

OBAMA INAUGURATION: Anxious optimism

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promise of citizenship. This is the source of our confidence, the knowledge that God calls on us to shape an uncertain destiny. This is the meaning of our liberty and our creed, why men and women and children of every race and every faith can join in celebration across this magnificent mall; and why a man, whose father less than 60 years ago might not have been served in a local restaurant can now stand before you to take a most sacred oath."

The next day, almost every major newspaper ran pictures of those watching the event, many who had tears in their eyes. It seemed the world had stopped for that brief hour as the presidency changed hands from one man many labeled the worst president in U.S. history to another who offered hope to every American.

Many at Penn State Harrisburg watched the inauguration with

looks of amazement and pride on their faces. Looking around Stack's Market, an observer could notice the diversity that the crowd portrayed. One thing brought all these people together: patriotism.

Chris Snyder, engineering major, junior, said, "It was nice, except for him messing up his oath of office he had a good speech."

Constitutionally, when a president is being sworn in and makes an error in his oath, he is not at fault for it. Even those who did not vote for him were praising the inauguration.

Every eye is now on Washington, anxious about what President Obama will do to turn around the country whose economic crisis is constantly at the forefront of many minds.

If Obama does as he promises the country will see a new dawn approaching, even his campaign slogan portrays the new horizon, bright, hopeful and promising. Yes We Can.

By **MARIN BENDORITIS**
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The Student Government Association started off the Spring semester with the resignation of Senators Jacob Farnith and Kevin Griffin, according to president Antonios Avermidis. The first meeting, Jan 16, did not meet quorum.

The Jan 22 meeting met quorum with nine senators attending. During Public Comments, Greg Shivoni and JoAnn Coleman from Housing and Food Services asked the senate for feedback and recommendations regarding Stacks Market and the Housing system.

Amanda Basil from the galley asked what the administration planned on doing regarding overcrowding in Stacks. Shivoni stated that they may open the Special Events room during rush hours, and that he would like to expand, but all building projects

SGA Update

have been put on hold due to the economy.

Senator Kemeisha Patterson raised a question regarding the lack of vegan and vegetarian options. Shivoni replied that he would like recommendations from vegans and vegetarians.

The Student Court is currently looking over three club constitutions for the Latino Student Union, the Muslim Student Association and the Mock Trial club. Chief Justice Oliver Eisler was hopeful that the constitutions would be approved shortly.

Jackie Daniels, SGA Treasurer reported that the finance committee has not yet met to look over and approve club budgets for the Spring semester. Daniels said that the committee would be meeting within the week.

Chief of Staff, Thomas Brown said that the SGA website is still not up and running and asked for help in order to remedy the problem. Senate Leader Joseph Matvia stated that the IT club

would be willing to help.

President Avermidis reported to the senate regarding SAF news and news from the Middletown Town Council meeting he attended. New SAF regulations will require students wishing to submit a proposal to attend a training session, either in person, or online. The Middletown Council has raised concerns over Penn State Harrisburg students parking on Wharton Avenue and Grandview Avenue, stating that residents are unhappy. The subcommittee on Maintenance and Planning is currently looking into charging for parking on public streets. The next meeting of the Council is Feb 10 at the Middletown Police Station, according to Avermidis.

The senate approved seven proposals at the meeting, including proposals from Kappa Alpha Psi, BSU, Philosophy club and THON. There is currently \$25,808.20 in the Restricted Account, \$2,757.21 in the Unrestricted Account, and \$15,964.10 in the FAA Account.

Six-figure Cabinet jobs sometimes mean a pay cut

By **SHARON THEIMER**
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Jobs in President Barack Obama's Cabinet come with a pay cut for some of his appointees, who made millions from investments and lucrative careers in law, lobbying and business before joining his administration, according to financial reports the government released Tuesday.

At least one must sell stock to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

Obama's choice for deputy defense secretary, William J. Lynn, until recently a lobbyist for military contractor Raytheon, holds Raytheon incentive stock valued at \$500,001 to \$1 million, the documents show. The stock is due to vest next month. He has Raytheon "unvested restricted stock" worth \$250,001 to \$500,000.

