

Poyrazli: Beyond the classroom

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 seeing how their life improves—it's a slow process—but it's pleasing to see how happy they are in the end," she said.

A psychologist, said Poyrazli, can never give clients direct advice. They can only reveal possible options like that of a facilitator.

"You never want to tell them what to do because that's what you want them to learn and make good decisions for themselves," Poyrazli said.

But when it comes to a suicidal case, she said that direct advice is almost imperative. A suicidal candidate usually doesn't think sanely for himself and therefore must be told what to do. Suicide is actually one of Poyrazli's worst counseling cases.

"Obviously, it's alarming when someone says they are thinking about committing suicide," she said. "One of my biggest fears is losing a client to it," said Poyrazli as she knocked on her desk for good luck.

She also explained that a good psychologist will give their clients skills where "clients will learn life-skills for them to be able to continue their lives"

without continuously relying on a psychologist.

Being able to keep her emotions at distance with each client's personal problem is something she has learned during the process.

"It's not easy in the beginning," she said, "but you kind of realize that you see so many clients and that getting emotionally attached doesn't help either of you." She does, however, constantly think of ways she could help her clients. Sometimes, she even discusses with her husband, İlhan Kucukaydin, a Database Administrator/Webmaster at the campus, ways she could help her

client, being conscious of course in keeping the person's identity a secret.

of Houston who has been her most influential person.

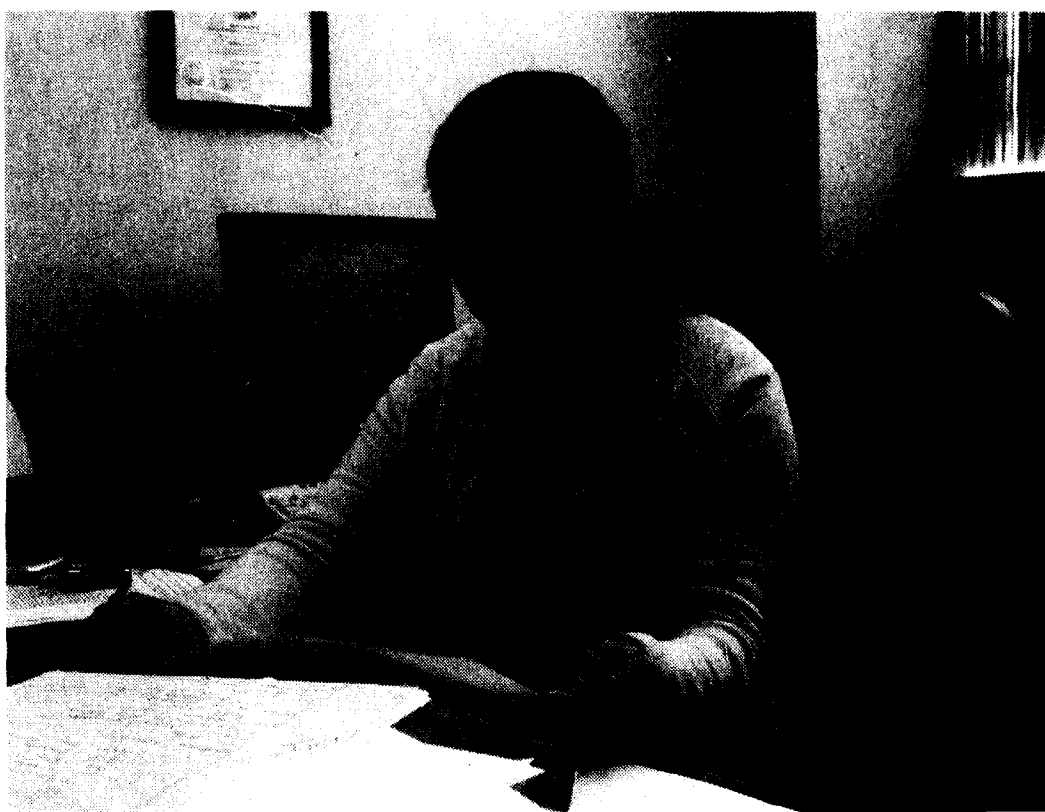


Photo by İLHAN KUCUKAYDIN/Penn State Harrisburg

And similar to how she influences her clients; it was her adviser during her doctoral studies at the University

"If it weren't for her, I would not have finished my degree as fast as I did and would not have developed

research skills as much as I did," said Poyrazli.

