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Penn State Harrisburg's student voice

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Despite chilly temps, students celebrate spring

Jody L. Jacobs
Editor

Despite temperatures hovering in the 40s, members of the Penn State Harrisburg community donned their winter coats to gather behind the Capital Union Building to celebrate Rites of Spring.

The annual event - sponsored by the Student Government Association - marked a change in tradition this year as the festivities were moved from the lawns of the residence halls to the field and parking lot between the Capital Union and the Swatara Buildings.

"Rites of Spring is held every year to encourage community spirit within the campus, to get students aware of clubs and organizations - and to have fun before finals," Stacie Wentzel, Student Government Association vice president said.

Rites of Spring was open to all Penn State Harrisburg students, faculty and staff as well as members of neighboring communities and activities were offered for children and adults.

The event commenced with a 5k run sponsored by the Chi Gamma Iota campus club.

The "for fun only" race attracted over 20 participants who competed in five categories - over-all place, men's, women's, children's and 50 plus.

Leading the racers through their three-mile course were the bike patrol officers of Safety and Police Services.

"This year we're going to be out in full force and will try to participate in as many events as possible," patrol officer Keith Farren said.

Other club sponsored activities - such as a rock-climbing wall by Cabaret; face-painting by the Lion Ambassadors; and hockey shoot-out by the hockey club - were offered throughout the afternoon.

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Going the distance at Rites of Spring



photo by Jeff Warren

The Penn State Harrisburg annual Rites of Spring celebration commenced with a 5K race sponsored by the Chi Gamma Iota (XGI) organization. Above, more than 20 runners sprint off the starting line on O Street. John Hargraves - number 16 - would place first overall with a time of 17:46 minutes. Other campus clubs and organizations participated in the annual event which raised money for local high schools through a battle of the bands competition.

Campus club learns about psych field at annual conference

Nicole Lynn Meck
Staff Reporter

The Psychology Club of Penn State Harrisburg (PSH) discussed their discipline with other college psychology majors at the Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) Conference April 10.

The conference - held at the Washington D.C. Sheraton Hotel - had a selection of events to choose from - graduate education symposia series, invited papers, invited speakers, paper sessions and posters.

There were also publishers of psychology text books, computer software salesmen, and a display of lab equipment so psychology professors and students could examine the latest academic materials avail-

"Going to EPA provides students an opportunity to learn more than just what is in their textbooks. It gives them a chance to see what is happening in their field," Becker said.

Students with the Psychology Club worked at fund-raising activities throughout the academic year to make the trip to EPA possible - holding sub sales, selling candy and soda during the Mr Greenjeans concert in January. The club also received funding from the Student Activity Fee Fund.

Dave Baum, the President of the Psychology Club for 1997-1998, said he learned a great deal from the conference and that it is a good educational experience for psychology majors.

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-- Michael A. Becker
PSH Psychology Professor

able.

The annual event also offered attendees the ever-popular "Psych Follies" - a comedic review of historical psychological achievements.

Two professors Drs. Michael A. Becker and Thomas G. Bowers from PSH presented posters at the conference.

Professor Becker's poster, "The Role of Third-party Introductions in the Romantic Relationship Process as a Function of Race," described his research findings of how people feel about being introduced to the opposite sex for the purpose of romantic relationships.

Professor Bowers and Donna Marie Stuck's poster was "Left Temporal Lobectomy and Subsequent Verbal Memory Functions," which described continued local cortical stimulation - or how normal verbal memory is processed in the brain.

"It is a good experience for you get to know people," he said.

The conference also gave students the opportunity to realize what would be expected of them in the psychology field, Baum said.

Baum said he was able to talk to people about their research - not just read about it. He could discuss ideas with others and get a further understanding of the topic.

Baum said, "You get out of life what you put in to it."

"This totally validated my career goals," graduate student, Midge Noble said. Some of the speakers were awesome."

"EPA was fantastic - it was a good educational experience, Troy Dellinger said.

The members of the Psychology club said they found the conference extremely rewarding and reflected

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Earth Day teaches campus to be earth-wise

"I truly believe that there is an on-going need to create awareness in the continuing struggle to save our precious environment."

--Stephanie PenneKamp

Ann E. Mease
Staff Reporter

Water, wildlife and land conservation were just a few of the topics addressed at Penn State Harrisburg's 1997 Earth Day Expo held on April 18, in front of the Science and Technology Building (STB).

Even though the weather did not cooperate with gusty winds nearly blowing over the Expo tent at times, students, vendors and faculty did not let that keep them from contributing to Earth Day.

Stephanie PenneKamp, communications major, was one of the first students to arrive at the Earth Expo.

"I truly believe that there is an on-going need to create awareness in the continuing struggle to save our precious environment," said PenneKamp.

Several clubs were involved in the Expo including the Lion Ambassadors - who were doing animal face-painting, the Student Government Association - who were handing out seeds and the Society of Environmental Engineers

(SEE).

The Society is an organization that was developed to enhance the education of environmental engineering and technology students which focuses on environmental awareness, education and professional development, according to acting president Mark Roland.

"The campus needs more activities like Earth Day to encourage student, faculty and community interaction, to promote environmental awareness," Roland said.

Incoming SEE President
See Earth Day pg. 5



photo by Jeff Warren

Campus students, faculty and staff donned their winter coats in order to attend a tree-planting ceremony in front of the Olmsted Building during the Earth Day Expo April 18. Campus clubs and organizations donated trees which were planted throughout the campus.