



Photo by Jody L. Jacobs

Police Services Officer Rinc and Auxillary Student Patrol Officer McGlennen guard their "prisoners" (L-R): Dr. Donald Holtzman, Provost John Bruhn, Dr. Bob Lesniak, and Dr. James South at the Student Government Association "Lock Up" fundraiser held in the main lobby of the Olmsted Building Nov. 19.

"Tarnhelm" seeks talent of campus community for its spring publication

Bradley N. Boyd
Contributor

The Tarnhelm, Penn State Harrisburg (PSH) literary and arts journal is seeking the work of writers, artists, poets and photographers in this year's edition.

Tarnhelm is published in late spring each year and encourages students from all majors to submit their creative endeavors to be judged for publication. All works will be judged anonymously and prizes for best poetry, fiction and visual arts will be presented during an award ceremony at the end of the spring semester. The finished publication will be distributed to the campus at that time.

Tarnhelm accepts poetry, essays, articles, short stories and one-act plays for consideration in the writing categories. Visual art submissions may include black-and-white photography or black-and-white (i.e. pen and ink) drawings.

Staff meetings, under the guidance of advisor Dr. Theodora Rapp Graham, have already begun with various topics being discussed.

These topics have included staff responsibilities, submission guidelines and deadlines, printing estimates and funding.

Submissions will be accepted from students of all majors, staff or faculty members.

Guidelines for submission and deadline dates will be posted on bulletin boards around campus and will also be available in school and division offices within the next few weeks.

Any students, whether submitting work or simply interested in working on the staff, is invited to join the staff by attending meetings which are announced regularly in "This Week".

You can also get involved by leaving your name, address and telephone number with Cindy Leach in Humanities Division, in room W356.

PSH and Dickinson create cooperative degree program

Debbi Mallek
Staff Reporter

The Dickinson School of Law and Penn State Harrisburg have partnered to provide a program creating a cooperative degree in law and public administration.

The two schools will begin admitting degree candidates for the 1997-98 academic year.

"This program will permit students to earn a law degree (Juris Doctor) from The Dickinson School of Law and a master's degree in public administration (MPA) from Penn State Harrisburg in less time and at a lower cost than would be possible otherwise," said Dickinson Dean Peter G. Glenn.

According to Christine Kellett, Dean of Institutional Planning at the Law School, public administration graduates most often work in government positions which require some knowledge of the law.

"There is a great deal of overlap in the areas of public administration and law," said Kellett. "It is certainly academically sound to bring those disciplines together."

To be admitted to the JD/MPA degree program, students

must first be admitted to The Dickinson School of Law under its regular admission procedures.

Dickinson will forward to Penn State Harrisburg applications of students who are interested in and qualified for the joint program. Penn State Harrisburg will then make independent admissions decisions regarding these candidates.

A maximum of nine credits toward law school course work may be transferred for credit toward the MPA degree at Penn State Harrisburg and vice versa.

Students in the program may complete six credits of relevant Law School clinic work in lieu of the field placement required for the MPA degree. All students in the program will have two advisers, one from Dickinson and one from Penn State Harrisburg.

"By forming alliances among the already successful institutions which exist in the capital region, we can better portray our community to the rest of the world as one which is rich in educational opportunities," said Gerald Morrison, chair of the Penn State Harrisburg Board of Advisers and a Dickinson School of Law graduate.

Students protest state allocation through "Write a Note to Ridge" campaign

Jody L. Jacobs
Editor

Students now have an opportunity to voice their educational concerns to Gov. Thomas Ridge through a university-wide, "Write a Note to Ridge" campaign.

The project, initiated by the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments (CCSG), was designed to protest the amount of allocation that Penn State University (PSU) receives from the Pa. state government.

According to Nicole McNeil, student government (SGA) secretary, Penn State receives the lowest appropriation per student of any public school in Pa., even though it educates one out of every eight college students in the state.

"Tuition increases all of the time. We're trying to get Gov. Ridge to raise our appropriation," she said.

