

# Scientists receive \$1.4M to research pollinators

By Micah Wintner  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State scientists have received a \$1.4 million research grant from various organizations to conduct research in finding alternative pollinators to the rapidly declining honeybee population.

David Biddinger, project co-director, said the cost of renting honeybee colonies has increased from \$35 in 2005 to more than \$100 now. This increased cost is adding financial pressure to farmers, he

said. Part of the grant will fund researching possible alternative pollinators to honeybees. Biddinger said.

"We got some historical examples of growers that have not used honeybees for over ten years," Biddinger said.

These growers have been using native bees instead of honeybees. "These are the guys that are doing the pollination in some cases where we don't have honey bees," Biddinger said.

Ed Rajotte, another co-director of the project and an integrative

pest management (IPM) coordinator for the state of Pennsylvania, said much of the country relies almost exclusively on honeybees for pollination.

The native bee population needs to be utilized more now that honeybees are suffering from several diseases, he said.

Part of the grant will be used to look into alternatives to pesticides to control invasive species to pollinators, such as mites.

Alternatives include biological control techniques and cultural practices, Rajotte said. Biological

control techniques are "fighting organisms with organisms," he said. It is possible to attack mites and other species harmful to pollinators with other living organisms.

"If we make our orchards compatible with those predators, they will come in and solve the mite problem without the use of any pesticides," he said.

Rajotte said IPM is an important aspect of the research grant.

"By having IPM, you allow a more favorable environment for the native wild bees to come in

and pollinate your crops," he said.

The decline in the honeybee population is reason for worry, Biddinger said.

But, he added, it's not reason for a panic.

"There are basically 35 to 40 thousand types of (bee) species in the world. Honeybees are just one of them," Biddinger said.

"We're just trying to figure out how to make better use of the non-honeybees that are already here."

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# American Indians' education discussed

By Mike Hricik  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Arizona State University Professor Rebecca Tsosie galvanized audience members to re-examine American Indian education law Wednesday afternoon.

Tsosie delivered her lecture entitled "Tribal self-determination and the future of the Indian education" to a crowd of around 40 people in the Greg Sutliff Auditorium of the Lewis Katz Law Building.

She said the education of Native Americans is in a state of tumult due to the reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and the United States' resistance to support the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

"Everything you learned about American Indian law in the past is just that," Tsosie said.

The American Indian Leadership Program hosted the event to celebrate the program's 40th anniversary. Co-Director and Assistant Professor of Education Susan Faircloth said.

Part of the Penn State College of Education, the program operates as the oldest leadership program for American Indians and Alaskan Natives. It has graduat-



Tyler Sizemore, Collegian

ed over 220 students since its inception in 1970. Faircloth said.

She said Tsosie directs the Penn State Dickinson School of Law's Indian Law Program. She co-authored the 2008 book "American Indian Law: Native Nations and the Federal System" and is a professor of American Law Institute.

The UN declaration brought up in Tsosie's presentation would provide indigenous peoples with the rights of self-determination or sovereignty without outside interference from other governing bodies, Tsosie said.

She said Native Americans possess inherent sovereignty at birthright but not date of birth.

# CATA bus manager wins national award

By Nathan Pipenberg  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The man in charge of keeping the CATA buses running smoothly does his job better than anyone else in the country.

At least that's what the American Public Transportation Association said when it awarded the Centre Area Transit Authority's Hugh Mose its Outstanding Public Transportation Manager Award.

The award has only been given to the manager of a small transit system like State College three times — past winners usually were responsible for directing larger, metropolitan areas.

"To get this kind of recognition is the high point of my career," said Mose, CATA's general manager.

Mose has worked with public transportation for his entire career, and said he was initially motivated by his fascination with the way the industry worked.

Over time, though, he realized that what has kept him engaged for so long is that he gets to interact with people every day.

"It's all about maintaining relationships with people," he said.

Under Mose's 15-year tenure, the CATA transit system has undergone radical changes.

He said his greatest achieve-



Mose

ment was overseeing the adoption of natural gas for the fuel used by the entire bus fleet — a feat he sometimes had doubts would be successful.

Mose also headed CATA through negotiations with Penn State that led to free bus transit on campus — which students now recognize as the Loop and Link buses.

Though Mose is now a fixture at CATA, he wasn't always so sure how long he would be sticking around State College. But he soon decided that Happy Valley was a place to settle down.

"I thought something better would come along," he said. "But it's hard to find a nicer community than here."

Jacqueline Sheader, CATA's marketing manager, said the whole staff was glad to see Mose receive the award.

"It's the highest honor a transit administrator can get in North America," she said.

Mose said he's also had the support of the staff throughout his work at CATA.

"I have a fantastic staff and board of directors," he said. "I guess I keep everyone pulling it the same direction."

Mose's tenure at CATA has seen plenty of other projects — like grossly discounted bus passes for full-time Penn State employees and an iPhone application that tracks bus locations through Google Maps.

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