

# The Capital Times

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The Student Voice of Penn State Harrisburg

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## Professor Spotlight

Professor brings professional broadcasting experience from the field to the classroom

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Sitting in a corner booth at a small local pub sits a woman with her hands interlaced around a large glass of amber beer. She's just finished teaching a long night class and finally gets a chance to relax after her day.

Nights "out with the girls" like this are few and far between for her. After all, it's hard to schedule free time when you're a parent and a professional.

Wife, mother of two, professor at both Penn State Harrisburg and Shippensburg University, how does Professor Kim Garris juggle it all? With a little bit of patience would be a good assumption.

Garris is a native to Jacksonville, Alabama and has her undergraduate degree from Jacksonville State University. Her masters' degree in Broadcast Journalism came from Boston University.

She started her education as a voice major, but eventually realized that her voice training would not lead her to as meaningful of a career as she wanted. After doing a commercial shoot for a local company, the media side of the business grabbed her attention. Garris said, "I want to work for what's

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## Students stand up to bring tuition down

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Penn State students recently rallied together at the state capitol in the hope of persuading legislative officials to increase state funding for higher education. The fourth annual "Rally at the Rotunda" was held at 1 p.m. on last Tuesday.

Penn State students from different campuses were joined by other students representing various state-funded universities

in Pa., including Pittsburgh University, Temple University, Millersville University and Lincoln University.

More than 100 students stood on the steps in the rotunda, as representatives from different Pa. counties spoke on behalf of the students' pleas.

"They are the economic future of our commonwealth," said Lycoming representative, Steven W. Cappelli. Many speakers echoed the statement that the students of today are the workers of tomorrow and that helping

them educate themselves would better the future of the state.

Centre County Rep. Lynn B. Herman is working together with Luzerne County Rep. John Yudichak on a bill that will increase state appropriations for universities in the state system of higher education. Unfortunately the relief will

not come soon enough for current students. "It's a fight we have to win for them and a fight we have to win for Pa.," said Yudichak.

According to Herman 600,000

she hopes that state funding is increased to make college more affordable for her siblings in the future. "I'd like to see the state really evaluate higher education funding," she said.

Daly said the state needs to think about how we are going to impact the economy and provide funding to positively impact the state.

Some students are working to make a big impact by reaching out to the high school students and involving them with local legislature. "We are encouraging high school students to talk to local legislature," said Daly. We need to teach them to use their voice. Getting the students out and civilly engaged to

affect legislation is one way to ensure their future said Daly.

Jennifer Hannanoe, a Penn State Harrisburg student, attended the rally because she is drowning in student loan debt and hopes those in the future will have some help. Hannanoe said she wants the state to look at students' independent income for tuition assistance. Hannanoe said her parents do not pay her tuition and due to their higher income, she is not eligible for adequate tuition assistance.



Students from Penn State and other state universities gather together on the steps in the Rotunda in hopes of persuading state legislators to increase state appropriations for higher education. Speaking to the audience is Undergraduate Student Government President Galen Foulke.

Photos by Kathryn Herr/Capital Times

Rep. Lynn B. Herman speaks about the dangers of decreasing state funding for higher education in Pa.

students are enrolled in college, and 60 percent of those students attend public universities. These public universities play a vital role in the state's well-being said Herman.

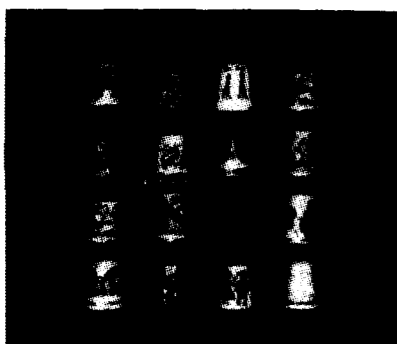
"The economic impact is staggering," said Yudichak "Education is the best thing we can invest in in Pa." PSU has a \$6.1 billion economic impact on Pa., according to Yudichak.

Bridget Daly, Council of Commonwealth Student Government president, said



## What's on 7

Herb counts down influential pitchers in the last 50 years of baseball



## What's on 9

Kellye reviews the CD "Woman King" by the band Iron & Wine

## Spring break in Spain

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How would you feel about packing an entire course into nine days? Over the Spring break, Professor Jose Vargas-Vila accompanied students Craig Clark, Addeline Hiebert, Patti Lutz, Scott Lyons, Lubna Manna, Sarai Nelson, and Christopher Sides to the Iberian Peninsula for the study abroad course Spanish 296 Iberian History.

In this course, students visit the countries of Portugal, Spain, and the small principality of Andorra to become more familiar with and knowledgeable about the Spanish language, culture and history. More specifically, they studied the Arab influence on architecture, religion, and political history. This course was available to students currently or previously enrolled in Spanish language courses SPAN 1, 2, or 3; Spanish history course SPAN 130, or Latin American history course HIST 179.

Students departed JFK Airport Friday, March 4. After a sketchy transfer in Madrid, Spain, the group arrived in Lisbon, the capital of Portugal. There, they visited the hilltop castle in the Alfama district, several monuments including the Triumphal Arch-Arco do Victoria and a Elevador de Santa Justa, a 100-year-old public elevator designed by Raul Mesnier du Ponsard, a

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## PSH students lend a hand in NYC

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When Penn State Harrisburg students and family members left for their community service trip to New York at 4 a.m., it was extremely cold and dark. However, when the group arrived, the sun began to shine as the volunteers embarked in a variety of community service projects and displayed their Penn State pride in the big city.

On Saturday, March 5, Circle K of PSH sponsored a free community service trip to New York allowing students and their family members the opportunity of a lifetime. The volunteers would be working with the Circle K of New York University on five different projects. The trip would also allow time to experience the city life and further their knowledge of Kiwanis International. Despite the early departure and strict requirements, many took advantage of this opportunity.

The trip was something that several clubs were trying to plan all year. After the Student Government Association funded money for a bus, the trip carried forward and Circle K began furthering contact with the Circle K at NYU.

Steve O'Holla, president of the Circle K at PSH, kept in close contact with Colleen Neiman, president of Circle K at NYU, and they planned and coordinated activities that could accommodate



Photo by Helen Casner/Circle K

On March 5, PSH students and their families visited New York University to work with the NYU Circle K on five different projects, including tutoring and delivering meals to those in need.

the large number of volunteers from both states. Circle K and O'Holla then actively promoted the trip on campus.

The large group was broken into five smaller groups and began their specific project. Before they embarked, volunteers were provided breakfast and met local Kiwanis members who told them the benefits of joining Kiwanis after graduation. Many Kiwanis members had been Circle K members and were excited that this huge day of service would be taking place.

The first project, entitled the "Go Project" allowed volunteers to tutor students who needed special attention or are struggling in particular areas in school.

Constance Crawford, PSH student and Lion Ambassador, said, "I taught someone to read years ago, and it remains the best volunteer experience I ever had. Tutoring the eight-year-old boy at the Little Red Schoolhouse reminded me how much fun tutoring is - I'm going back to the Literacy Council and getting a retread on the training, so I can get back to it."

Project number two was "Meals on Heals" and had volunteers preparing hot and cold bagged lunches and delivering it to New York City residents who have a hard time getting out or are unable to cook.

Nichole Dellinger, PSH Circle K member and SGA senator said,

"It was a great project to work on. It was amazing to see so many people come together and help out their neighbors. I had a lot of fun, it was a great experience and I cannot wait to do it again.

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