

Alcohol: a danger is disguise

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each year. John Fry, a Penn State Harrisburg junior, drinks socially with his friends on the weekends and spends about \$100 on his liquor, which

excessively can cause many life threatening cases. To name a few, heavy drinking can increase the risk of certain cancers in the liver, esophagus, throat and larynx especially. It can also cause immune system problems, brain damage and

and different ways to get treatment for alcohol abuse. There is detoxification which is safely getting alcohol out of your system, taking doctor-prescribed medications as well as group counseling like Alcohol Anonymous (AA).

Alcohol abuse or being an alcoholic isn't something horribly bad, but something long-term you should be concerned about like your health, social relationships, college education, future plans and dreams. Of today's first-year college students, 159,000 will drop out of school next year for alcohol or other drug-related reasons.

One night of heavy drinking can impair your ability to think abstractly for up to 30 days. Drinking socially is not a problem unless you make it a problem, but with the dangerous effects of alcohol, knowing your limit and being responsible can help extremely in your life mentally, physically and emotionally. It also can prevent your chances of abusing alcohol as well as having an addiction and dependence. Remember, there are many ways to get treated, but most of all, your family and friends are always there to help and look after you.



Photo courtesy of Google Images
A nice frothy beer is acceptable for those over the legal drinking age, but when consumed in abundance can lead to serious health problems

includes Crown Royal, Remmy Martin XO, Corona and Heinek.

Whether you're drinking socially or have an abuse or addiction towards alcohol, you simply enjoy the moment or focus on satisfying your need for alcohol. But drinking

harm the fetus during pregnancy. In our second issue, we talked about drinking under the influence in which consumption of alcohol can increase the chances of death from automobile crashes.

There are so many opportunities

SGA President acquitted

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Blackmon. "Senator Holler has been focused on Marques' actions while the Senate falls apart." While this had nothing to do with the guilt or innocence of Stewart's alleged violations, Blackmon took the opportunity to single out Holler as the sole reason for problems within the SGA Senate.

Another senator even used one of her two allowed comments to bring up a conspiracy theory of outside the SGA student involvement to bring down President Stewart. In a very animated speech to

all present this senator felt that it was necessary for her colleagues within the Senate to consider this theory, which was based solely on speculative coincidence with no evidence at all.

Through the foray of the hearing some comments did make it through that had actual application to the charges presented. Senator Martin Santalucia reminded the Senate they were there to weigh whether or not the constitution itself had been violated and not to pass judgment on the moral character of Stewart.

Another senator asked Stewart directly if he knew he was in violation when he typed up the list. "I acted as a secretary. No," said Stewart. Still yet, a senator asked Holler if this could have been handled personally.

"Possibly," said Holler, "it could have been better to do it individually."

Despite these attempts by senators to keep the questions focused on the charges at hand it boiled

down to a question of whether or not "the charges outweigh the actions of the President and his diversifying of the Senate," according to one senator.

While the Senate debated exactly how to go about voting on the charges faculty member and advisor to the SGA Donna Howard interjected, taking control of what should have been an entirely student governed affair.

Howard felt that all three charges should be voted upon at once and the senators should consider whether or not the charges warrant a removal from office. A stark contrast to the directive set out at the beginning of the meeting by Chief Justice Fogle that the senators were to determine whether or not Stewart was guilty of the charges brought forth.

In the aftermath

"This is a petty waste of time," said Senator Ernst Jean Jaques at the hearing. A sentiment echoed by many students in attendance and within the SGA itself.

"A lot of senators felt it was an embarrassment," said Stewart.

The SGA now faces an uphill battle to regain the confidence of a student body that has grown disillusioned with the

SGA's ability to represent them. A week and a half before the hearing a student voiced her displeasure at how long it was taking the court to process her club's constitution because the impeachment had taken priority over everything within the court.

"Court business had to unfortunately be diverted to the impeachment,"

said Fogle, "Something had to be sacrificed, and, unfortunately, it was club constitutions." Even though there was a change in focus every constitution that was presented to the Student Court was reviewed within the three week window required by the SGA constitution.

Despite this students still feel bitter about so much business being diverted to an impeachment that was kept so secretive. Fogle felt that confidentiality needed to be maintained to keep fairness within the hearing so a blanket policy of confidentiality was adopted.

Counter to the emotional disparity shown in the hearing one thing Holler and Stewart agreed upon was that reforms needed to take place to streamline efficiency and clarify the constitution. Stewart mentioned that perhaps an Ad Hoc committee, to be approved by the Senate, could review the current constitution over the winter recess and bring suggestions back at the beginning of the Spring semester.

Senator Holler had the same state of mind but pointed out that the Senate would operate much more efficiently "if senators would attend their Senate meetings."

President Stewart felt it was time "for the SGA to clear the air," he said. "The impeachment was an eye opening experience."

Only a handful of regular SGA meetings remain this semester. Soon to be held is the Town Hall meeting where students will have an immediate and direct opportunity to address their SGA.

Hoffman: Beyond the classroom

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another historian at Virginia Tech, and they came up with a proposal for a course on contemporary world history. The course was accepted at Virginia Tech.

"I always had to scramble to learn more and that's still true," she said.

Upon coming to Penn State Harrisburg in 1985 this new course was one she was asked to teach. Contemporary World History is now a core requirement at Penn State Berks for history majors.

Hoffman teaches many other courses here at PSH; European History, WWII, Holocaust and Genocide, Vietnam History, Historical Writing, History of Fascism and Nazism, and Creative Expressions in the Humanities.

"I read for three years before I was comfortable teaching it," she said about her Vietnam course. From the first time she offered the course, the classes filled.