In 1975, the state covered

56 percent of full-time student tuition. McNeil said that today, it only covers 26 percent.

McNeil said that the purpose of the project is for students to communicate their personal situations to Ridge so that he will better understand how the lack of state appropriation affects tuition and student's financial situations.

Each "note" is designed to be a self-mailer and they may be picked up at the SGA office.

Once returned to the SGA, McNeil said that the notes are reviewed only to make sure that the campus is not delivering derogatory or offensive comments to the governor.

The notes from other Penn State campuses are collected at University Park and are then forwarded through interoffice mail to the Penn State Harrisburg (PSH) campus.

Volunteers from this campus then hand deliver the notes to Ridge's office each week.

Discrepancies in degree audits cause frustration for PSH students

Joanne C. Ramirez
Staff Reporter

According to students, faculty advisors and staff assistants, certain discrepancies have become apparent on degree audits causing confusion and anxiety within the campus community. Georgia Foltz's experience is an example of the type of situation caused by the publication of the degree audit.

"Frustration doesn't begin to describe it. Rage is a better word." This is Georgia Foltz's reaction to the degree audit she received this semester which showed her deficient by 65 credits and thus ineligible for graduation from the Public Policy program at Penn State Harrisburg (PSH).

"I have generally had a positive experience here," Foltz continues, "but the degree audit has been a constant fly in the ointment."

When a death in her family caused her to withdraw from classes last Spring, Foltz had to delay her graduation until this December. She enrolled in courses over the Summer to make up some time and looked forward to completing her curriculum in

public policy during the fall session. Then she received her degree audit. According to it Foltz was missing some 65 credits towards her degree.

"I received instructions on the graduation ceremony in the mail," Foltz explains, "and then the very next week, I got the degree audit which said I was not going to graduate. I was fearful they were pulling the rug out from under me. Did they change my degree requirements?"

Evidently, this program is not unique to Foltz. Faculty advisors and staff assistants claim that since the degree audit program has been implemented, they have been inundated with phone calls and visits from anxious students and parents each time the audits are published.

"We receive a lot of calls about the degree audits," comments Cindy Leach, staff assistant in the humanities department. "I would say I received 30 calls or visits from students [this semester] but some went to their advisors or to the head of the division so I have no way of knowing exactly how many."

Other staff assistants report as many as 150 phone calls and up to 25 students wait-

ing in the lobby at a time with questions about their degree audits.

The degree audit is an analysis of the student's progress toward the Baccalaureate degree. The classes taken and grades received are entered into the computer and cross-referenced with the requirements for the student's chosen program. Once that comparison is made, the computer creates and outlines which details the student's current status and deficiencies. This outline, which is generated on the fifth day of each semester, is then sent to students and their advisors as an indicator of which courses remain outstanding within the parameters of the student's particular degree requirements.

Louis Smith of the Business Department states that there are inconsistencies in most of the degree audit she sees.

"I would say about 95% of them are wrong," reveals Smith.

Faculty advisors substantiate this claim that the majority of audits are incorrect. Indeed, several students received degree audits which indicated they were

See Audit pg. 2

XGI's plan holiday events to reach out to PSH and neighboring areas

Mandy Souchack
Staff Reporter

In the spirit of the holiday season, Chi Gamma Iota (XGI) has decorated their calendar with activities to spread cheer and goodwill to the neighboring communities of Penn State Harrisburg (PSH).

On Nov. 29, XGI will be sponsoring a Thanksgiving Bash at the Capital Union Building (CUB) for students under the age of 21. The band "13, 14" from Elizabethtown, will be performing live between 7 and 11:30 p.m., with a D.J. providing entertainment between sets.

Students from 15 local high schools, as well as PSH students, have been invited to attend the dance. Admission is \$5 for students with I.D., with refreshments being provided.

Gordon Moon, president

of XGI stated that they are also trying to arrange for sports players from the Penn State football, Hershey Bears hockey, and the Harrisburg Heat soccer teams to be on hand for autographs in the Quiet Study room between 7 and 8 p.m.

