GRAND GAIGE TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS INNOVATION BUILDING OPENING

PLUS: 2010-2011 ANNUAL REPORT

FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT ABUSED CHILDREN IS HUGE SUCCESS

STUDENTS WIN “MILKING THE RHINO: INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS SHOWCASE”
A MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Dr. R. Keith Hillkirk

As this Winter 2011/2012 edition of the Blue & White Magazine is being prepared, the University continues to deal with the wide-ranging repercussions of the child abuse scandal that has rocked Penn State and the larger community. President Rod Erickson has made five promises to the community that will define the ongoing response of the University to this crisis.

To summarize, President Erickson promises,
1. To reinforce to the entire Penn State community the moral imperative of doing the right thing—the first time, every time.
2. To lead by example, and to expect no less of others.
3. To be committed to transparency to the fullest extent possible given the ongoing investigations.
4. To be respectful and sensitive to the victims and their families, and to seek appropriate ways to foster healing and raise broader awareness of the issue of sexual abuse.
5. To provide whatever resources, access, and information is needed to support the Special Committee’s investigation, and to take immediate action based on their findings.

In President Erickson’s words, “to seek appropriate ways to foster healing and raise broader awareness of the issues of sexual abuse, Penn State is partnering with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR) and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center and has committed $1.5 million of our share of this year’s Big Ten bowl proceeds to help fund initiatives with these organizations.”

Here at Penn State Berks, students in the Communication Arts and Sciences program, along with Student Government leaders, recently hosted the “We Care” event to raise awareness about child abuse, as well as to raise funds for Reading’s Children’s Alliance Center, a nonprofit center that welcomes abused children and non-offender family members and caregivers. Hundreds of students, faculty, staff, and community members showed their support for the event and demonstrated that the Penn State Berks community truly does care.

As we continue to learn and do all possible to ensure that Penn State provides a safe and welcoming environment for people of all ages, our shared work of teaching and preparing students for careers, graduate school, and other opportunities remains a priority as well. Elsewhere in this issue of the Blue and White, you will read of a selection of the ongoing accomplishments of our faculty, students, and staff. We have now dedicated our new building, the Gaige Technology and Business Innovation Building, which we anticipate will be in full use by January 2012.

Students have traveled to Kenya to teach a former street-dwelling youth and were honored with a prestigious award for their efforts. Our Development Office continues to support For The Future: The Campaign for Penn State Students, a campaign whose mission is to make a Penn State education more affordable for students. We have been heartened by the continuing support and enthusiasm for Penn State Berks by our many friends.

These are but a few examples of the dedication of the many members of the Penn State Berks community to the college. Thanks to each of you for your continued support of Penn State Berks and always know that you are welcome to drop by.

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Dr. R. Keith Hillkirk
Chancellor, Penn State Berks

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012

January 19–March 4
Art Exhibition: Witness by Marwan Kalabakers showcases her work worlding witness, intimate, and отданных, and through their dialogue, creating art about marginalized individuals. Reception Jan. 26, 6 p.m., Freiberger Gallery.

February 6
Alone! Mental Health Expo, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., Perkins Student Center Multipurpose Room.

March 15–April 15
Art Exhibition: Treasures from our Collection. Over the past decade, the college has developed an extensive collection of artwork by regional and nationally known artists. This exhibition brings many of these works of art together for the first time. Reception March 15, 6 p.m., Freiberger Gallery.

March 31
Easter Egg Hunt with the Nittany Lion, FREE 9 a.m., Persinn Conference Center. RSVP required to Alumni Office at berks-alumni@psu.edu or 610-396-6057. Childrens first names and ages. [Rain Date: April 1, 1 p.m.]

April 3
Blue & White Society Spring Diner Fundraiser benefiting the IM Able Foundation. Cost: Adults-$10, Penn State student or age 18 and under-$6. 5:45 p.m., Perkins Student Lions Den. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact the Alumni Office, 610-396-6057, berks-alumni@psu.edu.