As far as her own students are concerned, she makes time for all of them. Her door is always open for anyone who wants to talk. She makes a special effort, she said, to acknowledge her students even outside of class.

Her students even nominated her for a teaching award this year and she received the Penn State Harrisburg award in Excellence in Teaching last month.

Poyrazli tells her students to continuously work towards increasing their empathy and understanding skills towards the people they interact with.

Her advice: "We all are different from each other in some aspects. It is okay to be different. Learn to respect differences. This world will be a better place and your accomplishments will be more."

Included in Poyrazli's hobbies are TV watching and growing vegetables in the summer, which she finds to be very relaxing.

She describes herself as detail oriented, well organized and understanding.

Poyrazli's list of favs:

1. TV shows: Boston Legal, Grey's Anatomy and Numbers because they are either related to psychology practices or seemingly realistic in depicting people's lives
2. Music: Kurdish and Turkish folkloric songs
3. Food: Chicken Fajita
4. Drink: Orangina and Classic Coke
5. Sport: None but I can join others in watching Soccer and Basketball
6. Traveled spot: Mediterranean coasts

SGA elections promise change for 07-08

By **MARUJA ROSARIO**
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April 3, 4, and 5 brought Penn State students to the polls as they voiced their opinions about whom they wanted in the 2007-08 Student Government Association.

The elections were held online through a special, protected website provided by University Park. In order to vote, a student would have to enter in their username and password, ensuring that students could only vote once. Online elections started three years ago under SGA President Rodney Horton. Former Communications Director and SGA Vice President Augie Bravo created the contract with University Park in order to have a constant provider of a secure connection at a much cheaper price.

This year's election brought the largest group of voters to the polls yet, exceeding last year's total of over 300 votes.

Among those elected for the Senate include Bharat Goel, Nathaniel Hezekiah, and Joseph Marks for the School of Business, Acacia Bellamy, Jimmy Brown, and Charmaine Edmonds for the School of Public Affairs, Kervens Dorcelly for the School of Behavioral Sciences, Oliver Eisler for the School of Humanities, and Dustin Holler, Lee Samuelson, and Micah Victoria for the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

Eisler wanted to become Senator for the Humanities because he wanted the school to have representation. The same words were echoed by Holler for the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology. Eisler looks forward to "ensuring smoother flow in approving budgets in order to help clubs become more lively." He also hopes to work together with Penn State Harrisburg to help the entire school get a bigger budget the current budget cannot support the influx of students.

Holler wants to push various issues that are not being addressed to come to the forefront. His biggest issue is handicapped access to the Olmsted building. "I know a solution is coming in the future, but we need to come up with temporary solutions for now."

Elected vice president was sophomore Sahar Safaee. Safaee served on the senate for two years before deciding to take a bigger position. "I was tired of not being able to accomplish anything and I wanted to see a change in SGA."

Some of the things Safaee wants to change are SGA's interaction with clubs, specifically lack of communication.

"New clubs don't know anything, older clubs are fed up with not being able to do anything. We need to fix that so everyone can move smoothly."

Safaee's biggest issue she wants to tackle is diversity. "We are one of the bigger campuses in

terms of diversity. We have such a large mix of students and I would like to see them mingle and learn from one another. You

never know what kind of friendships you'll make."

Safaee also wants to see the SGA present more events that appeal to

a larger interest group. The goal with these events is to "integrate the groups; what everyone is searching for but no one is willing to do."

Safaee has goals for the Senate as well. She aims for two-way communication by having the senate continue their senate meetings and inform the executive board while the executive board meeting's minutes are made public to the senate.

Safaee ran along with Marques Stewart, who was elected president. Stewart decided to run in order to change the previous SGA's image and unite the college.

Stewart cites the way the previous president, Ariel O'Malley, ran the SGA as one of the biggest problems the government had, and has big plans to change that. Among some of his ideas are having "an official dress code for senators, enforcing their office hours, and being more transparent" in their dealings. He also wants the senate to "hold more events, bring

forth more proposals, and become active in community service."

Stewart, along with Safaee, also wants to tackle the issue of diversity. Stewart plans to create the Interclub Council, an optional group chaired by the Communications Director. The purpose of the council is "so clubs can come and present their ideas and have another club co-chair the event. We don't know everyone's ideas, so it will be amazing to have a place to share them."

Stewart wants to keep a stacked senate, avoiding the drop this year's senate had. He wants to create a more welcoming environment in the office and wants anyone to feel "they can drop by and hang out."

