We Each Can Make a Difference

You know the adage, “What can one person do?” Right now, the world population is about 7,066,993,152. This is a huge number, but there are not 6.7 billion numbers in the world, there are 6.7 billion human beings in the world.

Each person makes decisions about his or her life every day. In fact, I heard a report several months ago that suggests that we each make in excess of 2,000 decisions every day. Think about it, more than 2,000 times each day we make a choice—paper or plastic or fabric bags, coffee or tea, look out the window or keep typing this message. Of course, if you play with the math, then you are looking at 13.4 trillion decisions made each day by the people of the world.

What would happen if one person made a decision that improved the life of another? The beneficiary might then make the same type of decision, and the next person will do likewise, and now you have a ripple effect.

Thirty-five years ago, I recorded a television program about global warming and the impact I believed we would be seeing in about thirty years. Unfortunately I was correct in my predictions, but I have not stopped looking at how I can make a difference in the global situation.

Two years ago, I became a charter signatory for the American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment, an effort to address global warming by garnering institutional commitments to neutralize greenhouse gas emissions, and to accelerate the research and educational efforts of higher education to equip society to restabilize the Earth’s climate.

The wonderful thing is that our students, faculty, and staff are equally committed to the environment, and together we have looked at ways to improve how Penn State Berks responds to the environment in a sustainable way. Each of us can make a positive impact on our environment. I encourage you and even challenge you to think about the decisions you make each day. Do you toss that piece of paper or do you recycle? Do you take that 8-minute shower.

Let’s live the Penn State tag line, “Making Life Better!”

Social Media Sites Keep College Community Connected

Want the latest news about what’s happening at Penn State Berks? It’s just a click away when you visit the college’s new Facebook fan page, Twitter updates, and YouTube channel.

The Facebook fan page, which can be found online at facebook.com/pennstateberks, includes news and feature stories, invitations to campus events, photos, and video footage.

Fans of the microblogging Twitter site will get the latest news, 140 characters at a time, at twitter.com/PennStateBerks. Users can sign up to follow Penn State Berks and subscribe to an RSS feed for up-to-the-minute news. Maybe you prefer your information in video format. Just visit the college’s YouTube site to view short videos about a variety of campus topics—from Campus Life to Adult Students—at youtube.com/pennstateberks. The site includes both professionally produced and amateur videos highlighting various aspects of the campus.

All three social media sites have links on the college’s Web page: berks.psu.edu.
# Academic News
Ralph Tutlane, 610-777-7312, Alumni Society Texas Hold’em

- **texts that traveled around Asia as chronicled by authentic**, a performance of **Great Sage**
- **& Tragedy in the Life of the**
- **September 16, 5:30 p.m., Crowne Plaza Reading Hotel.**
- **Freyberger Gallery.**

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**College News**

**Sights and Sounds Art Exhibition:**
- **November 5–December 7, Student Center Multipurpose Room.**

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**Development News**

**Lecture: Captain Paul Watson**
- **November 18, 6:30 p.m., Perkins Student Center Multipurpose Room.**

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**Outreach News**

**High Times Magazine of Marijuana Debate over the Legalization Heads vs. Feds–The**
- **Lecture:**

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**Student News**

**WPI Alumni Reunion Luncheon,**
- **September 26, 12:00–2:00 p.m., Perkins Student Center Multipurpose Room.**

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**Alumni News**

**WPI Holiday Luncheon,**
- **December 12, 12:00–2:00 p.m., Perkins Student Center Multipurpose Room.**

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**Calendar of Events 2009-2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd Annual Alumni Reunion</td>
<td>September 24-25</td>
<td>Perkins Student Center Multipurpose Room</td>
<td>Free appetizers, drink specials, and door prizes. RSVP to Heather Angstadt, 610-396-6052 or <a href="mailto:Hula@psu.edu">Hula@psu.edu</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Football Tailgate for Penn State vs. Ill.</td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Perkins Student Center Multipurpose Room</td>
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<tr>
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<td>October 15</td>
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<td>Free appetizers, drink specials, and door prizes. 610-396-6052 or <a href="mailto:Hula@psu.edu">Hula@psu.edu</a>.</td>
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<td>Outreach News</td>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>Perkins Student Center Multipurpose Room</td>
<td>Free appetizers, drink specials, and door prizes. 610-396-6052 or <a href="mailto:Hula@psu.edu">Hula@psu.edu</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development News</td>
<td>December 10</td>
<td>Perkins Student Center Multipurpose Room</td>
<td>Free appetizers, drink specials, and door prizes. 610-396-6052 or <a href="mailto:Hula@psu.edu">Hula@psu.edu</a>.</td>
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<td>Outreach News</td>
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**Penn State Berks | Fall 2009**
When Associate Professors of Horticulture Dr. Dave Sanford and Dr. Mike Fidanza envisioned turning a large composting area on the campus into a hands-on training ground for Agricultural Science students, they knew they couldn’t do it alone. Reaching out to the local agricultural community, the pair received an overwhelming response.