May 11
Fire and Rain is the duo comprised of Jazmin Zunegrro, joint, spoken-word artist, and award-winning writer, and Natasha Carvanes, poet and writer. In their performance, they explore their dual heritage while seeking to elucidate, enlighten, and entertain, 7:30 p.m., Perkins Student Center Auditorium.

May 13
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Africa Plant Sale.

May 18
Accent Jazz Night at the Reading Phillies, Cost: $20, under age 4, FREE, includes program all-you-can-eat buffet. For more information, visit www.psuberkschapter.com/aphil.

June 11
Cultural Event: Scratch Track, a duo comprised of a spoken-word artist and guitarist, share their unique sound described by some as acoustic hip-hop soul, and by others as a delta blend of beats and unplugged instrumentation, 7:30 p.m., Perkins Student Center Auditorium.

June 16
Bus Trip for Philadelphia Phillies @ Baltimore Orioles baseball game, Cost: chapter members-$19.50, non-members-$25, includes game ticket and free time in Baltimore’s Inner Harbor area. Bus leaves from the Janssen Conference Center: Rain Date: June 17. For more information, contact Heather Angstadt, 610-921-1914 or stu@psuberks.com.

June 19
Bus Trip to Philadelphia Phillies @ Baltimore Orioles baseball game, Cost: chapter members-$20, non-members-$25, includes game ticket and free time in Baltimore’s Inner Harbor area. Bus leaves from the Janssen Conference Center: Rain Date: June 20. For more information, contact Heather Angstadt, 610-921-1914 or stu@psuberks.com.

July 1
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July 25
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August 6
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August 20
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Berks Alumni Society Looking for Loyal Penn Staters  
Nominations for Board of Directors, 2012-2013

The Berks Alumni Society is accepting nominations to elect six new members to its Board of Directors for 2012-2013. Nominations are being accepted through February 24, and can be submitted by completing the form on the web site (berks.psu.edu/alumni) and clicking on Berks Alumni Society and then Nominations for Board on the left hand column. Ballots to vote for nominees will be available beginning March 1, and can be obtained visiting the web site or by attending the annual Alumni Society meeting on April 26, in the Janssen Conference Center. Ballots will be collected and the elected members will be announced at this meeting.

Alumni Society board members love Penn State University and Penn State students. While no single characteristic defines an ideal member of the board, the society seeks nominees who are high achievers and highly enthusiastic about the University. Members should be committed to attending meetings every other month.

The Berks Alumni Society brings together alumni of the college and students through a variety of events and activities. Their mission is to enhance the interests and reputation of the college and to achieve a closer fellowship between the alumni, students, faculty, staff, and the community. The society also encourages support for scholarships, promotes professional development of students and alumni, and fosters a sense of pride and commitment to the college.

For more information, contact a member of the Alumni Society Nominating Committee: Ralph Talman, KingTalman93@psu.edu; Dick Diehman, knownsmrtn@verizon.net; Mark Dawson, MD318@psu.edu.

Please visit www.berks.psu.edu/Alumni/ to make a nomination.

Berks County Chapter  
25th Annual Alumni Golf Outing

Friday, May 11, 2012  
Registration: 11:30 a.m., Shotgun Start: 1:00 p.m.  
Golden Oaks Golf Club, Fleetwood, PA  
Cost: $95 Outing Fee

Outing Fee Includes:  
Dinner following the outing, award ceremony, and silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Berks County Chapter of Penn State Alumni Association scholarship fund.

Join alumni, friends, and a few special Penn State guests as we tee off at one Berks County’s premier golf courses ... all to benefit the Chapter's scholarship fund, which helps deserving Berks County students attend Penn State.

The chapter is seeking sponsors for the golf outing. All sponsors will receive recognition for their contributions in a chapter e-mail newsletter, which is sent to nearly 3,000 alumni in the Berks County area. The chapter is also seeking autographed memorabilia, sports items, or other “large” prizes for the post-outing silent auction. Sponsors of these items will receive recognition in the event program and at the auction item table. Donated items such as golf balls, gift certificates, or other items help to significantly offset the costs, allowing us to contribute even more money to the scholarship fund.

