

CLUB NEWS

SGA gets ready to end business for a semester

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

From investigating campus bookstore's prices to planning both charitable and campus events, Penn State Harrisburg's Student Government Association will conclude their meetings, along with their semester, for winter break.

Earlier, in September, members of the SGA became curious about campus bookstore prices and met with our campus bookstore manager, Fred Hockenberry, and the school chancellor, Madlyn Hanes. Senators even researched the situation by calling other Penn State bookstores to compare policies and prices.

Now, at the conclusion of the semester, the results for book orders are in, and PSH Chancellor Hanes, sent her congratulations to the SGA in the November 29 meeting. There is a noticeable increase in professors' book orders meeting the deadline for next semester.

SGA members have, over this past semester, questioned their own constitution, policies and each other. Senators spent weeks deliberating proposals to change two of their constitutional amendments.

A handful of members of the executive board and senators also attended CCSG meetings (Council of Commonwealth Student Governments) at Penn State University Park, where every student government from each Penn State campus is represented. SGA members took PSH student issues to the meetings to devise solutions. They returned from every CCSG meeting with new ideas for the Harrisburg campus, including such ideas as hanging international flags around the campus to represent each nationality among the student body, and bringing a wider healthier selection of foods to campus.

Topics like academic advising were also brought forward and it is possible to see improvements in this area in the future.

There is currently some confusion among members of the Senate about a money allocation. The SAF approved \$25,000 to be allocated to the SGA for the purpose of supplementing club budgets. While this money was approved weeks ago it has yet to appear in the FAA account (Money specifically designated for clubs.) although Melinda Logan, staff assistant to Campus Life and Intercultural Affairs, has assured the SGA that this money is on its way and will soon be available.

Also, the SGA has both lost some of its most long-standing members, including Aarne Stefanon, Senator of Science, Engineering and technology, and the most recent resignation at the November 29 meeting by Matt Mahoney, Senator for the School of Humanities. Mahoney explained in his resignation that he was leaving the SGA because of his inability to put in as much commitment as he would like due to the time constraints of schoolwork. The SGA has also welcomed many new members though, including new senators, a new Chief of Staff and a new Chief Justice of the Student Court.

This is the first time where all of the Executive Board members, with the exception of the President and Vice President, were appointed to their positions. Thus far the new system of having the President appoint these members has moved flawlessly over the semester and continued success is anticipated.

SGA senators are required to spend at least one hour in the SGA office each week, but often spend many more hours meeting with club leaders, professors and students; a testimony to the hard work they apply to the student body. Vice President Augie Bravo works in the office at least 28 hours a week while President Ariel O'Malley is usually there for over 40 hours.

Time to study for finals

By **MARIAM ELHADRI**
Staff Reporter
MUE117@PSU.EDU

'Tis the season for the all-nighters, frantic chaos, cramming, stressing, procrastinating, and, yes, of course, studying. If you have not realized already, there is no room for planning ahead in that agenda.

Yes, this means we are headed down the homestretch of the end of the semester and before anyone can enjoy the holiday season, we will all have to confront the inevitable fearsome face of finals.

Finals week begins Monday, Dec. 18. Although it is a week later this year, no one can say they still feel comfortable with their timing.

J.P. Shannon, sophomore in the school of Liberal Arts, asserted his frustration with finals and said, "Due to the upcoming finals season, I am beginning to freak out. I am especially overwhelmed in Bi Sci, which has so much information to put together for its understanding."

Writing and learning specialist at the learning center, Kathy Brode, suggested the best way to learning a lot of information. "Set aside chunks of time daily, for a period of time, dedicated to studying a certain thing, it is the only way to produce the best effort," she said.

Starting early is definitely the hardest part to accomplish in studying for finals, but this is the message the learning center would

like to give off to all students, loud and clear.

The learning center has been the place at Penn State Harrisburg for academic help in many ways. It is located in room C-216, on the second

floor in the Olmsted building. Any student can arrange for a tutor in just about any subject.

Especially for finals, the learning center's tutors are taking on additional hours in these last few weeks. The more hours they can make available, the more students they can help.

