



Five positions vacant in SGA

by Stacy Krnjalc

Almost five months after a controversial spring election for the Student Government Association, five out of twelve positions remain vacant, SGA officials said this week.

SGA President Jackie Gasiorek said only one student has shown interest in a vacant secretary position. Positions still open are club secretary, executive secretary and division senators for behavioral science, education and humanities.

After a candidate screening session at Thursday's general meeting, SGA members, excluding Gasiorek, voted on his appointment.

In contrast to the troubled spring election, some 20 other students have indicated tentative interest in vacant junior senator positions, to be elected next month.

Gasiorek was elected by a narrow five vote margin on April 1-2 in a campus-wide election. She replaced former SGA President Peter Mekosh.

Among the other members elected to SGA last April were Vice President Elizabeth Horne, Treasurer Gary Holland, Senator at large Michael Turk, Senator at large Terry McKnight, Division Senator for Science and

Technology Greg Rodin-Reynold, Division Senator for Business Christina Veltri and Student Union Board of Governors Senator Louise Kleinknecht.

Although she admitted having knowledge of allegations of election fraud last semester, Gasiorek denied that she or anyone currently in SGA had any involvement.

"There was an investigation last spring (conducted by Student Court Chief Justice Eugene Monahan) - Nothing came of it," said Gasiorek. "To my knowledge, no one in the new administration was suspected of any sort of involvement with election fraud."

Gasiorek conceded, however, that the election was disorganized. "The lobby may not be the best place to hold an election," she said. "The election policies will be changed not only

because of fraud allegations last semester, but because these elections have never been well controlled situations."

She said those policy changes will be up to Student Court, the organization which monitors elections.

In addition to changing the SGA constitution regarding election policies, Chief Justice Monahan has proposed several other ideas.

"We proposed a new polling area (Gallery Lounge), voting behind a curtain, possible rental of election equipment from Dauphin County, presentation of identification before voting, and having Capitol Campus police monitor the election," Monahan said.

Monahan also expressed anger over the mismanagement of last semester's elections.

"We were very upset about the election last semester," said Monahan. "We feel that we are

the judicial branch of SGA...all I saw last semester were executive and legislative branches that did not know how to properly carry out an election."

The chief justice did however express optimism about this year's administration.

"I give them my vote of confidence," said Monahan. "I feel we have the people this semester that can effectively run an organized student government. Especially Jackie (Gasiorek), she's been here working hard everyday of this summer."

Besides preparing for upcoming junior senator elections, SGA is also looking forward to the completion of its current project, remodeling the Student Organization Complex, which is slated for sometime in October.

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Tuition hike irks students

by Joseph L. Michalsky

"I think it stinks," snapped Mary Ann O'Brien, a Humanities student about the latest tuition increase in the Penn State system. The 7.7 percent increase in tuition for the fall semester places tuition per semester at \$1,380 for a full-time student according to William Miller, associate bursar at University Park.

"We're not happy with the tuition increase," replied Provost Ruth Leventhal. "Penn State is the second most expensive land grant university in the country."

The provost is not the only one who is unhappy with the latest tuition increase at Penn State.

"I'm kind of upset about the tuition. It seems like it goes up every semester," said Jon Dunnavent, a multi-media major. Dunnavent thinks that an increase in tuition should yield increased improvements to the campus.

Engineering student, Bernie Dobransky, echoed Dunnavent's opinion.

"Once in a while I can handle it, but I can't understand how it goes up every," he said. I would like to know exactly where the \$100 surcharge goes to in my engineering department."

The \$100 surcharge for engineering students is for the use of lab equipment.

While Dobransky, Dunnavent and O'Brien are upset about the tuition increase, Brett Reifsnnyder, an electrical engineering student thinks otherwise.

"You have to pay to it, no matter what you think about it."

Students expect B avg.

by Maria L. Kent

Are you expecting to maintain a "B" average while attending school at Capitol? A recent Penn State University study found 90 percent of Penn State incoming students expect at least a "B" average or better, though only 20 percent had done that well in high school.

According to the study, most incoming students plan to study an average of 20 hours or less per week, leading PSU officials to assume the students didn't see a "connection between study hours and grades."

A survey conducted at Capitol Campus however, revealed incoming juniors do not agree with the study.

Karen Hubler expects to maintain at least a 3.0 average the students in the Multi-Media Journalism option of public relations, said she plans on studying an average of 6 to 10 hours for each class, bringing

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Times will publish weekly

by Maria L. Kent

The Capitol Times, the biweekly student newspaper of the Capitol Campus, will begin publishing on a weekly basis beginning in November, announced Times Editor-in-Chief Dave Donlin.

Donlin's announcement was one of many improvements at the independently-run tabloid newspaper. Other improvements for the fall semester include a complete internal reorganization and upgraded staff motivation plans, the editor said.

Donlin, who was appointed editor-in-chief in May, has

restructured news and production departments inside the paper.

"New departments are being added, like our advertising, public relations, business, and graphics departments," said Donlin.

The editor-in-chief expects a more involved staff and student body this year because of the "new blood" of his staff.

"Our staff is more dedicated now," he said. "The advertising staff began working over the summer. And we're all working to deliver a weekly newspaper that will not only keep Capitol

Campus students informed but keep them entertained on different topics every week."

Donlin foresees getting the students more involved by running contests and sponsoring school events, like the Volleyball game sponsored by The Capitol Times during registration.

The newspaper is still seeking students to work in the following positions: Business manager; entertainment and feature writers; Correspondents from the science and

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Members of the Capitol Times' editorial staff are (standing, from left) News Editor Maria L. Kent, Production Manager Stacy Krnjalc, Advertising Manager Jennette Dell'Alba, Public Relations Director Beverly Halbrook, and (seated in front, from left) Editor-in-Chief Dave Donlin and columnist Alan Pincus. Members of the Capitol Times' editorial staff are (standing, from left) News Editor Maria L. Kent, Production Manager Stacy Krnjalc, Advertising Manager Jennette Dell'Alba, Public Relations Director Beverly Halbrook, and (seated in front, from left) Editor-in-Chief Dave Donlin and columnist Alan Pincus.

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