

Fair to display clubs, groups

By Mike Hrick
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Whether they're interested in zombie attacks or swing dancing, Penn State students can sign up today for a diverse selection of clubs at what is set to be the largest fall involvement fair ever.

The annual two-day fair will be held in both Alumni Hall and Heritage Hall for the first time to accommodate demand from attendees and more than 150 student groups, said Brian Petrosky, staff assistant for the Office of Student Activities.

Students will also be able to see firsthand what some of the groups do. On Tuesday afternoon, five groups will perform: the Swing Dancing Club, Songwriters Club, NOMMO, the Turkish Student Association and Shotokan Karate-do, Petrosky said.

Student groups will staff the fair's booths, giving attending students the chance to learn about their organizations' activities and goals.

Mark Donovan, overall chairman of the University Park Allocation Committee (UPAC), said it's important for new students to get involved. "Penn State's a big school and there



Collegian file photo

Students check out Penn State clubs at last year's Involvement Fair in HUB Alumni Hall. The fair will be held in both Alumni Hall and Heritage Hall this year.

If you go

What: Fall Involvement Fair
When: Today and tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: Alumni Hall and Heritage Hall at the HUB-Robeson Center
Details: Free

are a lot of opportunities that it has to offer," Donovan (senior-political science) said. "For new students, it's a great way to have fun and make Penn State feel like home."

Donovan said UPAC has two goals for the fair: to supply information about what the organization has to offer students and to increase membership.

Bobby Ryan, Off-Campus Student Union president, said his group's two-day presence is part of an initiative to promote awareness of the dynamic between students and community members.

"In all of State College, two-thirds [of the population] is students. One-third is residents," Ryan (senior-psychology) said.

"The relationship that exists here is a two-way street."

While some groups will promote existing agendas, others will need fresh membership to begin new initiatives.

Chris Tutolo, Penn State Eco-Action public relations officer, said his group will support a campaign for placing a severance tax on natural gas.

Eco-Action will also back Penn State Beyond Coal and Windspira, a new campaign to deter students from buying bottled water, Tutolo (sophomore-journalism) said.

Tutolo said he feels a sense of kinship at Eco-Action meetings.

"I've found a niche through Eco-Action at school," he said. "If you go there, you'll feel like you're a part of something."

To e-mail reporter: mjh5507@psu.edu

Rep. declines to back Paterno for medal

By Katrina Wehr
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

President Barack Obama won't find Congressman Paul Kanjorski's signature on the letter nominating Joe Paterno for the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and one of Kanjorski's opponents wants to know why.

Hazleton mayor and congressional candidate Lou Barletta is questioning why 26-year incumbent Kanjorski, D-Pa., did not sign the letter in support of Paterno, according to a press release.

Shawn Kelly, a spokesman for Barletta's campaign, said Paterno is a living legend in Pennsylvania.

He said he doesn't understand why Kanjorski would not sign the letter supporting the coach.

"It's extremely hard to comprehend why Kanjorski did not sign this nomination letter for JoePa," Kelly said. "By failing to sign this letter, Kanjorski shows once again how out of touch he is."

Kanjorski said he recognizes the pride Paterno brings to Penn State and to all Pennsylvania residents.

But, he added, he thinks Congress should be focused on other issues.

"At this time, Congress should focus its efforts on creating jobs in our communities and reviving the economy, rather than politicizing football," Kanjorski said. "This is where my focus has been and where it will continue to be."

Established in 1945 by President Harry S. Truman, the Medal of Freedom is awarded annually to civilians who make significant contributions toward world peace, national interests of the U.S. or important public or private endeavors, according to the White House website.

The letter was signed by 16 repre-

sentatives from Pennsylvania and one representative from Virginia, who "wanted his signature to reflect that he is a Penn State alumni, Class of 1961" according to a press release.

Drafted by Rep. Glenn Thompson, R-Pa., the letter summarizes some of Paterno's career achievements on and off the field.

It cites his involvement in the Pennsylvania Special Olympics and donations to the libraries and scholarship funds at Penn State.

"He has amassed nearly 400 wins, more than any other coach in Division I history. His program has never been on probation," the letter reads. "There has never been an accusation of corrupt recruiting and, in what is depressingly rare, his players stay in school and graduate."

If chosen, Paterno would join Paul "Bear" Bryant and John Wooden as one of the few college sports coaches who have received this honor.

To e-mail reporter: kmm5340@psu.edu

New IST dean prepares for first year

By Micah Wintner
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Pending approval by the Penn State Board of Trustees next month, David Hall will soon become the College of Information Sciences and Technology's (IST) new leader.

Hall, who was appointed interim dean on January 1, was chosen to be the next dean by the Penn State administration, Penn State spokesman Geoff Rushton said.

A search committee was formed to conduct a national search for a new dean. But it was not successful in finding a fit for the position, Rushton said.

"Candidates who were interviewed all commented on the job that Dr. Hall had shown as interim dean," Rushton said.

