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Professor Spotlight



Professor Shaun L. Gabbidon

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"The best part of my job is getting to teach the courses I love to teach," said Shaun L. Gabbidon, Penn State Harrisburg professor in the School of Public Affairs. "There's nothing better than being passionate about your subject matter, and the two courses I teach I'm very passionate about."

Gabbidon, whose office is filled with books and littered with binders full of research, started his work in the field of criminology after graduating from Christopher Newport University in 1988. With a Bachelor's of Science in Governmental Administration, specializing in criminal justice, he went to work in the field of private security.

However, the time eventually came when Gabbidon was interested in getting into law enforcement. He chose the Fairfax County Sheriff's department. However, after some tests, he discovered he was colorblind, which meant an automatic disqualification. He had to reassess what he was going to do.

"Ideally, I wanted to end up in the FBI," said Gabbidon. "If it's not meant to be, it's not meant to be."

Gabbidon then worked in the private sector for about five years as a private security manager, administrator, and investigator at Macy's East, which is located in New York, while going to graduate school at the University of Baltimore part-time. In his role as a security manager, Gabbidon enjoyed training new employees. A professor at his university encouraged him when he said, "maybe you want to do this full time."

He finished his masters degree requirements in Criminal Justice, left retail, and went on to earn his doctorate in criminology at Indian University of Pennsylvania.

"I envisioned just getting my doctorate and teaching, I never really thought about the research side of the job," said Gabbidon. "I found out I really enjoy doing research because it's kind of similar to doing investigations, which is what I enjoy. As I started getting into it more, I realized more issues in the system, and it drove me to do more and more research."

Gabbidon specialized in race and crime,

See PROF on 4



Photos by The Capital Times staff

From left Matthew Mahoney, Steve O'Holla, Augie Bravo, and Erin Moskalczak scoop ice cream at Coldstone Creamery to raise money for kids with cancer. A portion of the proceeds for the night goes to Penn States infamous THON fund raiser for the Four Diamonds Fund. Many customers were surprised to see the students scooping.

Scooping for the Kids

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Winter may be fast approaching but ice cream is still on the minds of several Penn State Harrisburg students. On the last Wednesday of each month, these students serve ice cream at the Cold Stone Creamery next to AMC Theaters in Harrisburg. However, these students are not being paid an hourly rate – they are simply raising money for THON.

Twenty-percent of the sales accumulated during the hours the students work is donated to THON, which is a year-round fund-raising event benefiting The Four Diamonds Fund, conquering childhood cancer, at the Penn State Children's Hospital in Hershey, PA.

The scoopers who took the time out of their busy schedule to help raise some money for THON had nothing but positive remarks to say about the experience.

Matt Mahoney, junior, and an electrical engineering major, said, "It was great for everyone to have so much fun for a great cause. It was also great that the customers took such a strong interest in our mission to raise money for the kids."

The scoopers began their first shift on Wednesday, October 26, at 5pm. When they arrived, they were trained by Cold Stone Creamery workers and introduced to all of the different combinations that customers could choose from. They gathered two scoopers, dove right into the cold, rich dairy product, and began sculpting those picture-perfect ice cream creations. Customers could choose

any mixture of Ice cream flavors and toppings, including "Candy Land" and "Apple Pie a la Cold Stone," two of the most popular, and all left happy knowing that they satisfied their sweet tooth and helped out a great cause at the same time. Most customers were very patient with the volunteers and many left tips, which can only mean one thing – a thank you to the patrons of Cold Stone in the tune of a famous song.

Former SGA President Rodney Horton stopped by Cold Stone on October 26 and was impressed by what he saw. "This group of students really demonstrates how great this campus is. THON is a great cause and I glad to see that it is a priority to them."

The THON committee, chaired by Maruja Rosario, is planning several projects in

the upcoming year to help raise money for kids with cancer, including a mini-thon, a winter formal, Penn State Idol, dress-down days in area high schools, penny wars, letter-writing campaigns, and the ever-important canning weekends. Rosario sincerely hopes to see the entire student body at our next one.

"Cold Stone and Penn State Harrisburg have teamed up to make fund-raising for THON a fabulous experience this year. This is a tradition that I hope continues after I have left," says Rosario. "I love the energy and enthusiasm that everyone had on Wednesday. Even the customers were excited once they learned the reason why a bunch of rowdy Penn Staters were serving their ice cream."

See THON on 2

Students take learning outside the classroom

By Osman Abdalla
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This year's National Colligate Security Council (NCSC) was better than ever, featuring simulations that range from UN Security Council up to the minute Iraq cabinet. The conference was sponsored by Georgetown University and was held at Crystal City, VA. Simulations were taken out of the current daily scenarios from the ever changing international system. The International Affairs Association at the Penn State Harrisburg sent eight delegates to participate in the council and enrich their expertise. Delegates were Alicia King, Payal Khandhedha, Sahar Safaee, Sepideh Safaee, Ben Adelman, Aarne Stefanon, Crystal Brown, and headed by Osman Abdalla. The group was guided by Dr.

Clem Gilpin as delegates participated in different committees.

Over the last thirty years the staff of NCSC and the Georgetown International Relations Association have shown an unwavering commitment to accuracy, realism and quality in the simulation. Especially, the simulations for the United Nations Security Council which I participated in, simulated the Non-Proliferation Treaty that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea signed and never conformed to it.

There were also simulations throughout the conference on the Darfur of the Sudan situation in many different committees. Ironically, the African Union Committee passed a resolution that has an operative clause stating that the "situation in Darfur should be defined as Genocide" while the US Congress didn't declare genocide. It is very ironic



Photo courtesy of Osman Abdalla

Alicia King, Payal Khandhedha, Sahar Safaee, Sepideh Safaee, Ben Adelman, Aarne Stefanon, Crystal Brown, and headed by Osman Abdalla, Dr. Clem Gilpin

that how these young leaders are more accurate and succinct than Congress.

The conference leaders were very impressive; they are mostly international relations scholars. They realized that simulations are integral part to

understanding international relations and the dynamic global matrix. The whole conference was tremendously informative and very inspiring. I would recommend it to everyone who thinks international politics is an interesting topic.

In this ISSUE

Sports

Penn State takes on Prudue and comes up with another win.

One game left...

Page 7



Entertainment

Is college drinking getting out of control? Does drinking affect a students GPA?

Page 9



Contents

SGA update.....	2
Students in the Military.....	2
World View.....	3
Culturally Inept.....	5
Penn State Football.....	7
Women's Volleyball.....	7
Hot Spot.....	9
CD Review.....	9
Movie Review.....	10
Campus Calendar.....	11