They have also contacted the PSH bookstore to see if they are willing to sell T-shirts and plastic footballs to have signed by the Penn State football representatives.

Now through the end of November, XGI is collecting donations for their "Toys for Tots" toy drive. On Wednesday, Dec. 4, the toys collected from PSH students, faculty and staff, along with donations from local toy stores, will be given to children of the Meade Heights Residential Area as well as children from local hospitals.

XGI has participated in the "Toys for Tots" program in the past, but they distributed the toys to children in the hospital for the holidays. This year, they are including children from the PSH community.

The children are being invited to attend a Christmas Party in the Gallery Lounge, with an expected appearance from Santa Claus. Each child will receive a toy, and may enjoy other holiday activities planned.

In recognition of their continued community service, XGI has been selected to appear in commercials to be run during Penn State Basketball games during the upcoming season. This 30 second commercial will be used to promote PSU, focusing on the fraternity's service to the community, both PSH and neighboring areas.

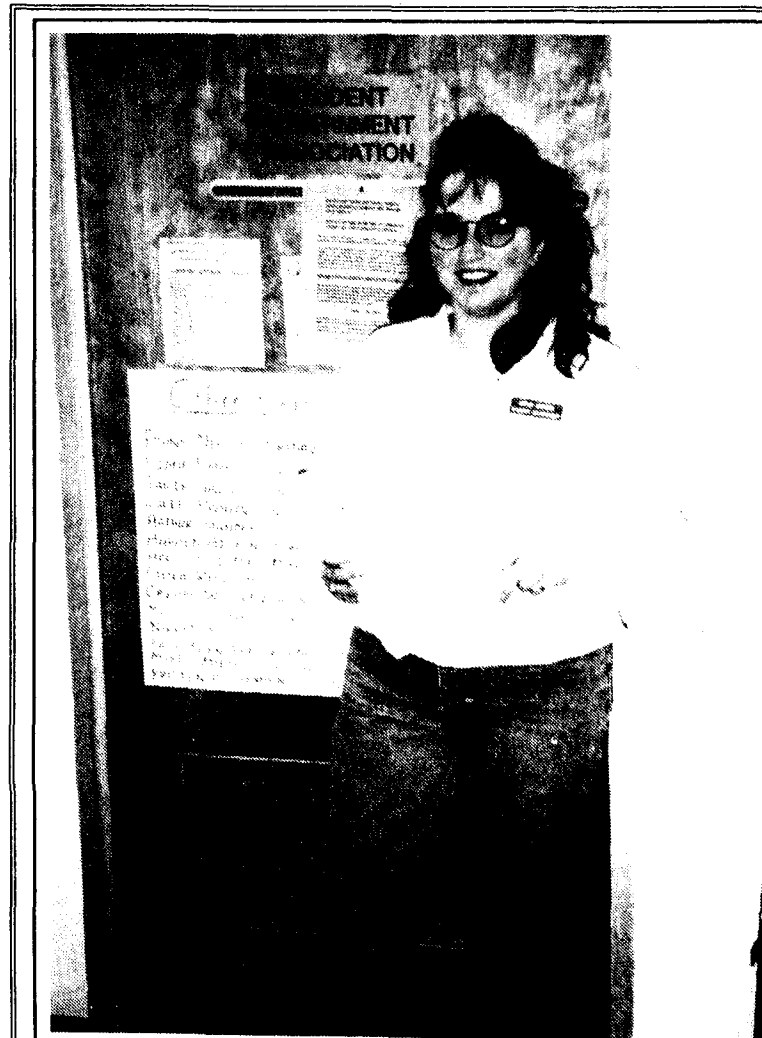


Photo by Jody L. Jacobs

Student Government Association (SGA) Secretary, Nicole McNeil stands outside the SGA office with a stack of "Write a Note to Ridge" forms completed by PSH students.