

# BSU envisions more active role in future

By James E. Fitzroy

The events presented at Capitol Campus during February to commemorate Black History Month were only the beginning of the revitalization of the Black Student Union here, according to Pamela Samuels, BSU president.

"It's been a lot of work organizing the events, but it was really worth it. It was a strong presentation," she said with enthusiastic satisfaction.

Samuels said that she felt the BSU for the past few years just wasn't doing enough to benefit itself on campus. She envisions a more active and visible role for the organization in the future. She expressed as a primary concern a lack of communication and interaction among students of varying cultural backgrounds.

"We can't often take the time out to understand other cultures," she explained. "We're so ethnocentric, we tend to 'clique up' with people of our own culture. I think it's important to look at the other cultures around us and try to understand them. If we did we'd all be able to live a little better. By mixing and talking, you get to grow by letting someone else know what you're about while you learn what they're about."

A lot of students tell her they just don't have the time for socializing beyond a point of basic politeness "because of their crazy schedules" and other commitments, she said.



Singing Duo Kim and Reggie Harris entertain at Capitol on Feb. 2. The group was sponsored by the Capitol Campus Cultural Events Series during Black History Month.

Photo by Jeffrey G. Shatzer

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## Students, faculty establish memorial scholarship



Dr. Joseph C. Atkins

By Linda McCarty

Capitol Campus students and faculty have established a scholarship fund in memory of Dr. Joseph C. Atkins, assistant professor of Finance, who died of injuries sustained in an automobile accident on December 19, 1983.

He is survived by his wife, Eileen, and two children, Krista and Joshua.

Dr. Atkins, 35, a faculty member at Capitol since 1981, received his bachelor's degree in economics and his master's and doctorate degrees in finance and

economics, all from Penn State.

"He is dearly missed by his colleagues," said Dr. Mehdi Khosrowpour, assistant professor of Computer Applications, who is coordinating the scholarship fund.

Money collected will fund scholarships awarded to distinguished students of finance at Capitol beginning in the fall of 1984, Khosrowpour said.

Dr. Khosrowpour expressed, "deep appreciation over student concern," to continue the memory of, "a man very serious about his work."

"But with a great sense of humor," Khosrowpour added.

Wendy Batkin, a former student of Dr. Atkins and a

member of the recently formed memorial scholarship committee, described him as one of her most memorable teachers.

"He was someone you could really talk to--not just about his courses," she said.

The committee plans a fundraising used book sale in March, to be sponsored by the Student Government Association.

Said Dr. Amir A. Jassim, assistant professor of Risk Management and Finance, "We feel we owe it to him."

Anyone interested in contributing to the fund or donating used books should contact Dr. Mehdi Khosrowpour at 948-6150.