Seventeen professionals from nine Berks County organizations came together on Saturday, May 2, bringing with them a high level of expertise—many holding numerous industry certifications—and nearly one-million dollars worth of agricultural equipment. Working with Sanford and Fidanza, the volunteers moved approximately 250 cubic yards of compost from three acres of land, and then seeded, fertilized, and tilled the area. An additional three acres were also seeded with a cover crop. In total, more than 140 man hours of labor and an estimated $28,000 in equipment rental fees were donated to the college in one day.

“It’s just something we couldn’t do ourselves, and I was really excited to see all the support we received from the industry, but this isn’t something new,” says Sanford. “Many of the volunteers have always been big supporters of the Penn State Berks horticulture program, offering their expertise, manpower, and equipment.”

The site, located behind the campus greenhouses, will provide an area for Agriculture Science students to practice the various techniques they learn in the classroom, such as planting trees, seeding grass, pruning shrubs, installing irrigation systems, rototilling, mowing grass, and installing patio pavers. The site will also be used in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Landscape Nursery Association in administering the Certified Landscape Technician Exam. Held every August, the exam recognizes proficiency in the landscape workforce. In addition, Sanford says the site will be used in some of the Cooperative Extension Programming for the green industry in Southeastern Pennsylvania in coming years.

Tom Wambough, Horticulture 81 and owner of Waterfall Gardens, was a major contributor to the day’s efforts. “Bringing the level of professionalism in the industry helps everyone, and I’d love to see the horticulture program at Berks continue to grow. I’m happy to do anything to help make that happen.”

Wambough explains his role in the green industry, “If you work in the horticulture industry, you’re constantly working with the environment and striving to be as environmentally friendly as possible—we aren’t suddenly getting green now, we’re just getting greener.”

Penn State Berks would like to thank the following businesses for their assistance in creating the agricultural training ground:

- Anawahs Landscape Contracting, Bernville
- Autrona, Inc., Womelsdorf
- Berks Career & Technology Center, City
- Nature’s Accents Landscape Services, Inc., Hamburg
- Reading Bobcat and Kubota, Reading
- Scott’s Landscaping, State College
- Stony Bridge Landscaping, Inc., Lebanon
- Tomlinson Bomberger Lawn Care and Landscape, Lancaster
- W.D. Wells and Associates, Inc., Wite Grove

For more information about the B.S. in Biology degree at Penn State Berks, contact Dr. Maureen Dunbar at 610-396-6328 or via e-mail at MED18@psu.edu.
Guaranteed Energy Savings Program (GESP)

Greenhouse gases and rising fuel costs have allowed Penn State to consider new ways to reduce its ecological footprint. These efforts not only reduce environmental impact, but also utility costs, which exceeded $1 million at Berks during the 2005–2006 academic year. The Guaranteed Energy Savings Program (GESP) is an environmental stewardship initiative that provides funds to invest in programs, equipment, and capital improvement projects that will reduce energy usage and utility costs while paying for itself in ten years or less.

Through the program, Penn State Berks has trimmed more than $220,000 per year in energy costs.

GESP projects include installing energy-efficient lighting retro fits, replacements, and controls; an energy management system; variable air volume and variable frequency drive pump systems; and plumbing retro fits; as well as conversion of some of the hot water equipment, HVAC, and heating systems from electric to natural gas.

Penn State Berks is committed to sustainability. Long before environmental issues became popular or trendy, the University was investigating environmentally friendly initiatives. In recent years, even greater environmental strides have been made as Penn State continues to grow and meet the demands of its surroundings.

“From its humble beginnings as Farmers’ High School in 1855, Penn State has a long history of being invested in the environment. Long before environmental issues became popular or trendy, the University was investigating environmentally friendly initiatives. In recent years, even greater environmental strides have been made as Penn State continues to grow and meet the demands of its surroundings.”

Conservation initiatives today take several forms, including standards for new facility construction and renovations, guidelines for purchasing energy-efficient equipment, and facility operating standards. This article contains just a few of the endeavors at Penn State Berks that ensure that the facilities and practices meet or exceed compliance with all applicable state and federal environmental regulations established by agencies, such as the Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Along with providing education, research, and public service, a healthy environment also is at the forefront of Penn State’s mission to “make life better.”

