

# CLUB NEWS

## SGA opens semester with usual debates

By **JORDAN WISKEMANN**  
Staff Reporter  
JLW1062@PSU.EDU

There have been two weeks of classes, and the Student Government Association has welcomed new members; been deliberating bookstore prices and the new Student Activities policy. All of this in addition to planning many activities for the student body, and debating with each other, the way any governing body does.

During the Sept. 7 meeting, Andrew Scott, SGA Senator of Engineering, read a proposal to change the policy on book sales at the Penn State Harrisburg student bookstore. His proposal explained that throughout the summer, the bookstore didn't have his books in or on order. He also explained how the store staff refused him access to the ISBNs of his books, and he feels the bookstore's online service filters information.

Scott did point out that according to the policy outlined on the bookstore website ISBN's are to be made available to all students.

Augie Bravo, SGA vice president, suggested Scott speak to the bookstore manager.

Mark Rosenstein, Student Court Associate Justice, questioned the proposal because according to Rosenstein, "...we live in an open-market society..." and the bookstore has a business to run. Both Scott and Rosenstein weighed the fairness of the bookstore's practices.

After the debate went on between various members of the SGA, Ariel O'Malley, SGA President, asked them to discuss their opinions outside of the meeting due to time constraints.

Before the conclusion of the meeting, it moved into Open Forum and Matt Mahoney, SGA Senator of Humanities, explained his concerns with the new Student Activities policy, which requires students to register all student-planned events through the PSH Student Activities Office. Mahoney questioned the necessity of the policy.

"It's not the actual policy that bothers me, but the process of how the policy was formed," Mahoney said later in an interview. "I want to know how this policy was approved. Did it go through the proper channels?"

The Sept. 14th meeting revolved around the SGA's approval of club budgets. President O'Malley led both the SGA and club representatives through each club's proposal, the amount of money requested and how that money would be used.

Each club was allotted some portion of the amount of money requested. Not everyone's requests could be granted because there is not enough money available for every club to get everything they asked for. Clubs also failed to follow the guidelines for budget requests such as no money being given for food at club meetings and gifts for guest speakers.

Members of the SGA then announced upcoming student activities including the "English Lounge" which would be an activity held in PSH's Town Square to help international students learn more about the English language. There would be coffee and refreshments. Free Latin dance classes held at PSH was another activity discussed.

Towards the end of the 90-minute meeting, the SGA approved Brian Craig, who is unable to attend the Thursday meetings due to a scheduling conflict, as the new Chief Justice of the Student Court, Khoa Le was sworn into the SGA as Chief of Staff, and two new senators, Supraja Vijay and Holly Weichman, were sworn in for the school of Public Policy and Humanities, respectively.

The SGA has been busy these past two weeks and with suitable cause. As Mahoney said during his interview, "We're here to represent the students."

## ClubFest welcomes new semester

By **TANINA BESECKER**  
Staff Reporter  
TMB5011@PSU.EDU

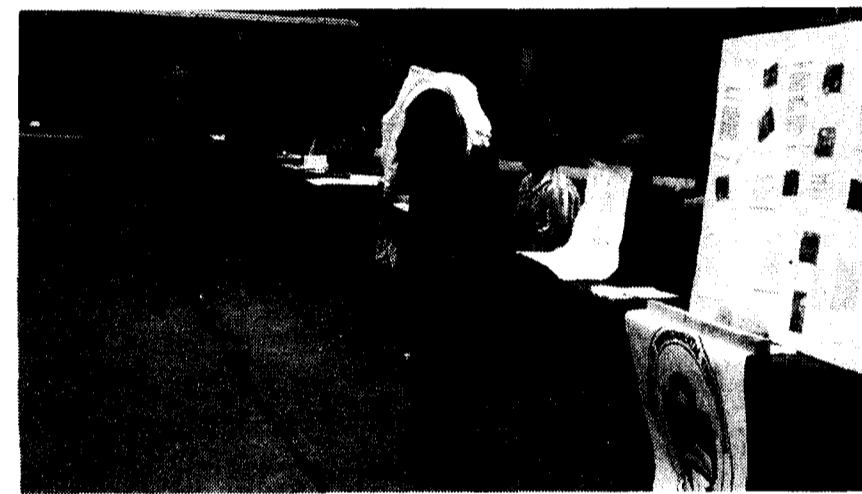
As another semester of school began at Penn State Harrisburg, students got the chance to find out there was more to college life than term papers and being broke.

