

SGA Corner

Senate passes major legislation

The level of recognition for Hall Councils from SGA changed dramatically in the meeting on Dec. 3. A Hall Council Recommendation passed the Senate 14-2-1 after a lengthy discussion.

The motion was co-sponsored by President Soltis, Vice-President Sutter, and Treasurer Erica Sitter. It was motioned for approval by Sutter and seconded by Senator Curry.

The changes include a provision to no longer 'block fund' Hall Councils in the SGA Budget Process. In the past Hall Councils did not submit quotes,

but received funding anyway. Another change included the temporary loss of recognition from SGA. In the past, Hall Councils were not clubs, but held to the same standards as clubs. This meant that they had no clear standing as clubs or not as clubs.

SGA has made it so that Hall Councils are no longer required to submit registration forms or attend budget and treasury training.

However, SGA did make recommendations as to how to grant Hall Councils a level of recognition for continued successful op-

eration on campus. SGA recommended that Hall Councils be added to the Joint Residence Council Constitution and operate as subdivisions of JRC. They could maintain the same structure that they exist under now, except with a clear level of where they stand.

Another option for the Hall Councils provided by the legislation was an encouragement to become independent clubs. This would give them the same recognition as any other organization on campus.

Spring 2004 Budget passes

After a lengthy discussion Wednesday, the SGA Budget passed with 2 appeals.

The major discussion was over the amount of block funding for the Hall Councils to receive for next semester. The SGA Budget Committee originally allocated \$50 to each Hall Council, far below the \$600 requested.

Joint Residence Council sub-

mits the budget that funds the Hall Councils so they filed an appeal for an extra \$200 per council.

After several periods of discussion two friendly amendments were made the the Appeal which made it so that each Hall Council would receive an extra \$100 in addition to the \$50 previously allocated by the committee.

A further amendment was made

to not give an extra \$100 to the Apartment Hall Council and divide that evenly amongst the remaining Hall Councils.

All told, SGA had over \$156,000 in requests and only roughly \$30,000 to allocate. Clubs will have access to these funds beginning next semester.

Mini THON cancelled, committee works on backup program

by Courtney Straub
news editor

Mini THON has been in the works since the beginning of the semester. Recently, the THON committee found out that it was not going to be funded.

"Mini THON was not able to be funded by SGA or SAF and therefore is canceled," said Thon Co-Chairperson Rachel Yates, BIOBD, 05.

Mini THON was a 24 hour dance marathon planned to happen on campus in the first week of February. Both IFC and Panhellenic had signed on with the THON committee to help coordinate this event. Following the THON committee meeting on Tuesday, members of IFC and Panhellenic were notified of the cancellation.

"That was hard to do," said THON co-chairperson Justin Cury, BLASC 05, "they had been working extremely hard all semester on this event, and then we had to inform them that we didn't get funding because of the nature of the program."

According to both SGA and SAF guidelines, philanthropic activities will not be funded. While THON itself is a philanthropic organization, the purpose of Mini THON was to raise awareness on campus as to what THON is and does.

The organizations participating in Mini THON did have to collect a \$60 registration fee, that went directly to the charity, and to date, all registered organizations had done so.

Although Mini THON is canceled, the THON committee has a backup plan. They will now be having a Rock-a-THON that will take place at a local grocery store or Tinsletown. Instead of dancing for 24 hours, they will rock in a rocking chair for 24 hours.

"Last year at DuBois we had a Rock-a-THON and we had great participation," said Curry, "People from the community came out and supported us and it was our most successful fundraiser of the year."

The THON committee will also be extending invitations to those organizations registered to participate in Mini THON to continue their participation in Rock-A-THON.

Students will continue to can until the rock-a-thon. The most recent canning excursion was led by Alpha Sigma Alpha, Alpha Sigma Tau, and Theta Phi

Alpha. They canned on Dec. 5 and 6 and raised \$3,100. They canned on Peach Street, Interchange Road and Peninsula Drive.

"For me personally, canning was a phenomenal experience," said Dee Nowacinski, "Knowing that our hard working efforts were going to such an amazing cause gave us all a euphoric feeling."

While most people give money, there are still some who do not donate.

"It's really hard to watch people read your sign, look you in the face and turn away," said Yates.

