

# CLUB NEWS

## SGA update

By **JORDAN WISKEMANN**  
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The SGA, now down from 18 to eight senators, is looking for new members. There has been much discussion about appointing new senators in the past few SGA meetings.

During the February 1 meeting, a contender showed up for a senator position in the School of Humanities. He was made to stand in front of the senate and answer senators' questions, as per protocol. The questions included whether he knew the policies and whether he had ever previously worked with a governing student body. He explained that he was nervous.

He was then sent into the hall, as the senate had to vote on whether he could become a senator. Senators voted "no" because he had difficulty answering their questions.

Senators used the Open Forum to ask questions about the procedures regarding appointing senators. President Ariel O'Malley said the senators should be looking for ambitious students with good leadership skills who will dedicate their time and services to plan things.

According to Vice President Augie Bravo, senators have been resigning from the SGA almost biweekly. The most common reason for resignation is the time commitment required by senators.

"I'd rather have eight dedicated individuals than twenty-eight who don't care," said Bravo. "Those eight would still be doing all the work."

Bravo explained that there are never assurances a senator will stay with the SGA through the year. He said if the Senator of Academic Affairs resigns, other senators have to take care of Academic Affairs plus their own department.

Also during that meeting, the president of the pending multicultural club asked the student court why he had to wait seven months with no response on the constitution of his club. His club won't be recognized as a club until the student court accepts his constitution. The student court said that he had to resubmit his constitution due to some technicalities. He insisted he had resubmitted his constitution in October and still had not heard any reply.

Then SGA advisors suggested a link on the SGA website to give students and faculty the dates and times of SGA meetings.

Also included would be a link to the minutes from each meeting.

The SGA spent most of the February 8 meeting debating planning for The Rites of Spring events. Some of the SGA members said that they felt it was unfair for the SGA executive board to plan The Rites of Spring events without including senators. They also thought the SGA shouldn't pay for the events since the entire SGA didn't get to help plan the event.

O'Malley and Vice president Augie Bravo told the SGA that details of The Rites of Spring events are traditionally always kept secret to draw more attention and excitement toward the events.

Senators then questioned why the executive board didn't use the free printing services in the Olmsted building's basement.

"I'm not advertising \$25,000 worth of events on 8 by 11 inch paper," said Bravo. "That just doesn't make sense."

## Internal strife about furniture

By **JORDAN WISKEMANN**  
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A few Student Government Association (SGA) senators are questioning the need for new chairs purchased for their office. The leather chairs include heated massaging seats.

"I just don't think it's a good use of the students' money," said Sahar Sahae, Senator for the Division of Undergraduate Studies.

According to President Ariel O'Malley, the chairs were paid for through a Student Activities Fund (SAF) grant. O'Malley submitted a proposal for funding. Vice President Augie Bravo explained the process.

"The grant requires that the requestor submit in writing the reason for the request," he said. "The request is then reviewed by the allocation committee which is comprised of students, faculty and staff."

O'Malley cited a line in the SAF handbook,

which states that SAF funds may be used to purchase furniture for

student offices. According to Bravo, SAF funds have nothing to do with SGA funds.

"Some members of the SGA don't know where the funds come from, yet they vote on it every week," said Bravo.

O'Malley originally submitted a proposal for \$95 per chair. Bravo explained that the allocation committee felt a greater sum should be given to the SGA. The chairs cost close to \$180 per chair.

Several members of the SGA said

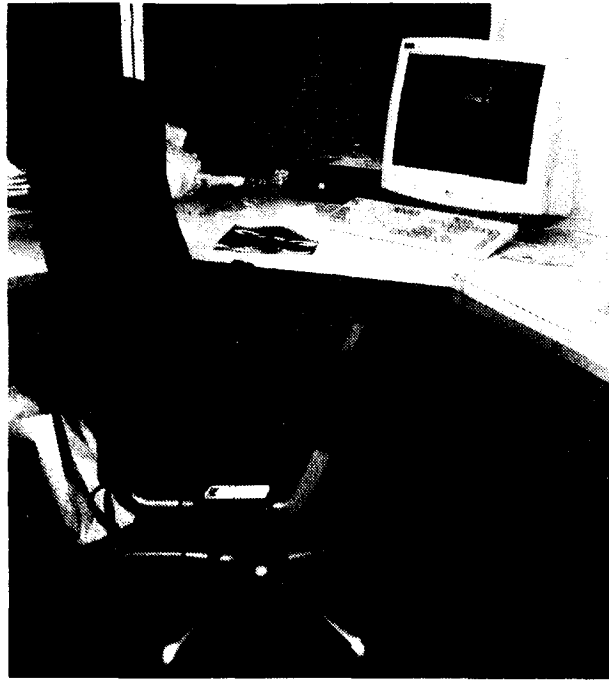
were beginning to fall apart and becoming hazardous. The back of one of the chairs fell off continuously.

