

# news

## Don't just buy your new textbook; Chegg it

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Until recently, there were few choices for textbook shoppers: Buy from the campus bookstore or buy online. Now there is a new company dedicated to offer a low cost alternative to high textbook prices.

Textbook rental site Chegg.com is stocked and ready to save students over \$25 million in textbook costs in the Spring 2009 semester.

Every semester, students go through emotional and financial crises when the semester bill arrives and it is time to chip away hundreds of dollars for a single

textbook.

Vice president and Co-Founder of Chegg.com Aayush Phumbhra believes in the vision of the company "to help college students save money by providing them with the option to rent rather than simply buy the textbooks."

The site offers more than 800,000 book titles for a third of the retail price with regular shipment included.

"You can be sure you are getting a quality product," said Phumbhra. "Every book is new or used in good condition with little highlighting and no writing in it."

For those concerned with nature, Chegg.com will plant a tree for every book rented, donated or sold to the company.

According to Phumbhra more than 150 acres of trees were planted since the official launch of the company in August 2007. He anticipated a much larger contribution for this academic year.

Renting textbooks can save students hundreds of dollars each semester, but keep in mind the book is rented for a period of time. If a student is late returning a book there is a late fee, and if a student substitutes a notebook with a textbook – i.e. writes in the textbook – he or she will be forking over a full price anyway.

Is the book rental site for everyone? No, but it is a great alternative for many students struggling to control expenses.

## 'Positive results' in first semester as dry campus

By WILLS KING  
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It has only been one semester since Penn State Harrisburg became an alcohol free campus. The dry campus policy, which has been in effect since August 2008, now makes it illegal for possession of alcohol, regardless of age, on school grounds.

This change may cause dismay to many students of legal drinking age, but the policy reflects a major change in demographics that have occurred over the last several years.

Since establishment over 40 years ago, Penn State Harrisburg has had a history of being a campus primarily for graduate students. Over recent years, however, the campus has become both an undergraduate and graduate school, and consequently a majority of students are under 21 years old.

The admission of so many undergraduate students creates the inevitable problem of underage drinking that comes with any college.

Chief Kevin Stoehr of the campus police said the dry campus policy gradually became the ideal solution as the demographics of the campus

became younger.

"Now we have 17-year-olds on campus and we never really had that before," said Stoehr. "It was really just the way that everything changed, where we didn't think it was good to have alcohol when the student body is primarily underage."

Because of students with previous housing contracts, the dry campus policy did not come into effect until the Fall 2008 semester. As a result, rules were not changed in the middle of a school year, and incoming students would know in advance that the school campus would be dry.

Incidents in past years have shown some of the dangers of alcohol, so the new policy is aimed at preventing such problems.

"With alcohol overdoses and drinking and driving, it happens. We thought it was responsible as a campus to not allow alcohol, and hopefully we can avoid some of those tragedies.

Despite a number of incidents involving underage drinking this year, Officer Stoehr says the transition to a dry campus has been a smooth one.

"So far we've seen pretty positive results, and we hope that continues," said Stoehr.

## Charges against SGA senator dropped

By MARIN BENDORITIS  
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The impeachment charges against Senator Kemeisha Patterson were dropped Nov 18, 2008. Last semester, Patterson was brought up on impeachment

charges due to three unexcused absences.

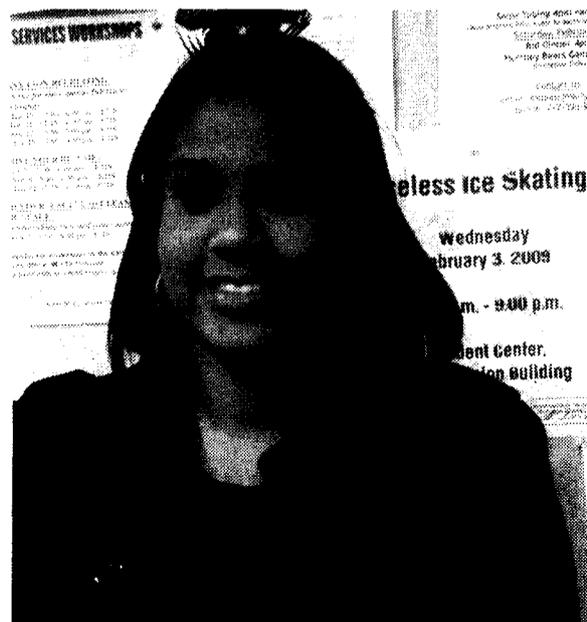
Patterson met with President Antonios Avermedis, Vice President Nathaniel Hezikiah and Chief Justice Oliver Eisler on Nov 18, 2008. The three informed her that she had three unexcused absences and

therefore was being impeached. Patterson stated that she had informed Hezikiah for the first absences, and had e-mailed the executive board through ANGEL for her third; making them excused absences.

"They dropped the charges and apologized" said Paterson.

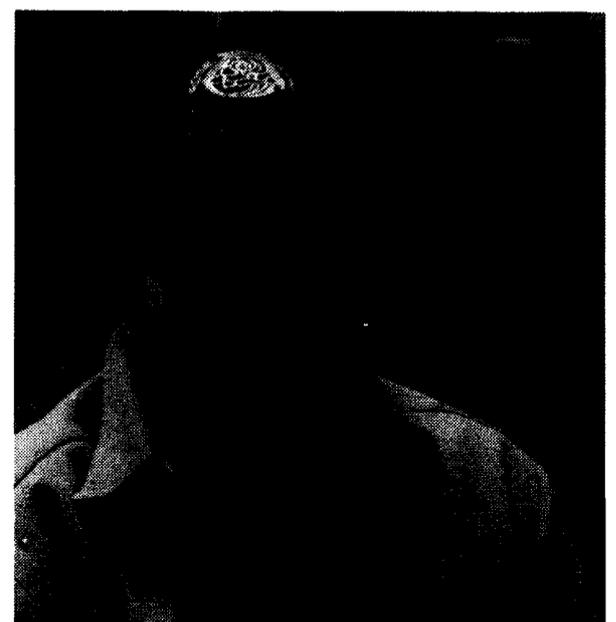
## Around Campus:

What do you think President Obama's top priority should be?



Minimize gap between lower class and so called elites

- Kiwanii Pond, Junior



Fixing the broken healthcare system in America

- Frank Magni, Senior