

Eye on Campus

THON Dance Marathon!

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The Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, affectionately referred to as THON, is the largest student run philanthropic organization in the world! THON was founded in 1973 and since then, the organization has raised more than \$69 million towards the fight against pediatric cancer! Every Penn State student across the commonwealth takes great pride for their efforts and vows every year to work twice as hard as they did the year before.

Each campus raises money towards the overall total. Penn State Brandywine raised a little over \$11,000 last year, which contributed to the overall total - \$7,838,054.36! All funds go to the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State's Children Hospital. This

year, Brandywine THON's goal is to raise \$25,000! In the past, this campus has raised amounts close to that, so it can be done again. But, we need your help! Fundraising season starts on Friday, October 1st and culminates in a 46 hour, no sitting, no sleeping Dance Marathon at the Bryce Jordan Center at University Park. We are asking that you try your best to come to our events and support the organization as much as possible.

Joe Pa said it best when he said, "When they say, 'We Are Penn State,' this is what they are talking about." We aren't doing this for acknowledgement. We aren't doing this for fun. We're doing this to save lives. We're doing this to find a cure. We are doing this For The Kids!

SGA Meets Again

By Martina Delgado - *Lion's Eye Staff Writer* - mdd5136@psu.edu

September 1st at Common Hour, the SGA and the chairs of Governmental Affairs, Community Service, Student Affairs, IT, and the Events Coordinator sat down to discuss some of the issues and topics surrounding Brandywine and the student body. This year the Black Student League is pushing club funding by planning to create a breakfast cart for students in an early morning rush. The BSL is also hoping to raise money at sporting events by making and selling food to the crowd. Issues about Brandywine's presence at the THON event were raised as well. The Brandywine campus, along with other satellite campuses, travel to University Park for the 46 hour dance-a-thon to raise money for Pediatric Cancer. However, Danice Reid (IT Chair) and Jomela Dutt (Student Affairs Chair) complain that the Brandywine campus was disrespected and bullied by the Greeks of University Park. The THON committee will be calling an emergency THON meeting due to this confrontation.

Vice President Bobby Caprice gave a report on the temporary parking arrangements being made while the Vairo Parking Lot is being repaved. A committee consisting of Jomela Dutt and Vinny Gallo was arranged for the parking lot reconstruction. The tennis courts will be used for parking during the replacement. At its completion, the volleyball pit and the tennis courts will be removed and replaced with pavement. There was a proposal that an outdoor basketball court and a roller hockey ring be built for the student body.

Treasurer Vinny Gallo proposed an invoice for SGA t-shirts and a shipment of donations be sent to

Haiti. Everyone present was in favor. The Secretary, Governmental Affairs Chair, IT Chair, and Academic Affairs Chair had no reports. However, the Community Service Chair reported that Septa is agreeing to lower the price of bus passes. Under the University Pass Program, Septa will charge Penn State Brandywine five percent less for passes and the university will drop another five percent on the passes. However, faculty must call Septa to authorize and finalize the deal. Points were also raised as to how the student body will be aware of this Program once enacted. Possibilities of campus commercials being created were raised. Danice Reid (IT Chair) was asked to inquire at the IT department about students that might be interested in film and advertising. In terms of banking, Danice Reid also proposed a new PNC machine be purchased. Reid and Vinny Gallo are put in charge of following up on that idea as a result.

The topic of clubs borrowing money from the SGA was raised by the Governmental Affairs Chair, Steve Iatesta. Iatesta questioned if organizations must give back to the SGA when they borrow money. SGA president, Jerry Fokas states that a policy must be voted on in order to answer that question. Steve Iatesta takes on the job of writing a borrowing policy between the SGA and organizations.

In the category of upcoming events, the Homecoming Dance and the Pep Rally are drawing closer. The Homecoming Dance will take place on Saturday October 16th at 7pm. The Pep Rally will take place Thursday October 14th at Common hour.

Brandywine Budget Looks Good Early On, But SGA Pres. Calls for Tougher Discourse Regarding Allocation

By daniel j. taylor - *Lion's Eye World and Local Editor* - djt5036@psu.edu

Every year the students of Penn State Brandywine pay a Student Activity Fee (SAF) that is a part of their tuition. The funds are used to pay for campus speakers, trips, conferences, equipment, and other campus needs. On Tues, September 14 at 11:30AM in the Commons Building conference room the Student Activity Fee Allocation Committee (SAFAC) had their first meeting of the year, to vote on requests for a share of that total sum.

The committee is co-chaired by Student Government Association (SGA) President Jerry Fokas, who campaigned on promises of fiscal responsibility, and Director of Student Affairs Dr. Matthew Shupp. They will meet with the members of the SAFAC, who are both students and faculty, regularly throughout the year to decide which groups on campus will receive funds. In order to be eligible to receive financial resources, a club or organization must be registered with Student Life and submit a proposal 2 weeks prior to the meeting at which it will be voted upon.