For more information, visit www.psuberkschapter.com/golf

Penn State Berks Alumni Achievement Award

The Penn State Berks Office of Alumni Relations will offer a new award in 2012—the Alumni Achievement Award, which is designed to identify and recognize alumni for their extraordinary professional and community accomplishments. The nominee for this award must be an alumnus of Penn State Berks and exemplify leadership in his/her profession, contribution to the betterment of society, and active community engagement.

Nominations are being solicited from faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of Penn State. Nominations are due March 16, 2012. Please complete the nomination form below, attach a cover letter to support your nomination, and either e-mail the materials to HLA2@psu.edu or mail to Heather Angstadt, Alumni Relations Coordinator, Penn State Berks, PO Box 7009, Reading, PA 19610. For more information contact the Alumni Office at 610-396-6052.

Nomination Form—Candidate Information

Name (Nomination): ___________________________  
Last: ___________________________  
First: ___________________________  
Middle: ___________________________

Address: ________________________________________  
City: ___________________________  
State: ___________________________  
Zip: ___________________________

Phone: ________________________________________  
E-mail: ________________________________________

Employer: ________________________________________  
Title: ___________________________  
Phone: ___________________________

Business Address: ________________________________________  
City: ___________________________  
State: ___________________________  
Zip: ___________________________

Graduation Year/Date of Graduation: ________________________________________

Major: ________________________________________

Education other than Penn State: ________________________________________

List any business/professional honors/awards or activities: ________________________________________

List any community service, honors, and awards (includes civic, religious, youth, and philanthropies activated): ________________________________________

List any Penn State awards: ________________________________________

List any Penn State activities/involvement/memberships: ________________________________________

List any membership or directorships other than Penn State: ________________________________________

Nominator Information

Name: ________________________________________  
Phone: ________________________________________  
E-mail: ________________________________________
By Lisa R. Weidman

Student fundraiser to benefit abused children is huge success

Hundreds of students gathered to raise awareness of child abuse during the Penn State Berks student fundraiser to benefit the Children’s Alliance Center of Berks County on Wednesday, December 7, 2011, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Perkins Student Center. The theme of the event was “We Care,” and students demonstrated that to be true by turning out in force for the event and purchasing t-shirts and bracelets to benefit the Children’s Alliance Center.

The “We Care” fundraiser was organized by students from the college’s Communication Arts and Sciences (CAS) degree program, in collaboration with the Student Government Association. The event featured keynote speaker April Reed Schmehl, Vice President of the Children’s Alliance Center, who discussed issues related to child abuse in the reading area. As a Penn State graduate, Schmehl expressed gratitude to the organizers of the fundraiser.

"I was just blown away that students wanted to do this," commented Schmehl. "It’s been very touching.”

The Children’s Alliance Center provides a child-friendly environment that welcomes abused children and non-offender family members and caregivers.

When asked why the students wanted to hold the event, senior CAS major Courtney Powell, who organized the event with fellow CAS majors Brittany Maack and Ashton Tupper, explained, “We were inspired to take action and represent the compassionate student body that we know Penn State to have.”

“We wanted to do something that showed that the student body cared about what was happening, cared about humanity,” commented Maack. "Our hearts just broke for the victims who were the ones most affected by this,” added Tupper.

The goal of the event was to raise $1,000 for the Children’s Alliance Center, and the students raised approximately $1,300 in donations and an additional $500 in merchandise sales.

The event also gave students an opportunity to express their feelings and voice their concern for the victims of child abuse.

"I’m always proud to be a Penn State student because no matter what, we always have a way of organizing and coming together and pulling for any cause,” said Mike Lewis, a senior majoring in Professional Writing. “I think we need to make sure the world doesn’t forget that this can actually happen."
All began when the “Creative Minds” Team, comprised of Penn State Berks students and their professor, Dr. Sadan Kulturel-Konak, traveled to Kenya in May 2011 to visit the Children and Youth Empowerment Centre (CYEC), a residential care and education facility for former street-dwelling children. The Creative Minds Team’s mission: to teach the youth a skill that would help to sustain them in the future—but first they had to decide what skill they would teach.

