

Alumna leads UHS programs

A former peer educator will oversee health promotion groups.

By **Alaina Gallagher**
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A former peer educator for University Health Services' Health Promotion and Wellness office will now take charge in helping students lead healthier lives.

As a community health educator, Katherine Wheatle, Class of 2008, will oversee the peer education groups that Health Promotion and Wellness offers — including Health Works and S-Plan, said Linda LaSalle, associate director for educational services.

Health Works provides "health promotion programming to help improve the health of Penn State students," LaSalle said.

This is done through various activities such as safer sex parties, nutrition programming and

the production of marketing materials geared toward students, she said.

S-Plan offers mentoring for black and Latino students who are new to the university by providing health-focused programs and one-on-one mentoring relationships, she said.

"The main focus of both of these organizations is to provide students the opportunity to see that health behaviors directly affects their academics," said Wheatle, who graduated with a degree in African and African-American studies.

As a teaching assistant for the class that prepares students to work with Health Works, Tiana Lukas has had the opportunity to experience Wheatle playing the role of a health educator already.

"I think she's going to bring a lot of new ideas and perspective," Lukas (junior-health policy and administration) said. "Everyone I have spoken to in our program is really excited to have her on

board, to have a fresh start with a new outlook."

Wheatle said she hopes that through her time at Health Promotion and Wellness, the student peer educators will continue to become more aware of health issues and be advocates for other students.

In addition, she said she wants Penn State students to realize the role health plays in helping them to be their most successful selves.

"It's exciting to come full circle and to be able to serve the university in this capacity," Wheatle said.

Wheatle served as a peer educator in the S-Plan program while a student at Penn State — so she'll assume her position with plenty of experience already under her belt, LaSalle said.

"I think Katherine's background and expertise will be able to help University Health Services improve the overall health of our students," she said.

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CHIT-CHAT



Chloe Elmer/Collegian

Amanda Votta (senior-science) and Jonathan Fink (senior-science) talk outside Sparks Building on the Pattee Mall Wednesday.

Student group helps football fans plan trips

By **Mike Hricik**
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Banchi Outdoor Adventures president Joe Ferrara wants Penn State to beat Alabama on Sept. 11 — it would boost business.

"Rarely in the season do you get a caliber of out-of-conference play, especially in the case of Alabama," Ferrara said.

For his newest venture, Ferrara has partnered with PSU Football Transport — a new student organization that will provide football fans round-trip transportation and lodging to some of this year's biggest Penn State away games. Travel packages offered include motor coach transportation to and from away games, two-night hotel stays, breakfast, tips and gratuities, PSU Football Transport Director Brett Fisher said. Tickets for games are not included.

Fisher (graduate-business administration) said he's excited for the first trip to the game at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

"It's so much fun because you have a dynamic group with a lot of undergraduates who share the same interests as you and who want to have a good time," Fisher said.

Packages will be offered for

games at Alabama, the University of Iowa and Ohio State. Packages for the Alabama and Iowa games cost \$249 while the group will charge \$169 for the Ohio State game. Members of the Ski Club are eligible for \$10 discounts, said Fisher, formerly the group's president.

Discounts are also available for students who register early. PSU Football Transport is supplying trips through Banchi Outdoor Adventures, located in Trenton, N.J. Fisher said he had planned trips previously through Banchi with the Ski Club.

Penn State Ski Club President Lyndsie Smyser said in previous years she drove with friends to away games like the 2009 Rose Bowl Game held in Pasadena, Calif. It was a pain but the cheapest option at the time, she said.

"Now you can get the feeling of a road trip and you can sleep on the bus," Smyser (senior-public relations) said. "It's really amazing that I might to see Penn State win against the No. 1 team in the country."

Smyser said she will attend all the bus trips presented by PSU Football Transport this year. Packages can be purchased on psufootballtransport.com, Fisher said.

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UPUA looks to fill empty spots

By **Kathleen Loughran**
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) is looking to fill a void, President Christian Ragland said.

The student government is currently accepting applications for six unfilled slots.

"We need students," Ragland (senior-political science) said. "We never want to have a student government that has voids. When there's spots missing, it's up to the student leaders to fulfill these spots as soon as possible to keep up with our efficiency."

The positions of secretary, parliamentarian, two freshman representatives, one off-campus representative and one at-large representative are all currently unfilled, Chairwoman of the Assembly Jessica Pellicciotta said.

Applications for those positions are due by Sept. 10 in the UPUA office in 314 HUB-Robeson Center, Pellicciotta (senior-political science) said.