This year's Club Fest was held on Sept. 12 right outside of the Olmsted Building. Numerous clubs set up information tables to attract students and hopefully get some signatures on their sign up sheets.

Despite the glum looking weather and blustery wind conditions, students came out to see what clubs had to offer and listen to music played live by a favorite local DJ, who was also awarding prizes for various Penn State trivia questions.

ClubFest was not only a chance to join campus organizations, but it was also an opportunity to gather together and get to know other people on campus.

The Management SIE club associates with teaching current practices in business with the outside world. This club is also affiliated



ClubFest took place at Vartan Plaza, the strip of sidewalk leaving the front of Olmsted and running between the library and Science and Technology building. ClubFest is an annual event coordinated by Student Activities.



Students from PSPEC proudly represent their club as they try to recruit new members during the 2006 Fall semester ClubFest. PSPEC is a club that is open to all engineering students of Penn State Harrisburg and improves the physical look of the campus by building sidewalks or a base for the shrine.

with the National Honor Society. The Lion Ambassador club involves different fundraising events, campus events, and community service.

The Penn State Professional Engineers and Contractors club takes field trips to construction

sites and sponsors the Career Fair and Habitat for Humanity. They also are managing the lion shrine project by putting a foundation for it as described by Brian Cinkutis, senior SDCET.

An interesting club for students who appreciate Japanese culture would be the Harrisburg Anime Association. They meet every Thursday night, in the Oliver Lagrone Room in Olmsted, and discuss similar interests about anime, manga, and other media.

The International Affairs Association deals with different cultural activities. They participate in dinners and cookouts. Kamala Rayavarapu, senior Psychology, said, "You don't have to be into politics to join."

The IT club has guest speakers and professionals come in and discuss possible internships and careers for in the future.

They are also active in campus fundraising.

The ASME club participates with the student chapter of the national organization. Engineering students get a connection to the job market. The club offers tours on campus and also has engineer competitions. "The club shows that engineers get out and have fun too," said Adam Wright, senior MET.

For students looking to debate on different topics in Christianity, the Capital Christian Fellowship would be an excellent club to join. It is the first actual year that

involved with any aspect of student government. The club helps and controls some of the issues on campus.

A good club to join to stay relaxed and in shape is the Fencing club. They have enough equipment for their members, and the fencing is right in the CUB.

For students who are interested in taking pictures, the Photography club is a good way to learn many different techniques. The creative voice of the



Photos by **TANINA BESECKER**/Capital Times

Lion Ambassadors maintained a large crowd through out the entire ClubFest event. Lion Ambassadors are PSH's primary student representatives to visitors, often leading tours of parents and prospective students alike.

the club is up and running, and it is a good way for students to get together and worship God.

Students majoring in elementary or secondary education should check out the Student Chapter of ASCD. This club is a great resource for pre-service teachers.

The Circle K club participates in many different community service events. One of their events is a walk for diabetes.

The Student Government Association helps students get

campus is provided by the Tarnhelm club. This club participates in poetry workshops.

The Black Student Union is a social awareness club that discusses social issues in the community and the country.

The Society of Environmental Engineering club has mock interviews that prepare students for the future. This club is open to any student who would like to join.

Overall Club Fest was a success. Each of the tables had eager students asking questions.

## New policy aims to keep students informed, maximize attendance

By **MEGAN RESSER**  
Sports Reporter  
MKR157@PSU.EDU

A new registration process is now in place for any students, faculty, or staff members who wish to hold planned events on campus. According to Donna Howard, Assistant Director of Campus Life & Intercultural Affairs, this process is being implemented to save students, faculty, and staff time, money, and headaches by "getting everybody on the same page facility-wise, staff-wise, and budget-wise." It is now necessary for any person wanting to plan an on-campus event to obtain a Penn State Harrisburg Student Event Agreement Form from the Student Activities Office.

The form outlines to whom the person(s) coordinating the event should go to reserve certain locations on campus. The maximum capacity of people which can be accommodated by each of these locations is also outlined on the form.

Event coordinators must complete the form by obtaining the necessary signatures from the appropriate Facility Coordinator, Campus Police personnel, and Club Advisor, if applicable. The form must be received by the Student Activities Office at least two weeks before the date of the planned event. This two-week window allows for clearance of any checks written and for timely

placement of the event on the school's Events Calendar.

Examples of events for which this form would need to be completed are concerts, dances, parties, conferences.

Before this change was implemented last spring, students, faculty, and staff could simply reserve a space on campus and hold an event without having to think about making arrangements for necessary logistical and security measures.

