

Questions of change upset PSH faculty, staff and students

By Chris Brooks
Staff Reporter

Faculty, staff and students crowded in to the Gallery Lounge last Tuesday to hear Dr. John Bruhn's proposals of improvement for Penn State Harrisburg.

Changes in the Commonwealth Educational System over a five-year period, 1997-2002, will affect faculty, staff and students.

Discussions on various Penn State campuses during the 1995-96 school year propose to integrate schools. Schuylkill campus is one of the first to agree to work with

the Harrisburg campus. Penn State York could soon follow.

"Librarians would work with librarians on other campuses," Bruhn said. "Student governments would work with other student governments."

Other options include expanding Penn State schools into four-year colleges.

"We're an opportunity to reinvent Penn State Harrisburg," Bruhn said. "Every aspect of this college could be changed or modified."

Dr. Louise Hoffman, Professor

of Humanities, questioned what the process would be for redesigning the college.

"How will we be involved," she asked? "Will our program offerings change? Will we add faculty? Will we move to a departmental structure? Will tenured professors bump part time professors?"

"The process needs to be worked out," Bruhn replied.

With finance cuts over the past few years and an one percent cut to faculty this year, there will be no new money for the proposed plan. **See Open Forum pg. 6**



Dr. John Bruhn delivers "State-of-the-College" briefing

Photo by Chris Brooks

Flood of '96 ravages midstate

On Saturday, Jan. 20 the Susquehanna River raged over its banks forcing many midstaters to evacuate.

Later that day, the force of the icy river tore away two sections of the historic Walnut St. Bridge in Harrisburg.

On Jan. 26, President Clinton declared 67 counties in the state disaster areas.

By Jan. 28, at least 20 people were dead from the devastating floodwaters.



The icy, muddy Susquehanna River spilled into the streets of Shipoke

photo by Danielle C. Hollister

Penn State President will visit PSH and community

By Ann E. Mease
Staff Reporter

President Graham B. Spanier will visit the Penn State Harrisburg Campus on February 29, continuing a two phase year long tour, taking him to all corners of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Graham's tour will include all of the Penn State University's 23 locations, a number of its 67 extension offices, and visits to businesses, high schools, and civic organizations across the commonwealth. This tour is to reintroduce and dedicate the University to the people it serves. The visits also give students and citizens the opportunity to ask questions and express their views on Penn State's involvement in government and higher education in general.

Visits made up to this point have been to local business people, community groups, campus faculty and staff, students and advisory boards, a visit to a local high school, and meetings with the area media or a local newspaper editorial board.

"Penn State serves a broad community and I am getting out and meeting that community," Dr. Spanier said. "Penn State is a vital resource for many constituencies throughout the state. From our continuing education programs, to our county extension offices, to our economic development partnerships with Pennsylvania businesses, we touch a tremendous amount of lives and provide opportunities and hope to a vast population."

Dr. Spanier cites examples such as Penn State's involvement in 4-H, which reaches more than 150,000 youths in the state. In 1994, through its Cooperative Extension Offices, the University had more than 1.1 million face to face contacts with people, and more than 3 million people in Pennsylvania are served by programs originated in Penn State's colleges and specialized units. Additionally Penn State programs and services benefit more than 3,000 public, business and industry organizations across the state.

Many people are assisting in this goodwill tour and adding to the success of the project. Linda Higginson, assistant to the Vice President for the Commonwealth **See Spanier pg. 6**



PSH develops Honors Program

"Life experiences and involvement in the community are an important part of an Honors education," Dr. Glen Mazis said.

By Tina Sheare
Co-editor

Depth, diversity and community involvement are what the new Penn State Harrisburg Honors Program offers

nity and give something back to the community," Dr. Glen Mazis, professor of humanities and philosophy and director of the program.

The Honors program is designed to offer students a more in depth learning experience based on advance studies in their major. The program also focuses the diversity of education by incorporating interdisciplinary topics and seminars.

Candidates will be required to submit an application with a two-page essay and be prepared to be interviewed by the Honors Committee. The Committee will be choosing approximately 40 students for the 1996 Fall semester.

Students must maintain a 3.2 GPA throughout the program, complete Honors 301: "The Role of Knowledge in Society," a 3-credit honors thesis, Honors 401: "Research Studies," at least five

other credits in honors tutorials, honors courses in the major, college wide honors seminars of honors sections and file a yearly course of study plan.

"Honors students are going to be doing extra work, but the real benefit for them is more control over their work," Mazis said. "They will be able to break the existing structure to find a structure that fits them better."

Penn State Harrisburg's Honors **See Honors pg. 6**

Women's Studies and International Business minors added at PSH

By Danielle C. Hollister
Co-editor

Penn State Harrisburg students can explore new options with their education this semester.

In addition to the honors program, the university has added two new minors to the curriculum offerings. Students can choose to minor in Women's Studies or International Business.

The Women's Studies minor is being offered as an interdisciplinary, interdepartmental effort of the Humanities Division, the School of Public Affairs, and the Division of Behavioral Sciences and Education. Dr. Alison Hirsch, assistant professor of American studies and history, is overseeing the minor in the Humanities Division.

Dr. Tace Hedrick, assistant professor of humanities and comparative literature, is teaching one of the women's studies classes this semester. She was unavailable for comment.

Dr. Carol Nechemias, associate professor of public policy, describes the women's studies class that she's teaching this semester.

"It's basically looking at gender issues, events, ideas and meanings that social institutions have for men and women," she said. "We are addressing the question of what are women's issues? And why are they called that?" **See Minors pg. 6**



Honors Committee

photo by Dr. Mazis

to interested and qualified students.

The program will be offered for the first time in Fall 1996. The program is open to students with a minimum 3.2 GPA who are looking for a more involved, interdisciplinary learning experience within a community of committed learners.

"The whole idea is really not about grades as much as attitude and really wanting to get involved with your education, interact with other students, and to get involved with commu-