The Entrepreneurial Leadership class collaborated with Jomo Kuturel-Konak to visit the Dandora Dumpsite in the Nairobi area to see the environment and the conditions the children were facing, explained Linda Camacho, a student on the Creative Minds Team. The students came to the conclusion that electronic waste would be the best issue to tackle.

Electronic waste is a major problem worldwide, including in Kenya where the Dandora Dumpsite in the Nairobi area is home to twenty-five tons of old computers, cell phones, and televisions. The Creative Minds Team decided to take this surplus waste and use it as a resource. Their goal was to teach the youth at the CYEC to make electronic jewelry from the precious metals, computer components, wires, and plastics contained in the electronic waste and later sell the jewelry, using the profit for future educational advancements.

When asked what it was like traveling to a foreign country and working with children who spoke a different language, Camacho stated, “At first, the children were nervous and barely talked to us, but to our surprise, we ended up with twenty students who attended the workshops and were very enthusiastic about the project. Our experiences with these workshops were tremendous. We learned that the Kenya students were very intuitive and driven: Every day we experienced and learned so much from the students.”

Creative Minds Team member Krystle Morales adds, “Even though our mission was to teach the children at the CYEC, in fact, they taught me something more valuable: Art doesn’t know an age limit or direction.”

The group of seniors who were awarded include Linda Camacho, an Information Sciences and Technology major; and three Business majors with minors in Engineering Entrepreneurship: Ryan Fink, Krysta Kamowski, and Krystle Morales.

This project was coordinated by Dr. Sadan Kulturel-Konak, Associate Professor of Management Information Systems and Coordinator of the Engineering Entrepreneurship minor. “The idea of creating jewelry and other pieces of art out of electronic waste in Kenya was very innovative in many ways: reducing the waste, creating sustainable solutions for the population of street-dwelling young people in Kenya, and contributing to youth education,” commented Kulturel-Konak.

The student team is currently working on developing a marketing plan to sell the jewelry and accessories in the Greater Reading area. The team is also exploring ways the local community can benefit from this project.

“We are currently working on acquiring vendors in the area and showcasing the jewelry,” commented Kulturel-Konak.

The project and trip to Kenya were funded by a program and course development grant from National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA). So what’s next for the Creative Minds Team? Ryan Fink, Creative Minds Team member, stated that the group plans to enter their work in another competition titled “Open Minds,” which is also sponsored by the NCIIA. In addition, a professor and a few students from CYEC plan to visit Penn State Berks in March 2012 through a NCIIA grant to continue their work on the electronic jewelry project.

For more information about the Creative Minds Team’s electronic jewelry project, contact Dr. Sadan Kulturel-Konak at 610-396-6137.
College Celebrates Completion of Gaige Technology and Business Innovation Building

By Liz P. Wishes

The entire Penn State Berks community rejoiced during the dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Gaige Technology and Business Innovation Building on November 3, 2011. The long-awaited project was nearly a decade in the making and its completion was cause for great celebration.

Chancellor R. Keith Hillkirk welcomed the nearly 300 attendees and spoke about the significance of the building to the college during the dedication ceremony. He was followed by Austra Gaige, who expressed the joy and pride that the entire Gaige family felt to have such a facility named in honor of the college’s late dean and CEO Emeritus Frederick H. Gaige. Dr. Martha Aynardi, Director of Academic Support and Projects and Senior Lecturer of Biology, spoke about her late great uncle, Harold Pfreimer ’33 Civil Engineering, whose $3 million estate gift helped to make the facility a reality—the Engineering Wing of the building is named in his honor.

Chancellor Emeritus Susan Phillips Speece spoke of her efforts during her tenure to get approval for the building. She was followed by Greg Scott, who discussed the University’s role in the building’s design and construction. Roger Klein of RMJM Architects & Planners shared the excitement his firm felt to have the opportunity to design a facility of this nature.

