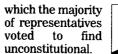


# **UPUA votes to rebuke Ragland**

### **By Alyssa Sweeney COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER**

University Park The Association Undergraduate (UPUA) assembly voted to censure President Christian Ragland for appointing a chief of staff through what some members call a loophole within their organization's constitution.

Ragland (senior-political science) --- who was not present at Wednesday night's meeting because he is in Seattle at a sexual assault conference - appointed Dustin Dove as his chief of staff, tion and political science) could



"I admit I was a little surprised that they would take those measures without me Ragland there. A slap on

the wrist without me there is almost a little insulting," said Ragland, who said he found out via

text message. "But I respect it, take it and move forward.' Dove (senior-secondary educa-

not be reached for comment.

"I was not trying to spite anyexpand one. power or strongarm the assembly," Ragland said. "I just needed [a **Dove** chief of staff] to do

my job efficiently.' Having the announced without Ragland present made it more controversial for the assembly, which passed the censure with a vote of 24-3-12.

"Him not being here

although I'm sure not intentionally - seems like a sneaky move," UPUA representative Anthony Christina (sophomore-political science and history) said.

But UPUA representative Nick Grassetti (junior-mechanical engineering) argued that passing a motion to censure Ragland without him present would be equally — and he abstained 'sneaky" appointment from the vote.

The debate began over the ambiguity of the UPUA constitution, which doesn't allow any member of the election commission to serve on UPUA within the

same year. This rule is in place to avoid voting fraud.

Dove served on the election commission last spring, when Ragland was elected.

Ragland said he asked UPUA's judicial branch — the Board of Arbitration — if Dove could serve as his chief of staff.

"The chief of staff is not a constitutional position," Ragland said. "Typically government officials and public figures have their own chief of staff, more just like a right hand man."

STABBING INCIDENTS

The Board of Arbitration See UPUA, Page 2.

### Rep. speaks at PSU

Glenn Thompson held a meet and greet with students on Wednesday.

> By Katrina Wehr COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Rep. Glenn Thompson, Class of 1981, came to Penn State Wednesday afternoon to listen to students express their political concerns - and enjoy some cookies and milk, too.

Thompson, R-Pa. - currently the fifth congressional district representative --- chatted with students in the Pasquerilla Spiritual Center's Memorial Lounge as they stopped by between classes.

Samuel Settle, chairman of Penn State Young Americans for Freedom, said meet and greets such as this are the best ways to get to know candidates and let their voices be heard.

"It's a sign of goodwill that he's willing to reach out to a demographic that most other politicians write off," Settle (junior-political science and history) said After everyone had introduced themselves, Thompson spoke about issues ranging from the student loan process to Marcellus Shale natural gas and Joe Paterno's Medal of Freedom nomination. The nomination received a lot of attention from media outlets across the nation and the recipient is typically announced during this time of year, Thompson said "If I was advising the president, I'd say Joe Paterno ought to be the first guy you give it to," Thompson said. "America loves him. On the subject of Marcellus Shale natural gas, Thompson said it's a great opportunity for Pennsylvania to improve economically - the shale deposit affects 15 out of the 17 counties in his district. He emphasized that many of the items people use in their everyday lives are produced using some element of natural gas. Thompson also talked about recent student loan reform, saying that the nationalization of student loans takes away students' choices. He said he is a supporter of competition and the free market, and the reformed student loan process does not coincide with his beliefs.





**COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER** 

Black student leaders are responding with a call for nonviolence initiatives in the wake

of the violent stabbings that took place over Homecoming Weekend.

The first incident erupted early Saturday



morning during haines Homecoming party held at the Knights of

Columbus, 850 Stratford Dr., police said. Three men suffered

"I had choices of where to get my financing for college when I See THOMPSON, Page 2.

Julian Haas reads a letter from Christian Ragland at the end of the Coming Out Week rally on Old Main.

## **Rally celebrates pride**

#### By Matt Scorzafave COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Rainbow Roundtable President Allison Jones led the crowd at Wednesday's National Coming Out Week rally in front of Old Main in a gay-friendly spin on speakers - both students and a traditional Penn State cheer.

"We are... Penn State. We are... not straight. We are... family!" Jones (senior-nursing) chanted to a crowd of more than 100 students.

celebration of National Coming Out Week, featured a number of



community members.

With the theme "Bonded by the Rainbow," this year's rally focused on coming together as a community.

"We're bonded by the pain of The event, part of a weeklong coming out," Yvette Lerma (senior-sociology) said.

Lerma, a student speaker at

the event, encouraged the Penn State community to come together to be stronger.

"We are family," she said. "We are bonded by the rainbow."

Ariel Weber said she was impressed with the efforts of Penn State's LGBTQA community. "I thought it was great. It's really hard for people to share their stories," Weber (freshman-medieval studies) said. "It's good for people to hear.'

Weber said the rally was perfect for National Coming Out Week.

See RALLY, Page 2.

'life-threatening stab wounds, police said.

The second incident 0Cwhen curred two men were stabbed at about 2 a.m. Sunday when a fight Nock



involving dozens of people began inside 797 Lounge, 244 W. College Ave, and spilled onto the street.

Four of the five injured men are Penn State students.

Black Caucus President Christopher Nock is planning several anti-violence events NAACP



with Salters Pres-

ident Travis Salters and National Panhellenic Council (NPHC) President Shadiyah Haines (senior-industrial engineering).

Police could not say if they have identified anyone involved with the stabbings, but Salters (junior-broadcast journalism and African and African-American Studies) said he believes most of the victims, and See STABBINGS, Page 2.





Katie Silvis/Collegian Rep. Glenn Thompson talks with students at his meet and greet.

### lympians chat with students

#### By Matt Howland FOR THE COLLEGIAN

A group of Penn State students got a glimpse of gold Wednesday night.

American Olympic Three medalists, including eight-time Olympic Short Track Speedskating medalist Apolo Anton Ohno, talked to an excited group of students about their extraordinary life experiences Wednesday night at the Atherton Hotel as part of a recruitment event for accounting and consult-

ing firm Deloitte. Steve Mesler, for the 2010 Vancouver Winter who broke the 62-year four-man Olympics, after a hiatus to per-Bobsled medal drought for the form on "Dancing With the United States, and April Holmes,

world-record-holding Paralympic sprinter, also spoke to students.

Ohno spoke at length about the hard work required to compete at the highest level of sport.

"It's not every four years, an Olympic Games — it's every day," Ohno said.

Ohno spoke about how he rededicated himself to training harder than he ever had before

Stars"

"When I arrived in Vancouver, I was hungry [...} to do well. But I was satisfied with the fact that I had zero regrets about my preparation," Ohno said.

"My mentality, my physical self, everything I had done was at a different level."

Ohno was able to turn his hard work in training into a silver and two bronze medals.

See OLYMPIANS, Page 2.



Christine Reckner/Collegian Apolo Ohno speaks at the Deloitte recruitment event on Wednesday.