Elona Polach
 James W. and Tina M. Reed
 Louis E. and Gwendolyn O. Ridgley
 Roger T. Rittenhouse and Julie K. Dziedzicki
 William E. and Kathleen A. Ruper
 William and Roberta H. Ryan
 Frank and Karla A. Sabec
 Eugene and Regina Mills Sebeck
 Kathleen Parkin Sechler
 Gregory P. and Natalie N. Sharpe
 Richard M. Takac
 Lori R. Taylor
 Mike and Jodi L. Thamman
 Joseph Trupkovich
 Rita O. Updike
 Kent Warman
 Russell C. and Ethelyn V. Wilson
 Julianne Ware Wolfe
 Carolyn A. Yasechko
 Candice A. Yekel
 Geary W. Younkin
 Billie Jo Yuhaniak

CENTRA BANK GIFT



For the third year in a row, Centra Bank made a \$50,000 gift to benefit students at Penn State Fayette. Members of Centra Bank presented the check on December 3. The gift provides scholarships to undergraduate students who are Fayette County residents enrolled at the campus as part of the Centra Bank Trustee Scholarship. Since it was established in 2008, seventeen students have received Centra Bank Trustee Scholarships. From left: Centra Bank Fayette Board of Directors Vice Chairman James Davis, Centra Bank Founder and CEO Douglas Leech Jr., Penn State Fayette Chancellor Francis Achampong, and Chairman of the Board C. Christopher Cluss.

UNIONTOWN HOSPITAL AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP

The Uniontown Hospital Auxiliary donated \$10,000 to Penn State Fayette's Nursing Scholarship Program. The organization contributes annually to benefit students seeking a degree in nursing at the campus with proceeds from the group's Festival of Trees fund-raising event. This is the sixteenth year in a row the Uniontown Hospital Auxiliary has made the scholarship gift.

EVELYN MAHONEY MEMORIAL AWARD

A new memorial award was established at Penn State Fayette in the name of the late Evelyn Girard Mahoney of Connellsville, Pa., who earned bachelor and master degrees from Penn State University. A life member of the Penn State Alumni Association, Mahoney designated the gift to the University in her will. Mahoney's daughter, Mary Mitchell (center), presented the gift to Penn State Fayette Chancellor Francis Achampong and Lori Omatick, Penn State Fayette director of Development in October. Undergraduate students attending Penn State Fayette who have achieved academic excellence in science or engineering are eligible to apply for the award, which will be distributed annually to one or more qualifying students as determined by the scholarship selection committee.



Consol Energy presented a gift of \$25,000 to Penn State Fayette in support of the campus' Mining Technology Associate Degree Program. The gift is part of Consol's "Financial Aid to Education" initiative. The mining technology degree program at Fayette provides students the education they need to fast-track into supervisory positions in mining production and maintenance. Consol Energy's Michelle Pusateri, supervisor of Workforce Development & Planning, presented the check to Chancellor Dr. Francis Achampong and mining technology instructor Larry Hunchuck (second from left). They are joined by Penn State Fayette mining technology students (from left), Craig Zamboldi, Tom Schad and Frank Panepinto.

CONSOL ENERGY GIFT



THE TERRY AND DENISE McMILLEN TRUSTEE SCHOLARSHIP

The Terry and Denise McMillen Trustee Scholarship was established at Penn State Fayette to provide financial assistance to undergraduate students enrolled at the campus. Terry and Denise McMillen made a \$50,000 pledge in support of the scholarship that will give first preference to Penn State Fayette students who are majoring in engineering. Terry McMillen (right), who attended Penn State Fayette for two years and is a former engineering instructor at the campus, presented the gift to Chancellor Francis Achampong in April.



“FAMILY BUSINESS” TURNS INTO IMPORTANT CAREER FOR FAYETTE ALUM

One might call it inevitable that Penn State Fayette graduate Joseph Sbaffoni has had a lifelong career in the mining industry. “My grandfathers and father and uncle worked in the mines. Growing up, there were at least ten mines within twenty miles of my house,” he explains.

Born in 1951, Sbaffoni grew up in the Harmer Township area of Allegheny County. A graduate of Springdale High School, he earned a certificate in drafting and surveying and began working for Republic Steel Corporation’s Russelton Mine as a surveyor in the engineering department. He also assisted the safety department. From Russelton he transferred to the Newfield Mine and then to Banning No. 4., during which time he participated in the Foreman Trainee program and attended Penn State Fayette.

Sbaffoni recalls, “I would work five days a week at the mine and spend two full days on campus from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and was able to finish my associate degree in one year.” Because he was able to apply what he learned at Fayette to his work duties at the mine, he was able to advance at a very quick pace. “I was supervising a working section within four years of starting in the mines. The education laid the ground work for my future as a mine manager and my career with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in mine safety,” he adds.

As a mine foreman and, subsequently, a mine superintendent with Crescent Hills Coal Company, Sbaffoni was responsible for overseeing the entire mining operation, both underground and surface, including production, safety, employee relations, and administration.

By 1984, he joined the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Mine Safety as a bituminous underground mine inspector. Four years later he was a program manager for a field operations division. And, in 2003, he was promoted to director of Pennsylvania’s Bureau of Mine Safety.

In 2002, a year before the director’s position, Sbaffoni directed the initial response

by Susan Brimo-Cox

in the rescue efforts at Quecreek Mine in Somerset County, providing technical assistance to the governor and DEP secretary and briefing the media. Nine trapped miners were rescued after 78 hours. “The Quecreek rescue will be the high point of my career. All of my work experience and education helped prepare me to be able to contribute to that successful rescue,” he says.