There is a total of approximately \$250 thousand in SAFs for Brandywine this year, \$84 thousand of which comes right off the top for Student Life's Programming budget.

No proposals were turned down at this meeting, although some did get passed only after being altered to award less money. The first, and largest, proposal, however, received no alterations by the committee before being passed.

The Lion's Eye, represented by faculty advisor Karrie Bowen and Editor-in-Chief Justin Park, requested \$10,920 for publication of 400 issues every two weeks for the duration of the 2010-11 academic year. After only a few questions, the committee promptly, and unanimously, approved the proposal.

The next proposal petitioned for \$1287 to support the campus' 15th annual Litapalooza celebration. The festivities are to be held in April and a speaker/writer would be present. One committee member, a popular campus student, said she believed that the event was often interrupted by those interested only in free food and that, typically, only students offered in-class credit attended for more than a few moments. With this consideration in mind, and without the proposal's creator, Dr. Adam Sorkin, to defend his request, the committee voted to approve the proposal under the consideration that it be lowered to \$1050, \$750 for the speaker and \$300 for food.

Dr. Sorkin's second proposal, for a speaker geared towards an audience of creative writers, requested \$537 to supply food for the event. For the same reasons as the previous proposal, however, this request was approved only after being lowered to \$300.

It became clear by this time that the committee members as a whole were somewhat sheepish and tended to agree with whatever the first spoken opinion on a proposal happened to be. All votes were agreed upon unanimously, whether it was to lower a proposal's request or approve it. At one point co-chair Matthew Shupp begged the committee to oppose an aspect of a proposal, saying simply, "challenge me!"

Regardless of his pleas, however, challenges never really came.

The proposal for a lecture and performance by violinist Diana Monroe, though unrepresented, was largely approved. Of the \$900 requested, \$800 was awarded, in order to pay the entertainer. The remaining \$100, requested in order to fund publicity was not approved, as the request was deemed too vague by Fokas (and therefore, the committee as a whole). The committee welcomes a re-proposal for the

\$100 with more clarity and a representative to explain the purpose.

The Voices of Innovation Series proposals for September 21 and October 25 were widely advocated for by the members of the committee in spite of a lack of representation by the proposal's creator, Dr. Laura Guertin. The proposals were, once again, unanimously supported.

The Knittany Lion Needleworks club was the originator of the next three proposals, however only two ever made it up to a vote. The proposals, for \$300, \$350, and \$349.15, were to sponsor projects to make scarves for a Media women's shelter, host a knotted-blanket party, and design helmet liners for U.S. soldiers serving abroad. The first proposal, for scarves, was accepted after a brief explanation by Representative Diane Shorter, of Student Life. The second, for knotted-blankets, was approved for a reduced total of \$250, after Jerry Fokas volunteered, on behalf of the SGA, to pay \$100 in food costs. The third proposal, for helmet liners, was neither approved nor denied, as Ronika Money, Coordinator of Student Affairs, volunteered to pay the total sum with some of her \$84 thousand programming budget surplus. When asked why she offered to do this, she replied that supporting the soldiers is always a good cause.

The Diversity Workshop proposal, by the Society of Caribbean-Americans (SOCA), was perhaps the first proposal to really get opposition in despite the presence of a representative, Charlene Pressley. The requested funds totaled \$1115.20 to sponsor a 2-day workshop focusing on an array of diversity groups, including gender, race, religion, and sexual orientation. Criticisms came down about the prices for food, to which Pressley responded that her organization had "shopped around" for low prices, however, because of the poor economy, the process was more difficult. Suggestions came from multiple sources suggesting group-collaboration on the project, as a means to acquiring the desired funds. Shupp volunteered Student Life as a possible source of assistance, and Fokas followed suit, volunteering some SGA funds, if possible. Eventually, the proposal was approved but only after an almost three-fourths reduction to \$300.

The last proposal was a last-minute one, as the event was scheduled to take place 48 hours from the vote. Dr. Patricia Hillen represented a proposal requesting \$569 to pay for food at Dr. Arthur Kaplan's bioethics lecture and seminar on September 16. The \$500 donation required by the speaker had already been paid for by Student Life, halving the proposal request, and because the "Campus Read" program was using Kaplan's book this semester, a high turnout was expected. The committee gladly approved the request in full.

In a brief discussion with co-chair Jerry Fokas after the end of the meeting, he explained that because the meeting had proposals for historically popular events and programs around campus, it was hard to judge the exact state of the budget--it will be later in the year when first-year projects request money that will make or break the bank. He also established the need for representatives to attend the meetings at which their proposals will be discussed, so as to avoid turning down requests on the grounds of ambiguity alone. When asked about the habit of the body to vote unanimously, he said that did not bother him, although he would like to see a bit more aggression while questioning the proposals.

The next SAFAC meeting is scheduled for November 9 and all proposals must be submitted by October 29 at 5PM.