Klein was followed by Student Government President Larry Wesner, who talked about what a great benefit the new building would be to the student body. The remarks were concluded by Dr. Paul Esqueda, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, who reflected on the original vision statement for the building and how the end result was true to the original intention.

After the ribbon-cutting ceremony, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the college moved inside to take tours of the state-of-the-art facility and enjoy light refreshments.

Chancellor R. Keith Hilkirk and Austra Gaige share the big scissors at the ribbon-cutting ceremony. They are flanked by (left to right) Larry Wesner; Dr. Martha Aynardi; Dr. Susan Phillips Speece; Dr. Paul Esqueda; Kim Berry, COO; Dr. Janelle Larson, Division Head for Engineering, Business, and Computing; Greg Scott; and Tracy Hoffmann, Chair of the Advisory Board.

One of the highlights of the event was having artist Ray King, who created Rolling Wave, the sculpture that greets visitors to the building, on hand to discuss his work. Rolling Wave is comprised of thousands of laminated dichroic glass squares attached to hundreds of stainless steel cables at precise intervals to create the curving, three-dimensional, light-responsive shape that will enchant and fascinate visitors to the facility.

Rolling Wave: Ray King

The Gaige family was very excited to see the completed facility, named for the late CEO Emertius Fred Gaige.
Summer Camps at Penn State Berks

Middle School Camps

You Be the Chemist Camp
Experience chemistry in everyday life as it relates to the environment, criminal investigation, and cooking through fun individual and group activities.
For students entering grades 5–8
JUNE 25–29

Renewable Energy Camp
Learn about engineering and science technologies used to produce energy, including nuclear, power-grid systems, solar, hydro, wind, biomass, geothermal, and fossil fuels.
For students entering grades 5–8
JULY 16–20

Junior Naval Criminal Investigative Service Camp
Discover the science and the techniques used to solve crimes by collecting and analyzing evidence.
For students entering grades 5–8
JULY 23–27

Science of Technology Camp
Hands-on activities that demonstrate the principles of simple and motorized machines utilizing K’Nex building systems and LEGO Mindstorms.
For students entering grades 5–8
JULY 30–AUGUST 3

High School Camps

Discovering Engineering: Rockets, Robots, and Renewable Race Cars Camp
Discover how engineers solve problems and create products with a focus on rockets, robotics, and renewable energy race cars.
For students entering grades 9–12
JULY 9–13

Discovering Forensic Science Camp
Investigate the fascinating world of forensic science and learn the tools and techniques of CSI professionals.
For students entering grades 9–12
JULY 9–13

Discovering Veterinary Science Camp
See the methods used by veterinarians to provide care for large and small animals.
For students entering grades 9–12
JULY 9–13

Discovering Computers and Cyber Security Camp
Learn techniques to protect and defend personal privacy and information systems.
For students entering grades 9–12
JULY 9–13

A residential option is available for high school camps.
Scholarships are available.

Middle School and High School Camps

Discovering Theatre Camp
Learn how to act for theatre or about the technical aspects of theatre while preparing for a short play, which will be performed at the end of the camp.
For students entering grades 5–12
JULY 23–27

For more information, call 1-800-BERKS-CE or visit berks.psu.edu/ce.
*Camp dates are subject to change.

Aldinger Nets Career Milestone

Senior defenceman Sean Aldinger recorded an assist in the Penn State Berks Blue Lions Ice Hockey Team’s game against Villanova University on November 20, 2011. It might have just seemed like another instance of Aldinger contributing to his squad, but the assist was much more; it was the culmination of four stellar years on the ice as Aldinger joined the prestigious 100-point club.

Over the course of his career, Aldinger has tallied 38 goals and 62 assists. In his freshman season, he was named to the All-NECHL team and helped the Blue Lions reach the ACHA National Championship Tournament with 25 points (12g, 13a). He followed that up with 10 goals and 19 assists during his sophomore campaign. In 2010-11, Aldinger finished with 11 goals and 14 assists to put him just 3 points shy of reaching the coveted milestone.