Stewart's last big project, at least at this moment, is to reform the club budgets. Among some of his new obligations for clubs wanting to use SGA money are that "each club will have to hold one community service, one fundraiser, one event on campus, and attend one Clubfest each academic year."

Both Stewart and Safaee encourage the student body to get involved with the campus and to stop by the office to share ideas and meet their elected officials. They also welcome the presence of the student body at Thursday, April 19's SGA meeting in TL-118 to meet the officials as well.

Stewart and Safaee adds, "Thank you for voting. I hope you all know that we are here to represent you."

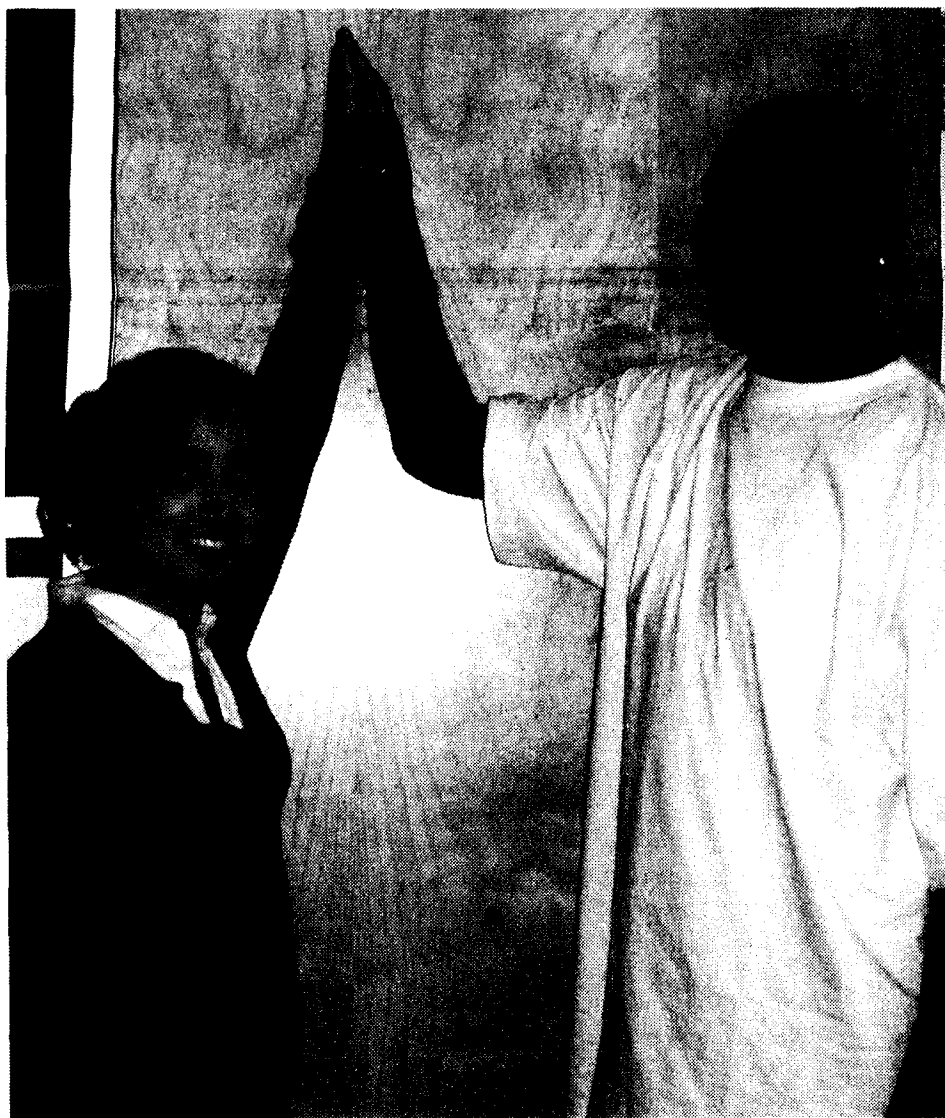


Photo by **MARUJA ROSARIO**/Capital Times

Sahar Safaee (left) and Marques Stewart, are the new Vice President and President of SGA, respectively. They hope to bring diversity and more student involvement to campus.

On the eve of his 2-year anniversary as pope, Benedict set to name influential U.S. bishops

By **ERIC GORSKI**
 Associated Press

Two years into his reign, Pope Benedict XVI is finally poised to make a major mark on American Catholicism with a string of key bishop appointments and important decisions about the future of U.S. seminaries and bishops' involvement in politics.

