

Tapping into PSH Potential

By Paula Marinak
Capital Times Staff Writer

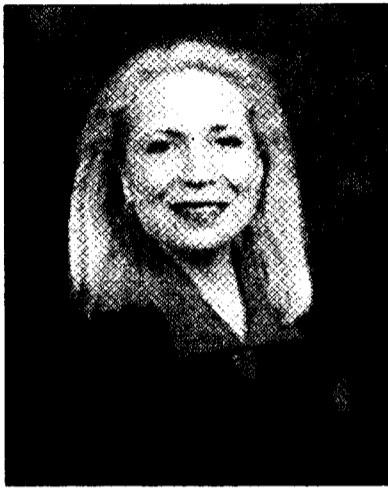


Photo from file

Dr. Madlyn Hanes

Members of the PSH community who have met Dr. Madlyn Hanes describe the new provost and dean as a talented, energetic visionary with the knowledge and skills to lead the College into the new millennium. Hanes officially joined the administration on July 1. She replaced Dr. John Leathers, who is now the interim dean of the Commonwealth College, which serves Penn State's 12 undergraduate campuses.

Dr. Harold Shill, director of the Capital College libraries, said of the new executive officer, "She is one of those special leaders who can energize a community. I think she sees great potential at this College. I think she is the right leader at the right time."

Dr. Janet Widoff, director of student affairs at PSH, agreed with her colleague. "Dr. Hanes' leadership provides an opportunity for the college community to look at new ideas, programs, and services to expand the ways that we serve students," she said. Widoff added that beginnings, whether they signal the start of a new school year, a new administration, or both, "always hold the promise of discovery for our campus."

Hanes looks forward to the challenges her new post will bring. Her job requires her to oversee every aspect of operating the school, providing all necessary educational and support services for students, faculty, and staff. Her office must also maintain close ties between PSH and the other Penn State campuses, as well as continuing good relations with PSH alumni.

Hanes said she feels very fortunate to come to Penn State Harrisburg at what

she calls "an opportune time," when the entire university is beginning its next cycle of strategic planning. Strategic planning, Hanes explained, is an opportunity for the College to set goals and create a road map for the next five years.

The new provost said one of her main goals is to improve PSH's visibility in the surrounding community. Among the school's assets, Hanes listed a varied curriculum, talented faculty, and a dynamic atmosphere. "But," she stressed, "you can't just rest on your laurels and assume everyone knows who you are, where you're located, and what you have to offer."

She encouraged current and former students to play an active role in guaranteeing the College's continued success and growth. "We have to look to students and alumni to tell our story and help us get better so we're no longer a best-kept secret," she added.

Since taking the helm at Penn State Harrisburg, Hanes believes one of the greatest challenges facing this campus five years from now and beyond is "to provide access and ensure quality. We need to hire the best faculty and make sure students, faculty, and staff can do their best possible job," she said.

The newest addition to PSH cited strategy and deliberation as crucial elements in her office's mission to provide a comprehensive, timely education for current and prospective students so they can make a successful transition to the job market or a graduate degree program. She knows cooperation among all Penn State campuses will be the key to realizing that goal.

Hanes pledged to add programs, at the undergraduate and graduate levels, whenever the school had the resources to meet students' interests and needs. She anticipates that the Capital campus may eventually offer complete baccalaureate programs in "high needs areas" like information technology, but no timetable has been established yet. If and when Hanes' office took such action, and if it succeeded, other fields of study would offer a four-year degree on an as-needed basis.

PSH's new head administrator may be a newcomer to this campus, but she is well acquainted with the Penn State system. She began working for the University in 1988, where she served as the chief academic officer at Penn State's

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Tuition Increase Funds Improvements

By Barbara Gertzen
Capital Times Staff Writer

The return of students for fall classes at Penn State Harrisburg heralds the arrival of cool, crisp autumn weather, the gradually changing color of foliage on campus and a 6 percent increase in fall tuition.

According to Steven Hevner, manager of public information and publications at PSH, the tuition increase will enable the university to maintain its commitment to high quality academic technology, top-notch personnel and support facilities for students at the Harrisburg campus. Hevner says the PSU board of trustees, who approved the latest tuition increase, recognize it as their mission to provide students the best resources available to

prepare them for the challenges awaiting them after graduation. A degree from Penn State, Hevner points out, carries with it a national and international reputation for quality education. According to Hevner, this perception is of substantial value to graduates entering the highly competitive world beyond the university.

Hevner reports that there are two major sources of funding for schools within the PSU network: tuition and state support. Hevner adds that one of the major costs at PSH is recruitment and retention of highly-qualified, pre-eminent faculty members for the five academic schools at PSH. In addition, an extensive support staff is needed for the smooth

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Free Newspapers Arrive on Campus

By Cathie McCormick Musser
Capital Times Editor In Chief

New semesters mean new relationships. This semester, PSH students began a carefully documented relationship with newspapers.

Returning students couldn't miss the big, shiny blue and white newspaper vending machines. They occupy the student lounge on the first floor of the Olmsted building, the hallway lounge area on the third floor of Olmsted and the lobby area of the Educational Activities building. The vending machines require only the insertion of a Penn State student ID card to receive free copies of *The New York Times*, *USA Today* and *The Patriot News*.

There's a reason the free newspapers aren't simply stacked in the halls. The program is specifically designed for students, not faculty and staff. According to a program press release, the program is "based on the rationale that regular readership would enhance the learning environment of Penn State students."

In addition, newspaper usage is carefully monitored. According to Dave Polisano, *USA Today* staff and service

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Photo by Cathie McCormick Musser

John Kowker breaks the code and opens the newspaper vending machine.