

Faculty Advisor  
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# COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR

By PETER STRELLA, EDITOR IN CHIEF

This column is to inform the students about the Student Activity Fee (SAF). The SAF is a separate fee on your tuition bill that serves as the primary source of funding clubs, food during finals week, and student entertainment such as lectures, out of class trips, and musicians. Right now, Penn State Harrisburg is the third largest satellite campus in terms of student population, yet we're almost dead last in terms of money available for student activities.

In my opinion, one of the best things SGA President Lee Cutchall has attempted during his tenure has been to rally support for an increase in the Student Activity Fee. For Penn State, the SAF is set up in a three-tier system. We are now on the lowest tier while all other Penn State campuses our size are on the highest tier.

For students, this would essentially mean a \$10 per year tuition increase if we move up to the second tier, or a \$20 per year increase if we ascended to the highest tier. This sounds bad, but those in student clubs know that money is scarce. Trying to fund your club at Penn State Harrisburg is tougher than getting President Bush to be best man at a gay wedding.

I think it is bad that Harrisburg Area Community College has twice as much student activity money than we do, while we pay three times more to attend school here. At HACC, I was paid to be the editor of the newspaper. I expected that coming to PSH's student newspaper would be a step up. Instead, I do more work for less money. I could go on about this for days, but there is a more important matter at hand.

I hate to suggest another tuition increase under any circumstance, but I feel that clubs are a very important part of college. I've learned more from participating in clubs than I have in any class. So while I expect to hear some complaints from students about proposing any type of increase, I challenge you to make the most out of the money you pay to the student activity fee and join a club. It's kind of like going to the gym: you know you don't really have time to do it, but you know it's good for you and you always feel better about yourself when it's over.

**CORRECTION:** I would like to correct a statement made in last issue's SGA report. The SAF Committee has not proposed a SAF increase. Cutchall is planning to propose such an increase to the rest of the SAF Committee.

# Letter to the Editor

Editor,

Cheers to Mr. Strella for his articles regarding textbooks. This is a hot topic among the student body. I find Mr. Hockenberry's explanations (more like excuses) to be ridiculous.

First, his blaming the faculty and students is totally illogical. It is because of the faculty and students that Mr. Hockenberry even has a job. Ever hear the phrase "Don't bite the hand that feeds you," Mr. Hockenberry?

Second, whoever trained Mr. Hockenberry in common sense and ordering philosophy is incompetent. When I go to the grocery store, I get more food than what I am going to eat for dinner that night, however I am sure Mr. Hockenberry does not.

I doubt over-ordering will anger his employer (Barnes and Noble) more than knowing that because Mr. Hockenberry's ordering techniques defy logic, I went to Borders and bought my Religious Studies textbook for \$10 cheaper and two days quicker (it was out of stock at PSH's bookstore).

We do pay a lot of money to go to school here. I am not spending any money at the bookstore. So, Mr. Hockenberry, you did and will be over-ordering for every class that I am enrolled in. To the student body, save some money and grief and buy online or at Borders.

Sincerely,  
Andrew M. Barlup  
Communications

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