It took just 16 games into his senior season to reach the distinguished club. Aldinger currently has five goals, and his 16 assists have him on pace to break his previous season-high.

The last member to accomplish the remarkable feat was Shane Aldinger, who is Sean’s older brother and currently an assistant coach for the Blue Lions. Shane Aldinger played from 2005-09 and finished his career with 145 points.

The Blue Lions have eight games remaining on their schedule for Aldinger to further etch his name in the team’s history books. The Comshohoken, PA native anticipates graduating in May 2012 with a bachelor’s degree in Business.

New Scoreboards Light the Way

The old ways of keeping score at ball games are obsolete at Penn State Berks’ State-of-the-art electronic scoreboards now greet players and spectators alike for our NCAA Division III softball and baseball programs, in addition to our club and intramural sports. This latest addition complements a series of improvements to the Hintz Athletic Field including new dugouts and new goals for our soccer and rugby teams. Plan to attend an upcoming athletic event to watch the scores light up! ☀️
Births

Sammy A. (Bausher) Grybosky ’00 and her husband, Larry G. Grybosky ’99, welcomed their second child, Andrea Paige, on 11/19/11.

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Aureo Beent, B.A. Applied Psychology, works in Human Resources for Target in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She also serves as the Community Captain, organizing volunteer events for the other 14 stores in the district. Beent was one of 28 employees chosen from 350,000 to receive Target’s “Best in Community” award, given annually to employees for their hard work and passion toward making Target the ‘best in community giving’. As part of the award, she received an all-expenses-paid trip to visit St. Jude Children’s Hospital and Target House in Memphis, Tennessee, the home-away-from-home for children with cancer and their families.

Amanda Elizabeth Z. Holley, B.S. in Elementary and Kindergarten Education, has just accepted a position as a first-grade teacher with the Saint Clair Area School District. She resides in Saint Clair County.

Laura M. Hayes, B.S. in Business, accepted a position at Penn-Berks as a staff accountant in the Tax Department. She will begin her new career in January 2012. She is currently working on acquiring the CPA license and relocating to Wyoming, PA.

In Memorium

Scott J. Board, 49, Class of 1984
Andrew A. Boulanger, 25, Class of 2004, 2009
Warren L. Boyer, 78, WPI Class of 1949
Richard A. Kercher, 84, WPI Class of 1947
Joseph P. Livette, 72, Class of 1960
Robert D. Miller, 78, Class of 1952
Timothy D. O’Neill, 49, Class of 1983
David E. Robb, Jr., 57, Class of 1975
Stefan T. Stroud, 70, Class of 1972
Richard J. Taglang, 78, Class of 1955
Allen L. Zerbe, 63, WPI Class of 1946

Paula V. Franco, Longtime Campus Supporter

Paula V. Franco, 85, passed away on September 6, 2011. She was the wife of Dr. Frank A. Franco. Both she and her husband have been longtime supporters of Penn State Berks, and the Franco Building is named in their honor.

Born in Vienna, Austria, she was a member of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, West Reading. She served as the past president of Mothers Club at Holy Name High School and she was active in church activities at Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Mt. Penn and Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two children, David and Mary Jo (Franco) Conway, and her brother, Othmar. She is also survived by three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Dr. David M. Casnoff, Supporter of the Turfgrass Research Program

Dr. David M. Casnoff, 75, ’78, passed away on November 20, 2011. He and his wife, Cheryl were supporters of the college’s turfgrass research program and they established the David and Cheryl Casnoff Fund for Innovation Turfgrass Research.

Casnoff, who graduated from Penn State with a B.S. and M.S. in Agronomy, was president of Casnoff-Austein-Casnoff and Associates, which provide consulting services to the green industry.

Drew Casnoff, Andrew Casnoff and Cheryl Casnoff joined the Casnoff family’s commitment to Penn State Berks and the Casnoff name continues to support the school.

