

Penn State News

Volvo Group Signs Preferred Talent Partnership Agreement with Penn State

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LUNAR, Continued From Pg. 1

the Lunar Lion initiative while balancing his studies and his Air Force ROTC obligations has taught him a lot about time management and building good habits while applying his growing technical skills.

"I've learned a lot about technology and business management," said Walker. "This has been an incredible experience, and when I get out of the Air Force I'd be interested in a career focused more on the design process or even management. I've learned a lot about making my own decisions based on where we need to go next with this project."

Reuben Bushnell, an electrical engineering graduate student from Baltimore working on power system design for Penn State's moon lander, said that what makes the project more challenging is that the work each person does impacts everyone else's. "So if we're not communicating with each other, it could affect everyone else," Bushnell said. "You're responsible for your area, but you're responsible for other areas as well."

"This is more like an industry internship, on campus," Bushnell added. "We're working with a multitude of suppliers for parts, and we're learning a lot about troubleshooting."

According to Paul, this kind of careful, coordinated development of complex systems made the Apollo program and other ambitious space projects successful where competing programs around the world failed. The American process of systems engineering, he said, is key to the nation's continued technical and economic strength, and the Lunar Lion is an exciting way to train Penn State students in the practice.

The Lunar Lion project is an opportunity for Penn State to position itself for future research in space systems and exploration at a time when the space industry is transforming, with the retirement of the Space Shuttle and the birth and recent successes of a growing number of private space companies, he said. And, as the Lunar Lion team attracts more funding and builds its momentum through the next phase, it will add to Penn State's production of the technical and human capital that the country needs to spur economic growth, even before this University-led team launches for the moon.

"It's a great example of how Penn State is serving the country — we're generating leaders here, in addition to growing technical expertise," Paul said.

NBC's Bob Costas announced via a radio show that he will be part of a future program that further examines the Freeh Report.

In an interview on a St. Louis radio station Monday, Costas discussed his involvement in covering the Jerry Sandusky sex abuse case and announced a possible NBC program that would look further into former FBI Director Louis Freeh's report from July 2012.

Though he could not reveal the particular details, he said, "there is going to be another installment and there is going to be a further examination of this whole issue in the next month or two and I will be at the center of that on NBC."

After a reexamination of Freeh's report, Costas said it is possible that late former head coach Joe Paterno was not as responsible in the case as the original report concluded.

The Volvo Group recently signed an Academic Preferred Talent Partnership agreement with Penn State -- one of only eight universities worldwide to have such agreements with Volvo. The three-year program provides Penn State students with co-op, internship and mentoring opportunities and offers talent recruitment benefits to Volvo Group.

Representatives from Volvo will tour the University Park campus Wednesday (April 10) and Thursday (April 11) and will meet with leaders from the Graduate School and the College of Engineering to continue discussions about the partnership. A public event to be held from noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 11, in Heritage Hall at the HUB-Robeson Center will feature related presentations by Lena Lind, senior vice president, talent management, and Hans Persson, vice president, technology and innovation. This visit was originally scheduled to take place last fall but was postponed due to Hurricane Sandy.

"We are delighted to join the Volvo Group as a Preferred Talent Partner," said David Wormley, Harold and Inge Marcus Dean of Engineering at Penn State. "This partnership will directly lead to relationships benefitting our students and faculty and our partner, the Volvo Group."

"Penn State offers stellar technical and supply chain programs, making them a natural partner for the Volvo Group," said Torbjörn Holmström, Volvo Group chief technology officer and executive vice president, Volvo Group Trucks Technology. "Penn State's academic programs strongly align with the needs of the Volvo Group as we look to achieve our vision of becoming the world

leader in sustainable transport solutions with pioneering products and services."

The Volvo Group considers criteria such as academic standing, student diversity, international connections and its research institution when selecting a university with which to partner.

"The Academic Preferred Talent Partnership agreement with Penn State provides students with an opportunity to gain hands-on, real-world experience and mentoring with a global company," said Kerstin Renard, Volvo Group executive vice president, human resources. "The partnership also furthers our ability to establish a long-term relationship with the University, which we view as a source of top talent within functional disciplines vital to the Volvo Group."

Volvo Group currently maintains Preferred Talent agreements with seven other universities around the globe — Chalmers University of Technology and School of Business, Economics & Law, Gothenburg, Sweden; EM Lyon and INSA Lyon, France; Tsinghua University and Tongji University, China; and North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C.

The Volvo Group is one of the world's leading manufacturers of trucks, buses and construction equipment, and drive systems for marine and industrial applications. The group also provides complete solutions for financing and service. Headquartered in Goteborg, Sweden, the Volvo Group employs about 115,000 people, has production facilities in 19 countries and sells their products in more than 190 markets.

Tom Richard, Director of the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environmental (Left) and Niklas Gustavsson, Volvo Group Head of Public Affairs, hold the partnership agreement between the University and the truck manufacturer.



Costas Announces Plan to Further Examine Freeh Report

SAM JANESCH - Collegian Staff Writer

"It's entirely possible that Penn State as an institution is culpable to a large extent and some of those individuals are culpable," Costas said. "And it's entirely possible that Paterno's responsibility in this, to whatever extent, can be separated from those people."

Costas' interview comes a week after documentary filmmaker John Ziegler appeared on NBC's "Today" show and revealed taped interviews he had with Sandusky in prison.

Sandusky, a former Penn State defensive coordinator, was convicted in June on 45 of 48 counts of sexually abusing boys.

Costas said he would not comment on Ziegler, but said that some Paterno supporters have been maybe too "extreme," because "they won't admit even the slightest doubt about any aspect of Joe's behavior — that he might have been negligent in any way."

Costas also said that if conclusive evidence arises that would "largely exonerate" Paterno, there might not

be a chance to "balance the scales" and take the pressure off of Paterno because of the way the media works.

In terms of his continuing focus on the Sandusky case, Costas said he feels he has a responsibility to continue to follow the story because of his previous involvement in reporting the case.

To continue examining the case and reports made by Freeh and the Paterno family, Costas said he would approach any interview with a critical eye.

"If I interview Louis Freeh, I would interview him skeptically as if I was a representative of the Paterno family cross examining him," Costas said.

Costas also said that if he were to interview the representatives of the Paterno side, he would also interview them skeptically.

Spokespeople for NBC or the Freeh Group did not return calls for comment by press time Wednesday.