Benedict's election on April 19, 2005, shook liberals and comforted conservatives who expected a doctrinal hard-liner. So far, they have found an easier hand and someone who has not made the United States much of a priority.

When Benedict has gained attention, it has mostly been on the world stage, focusing on the re-Christianization of Europe, Islam and mending relations with Orthodox Christians. He also has stressed universal themes of faith and reason.

"The last two years have been much quieter years as far as the papacy is concerned because you have a very different personality"

than John Paul II, said Monsignor Robert Wister, chairman of the church history department at Seton Hall University's School of Theology.

"Many Americans were surprised some happily, some disappointed that he did not turn into the pit bull of dogma. He is taking a very pastoral approach, and I think people resonate very positively with that."

Yet America's turn may be coming. At the top of the list is a looming generational shift among the nation's bishops, whose decisions at the local level greatly affect Catholics in the pews and can carry national weight. For instance, church leaders recently closed parishes in Boston and New York, while the St. Louis archbishop has clashed with a heavily Polish parish over control of its assets.

Key appointments are expected in New York, Baltimore and Detroit, where cardinals have reached retirement age 75. And retirements or appointments are likely in at least seven other dioceses and

archdioceses: Seattle; Minneapolis-St. Paul; Pittsburgh; New Orleans; Louisville, Ky.; Omaha, Neb.; and Mobile, Ala.

Then there is the potential ripple effect if some bishops move to larger cities, then they too must be replaced.

"At the end of these two years, we will see what the enduring impact of this pontificate on the leadership of the U.S. church will be," said George Weigel, a Catholic theologian and John Paul II biographer.

So far, Benedict has appointed former Pittsburgh Bishop Donald Wuerl to the prestigious Washington, D.C., archdiocese, and he chose former San Francisco Archbishop William Levada as his successor to head the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vatican's doctrinal watchdog. Levada is the highest-ranking American ever at the Vatican.

While faithful to Rome, neither man has a hard-line reputation. Wuerl, for instance, has refused to withhold Communion from Catholic legislators who support

legal abortion. Levada has strongly affirmed traditional Catholic teachings while shepherding flocks in liberal cities San Francisco and Portland before that.

Benedict "has tended to appoint people who are moderate, who are good teachers, good communicators and pastoral," said the Rev. Thomas Reese, a senior fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University. "John Paul II was appointing people who frankly were kind of in-your face, who were more aggressive and liked playing cop."

"These guys don't want to do that. They're more conciliators than fighters."

The Rev. Richard John Neuhaus, editor of the Catholic journal First Things, predicted that for the major posts that lie ahead, Benedict will appoint bishops who are "vibrantly orthodox" and strong communicators.

Neuhaus dismisses suggestions that conservative Catholics such as himself are disappointed that Benedict has not been tougher, and

derides media portrayals of the pope transforming himself from "God's rottweiler" to kindly uncle.

"There is no evidence whatsoever he has changed his judgment on anything of consequence the last two years," Neuhaus said. "He is a gentle, thoughtful, paternal, firm and loving person. That's the man you see. For those of us who knew Ratzinger over the last 25 years, there were no surprises at all."

Another development to watch: the results of a review begun in 2005 by Vatican-appointed investigators of 229 U.S. Catholic seminaries for evidence of a gay culture and faculty dissent from church teaching. Neuhaus said there is no signal yet on the result of the investigation, which grew out of reforms following the clergy sex abuse crisis.

Some Catholics expected Benedict, a champion of orthodoxy, to crack down on dissident theologians. But there has been no purge. The Vatican did censure the writings of the Rev. Jon Sobrino, a priest in El

Salvador and proponent of liberation theology, over his writings about Christ's divinity. Even in that case, however, Sobrino was not barred from teaching or publishing.

In 2004, a few vocal Catholic bishops spoke out against Catholic politicians who take stances in conflict with church teaching, particularly on abortion. The main target then was Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry, a Catholic. This next election cycle, it's a Catholic Republican and former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani who clashes with the church on abortion and gay marriage. He also is twice divorced, though one marriage was later annulled.

The pope "is taking a forceful approach on a number of life issues," said Wister, of Seton Hall. "He has made very clear his opposition to same sex marriage and abortion. The question is, to what extent he will ask bishops to take very forceful positions or not take steps in the political arena?"