Students were unaware of the need to allow for certain expenses in their budgets, such as having

to know about such situations because they may have to work in coordination with Middletown Police or others.

Another often-overlooked logistical measure is the need for a covering to be placed on the gym floor for certain events. The placement of this floor covering costs money and must be coordinated early enough so that maintenance staff can complete the task during their regular working hours. Taking the simple step of arranging for the placement of the floor covering far enough ahead of time saves event organizers money because they will not have to pay for any potential overtime hours which would need to be worked by maintenance staff if the floor covering would have to be installed late in the evening or on the weekend.

"What if I try to hold an event without filling out this form?", you may ask. It is simply not possible. All on-campus events must be held in reserved locations. If you try to reserve a location without a form, the coordinator for that location will ask you for your Event Agreement Form before allowing you to reserve the location.

Although some students may feel that this form will complicate their lives, it is truly a measure which will save time and money. This sentiment was reiterated by Ms. Howard when she said, "This is for the benefit of the students, not to stifle the students."



Photo by **MATTHEW MAHONEY**/The Capital Times

Fliers like this one now adorn the bulletin boards all over campus in an effort to let students know about the new policy that has taken effect.

to pay for extra security or after-hours security for an event. Some students were unaware that coordination with police services is necessary for certain events, especially events for which large numbers of attendees are expected.

In some instances, significant numbers of people from off-campus are expected to attend. It is important for campus Police Services personnel

## Hbg. Anime Association has more than movies

By **LISA STONE**  
Staff Reporter  
LCS167@PSU.EDU

Did you know that the campus has an anime club?

Despite semesterly flyer campaigns, Club Fest representation, and as much word of mouth as the members can manage, many people are still unaware of the Harrisburg Anime Association.

A newer addition to the roster of clubs at the Capital Campus, the Anime Association has been around for about two years in its official form. For the year before they applied to become an official campus club, they were just a group of anime fans that met once a week to watch and discuss anime and other aspects of Japanese culture.

While the part about viewing some anime and talking about Japanese culture hasn't changed all that much, many other aspects of the club

have been through some major upgrades over the last couple of years.

One of the most major is location. The anime club was first held in an apartment off campus. They then took over a classroom on the second floor of Olmsted once a week.

These days you can find them lurking in the Oliver LaGrone Lounge every Thursday evening after night classes. As long-term members of the club can tell you, each relocation has been a major improvement.

So what else does the Anime club do? Well, aside from weekly meetings, the club also participates in events such as Club Fest, the new Student Orientation Fair, and the Rites of Spring.

This semester they hope to design and print club T-shirts for mem-

bers to purchase. They also hope to hold a fundraiser for the Child's Play charity later this semester. These are just some of the things the anime club hopes to see happen.

A major goal of the club's executive board is to become a bit more active and organized each semester. They work to make the club a bit better each year by trying to find new things for the club to organize and participate in and better ways to do the things they did in previous semesters.

"A bit of growth each semester, that way we don't bite off more than we can chew," is the basic phi-

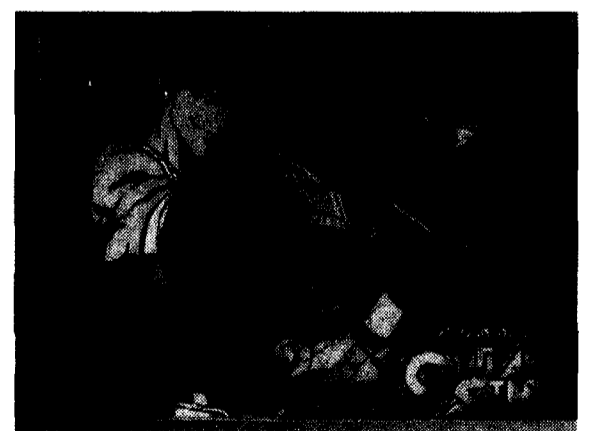


Photo courtesy of **Google Images**

Popular anime like "Outlaw Star" and some not so well known are just a sample of what HAA views.

losophy of the anime club's officers.

The Anime Association is also not limited to enjoying anime.

Original art work by club members was used as prizes for the anime club's booth at the Club Carnival last year. Several members are also avid DDR hobbyists.

Manga is another vice shared by many of the club members. All of these interests and many others are explored and enjoyed together by the anime club membership.

So, if you are interested in learning more about the Harrisburg Anime Association, you are invited to simply drop by every Thursday night during the semester at 9:00 p.m. at W-132 or to send an email to [hbganimeclub@gmail.com](mailto:hbganimeclub@gmail.com).