Hall said he was happy to be dean on a permanent basis, adding that he's received "broad support" from

"IST ... is in the right place at the right time."

David Hall

newly appointed College of Information Sciences and Technology dean

the administration. "I think I am pretty ready for the role," he said. "I'm much more ready than I was eight months ago."

Hall said he is excited to be working in the ever-changing world of technology.

"IST is a really good college, and it's in the right place at the right time," he said. "There's a rapid evolution of communications technology ... and social networking."

As dean, Hall said it is his job to be a "facilitator that helps understand the needs of the students, capabilities of the faculty, and represent the college externally to parents and donors."

Tom Bierly, Class of 2010, said Hall is actively involved with IST students. Bierly, who graduated with a degree in information sciences and technology, said Hall held feedback sessions with students each month as interim dean. Hall said he worked hard at making himself easily accessible.

From a student perspective, Bierly said it is the dean's job to make sure students are getting the education they need.

He said Hall can help bring the college "a fresh perspective" so it can collaborate on academic initiatives at the university.

To e-mail reporter: maw5438@psu.edu

UPUA lays groundwork over summer

President Christian Ragland met with the State College Borough Council to discuss student representation.

By Kathleen Loughran
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Student body president Christian Ragland has a simple motto: No days off.

Though it was summer, many University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) student leaders did not take a break.

Ragland (senior-political science) said his main goal this summer was to prepare for the fall.

"The No. 1 goal was to lay the foundation for the assembly — to lay the groundwork in the summer," he said.

To make sure he was ready for fall, Ragland said he tried to get as many meetings out of the way as possible.

"My goal was to get all the meetings accomplished this summer, so I don't have to take too much time in the fall, so I can be flexible and act on the things in the fall," he said.

Ragland held one of the meetings with the State College Borough Council, discussing his proposal to have a non-voting student member on the council.

Though some council members criticized the idea, Ragland said he is now going to work with the assembly to strengthen the proposal.

Ragland wants a non-voting student council member to increase student representation.

"All the council members are non-student, and we make up the majority of the town," he said. "It's very unbalanced."

But council member Don Hahn said he and other council members are concerned the non-voting member would be appointed and not elected.

"Council members are elected by the voters, and I think that all the scenarios that we seem to be presented with involves an appointment by UPUA," Hahn said.

He said the council would like to see how the concept works in other towns that have a non-voting member on borough council.

"We're receptive to the idea of a student voice on council," Hahn said.

While Ragland reached out to the borough, he also reached out to freshmen.

Ragland said UPUA has already received between 50 and 60 applications from freshmen. He said he plans to continue the freshman outreach throughout the year at various events.

Ragland also contacted the Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA) to ensure the extended White Loop program — providing late night White Loop service every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night — is still in place.

UPUA has not only been involved with local affairs — Ragland said the student government has also continued its outreach to other state schools. Travis Salters, UPUA director of governmental affairs, said he has reached out to state schools to start a Pennsylvania Student Association.

Salters (junior-broadcast journalism and African and African-American studies) said he was able to connect with a few student leaders at other schools.

"It's a good starting point," he said.

Salters said a Pennsylvania Student Association would help student leaders across the commonwealth have a "unified voice" in tackling issues like tuition hikes.

At this summer's Association of Big Ten Students conference — held at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio — Ragland and other Big Ten student leaders planned a spring trip to Washington, D.C., to talk with congressional leaders.

Overall, Ragland said he is pleased with what UPUA accomplished this summer.

"By far it was successful," he said. "It was a great opportunity to prepare for the fall and spring, and now we can move forward."

To e-mail reporter: krl5106@psu.edu

PASTA MONDAY
All You Can Eat - All Day
11am-10pm
\$5.99
THE CORNER ROOM
Corner of College & Allen St.

The Paper Plate
dining guide
powered by StateCollege.com
60 10 psu.collegian.com

Neenan Italia
Check out Mamma Mia's Daily Special
\$7.99
\$4.99
\$5.99
\$15.95
128 E. College Ave.
State College, PA 16801
(814) 272-0530

Rita's
Welcome Back To Happy Valley!
Sun - Thurs: Noon - 10pm
Fri & Sat: Noon - 11pm
Check Out Our Daily Flavors!
www.HappyValleyRitas.com
www.facebook.com/RitasOfHappyValley.com

India Pavilion
EXOTIC INDIAN CUISINE
LUNCH BUFFET DAILY \$7.95
CARRY-OUT FOOD - GROUPS & PRIVATE PARTIES WELCOME
RESERVATION AVAILABLE - ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
222 E. CALDER WAY
PHONE 237-3400
WWW.INDIAPIAVILION.NET
NOW HIRING SERVERS (APPLY IN PERSON)

PAVILION
LUNCH: 11:30AM-2:30PM
DINNER: 3:00AM-10:00PM
CLOSED MONDAYS

Rita's
25
Ritas
(814) 231-1500