Two members of Reality Check, Kayla Smith, BIOBD 03, and Angie Jaillet, INTST 01, were able to raise \$750 in four hours.

"You have the potential to raise a good \$100 an hour if you work it right," said Yates.

Many organizations on campus are involved with THON. They each take different weekends out of the semester to go canning.

"It's not expected that you'd raise so much standing in the streets but the bills start flying and the money adds up," said Yates. "It makes you want to stay out longer."

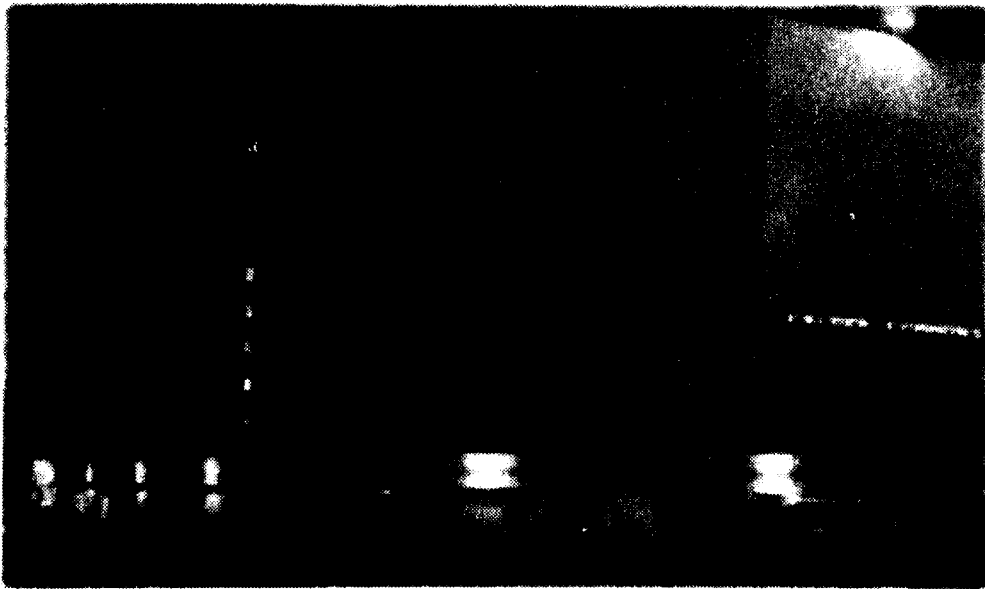
In the works for the beginning of next semester is a THON night at Jr.'s Last Laugh Comedy Club on State Street. Along with the staff of Jr.'s, the THON committee will taking reservations for the evening from faculty, students, and staff over the age of 21.

Jr.'s has agreed to split the proceeds of the evening with the THON committee if they are able to make more than 150 reservations. If not, they will still receive \$5 for every reservation they collect.

"We're really hoping that we can get a lot of support from the faculty and staff during that evening," said committee member Jennifer Sutter, MKTG 07, "With it only being the second week of the semester, we're marketing this event as something that departments or offices can go to together as a fun night out off campus. Plus, they'll be helping THON, which is one of the biggest Penn State traditions."

"Even though we did face a major setback in the cancellation of Mini Thon," said Curry, "our committee has great expectations for next semester, and we've definitely got our bases covered."

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FOOD ADVISORY BOARD
...FROM PAGE 1000

will swing by Dobbin's. The food selection at Dobbin's though is good because it switches every day while at Dobbins it's pretty much the same thing. And it's all a matter of personal preference. I can assure their efforts. In order to have an proving your food and service you need to get the opinions of your consumers.

Melanie Serence, COBBA 01, said that she thinks that FAB will be helpful

one of students actually appreciate and they think it's important. Serence also says that if the campus is raising awareness then Dobbin's needs to be an option.

"I think Dobbin's needs to more this awareness to the students," Serence said. "It's important to have this awareness on Tuesday/Thursday."

John Pavlic, MKTG 04, commented about the initial food selections.

"I think (FAB) is a good thing because they need to write the food handbook," Serence said. "There's no selection. From that she thinks that FAB will be helpful."



The Beacon staff would like to wish goodby and best wishes to managing editor Rob Wynne. Thanks, Rob, for all of your hard work over the last four and a half years. We'll miss you!