



FINANCE & BUSINESS

QUALITY SERVICE. QUALITY PEOPLE.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2001

Transportation Services Wins Awards



Transportation Services Facilities Coordinator Doug Holmes was named President of the Pennsylvania Parking Association.

Transportation Services' Event Parking staff was recognized for outstanding achievement at the First Annual Pennsylvania Parking Association Awards Program held in Harrisburg on September 19. The group received the Award of Excellence for Innovation in Parking Management for its management of the parking needs for the Bill Gaither Tour sellout event.

The Bill Gaither Tour has been held at the Bryce Jordan Center for the past three years. Its audience typically includes attendees with special mobility needs, thereby requiring specialized parking accommodations. Attendees usually travel in large groups, requiring the parking staff to safely load and unload an average of 120 buses at each performance.

Penn State's Event Parking Coordinator Frank Pope and his staff devel-

oped a parking strategy that included the advanced distribution of parking information and maps to bus operators and large groups. It also included a plan for the orderly parking of the many buses at each event, and distribution of bus location information to riders to help them find their bus after the concert. Finally, the plan included making a driver's room (provided by the Bryce Jordan Center) available to give drivers a place to rest, obtain refreshments and information about State College, and wait for the end of the performance.

Pope and the parking staff worked with bus companies including the Fullington Bus Company, churches, University Police, and the Bryce Jordan Center staff to create a seamless and safe parking lot strategy.

Transportation Services also received an Award of Merit for Innovation in Parking Improvement for last summer's expansion of the Hub Deck. Doug Holmes, Transportation Services Facilities Coordinator, accepted the award for his work with the Office of Physical Plant and parking consultants from Tim Haahs and Associates, High Concrete, and Reynolds Construction. Their coordinated effort resulted in an almost invisible expansion of the five-level parking structure completed on time and under budget.

The evening of achievement ended for Penn State with the selection of Doug

Holmes as the President of the Pennsylvania Parking Association. Earlier this year, Holmes was elected to the Board of Directors for the International Parking Institute. He is a twenty-six year employee of Penn State and has served as a Penn State police officer, University Parking Manager, and now continues his career as the Transportation Services Facilities Coordinator.

Congratulations to the entire transportation services staff!



Frank Pope accepts an award from past PPA President and current Harrisburg Parking Authority Executive Director Ronald Massott.



As I See It . . .

Gary C. Schultz
Senior Vice President for Finance and Business/Treasurer

These are uncertain economic times. The media regularly share stories of corporate restructuring, plant closings, and even bankruptcies. Here at

Penn State, our enrollments remain strong, but we do face the uncertainty of the Commonwealth's economic situation. Commonwealth revenues to date are below budget. In response to this shortfall in revenues the Commonwealth announced an overall \$200 million spending freeze. As a result, Penn State's appropriation was reduced by 1.0%, or approximately \$3.4 million. This freeze requires that units throughout the University, including Finance & Business, implement a 0.5% temporary budgetary reduction for the current fiscal year. The freeze calls for careful choices in all of our units.

There is no question that the freeze in State support and resulting internal reductions present us with some challenges. However, Finance and Business is well positioned to deal with times of fiscal constraint. For some time we have been actively exploring ways to reduce costs while maintaining or increasing the quality of our services. Our last (1997-2002) strategic plan included several strategies aimed at these ends. In a recent discussion of our next (2002-2005) strategic plan, unit heads reaffirmed Finance

& Business's commitment to our e-business initiative as well as initiatives to increase efficiency in expenditures (to help with this effort, see the article on the next page), conserve natural resources as part of our environmental initiatives (see article below), and make the best use of Penn State's physical assets. These initiatives represent only a few of the proactive efforts occurring throughout Finance & Business to reduce costs while providing high quality goods and services.

No one knows with certainty what the economic situation of the Commonwealth will be over the rest of the fiscal year or into next year. However, we expect funding to be tight and some further reductions may be necessary. Careful planning, thoughtful belt-tightening, and continued prioritizing of expenditures will allow us to make the required budget reductions without significant impact to our employees or on services to our customers. In much the same way that you would handle a situation like this at home, we must each approach this belt tightening with a sense of personal commitment and accountability to make it happen. Budgetary constraints are always challenging; however, Finance & Business employees and leaders are up to the challenge.

