

Faculty Senate to discuss academic minors, books

By **Alaina Gallagher**
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

When it meets today, Penn State's Faculty Senate will discuss rising textbook prices, campus location requirements for minors and clearer foreign language requirements in the admission process for prospective freshmen. "Probably the most relevant to the student body is the proposal to make a change to minor requirements," said Blake Bonnewell, a student senator from the College of Engineering. Under the current policy, a cam-

pus sponsors minors so if a student changes the campus his or her minor is sponsored by, that student could not keep the minor, he said.

"The new legislation being voted on tonight would change this policy so that a minor could be completed anywhere," Bonnewell said.

A new policy would allow students to earn credits for a minor university-wide and not at just a specific campus.

Senators will vote on possibly changing the current policy to the prospective one above, Faculty

Senate Chairwoman Jean Pytel said.

An informational report also being presented will address textbooks and course materials, including the impact of their costs on students, Pytel said.

Though no changes would be made immediately, Pytel said the information from the report could prompt a thorough review of the current policies, but she also said "the senate probably won't do any hard-core policy revision until next year."

"I'm always looking for and making sure that faculty members

aren't assigning books to their classes so they can receive royalties from those books," Bonnewell (senior-mechanical engineering) said.

The meeting's agenda includes two other legislative reports that will require votes from the senate as well as informational reports on items such as the budget, Pytel said.

In addition to the change of minor location requirements, senators will vote whether or not to update and redefine the current duties of the faculty athletic representative, she said.

The final item being voted on will be the change of admissions requirements, which would clearly steer the recommendation for three units of a language instead of two to prospective students.

Faculty Senate Immediate Past-Chairman Lee Coraor said the information provided about the budget and strategic planning for next year would probably be of interest to everyone because of the current economic situation.

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— Collegian Staff Writer Mike Hricik contributed to this report.

Candidates spar in final Gov. debate

By **Nick Manella**
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

For the last time before the gubernatorial elections, Republican Tom Corbett and Democrat Dan Onorato met in a third televised debate Monday night.

Just two days after the two candidates met in Pittsburgh for the second debate, the candidates had one last chance to sway undecided voters by appealing to voters with their own beliefs or criticizing those of the opponent.

Topics ranged from both candidates' plans to create jobs in the Keystone State to the controversial Marcellus Shale issue.

Roughly 60 percent of Pennsylvania sits on valuable natural gas deposits that multiple oil companies are striving for rights to.

How this situation should be handled has become one of the most prevalent issues in the race for governor. Repeatedly throughout the debate, Onorato referenced his background as elected executive for Allegheny County as evidence that he is a proven, successful legislator.

"I've worked with the private sector before," Onorato said. "If you're looking for someone willing to go to Harrisburg and take on the legislator, vote for me. I



Gubernatorial candidates Dan Onorato, left, and Tom Corbett, stop to take a sip of water during the debate Monday night.

know times are tough, I know people are hurting, I know how to work with the private sector; Tom Corbett doesn't."

Alternatively, Corbett did not mention his place as state attorney general until his final statement. However, he acknowledged the road for the next governor of Pennsylvania would not be easy.

"The next governor of Pennsylvania faces challenges, but also opportunities. I want to work with the private sector in the direction where other states want to model [it]," Corbett said. "If you want four more years of increased spending, unemployment, and trying to be all things to all people, vote for Dan Onorato."

While both candidates attempted one final push to garner votes, not everyone was swayed.

"I'm still undecided," said Dustin Vile (sophomore-division of undergraduate studies). "All these politicians sound the same to me. No one really separated themselves from the other."

The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania—a nonpartisan organization that focuses on informing and mobilizing female voters across Pennsylvania in both national and statewide elections—sponsored the debate.

WPVI, the Philadelphia ABC affiliate, hosted the debate and provided moderators from their nightly news program.

The debate proceeded in typical fashion, with both candidates allowed either 15 to 30 seconds to answer a question, in addition to time to respond to their opponents answer.

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Borough council talks environment, budget

By **Anita Modi**
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

State College Borough Council members addressed both local and regional issues at their bimonthly meeting Monday night before an audience primarily composed of University Park Undergraduate Association students.

At the meeting, council members voted unanimously in favor of including a non-voting student representative on the council in addition to discussing other ongoing items.

Ed Poprik, director of physical plant, and Jeff Ammerman, business administrator, both from the State College School District, started the meeting with a special report concerning the status of renovations at Memorial Field.

The outdoor venue has hosted thousands of competitions for the State College Area School District's athletic programs since its establishment in 1946. Its renovation was included as part of the State College's District-wide Facilities Master Plan in 2009, Ammerman said.

After a year of working with input from the community and a hired architectural firm alike, the district invited locals to the field at 7 p.m. tomorrow to gather feedback on the firm's plans for the site.

The borough council also discussed the 2011 budget devel-

oped by the Centre Region Council of Governments Finance Committee over the past month.

The proposed 2011 budget incorporates the individual budgets of six different municipalities in Centre County reflecting a five percent increase as compared to the 2010 budget. Funding has been planned for the Schlow Centre Region Library, Parks and Recreation, Regional Parks and Recreational Staff Projects, among other things.

While the Borough of State College expressed little concern about this year's proposed budget, other regional municipalities claimed they would not be able to afford the increase, said council member Don Hahn, a member of COG Finance Committee.

The COG Finance Committee will review the proposed 2011 budget again on Oct. 25.

The COG Public Services and Environmental Committee updated the borough council on the Greenhouse Gas Inventory Project and questioned whether COG should develop a regional plan for reducing Centre County's greenhouse gas emissions in the future, or leaving individual municipalities to develop their own initiatives.

Council member Thomas Daubert suggested each municipality take responsibility for its own greenhouse gas emissions.

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