WPSH 88.9 set to launch this week

By PETER STRELLA

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A small group of eager students listened intently as Scott Stephan explained to them how their new base is set up.

"Does anyone have any questions?" asked Stephan, the engineer mostly responsible for setting up their new stomping grounds.

"Go over the board again," said Tony Colarusso, the assistant station manager. It was now evident that, after a couple failed attempts over the past few years, the WPSH campus radio station would finally reach the airwaves.

Stephan continued his instruction in an effort to prepare the staff for the station's launch on Feb. 3, when they will set up a table in Towne Square to make themselves visible to the students.

"I think having a functional radio station will make it easier for other organizations to get information out to students," said Angelo Martarano, the new WPSH station manager.

"For students that live on campus, [we offer] a radio station they can listen to and call in requests. [It's] something a little more interactive than with other radio stations in the area," Martarano said.

The station, which can be heard on FM 88.9, can be accessed in the Olmsted Building and the Village between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Those who tune in can listen to a variety of programming including rock, hip-hop R & B, punk, Spanish, and daily news.

"What I'm most excited about is the diversity of the people participating," said Catherine Rios, the faculty advisor for WPSH. "This group is completely new. They are establishing a whole new identity for the radio station."

Martarano and friends have plenty of ideas for WPSH, including an Instant Messenger request line where students can IM the station with the songs they would like to hear. They are also working with Housing and Food Services to broadcast the station over the speakers in the food court.

"The other staff and I were talking about possibly hosting bands coming in on campus," said Martarano. "We also would like to have prizes for the students."

WPSH has been dormant for about the last four years. Once the new Towne Square was finished last spring, WPSH had a new home that was more accessible to students. After several failed attempts by others to get the station off the ground, Martarano was able to work with the engineers to get the station in a posi-



Assistant Station Manager, Tony Colarusso asks Scott Stephan a question as WPSH staff members Adam Weaver (second from the right) and Colin Groff-Decker (far right) listen in.

tion to launch.

"The equipment that they bought for the station is really good equipment," said Martarano. "The school bought a brand new mixer board and the location makes it great so that other students see that we have a radio station."

WPSH plans to expand their daily hours after the station is running for a couple of weeks. The DJs plan to put up flyers around campus that advertise who they are, what their program will include, and when it will air. Anyone interested in joining the radio station can contact the station manager at alm410@psu.edu.



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