The news media highly publicizes mining incidents, so mining is considered a dangerous occupation by many. But Sbaffoni says it does not have to be unsafe. “Although we have witnessed some recent mine disasters, mine safety has improved dramatically. Pennsylvania has always been a leader in mine safety. In 2010, for the first time in recorded history, no fatal accidents occurred in the minerals extraction industries in the Commonwealth. This demonstrates that zero fatalities is an achievable goal.”

Sbaffoni received a number of significant awards and honors for his work with the Quecreek rescue. And, in 2002, he was named Penn State Fayette’s Outstanding Alumnus. He currently serves on the Advisory Board of Penn State Fayette and is a member of the Mining Industry



Advisory Board that provides consultation for Penn State Fayette’s mining technology associate degree program.

“It benefits everyone in the mining industry to have experienced and educated miners working in our mines. It is especially important to have quality front line supervisors,” Sbaffoni explains. “I would encourage anyone interested in a mining career to enroll at Penn State Fayette. The mining program is geared towards providing the tools that are needed to make our mines as safe as possible, and a Penn State education will go a long way towards a lifelong and successful career in the mining industry.”

Mining proved to be a successful career pursuit for Sbaffoni. As he points out, “With my family background and the area rich with mining heritage, I guess it was just meant to be.”

FAYETTE ALUMNUS FEATURED COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Jerry E. McMillen Sr., Penn State alumnus and president and principal engineer of McMillen Engineering, was the featured speaker at Fayette’s Commencement ceremony in May.

McMillen grew up in Brownsville, Pa., and earned an associate degree in engineering from Penn State, and a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from West

Virginia University. He became an instructor of general engineering at Penn State Fayette, beginning part time in 1981 and full time in 1987, teaching engineering mechanics and basic mathematics, and was a member of the faculty through the spring of 2000.

McMillen founded McMillen Engineering in 1977, and he has mentored many students and offered internships at McMillen Engineering through the years. In 2008, he was honored as the recipient of the 23rd Outstanding Fellow of Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus Award.



ERDELY NAMED OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

Jeff Erdely was honored as the recipient of the 26th Outstanding Alumnus Award of Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus at a special meeting and ceremony of the campus' advisory board in October. Erdely graduated from Penn State University in 1991 with a bachelor of science in electrical engineering with an emphasis on power flows. Erdely is the principal and managing director of SESCO Enterprises LLC, serving in both positions since the SESCO's inception in 2003. SESCO Enterprises is an electricity and natural gas trading company employing twenty-three people with offices in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

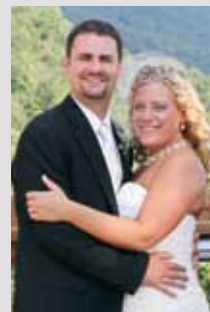


(from left) Charles Curry, chairman of The Advisory Board of Penn State Fayette; Jeff Erdely, recipient of the 26th Outstanding Alumnus Award of Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus; and Dr. Francis Achampong, chancellor of Penn State Fayette.

ALUMNI NOTES

THOMAS ANIELEWSKI, '10 BUS, currently works at Giant Eagle headquarters in Pittsburgh, Pa.

JANE DUNCAN, '09 SCI, and **JASON KOWALCZYK**, '10 Capital, were married July 10, 2010.



STEVEN LEIGHTY, '08 ENG, is currently working for Westinghouse in Cranberry, Pa.

AMANDA NEWELL, '09 LIB, is working towards her master's degree in marriage and family therapy at Seton Hill University in Greensburg, Pa. She is employed at Families United Network, Inc. as a case manager for foster children.

CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS —continued from page 7

PENN STATE FAYETTE CREATES NEW WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE

December 1, Penn State Fayette launched its new website: www.fayette.psu.edu. Fayette was among sixteen other Penn State campuses that launched the new design beginning in December. A large project involving dozens of individuals, the website redesign took two years to develop from start to finish. The Fayette campus' webmaster Bill Hager and Susan Brimo-Cox, director of Marketing and Communications, served on the design subcommittee throughout the process. Hager says, "Viewers will find the new website easier to navigate and information is easier



to find. But it also is more appealing to the eye than the previous website."

The Marketing and Communications department also launched a Fayette campus Facebook page in August: www.facebook.com/PennStateFayetteTheEberlyCampus. Former Communications Assistant Christine Cox played a large role in its creation. "Research shows Facebook is one of the first places people go for information and we wanted to get people involved in activities on campus," she explains. It appears to be working. During its initial months, the Fayette Facebook page gained more than 450 fans.

PENN STATE FAYETTE ALUMNI: STAY CONNECTED

When was the last time you updated your alumni information? It's easy to stay connected. Simply complete this form and mail it to Alumni News, PO Box 519, Uniontown, PA 15401, fax it to 724-430-4189, or go online at www.fayette.psu.edu/Alumni/30274.htm

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____ E-mail: _____

What years did you attend Penn State Fayette? _____ Other Penn State Campuses attended: _____

Penn State degree and graduation year (if applicable): _____

Spouse/significant other's name: _____

Share your news! Let us know about job promotions and career advancements, new jobs, awards and significant accomplishments, important family news (weddings, birth of a child, etc.), alumni get-togethers.

____ I want information about joining the Penn State Fayette Alumni Society.

____ I want information about making a gift to Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus.

____ I want information about including Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus in my estate planning.

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