UPUA's steering committee will hold interviews on Sept. 12 and Sept. 13 so that new members can be up for confirmation by the assembly at the following

Wednesday night meeting, Pellicciotta said.

Secretary and parliamentarian are the only two positions that do not need to be approved by the steering committee, she said. Instead, they will go through Pellicciotta and Ragland.

Freshman Outreach Director Rebecca Alt said she recommends that freshmen interested in representing their peers apply.

"It's the voice of the freshmen class, so if students are interested in giving back to Penn State and their class, it's essentially their avenue to do that," Alt (sophomore-communication arts and sciences) said.

There are always two freshman representative positions open at this time of the year.

Pellicciotta said the other positions are open because "other members had time commitments, so they can't fulfill all duties."

The open positions provide for an opportunity for students to state their opinions, Pellicciotta said.

"UPUA is a great way to give back to the university," she said. "It's a way to get your voice heard — to enact change on this campus."

UPUA job descriptions:

Secretary records meeting minutes and attendance

Parliamentarian keeps tabs on UPUA's constitution and bylaws

Freshman representatives, off-campus representative and at-large representative represent their respective constituents.

Ragland said UPUA is looking for students who are passionate and interested in taking on a leadership role.

"Any student who's interested in student government and being the voice for the students — people that are committed and dedicated to students in ways that they're able to go out of their comfort zone," he said.

Students interested in applying for one of the positions can either pick up an application in the UPUA office.

They can also e-mail Pellicciotta at jmp5268@psu.edu.

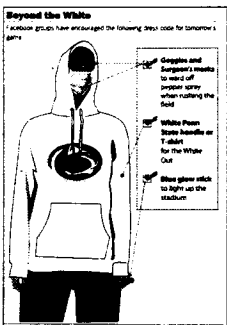
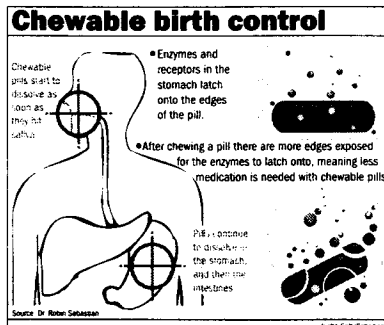
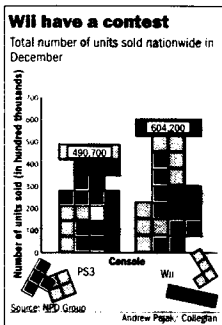
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The Daily Collegian is looking for enthusiastic students to serve as graphic artists and page designers. Experience is not required.

Those interested should come to a brief information session at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 7, at the Collegian office in the James Building on South Burrowes Street.

Applicants must be full-time Penn State students to be eligible. Students who cannot make it to the information session can email Heather at hrr5029@psu.edu.

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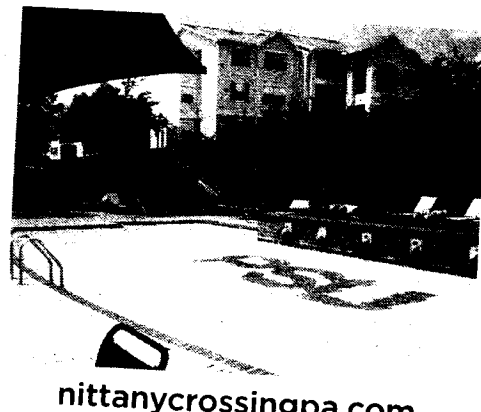
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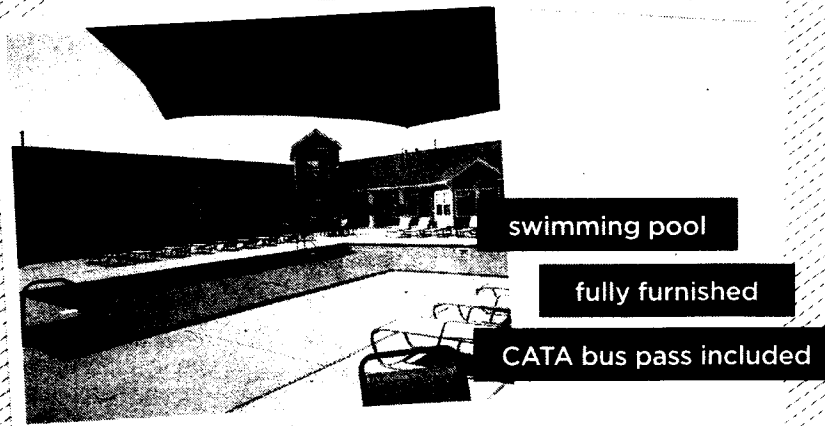
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