Penn State Berks Is Committed to Sustainability

By Lori R. Richman

Penn State Berks began a comprehensive recycling program in 1988. Two decades later, in 2008, 244 tons were recycled including 123 tons of corrugated cardboard, and 121 tons of glass, plastic, steel and aluminum cans, and office paper. The college also recycles other items including rechargeable batteries, printer cartridges, computers, mercury-tainted fluorescent light bulbs, scrap metal, refrigerants, waste oil, hydraulic fluid, furniture, and landscape material.

In addition to these recycling initiatives, the college will bring even more awareness to recycling through an artist residency in which internationally renowned sculptor Steven Siegel will create art on campus from recycled items from October 5–9.

“Artists consider ways to use recyclable items and trash as materials to make art,” explains Marilyn Fox, Arts Coordinator. “In doing so, the subsequent art causes one to reconsider what is ‘waste’ and what is ‘material.’ It also helps us consider how much we throw away and the huge carbon footprint the average person leaves behind.”

Siegel began working with recycled and recyclable materials long before it was popular. Using items that are recyclable, he has interrupted the recycling stream—at least for awhile. Siegel will be working with students and community volunteers in creating a site-specific sculpture from recyclable materials collected on campus.

“On the course of his career, Siegel has considered the ecological changes in our environment and geology through utilizing recyclable materials.”

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“On the course of his career, Siegel has considered the ecological changes in our environment and geology through utilizing recyclable materials.”
Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)

As part of its commitment to the environment, the University requires Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for all new construction projects. The LEED Green Building Rating System™ is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of green buildings.

Berks is currently in the process of designing a new academic building that will meet the requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System™, serve the complex and varied needs of the Business, Engineering, and Information Sciences and Technology (BEST) Division; and fit into the lush landscape of the campus.

The 60,000-square-foot building, which has been dubbed the BEST for the division it will house, is slated for completion by the end of 2011, and it will make use of technology in keeping with the college’s commitment to the environment. One example of this technology is the inclusion of an active storm water management garden that will recycle rainfall.

Students Reside in Green House

Within the residence halls at Berks, there are several Interest Groups focused on sustainability issues. Residents will have an opportunity to make a difference on campus by developing and implementing their own environmental initiatives.

Forest Stewardship Council Certification

As part of the college’s ongoing environmental stewardship program, University Relations is using Forest Stewardship Council certified printers for its publications. The purchase of FSC-certified paper and print products contributes to conservation, responsible management, and community-level benefits for people near the forests that provide paper.

This issue of the Blue & White alumni magazine bears the FSC logo on page 1 and the “Eco-Box” gives a breakdown of the materials used in the printing of this magazine.

“Take Charge” Resident Student Program

“Take Charge” is an environment awareness campaign targeted to residential students that is an outgrowth of the University’s Guaranteed Energy Savings Program (GESP). The campaign kicked off in the fall 2006 semester at Berks with reminder stickers and magnets in the residence halls and a “Take Charge” Web site (takecharge.psu.edu). The Web site features a variety of ideas for ways to conserve energy through its “tip of the month” and more importantly, reasons why it benefits students to “think green.”

We Are Global, We Are Penn State

Internationalization of the Curriculum

By Matt R. Kuklin

Few boundaries, whether geographic or political, limit the movement of people, ideas, goods and services, and the ability to connect with one another is easier than ever—a phenomenon referred to as globalization. Top universities understand that graduates are better prepared for success in the global marketplace if they strive to become global citizens; and Penn State Berks is no exception.

“Internationalization of Penn State Berks” was the topic of the spring Celebrating Teaching Colloquium, a forum held each semester where faculty share ideas about best practices in teaching.

Dr. Paul Esqueda, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, opened the colloquium by reading a quote from Penn State University President Graham Spanier: “At Penn State we understand that the answers to the world’s most pressing problems can only come from an educated citizenry whose knowledge spans international boundaries.”

Esqueda went on to outline the college’s five-year strategic plan, which works to accomplish this goal. In fact, many international efforts are already in place at the college. Dr. Randall Newsham, Professor of Political Science and Coordinator of International Programs, and Karen Kihurani, Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs, discussed these endeavors.

“International students are an asset to our campus,” Kihurani explained. “They provide our campus community an opportunity to gain a broader knowledge of our global world without having to travel. Exposure to international students also helps prepare other students to compete in the global labor market.”

“The college is doing a lot to deliver internationalization, from the classrooms, to events on campus, to study abroad opportunities,” stated Newsham. “All students are required to take classes in diversity to graduate. In addition, funding is available for international programs including student and faculty travel, bringing guest speakers into the classroom, and scheduling international events accessible to the campus and community.”