Lynn has said he will sell the stock. He received a salary of \$369,615 last year as a Raytheon senior vice president, and is expecting a 2008 cash bonus of \$100,001 to \$250,000 to be paid this March, his report shows. Obama has given

Lynn a waiver from ethics rules banning employees from taking part in decisions related to their former employers for two years and prohibiting them from taking jobs in agencies they recently lobbied. If he is confirmed as expected, Lynn will be subject to ethics reviews for one year.

Government ethics rules require senior administration officials to provide details annually on their personal finances. The reports include descriptions of assets, income and debt — typically given in ranges rather than exact amounts — and lists of gifts and any outside positions. The disclosures are intended to shine a light on and help avoid any potential conflicts of interest.

The report for Obama's nominee to become attorney general, Eric Holder, shows he received \$3.3 million, including deferred compensation, as a partner at the law firm Covington & Burling, far more than the \$196,700 he would make as a member of Obama's Cabinet. He anticipates receiving a \$1 million to \$5 million partner separation payment when he leaves the firm.

Holder's clients included a major bank under investigation

by the department, Swiss bank UBS AG. The company has said it is cooperating with the inquiry. Authorities say a UBS executive hid \$20 billion in assets from the Internal Revenue Service by using secret overseas accounts for thousands of wealthy clients. Holder represented the bank in a separate discrimination case.

Ron Kirk, Obama's pick to become U.S. trade representative, would leave his law firm and several corporate boards if confirmed. He received \$556,740 from Vinson & Elkins last year and a total of \$460,265 from serving on the boards of PetSmart, Dean Foods and Brinker International restaurant company. Kirk reported \$1.9 million to \$4.6 million in assets.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's husband, former President Bill Clinton, earned millions in speaking fees last year. Nearly \$4.6 million of the \$5.7 million in honoraria came from foreign sources, including Kuwait's National Bank and firms and groups in Canada, Hong Kong, Germany, India, Malaysia, Mexico and Portugal, her report shows.

His global financial and charitable

activities have drawn scrutiny from some senators, who want Hillary Clinton to provide more details about overseas fundraising for her husband's foundation than she promised to under an agreement with Obama's transition team.

Jacob Lew, Obama's choice for Clinton's deputy, shows several investments overseas. They include \$15,000 to \$50,000 in State of Israel Bonds; \$1,001 to \$15,000 each in Ishares MSCI South Africa, Ishares MSCI Austria, Ishares MSCI Belgium and Ishares MSCI South Korea; and up to \$1,000 in Ishares MSCI Brazil.

Jeh Johnson, nominated to serve as the Pentagon's top lawyer, will be giving up a seven-figure salary from an international law firm. He earned \$2.6 million last year as a partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton and Garrison. Johnson owns stock valued at \$1,001 to \$15,000 each in defense contractors including Alliant Techsystems, Lockheed Martin, L3 Communications and General Electric.

The reports also show:

—Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack's income included \$300,000 from the law and

lobbying firm Dorsey and Whitney in Des Moines, Iowa; \$100,000 consulting for MidAmerican Energy; \$63,000 from Iowa State University; and \$55,000 from other sources, including honoraria, a fellowship, a director's fee and consulting. In addition, he and his wife have \$500,000 to \$1 million in farmland that yielded \$15,000 to \$50,000 in rent, plus \$7,552 from a U.S. Agriculture Department Conservation Reserve Program.

—Michele Flournoy, Obama's pick for the Pentagon's No. 3 job, undersecretary of defense for policy, is partner with her husband in a consulting firm whose clients include defense contractors Lockheed Martin and BAE Systems North America. She said the firm will be dormant during her time at the Pentagon. Flournoy disclosed receiving \$60,000 in consulting fees from the firm, AVA Partners, last year and a salary of \$254,820 as president of the Center for a New American Security, a Washington think-tank.

—Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner has \$740,000 to \$1.7 million in assets, including partial ownership of property on Cape Cod in Massachusetts valued at \$250,000 to \$500,000.