Both O'Malley and Bravo said that only two members of the SGA have had issues with the decision to buy the chairs. O'Malley walked around and asked random students how they felt about the chairs. She said the student body is very understanding and the majority just don't care. Bravo explained that the students are more concerned with the SGA helping them. Most senators agree.

"At first I thought it wasn't a good idea [to buy the chairs], but then I learned the story behind it," said Craig Dewalt, SGA Community Liason. "The SAF told Ariel to spend more money than she asked for because they wanted us to have better quality chairs."

Dewalt said he was with O'Malley when she was looking at the chairs on a website. She originally planned to buy massaging plain leather chairs that cost less.

"I think if we would have bought more expensive plain leather chairs, nobody would have made a big deal about it," said



Photos by **SUPAT KANCHANASAKUL**/Capital Times

the old chairs in their office were unsafe. O'Malley said the old chairs



Dewalt. "Since the new chairs have massagers, that's what threw this whole thing over the edge."

Bravo spends over 25 hours per week in the SGA office while O'Malley spends at least 40 hours. Both agreed that buying the new chairs was necessary. O'Malley explained that she often had severe back pain and discomfort after spending so much time in the old chairs. Bravo said he had pain in both his back and his legs.

Still, not all senators are positive that the accessories on the new chairs are essential.

"It was definitely a good idea to

buy new chairs," said Sahae. "I just think they went overboard with the heating and massage. Just because the chairs were more expensive doesn't mean they are better quality."

Sahae said that although the SAF offered more money to the SGA, the SGA didn't have to accept it all.

"I don't know how better chairs make a better SGA," said Sahae.

Bravo explained that nothing was taken away from the student body and the SGA funds that are intended for the student body and student organizations were not affected in any way.

## WPSH: Radio station finds voice

By **GREG BRITAIN**  
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Penn State Harrisburg's radio station, WPSH, has never been fully operational. Recently though, as the result of the dedication and commitment of one student, WPSH is reaching more people than it ever has, but in a less traditional way than one might have expected.

Timothy Marowsky, the president of WPSH, has led the station into the Internet Age. Students can now download WPSH-created content through iTunes. Currently several students, including Marowsky, are creating "podcasts."

What is podcasting? Podcasting is the creation of either audio or video that is published on the internet, generally in a "show" format. So far, students have focused mainly on music. Marowsky's show covers a broad variety of music. DJ X Level's show, "Degrees," is formed around the premise that he can connect six artists in hip-hop and R&B based upon each artist having appeared in another artist's song. Michael Tuffy does a short-format sports show where he discusses issues and controversies in sports. I also do a show, and I generally cover a broad variety of eclectic music.

Why podcasting instead of true radio broadcasting? Marowsky says, "Analog radio is a dying medium." Podcasting allows for a nearly unlimited amount of student-created content to be published and shared on the internet. Also, the time and money that it would require to get a real radio station up and running would make the entire undertaking unfeasible and probably financially impossible.

Who can create podcasts? Any student currently enrolled at PSU can become a member of the radio station and create his or her own content. Students who are new to WPSH and want to create podcasts but do not quite know how will be

instructed by the current members of the station. Podcasts are not limited to music programs; because of the format, students are free to create whatever they want, like talk programs, sports discussion or even short films. The future of WPSH is not limited to being simply an outlet for radio programming. Because of the nature of podcasting, it

remain active after Marowsky and other current members have left. If no one joins, WPSH will likely revert to its previous state, and that will be a shame, as so much progress has been made in this last school year. Students can and should come by the radio station if they are interested. WPSH is located conveniently near Stacks

are connected, go to the website [www.itunes.psu.edu](http://www.itunes.psu.edu). There, you will have to select whether or not you are a Penn State user or a Penn State guest. If you are a student, select "Penn State user." If you are not a student, select "Penn State guest." If you have downloaded and properly installed iTunes, it will be launched and you will be

at the top. In the bottom left corner of this page, there is a link to "WPSH Radio Station." Click that, and you will be taken to a list of all of the podcasts students have posted thus far. You can download each podcast individually, or you can select the option to subscribe so you will automatically receive



The interior of the WPSH studio glows with warm light. In this very studio WPSH has finally begun podcasting, which are available now on iTunes.

Photo by **AUDREY SNYDER**/Capital Times

also has the potential to become a television station.

The future of the station lies in the hands of the students of Penn State Harrisburg. It is important for more students to get involved, especially underclassmen, so the station can

Market in the Olmsted building.

How do you access the podcasts? First, make sure you're connected to the internet and that you have iTunes. If you do not have iTunes, you can download it at [www.apple.com/itunes/download](http://www.apple.com/itunes/download). Once you

taken to the Penn State podcasts main page in iTunes. Under the category "Around Penn State," click on the "Penn State Podcast Shows" link. After accessing that page, you will be shown another page with the title "Shows" at

new podcasts when they are uploaded.

Students who join WPSH will have the opportunity to have their voice heard by a massive audience. Stop by the station today to see how you can get involved.