

Position still open despite job freeze

Gia Witmer
Capital Times Staff

Despite a recently announced job freeze at Penn State, the humanities division is continuing its search for someone to fill an American Studies position that has been vacant for 12 years.

John Patterson, associate professor of American studies and history, and chairman of the search committee, said the division is seeking someone to teach early American history (pre-19th century) and public history (teaching history outside schools, in museums for instance).

"It's a crucial position," said Simon Bronner, coordinator of the American Studies program. He said the program is growing rapidly and gaining recognition on a national level.

With over 100 students enrolled in the program, the current student-faculty ratio is 25-1. Bronner said with a new person on board, the student-faculty ratio would approach a more desirable 17-1.

The Penn State job freeze came March 5 in response to threatened statewide budget cuts to higher education.

Ernest Dishner, associate provost and dean of faculty, called the freeze "serious"

at a faculty council meeting on March 17, adding that he thinks "it will be long term."

Dishner said that searches that are well on their way can continue. He also said other searches may present a case for exceptions to the freeze. According to Dishner, the humanities division is among units eligible for exception to the freeze.

William Mahar, humanities division head, said the program will file for an exception.

"We will complete the screening process, make a recommendation, and then ask for an exception," he said.

Bronner said the new professor would offer a course in 18th century American civilization for graduate students, and another on early America for undergraduates. He added that other teaching fields might include Pennsylvania history and politics, Indian ethnology and historic preservation.

The position opened 12 years ago when the professor holding it was not rehired. Since then, part-time faculty have filled the position, Patterson said. He added, 20 to 30 people have applied for the position, and it should be filled soon.



Photo by Elin Marcel

Shawn Drain, harpist and singer, provides lilting melodies to a crowd of 20 in the Gallery Lounge. Drain's performance included tunes such as "The Fish Song," "Frere Jacques" and two versions of "The Missed Step." The March 4 show was part of Women's History Month at Penn State Harrisburg.

will feature the Mediterranean Region. Donations will be accepted.

April 8--Nationally recognized artist Susan Leviton will present Holocaust Perspectives, focusing on songs and readings culled from the central holocaust

experience of the late 1930s and 1940s from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Gallery Lounge. Joseph Mayanja will also share his personal viewpoints from his native country of Uganda.

April 8--Former Yugoslav ambassador Cvijeto Job will be the key note speaker for the program "A Study on Conflict: Yugoslavia," at 7 p.m. in the Gallery Lounge. The discussion will include a reaction panel composed of representatives from various ethnic groups.

April 9--Troy Thomas, associate professor of humanities, will discuss the effects of pollution on art work from Greek antiquity at 1 p.m. in the Gallery Lounge. The discussion will focus on the effects of pollution on the world's priceless works of art.

April 10--A cooking demonstration featuring Greek, Egyptian and Balkan foods will be open to all student, faculty and staff members at noon in the Gallery Lounge.

Speakers and samples to highlight IAA program

Lawrence Bates
Capital Times Staff

A week-long focus on the Mediterranean Basin, featuring food samples, discussions and experiences will be the topic of 1992's International Affairs Week April 6 to April 10.

Sponsored by the International Affairs Association (IAA), the week is designed to provide the opportunity for the community of Penn State Harrisburg to experience different cultures. This year's event will feature various guest speakers and performers, as well as food exhibitions.

The food programs will include foods from Mediterranean cultures, and the

dishes will be prepared by club members and guests. Besides the food programs, special interest programs are also scheduled to be held during the week. Programs will be hosted by PSH professors and a special guest speaker.

Here is a schedule of the week's events:

April 6--Dr. James Rooney, professor of behavioral science, will discuss alcohol consumption in Spain at 2 p.m. in the Gallery Lounge. Rooney has done extensive research on alcohol consumption in Spain, and will offer the results of his studies.

April 7--The IAA will sponsor the fifth annual food sampling in the PSH dormitories from 8:30-9:30 p.m. This year



Susquehanna Institute

Comprehensive Counseling, Psychological and Educational Services

Dr. Edward S. Beck, Director
Dr. Ronald Bonner, Psychologist Associate
Rosemarie C. Holland, MA, Counseling Associate
Dr. James Walters, Psychologist Associate
Joseph Manduchi, MS, Psychologist Associate
Dr. Diane M. Bonner, Psychologist Associate
Michael Faulkner, Certified Massage Therapist

(717)545-5500

24 hours - 7 days

East Shore Medical Center
2405 Linglestown Road
Harrisburg, PA 17110

We are pleased to announce our
relocation and expansion of staff & services