“Many international students attend Penn State Berks. In 2008, the college had twenty-five students who held a full-time student visa or F-1 visa. Besides the students here on visas, the college has many more students who recently came to the U.S. or are here with a green card. Berks also has a very diverse, international faculty, who bring a global perspective to the classroom.”

While gaining a global perspective is possible on campus, nearly fifty students were involved with study abroad programs last year. Past destinations have included Ecuador, Costa Rica, Peru, Portugal, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Australia, just to name a few.

Dr. Starn Zervanos, Emeritus Professor of Biology, related his experience while conducting research in the Amazon rainforest, where he made an unorthodox discovery.

“As I was sitting in the rainforest observing birds, I began taking in the sights, sounds, and smells, and I realized I could never teach biodiversity this effectively from a textbook,” explained Zervanos.

Shortly thereafter, Zervanos began working on a biodiversity course that has taken students from the classroom into the rainforest.

“Most students come back from these study trips with completely new perspectives; it is a life-changing experience,” stated Zervanos.

“Life changing” is also the way Dr. Sandy Feinstein, Associate Professor of English and Honors Program Coordinator, would describe her first experience abroad, teaching as a Fulbright Scholar in Denmark.

“It was stunned by my own limited vision to that point: no easy admittance for a former New Yorker. Even now, I can’t quite believe my assumptions—that as a New Yorker I was already worldly,” explained Feinstein.

“In a way, it was being faced with questions I had never thought about that made me differently aware of myself as an American, as a New Yorker, as a teacher, as a human being. Of course, that’s what school is about: being faced by new ideas, new methods, new points of view. And, mind you, I had many friends from all over the world—but the experience of leaving is necessarily different from staying: it was my friends who faced unfamiliar experiences, and I was the one grounded by the familiar.”

Dr. Janeile Larson, Division Head for Engineering, Business, and Computing and Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics, explained the importance of continuing to increase the number of international opportunities available on campus.

“Studying abroad is vital and can have a profound impact on a student’s education, but it’s not always financially feasible. Continuing to expose our students to international perspectives and increasing those opportunities by bringing them here will be a strategy we can use to make an impact on the greatest number of students.”

Esqueda, a Venezuelan native who received his undergraduate education in England before moving to the United States and earning his master’s and doctoral degrees, both from Penn State, understands the impact of having a global mindset.

“Moving to different countries had a tremendous impact on how I view the world,” he commented. “When you educate students with a global perspective, you give them the ability to move around the world and be productive, and that’s something we’re trying to accomplish here at Penn State Berks.”
Students Volunteer at Children and Youth Empowerment Centre

While most college students were enjoying their summer break, thirty-six Penn State students traveled to Kenya to work with the Children and Youth Empowerment Centre (CYEC), which provides educational and social services for former street children.

It all began when Paul Maina, founder and director of the CYEC in Nyeri, Kenya, turned to an old friend at Penn State, seeking the University’s expertise to help address a variety of needs for former street children. Maina formed the CYEC in 2006 in an effort to address several gaps in the care and rehabilitation of street children in Kenya, including training the youth in technological and entrepreneurial skills to support themselves when they leave the CYEC. The CYEC has more than 150 children in residential care and provides services for another 60 children.

“The problems of street dwelling children and youth are emblematic of issues in the larger society—poverty, family break-down, and disease,” explains Larson. “Solutions identified and developed for this population can be expanded to the larger society.”

At Penn State Berks, students have been actively involved in two aspects of this initiative—they designed and developed a new CYEC Web site and they tested and conducted focus groups with youth at the CYEC to determine the suitability and adaptability of HealthWise.

The Berks students assessed HealthWise lessons with CYEC youth, including topics such as leisure time and motivation, evaluating risk, drug use, relationships, and sexual behavior. They also worked closely with the CYEC counselor and nurse to consider the appropriateness of this curriculum.

“The CYEC is more than just a children’s home; it is a convergence point for people of different backgrounds to discuss, research, experiment, and consolidate knowledge concerning the empowerment and development of young people,” explains Larson.

“The Berks students assessed HealthWise lessons with CYEC youth, including topics such as leisure time and motivation, evaluating risk, drug use, relationships, and sexual behavior. They also worked closely with the CYEC counselor and nurse to consider the appropriateness of this curriculum. This was an incredible opportunity for students to look at diverse health-related situations, explore methods available for education, and develop strategies for working with communities from a societal perspective,” recounts Holland.

When asked about her time at the center, Kasie Lynch, a junior majoring in Applied Psychology at Berks, stated, “Working with the students in Kenya was a life-changing experience. We connected with them and they connected with us. It was really hard to leave.”