Amanda Wilson, 28 employees chosen from 350,000 to receive Target’s “Best in Community” award, given annually to employees for their hard work and passion toward making Target the ‘best in community giving’. As part of the award, she received an all-expenses-paid trip to visit St. Jude Children’s Hospital and Target House in Memphis, Tennessee, the home-away-from-home for children with cancer and their families.

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Richard J. Taglang, 78, Class of 1955
Allen L. Zerbe, 63, WPI Class of 1946

Paula V. Franco, Longtime Campus Supporter

Paula V. Franco, 85, passed away on September 6, 2011. She was the wife of Dr. Frank A. Franco. Both she and her husband have been longtime supporters of Penn State Berks, and the Franco Building is named in their honor.

Born in Vienna, Austria, she was a member of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, West Reading. She served as the past president of Mothers Club at Holy Name High School and she was active in church activities at Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Mt. Penn and Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two children, David and Mary Jo (Franco) Conway, and her brother, Othmar. She is also survived by three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Dr. David M. Casnoff, Supporter of the Turfgrass Research Program

Dr. David M. Casnoff, 75, ’78, passed away on November 20, 2011. He and his wife, Cheryl were supporters of the college’s turfgrass research program and they established the David and Cheryl Casnoff Fund for Innovation Turfgrass Research.

Casnoff, who graduated from Penn State with a B.S. and M.S. in Agronomy, was president of Casnoff-Austein-Casnoff and Associates, which provide consulting services to the green industry.

Drew Casnoff, Andrew Casnoff and Cheryl Casnoff joined the Casnoff family’s commitment to Penn State Berks and the Casnoff name continues to support the school.
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

One of the things said about Penn State Berks is that once people come here, they like to stay here. That is true of our faculty. We have had a number of faculty members who have taught here for thirty and even forty-plus years. Our students like to stick around as well. More and more students are making this campus their destination for all four years. Each year we are graduating more students from one of our baccalaureate degree programs, which now stand at fifty-six, with more to come soon. Students come here to stay.

It is also true of our leaders. Several months ago, we welcomed Dr. Keith Hillkirk to our campus as our new Chancellor. It says a lot about our college that in our fifty-three-year history, he is just the fourth leader of this institution. I am pleased to note that two of our current capital projects here at Penn State Berks are being established in honor of the first two campus leaders, who served here for a combined forty-two years. In early November, the ribbon was cut on the beautiful new Gaige Technology and Business Innovation Building, named in honor of our second campus CEO, Dr. Frederick Gaige. In addition, we are currently raising funds for a beautiful gathering space in the center of campus that will be called the Perkins Plaza, named for our founding CEO, Dr. Harold Perkins.

These new facilities not only honor two great men, but they are now reasons our students, faculty, and staff have for staying here at Penn State Berks. The Gaige Building will provide our students and faculty much needed additional space for instruction and research. The Perkins Plaza will provide our entire campus family, as well as members of the community, a place to gather, to study, and to reflect. The new facilities also provide opportunities for you, our alumni, and friends, to invest in the future of our students and our campus through making donations that will make a difference in the lives of our students through support of these projects.

For all of those who have given this past fiscal year, we say a very heartfelt “Thank you.” This year, we’ll be asking you to continue your faithful support, and for others of you, to consider joining the ranks of those names listed here in support of For the Future: The Campaign for Penn State Students. To learn more about how you can continue our tradition of excellence, please contact me at 610-396-6056 or via e-mail at DCDD1@psu.edu. Also, please don’t ever hesitate to let us know if there is anything we may do for you.

As always, thank you for your support,

David C. Delozier ’79
Director of Development and Alumni Relations

ENDOWMENTS ARE INVESTMENTS IN THE COLLEGE’S FUTURE

Penn State’s benefactors are as diverse as their endowments. While donors may establish those funds to perpetuate a special cause or interest close to their hearts, one common thread unites these special alumni and friends. In every case, this common thread is a profound and abiding commitment to the protection and endowment of Penn State’s future.