They encourage students greatly to get spots reserved since drop in appointments get harder at this time of year.

The learning center in conjunction with the library and housing and food services will be holding the third annual Extreme Study Session the Sunday before

finals week. The activities will take place on Dec. 17, from 6 p.m.-10 p.m. in the Morrison Art Gallery, in the library, and in Stacks Market.

Students who are looking for math help can receive tutoring by course.

CHEM 011 & 012; MATH 003, 004, 017, 021, 022, 026, 110, 140, 141; QUANT 310; and STAT 200.

There will be free food and games in Stacks Market and Biscotti's will

Play-Doh, TV, and other activities that can help students relax.

In addition, the CUB will be open for students who want to exercise.

Coordinator of the event, Bernadette Lear, explained, "Studying isn't just about your mind -- it's about your body, too. Try to stay healthy throughout the last week of class and finals week.

Get plenty of sleep, eat right, and make sure you're getting enough exercise. In fact, light exercise can help relieve pain, lower stress, and refresh you. Also, it helps some people if they study in a controlled environment, or an environment similar to where they will be taking the test."

The predicament for most students is they are so overwhelmed with end of the semester projects and papers, that they forget what is important is waiting for them around the corner.

Get on the Penn State Harrisburg homepage, student services, and select academic calendar. There you will find the list of the Fall 2006 final exam schedule, and get planning.

The coordinator and math/science tutor, Janice Smith, said, "Students forget to take advantage of the learning center and their tuition money, some students do not even know it exists."

Get the benefit of what the school has to offer.

If your plan is not to prepare, then plan to be strained when it comes time to take the test.



Photo by **SUPAT KANCHANASAKUL**/Capital Times

It is time to dust off those books that have been sitting under your bed all semester, break out the highlighters, and jack up on java- it is finals time at Penn State Harrisburg!

Students do not need to sign up, they can come by whenever is convenient.

Many tutors and Graduate Assistants will be there to help students with their questions. The Learning Center tutors in the Morrison Gallery will be covering

be open selling coffee and sweets just for the extreme study.

Another activity also provided that night is a relaxation session, to help relieve the stress of pre-final anxiety. This is in Stacks Market, the "stress-frees zone", with Legos,

Fall 2006 Final Schedule

<u>If the class meets:</u>	<u>The Final is scheduled for:</u>
Mon., Wed., or Fri., at 8:30 a.m. or 9:00 a.m.	Mon. Dec. 18th from 8:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m.
Mon., Wed., or Fri., at 10:00 a.m.	Wed. Dec. 20th from 8:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m.
Mon., Wed., or Fri., at 11:00 a.m.	Mon. Dec. 18th from 10:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m.
Mon., Wed., or Fri., at 12:00 p.m.	Wed. Dec. 20th from 10:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m.
Mon., Wed., or Fri., at 1:00 p.m.	Mon. Dec. 18th from 1:00 p.m.-2:50 p.m.
Mon. or Wed. at 2:00 p.m.	Wed. Dec. 20th from 1:00 p.m.-2:50 p.m.
Mon. or Wed. at 3:25 p.m.	Mon. Dec. 18th from 3:00 p.m.-4:50 p.m.
Mon. or Wed. at 4:50 p.m.	Wed. Dec. 20th from 3:00 p.m.-4:50 p.m.
Tues., Thurs., or Fri., at 8:00 a.m.	Tues. Dec. 19th from 8:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m.
Tues. or Thurs. at 9:30 a.m.	Thurs. Dec. 21st from 8:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m.
Tues. or Thurs. at 11:00 a.m.	Tues. Dec. 19th from 10:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m.
Tues. or Thurs. at 2:00 p.m.	Thurs. Dec. 21st from 10:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m.
Tues. or Thurs. at 3:25 p.m.	Tues. Dec. 19th from 1:00 p.m.-2:50 p.m.
Tues. or Thurs. at 4:50 p.m.	Thurs. Dec. 21st from 3:00-4:50 p.m.

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mcc228@psu.edu
(717) 948-6440