Through Larson’s efforts, the University became involved in helping to support the CYEC through a variety of initiatives, including designing and building a Zawadi eco-village with the goal of providing a launch pad for youth as they leave the center. (“Zawadi” is Swahili for “gift.” The name was chosen to acknowledge that each child has a gift to offer the world.)

Since the young people of the CYEC do not have homes to return to when they complete their education, they are at high risk for returning to the streets. The Zawadi village will have agricultural production and other entrepreneurial activities to provide income and employment for the youth.

Other University initiatives include two projects developed by students in the College of Engineering at University Park: Manava, a telemedicine system that provides primary medical care and WishVast, a cell-phone based system to develop social capital with the goal of stimulating economic activity similar to eBay ratings.

“The CYEC is more than just a children’s home; it is a convergence point for people of different backgrounds to discuss, research, experiment, and consolidate knowledge concerning the empowerment and development of young people,” explains Larson.

“The staff at the CYEC are intentional about focusing on developing the whole person and finding sustainable solutions to some of society’s most intractable problems. They provide a rewarding setting for Penn State faculty, staff, and students to integrate teaching, research, and outreach.”

Kasie Lynch
Penn State Berks Junior
Applied Psychology
College Bids Farewell to Visionary Leader, Scholar, and Activist

In Memoriam

DR. FREDERICK H. GAIGE 1937–2009

“Above all, Fred always put people first. This is his legacy.”
—Penn State President Graham Spanier

Fred Gaige was an extraordinary educator who served the campus and community with great distinction,” said Penn State President Graham Spanier. “Fred’s leadership in university service and administration has transformed countless lives. Above all, he always put people first. This is his legacy.”

In addition to being a visionary leader, Gaige was a noted scholar in the field of South Asian studies and became an early expert on Nepal, where he did research on a Fulbright Fellowship from 1966-1968. His research culminated in the publication of Repression and National Unity in Nepal. He returned to Nepal as a Fulbright Lecturer in 1983 and, in 1991, he served as a consultant to the Asia Foundation and U.S. Agency for International Development on the first democratic elections in Nepal.

Gaige was also a community activist who volunteered with numerous organizations. He was one of the leaders of the successful effort to change the Reading city charter (Reading Citizens for Effective Government). He was also elected as the head of the Reading School District and he was an appointed member of the Berks County Planning Commission.

He also served as a member of the board of directors of The Reading Hospital and Medical Center, Police Athletic League, Hispanic Center, and many other organizations.

Gaige earned his doctorate in South Asian studies from the University of Pennsylvania, a master’s degree in history from Brown University, and a bachelor’s degree in history from Oberlin College.

He is survived by his wife, Atta, and their two daughters, Karina A. Gaige and Anmy W. Gaige, and their families.

While the family will be planning a memorial service for Gaige in the spring of 2010, Penn State Berks will be hosting a memorial service within the coming weeks for faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of the campus.
Alumni Reunion and Football Tailgate
One date, one location—two great Penn State events!

Date: October 3, 2009
Location: The Reading Crowne Plaza

Socialize with former classmates during the second annual Penn State Berks alumni reunion and then join local alumni to watch the Penn State vs. Illinois game.

Alumni Reunion:
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Cost: $10 per person

Menu includes salad bar, beer can chicken, smoked flank steak, corn on the cob, baked potatoes, rolls, assorted non-alcoholic beverages, Penn State Creamery ice cream, and grilled steaks. A cash bar will also be available.

Open to all Penn State Berks alumni and Penn State alumni who attended Berks campus, as well as their families and friends. There will be games and the indoor swimming pool will be available. Join us for a fun time for the whole family.

One lucky alumnus will win an overnight stay for two (alumni only). In addition, there will be door prizes (1 per quartet), trivia questions (2 per quartet), a 50/50 raffle, kids activities, and adult contests including Pin the Tail on the Nittany Lion, Best Joe Pa Look Alike, and Most Spirited Penn State Fan.

Penn State vs. Illinois Football Tailgate:
Tailgate Time: Doors open one hour before kickoff
Tailgate Cost: $3 per person; children under 13, FREE

Tailgate refreshments will include chicken wings, hot hors d’oeuvres, and a fruit and cheese tray, donated by The Reading Crowne Plaza. Penn State grilled steaks and Creamery ice cream will also be available.

Drink specials (non-alcoholic and alcoholic) and bar menu items will be available for purchase.

*Bring your Penn State Alumni Association member card to receive discounts on beer.

For more information or to RSVP, call the Alumni Office at 610-396-6052 or e-mail berks-alumni@psu.edu.