

# ACLU chapter returns

By Christine O'Brien  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The Penn State chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union is back, and members said they're on the lookout for civil rights injustices at any level.

The newly formed chapter, which has about 20 members, is hoping to educate and inform the student body about the civil liberties guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

"I think having ACLU at Penn State is a great opportunity for students to learn how many rights we actually have," Penn State ACLU Secretary Stephanie Viggiano said. "The ACLU provides a great resource for learning

more about your civil rights and working to bring awareness and take action on injustices in our society."

The ACLU is a national organization that works to extend and protect the rights guaranteed to citizens in the U.S. Constitution. The PSU chapter had been inactive since 2008, but recent student interest has sparked a renewal.

Viggiano (junior-German) said having the ACLU at Penn State will bring about more accountability when it comes to civil rights abuse. Members plan to monitor the university administration and local and state governments in order to discourage civil liberty abuses. Penn State ACLU President Chadd Williams said.

"I believe that every place should have a local group for people to turn to in case civil rights or liberties are violated by local, state or national government," Williams (junior-liberal arts) said.

While the new chapter is not working on any specific cases, it is committed to educating others about rights and liberties.

"It is important to help educate the students and community about their civil rights and to provide a contact point between the Penn State community and the broader ACLU organization," said Brian Flowers (sophomore-engineering), treasurer for the Penn State ACLU chapter.

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## COOKIE TIME



Chloe Eimer/Collegian

Girl Scouts Liz Foster, 14, right, and Jessica Booher, 13, left, sell cookies outside of The Corner Room on Allen Street on Sunday afternoon with Tami Booher, middle, of State College.

# Delaware River dredging may create more jobs in Phila.

By Geoff Mulvihill  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NATIONAL PARK, N.J. — After nearly 30 years of planning and more than a decade of legal and political battles over whether to deepen the Delaware River channel, the dredging unceremoniously began Monday on a barge near Delaware City, Del.

Upriver, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and other New Jersey politicians made it clear that the battle isn't over with their promise to continue legal challenges and

political maneuvers to halt the project.

Pennsylvania leaders — led by Gov. Ed Rendell — say a deeper channel will mean more ships can get to Philadelphia-area ports, creating more jobs. The river channel is now 40 feet deep, but more ships would be able to use it if it were 45 feet deep.

On a conference call Monday, U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter said he expected the project would be a "bonanza for the building trades" and would create 125,000 jobs.

Environmental groups, along

with officials in Delaware and New Jersey, dispute those projections and say digging down in the river would hurt fisheries, endanger an aquifer that supplies drinking water to southern New Jersey and create spoils that would have to be put somewhere.

"The government's job is to make sure we balance these interests," Christie said in a news conference on the banks of the river. "This isn't even close. We have to protect the environment."

The Republican governor spoke along with two key Democrats —

U.S. Rep. Rob Andrews and state Sen. President Stephen Sweeney, both of whom represent districts along the river — and with environmentalists.

Christie said the dredging will continue fighting the dredging in court. The state Attorney General's Office on Monday filed a pair of filings in its suit. One is an amended complaint to beef up its claim that the Army Corps of Engineers is violating federal Clean Air laws by moving ahead with dredging. The other opposes the Corps' motion to have the case

moved from Trenton to Wilmington, Del. In Wilmington last week, a U.S. District judge ruled that the project could begin. And so at noon Monday, according to Ed Voigt, a spokesman for the Corps, the work began.

Norfolk Dredging Co. already had one project, for \$11 million to do routine maintenance dredging of a portion of the river. The Corps added an option to pay the firm \$24 million to deepen the channel. Most of that is to be paid by the Philadelphia Regional Ports Authority.

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**Spring Career Days Online Workshops:**

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What Employers Want, 3:30p.m.  
Resume Writing, 5:00p.m.

**March 17, 2010**  
Behavioral Interviewing, 3:30p.m.  
Make the Most at the Fair, 5:00p.m.

**March 18, 2010**  
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**Upcoming Information Sessions:**

**March 2, 2010:**  
Peace Corps  
267 Bank of America Career Services - 6:30p.m.

**March 3, 2010:**  
Pepsi Bottling Group  
104 Thomas - 6:00p.m.

**March 4, 2010:**  
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