The foresight and generosity evidenced by our benefactors today will perpetually shine through the Gaige Building and Alumni Plaza. It is also true of our leaders. Several months ago, we welcomed Dr. Keith Hillkirk to our campus as our new Chancellor. It says a lot about our college that in our fifty-three-year history, he is just the fourth leader of this institution. I am pleased to note that two of our current capital projects here at Penn State Berks are being established in honor of the first two campus leaders, who served here for a combined forty-two years. In early November, the ribbon was cut on the beautiful new Gaige Technology and Business Innovation Building, named in honor of our second campus CEO, Dr. Frederick Gaige. In addition, we are currently raising funds for a beautiful gathering space in the center of campus that will be called the Perkins Plaza, named for our founding CEO, Dr. Harold Perkins.

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As always, thank you for your support,

David C. Delozier ’79
Director of Development and Alumni Relations

ENDOWMENT CATEGORY | MINIMUM GIFT
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FACULTY SUPPORT
Dean’s Chair $5,000,000
Department Head’s Chair $3,000,000
Faculty Chair $2,000,000
Faculty Professorship $1,000,000
Early Career Professorship $500,000
GRADUATE STUDENT AID
Fellowship $25,000
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AID
Academic Excellence Scholarship $150,000
College Scholarship $100,000
Deans Scholarship $50,000
Enrichment Scholarship $50,000
Trustee Scholarship $50,000
Renaissance Scholarship $30,000
OTHER ENDOWMENTS
Program Support $25,000
Libraries $25,000
Award $20,000

For more information about endowments, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 610-396-6056.

CHANCELLOR’S CIRCLE DINNER CELEBRATES DONORS AND NEW CHANCELLOR

The eighth annual Chancellor’s Circle dinner honored donors and welcomed Chancellor R. Keith Hillkirk, who became the third president of Penn State Berks on July 1, 2011. The event was held on October 27, 2011, at Toscana Events by Viva in West Lawn.

Guests were treated to a preview of the production, Cabaret, performed by the college’s theatre students, followed by a formal dinner. David Dolitzer, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, gave the opening remarks in which he shared an update of the For the Future: The Campaign for Penn State Students and thanked the attendees for their generosity.

Victor Hammel, Chairman of J.C. Ehrlich Company Inc., and his wife, Dena, spoke about why it was important to them to be able to give back and afford students the opportunity to study at Penn State Berks. The Hammels established a $100,000 Trustee Scholarship, which will benefit students with financial need.

Damaris Long, recipient of the Dennis L. and Joyce E. Mays Trustee Scholarship, expressed her sincere gratitude to the donors.

Senior majoring in Business Long, is a peer mentor, multicultural mentor, resident assistant, and a member of the Berks THON committee, peer mentor, writing tutor, and orientation leader.

“I want the Boscov Scholarship and the other financial aid I’ve received, I wouldn’t have the time to devote to my studies,” states Brendel. “I wouldn’t be able to take part in any of the international study I’ve done through Penn State Berks. I’m so grateful that our donors are willing to support us and invest in us.”

Chancellor Hillkirk concluded the evening and expressed his appreciation for the generosity of the donors. Brendel, a sophomore, is working on his baccalaureate degree in Global Studies. He is the Honor’s Club secretary, as well as a Lion Ambassador, member of the Berks THON committee, peer mentor, writing tutor, and orientation leader.

“Without the Boscov Scholarship and the other financial aid I’ve received, I wouldn’t have the time to devote to my studies,” states Brendel. “I wouldn’t have been able to take part in any of the international study I’ve done through Penn State Berks. I’m so grateful that our donors are willing to support us and invest in us.”

For more information about becoming a member of the Chancellor’s Circle and membership benefits, contact David Dolitzer, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, at 610-396-6056 or via e-mail at DCDD1@psu.edu.

“I’m so grateful that our donors are willing to support us and invest in us.”

- Christian Brendel
Sophomore, Global Studies

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