Hoffman said she still does not know everything about Vietnam history and she learns a lot from students who have Vietnamese backgrounds. Students often go to her after classes to discuss the topic with her.

"I love teaching and I love learning.

I love that I'm at a place where I'm not teaching the same one or two courses over and over again. I like more of a variety," she said. She also points out, however, that she is not a fan of grading.

She is a very active participant in activities on campus. Right now she is the coordinator of interdisciplinary humanities, schedules most of the general education courses for the school of humanities, is a chair on the physical plant committee, serves on search committees that look for new professors within the school of humanities.

Outside of PHS she has served as Chief Faculty Consultant for the Advanced Placement European History Program of the College Board. She does research on Holocaust and genocide, photography and film on mass murder and genocide, and ways of improving the teaching of history.

Hoffman has also published essays on the history of psychoanalysis and its application to historical interpretation, historyography, and history and humanities pedagogy.

Hoffman is also affiliated with the American Historical Association, the Association for Integrative Studies, Cheiron, Forum for History

of Human Science, and Baltimore-Washington Area German History Seminar.

Among all this she was also given PHS's first academic advising award.

But the thing that would bring her the most happiness is seeing her daughter, who is now in college, launch into a career that she really enjoys.

"I could do other things for myself, but that would be the most meaningful in the near future," she said.

Her daughter, whom she adopted from India, will be accompanying her on an academic trip. Hoffman is leading a study tour to India for two weeks over winter break.

Along with the two of them are students from four different Penn State campuses and other faculty. She says it won't be a vacation and they will be on the go a lot, but she has never been to India before. Considering one of her favorite foods is Indian lamb curry it should be an enjoyable trip.

Though she likes to read and her gardening is therapeutic, Hoffman loves traveling in Germany. Upon retirement, traveling often is what she plans on doing.

Jordan gives students a look at the paranormal

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peace memorial for dead soldiers in the local park where people claim to have had interactions with dead soldiers, unknowing of their inexistence. During Peter Jordan's visit to Gettysburg, a friend thought she saw a girl in a dress by the memorial carrying water to soldiers and waving goodbye. Several months later, a memorial was built for a girl who actually used to do this.

Peter Jordan's most shocking tales were of those in the most uncommon places. He says areas like the Amityville House, which get the most attention, actually have very few ghosts and ghostly encounters.

An example used by Jordan is a house in New Jersey where a couple moved in only to find a particular room to be extremely cold and frightening. The couple's baby cried every time it was placed in the room and strange things such as increasing smells of cigarette smoke filled the air. An extremely frightening occurrence was the wife's entrance into the room welcomed by cold, wet hands around her neck tightening her throat. Once, the woman looked in the mirror and saw actual wet marks

and fingerprints around her throat. The couple then called the local priest from the Catholic Church, who blessed the room and told the couple to lock it up. Jordan's investigation began with his meeting with that priest, who said he's had several

charge also led to a fully charged camera becoming uncharged upon entrance into the room.

The story ended with a creepy looking house in the backyard, where an elderly woman possessed Betsy, a psychic medium accompanying Jordan, right before his eyes and told him to get out of her house. In a scary, deep, trance-like voice, she explained to him that a love triangle went on in the house and there was a baby involved, which explained the triangle made of tissues on the couple's bed. When Betsy returned from this state, she had no memory of the event, and Jordan's flashlight, which went dead during the woman's speech, came back on.

Among these chilling events, Jordan's successful presentation included ectoplasmic occurrences with ghosts in the air, documented hospital recollections of people's ectoplasmic bodies being told it wasn't their time yet, and being thrown back onto themselves.

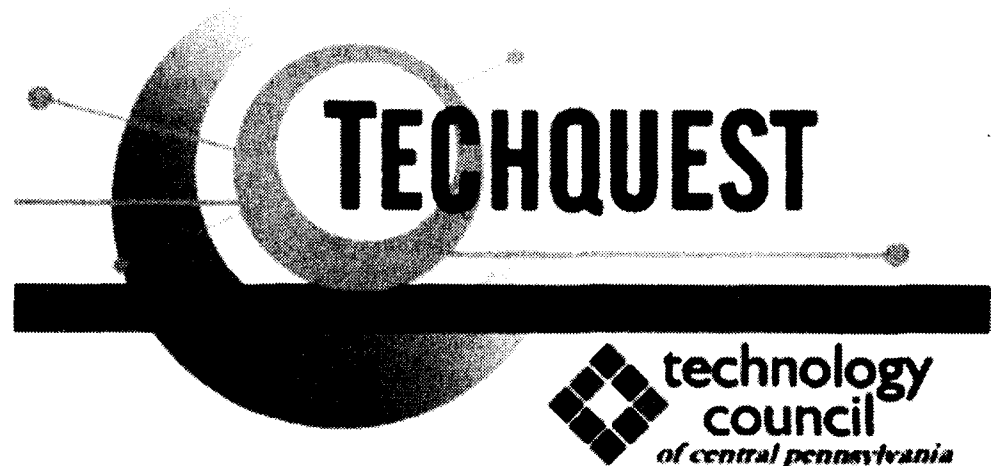
Peter Jordan didn't just leave the students and staff in the room in shock. He even grabbed worldwide attention in The New York Times and TV show "Unsolved Mysteries," in which he

investigated cases of possessed humans who gained the ability to make rooms rain.

Peter Jordan definitely did a great job with his presentation and gave the audience a little more insight as to what's media and what's real. His pictures proved his statements and several audience members were actually able to recollect similar events that had occurred to them.



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