Penn State Plugs Into Wind Power by Paul Ruskin

Demonstrating commitment to renewable energy resources and the environment, Penn State will sign a five year contract with Community Energy Inc. to purchase its wind energy to meet 5% of University Park's electrical needs. This landmark pledge establishes Penn State as a national leader in wind energy. By purchasing 13.2 million kilowatt hours (kWh) annually, or the energy output of over three 215 foot windmills, Penn State will become the second largest user of retail wind energy in the United States.



Deputy Assistant Vice President Ford Stryker, Communications & Public Affairs Coordinator Paul Ruskin, Utility Services Manager Dave Burns, and Energy Program Engineer Doug Donovan are Penn State Proud!

By taking part in this pioneering effort, Penn State supports the developing infrastructure for wind energy and raises the standard for environmental stewardship in Pennsylvania. Using

wind energy annually will avoid the consumption of almost 4,644 tons of coal and the production of approximately 7,914 tons of carbon dioxide emissions. This avoidance of carbon dioxide is equivalent to the benefits that would result if 1,130 cars were taken off the road or 2,152 acres of trees were planted. The price of wind energy is increasingly affordable, making its use environmentally AND economically sound.

Wind energy is the world's fastest growing form of electricity generation. "Penn State is proud to support the emerging wind energy market in Pennsylvania," said Doug Donovan, Office of Physical Plant energy program engineer. Community Energy President Brent Alderfer added, "By making one of the largest retail wind energy purchases ever, Penn State University is leading the way for all of us. Penn State's decision to buy locally generated, emission-free wind energy makes a contribution locally and globally. I can think of no better environmental commitment than for the university to power its laboratories and classrooms with pollution-free electricity."

F&B's Expenditures Team Seeks Tips For Cost Reduction

Have you ever looked around at work and thought, "If I were the boss, I'd do things differently. We could save a lot of time and money if only we'd . . ." Well, the Expenditures Team wants you to share those ideas for improvement. The team wants to hear your suggestions for changes that will result in saved time, resources, or money. Look around at work—do you know of success stories that resulted in improved efficiency or cost reductions? Or, do you see procedures that should be adjusted? Steps that could be eliminated when completing a job? Changes to the way purchases are done? The Expenditures Team wants to hear your ideas.


“Frankly, we’re hoping to hit the jackpot and hear from someone who has that great idea that results in substantial savings in terms of resources, money, or time.”

“We want people to tell us how to run the show,” quipped team leader Jim Dunlop, Director of Procurement and Materials Management, “Seriously, though, no idea is too small to be considered. We know there are a lot of good ideas out there in the units and we really want to hear about them. Frankly, we’re hoping to hit the jackpot and hear from someone who has that great idea that results in substantial savings in terms of resources, money, or time.” Team members invite employees to send them success stories about improved efficiency or cost reductions. It also wants to hear about ideas that, if implemented, might result in improvements or savings. Promising ideas will be shared with others in F&B and the university.

E-mail your ideas and suggestions about ways to improve work practices to expenditures@psu.edu. Include your name and work address to enable the committee to acknowledge your idea. Or, if you prefer to send the suggestion anonymously, mail your idea to: Expenditures, 105 Procurement Services Building. You also can contact a committee member directly to discuss expenditures and cost savings measures:

Jim Dunlop	Director, Procurement and Materials Management	3-0274	hjd1@psu.edu
Dave Burns	OPP Manager of Utility Services	5-1603	dlb11@psu.edu
Bob Fantaske	Coordinator, Management Engineering/OHR	5-3305	raf6@psu.edu
Georgia Garman	Staff Support	3-0274	gab1@psu.edu
Andy Reisinger	Sr. Budget Planning Specialist	5-7641	agr1@psu.edu
Cathy Shannon	Asst. Director of Business & Finance, Aux. & Business Svcs.	5-9294	cbs4@psu.edu
Steve Shelow	Asst. Director of University Police Security & Support Svcs.	5-1864	sps8@psu.edu
Luke Taiclet	Director of Finance & Business, Beaver Campus	(724) 773-3551	lxt2@psu.edu
Sue Wiedemer	Coordinator, Financial Analysis & Cash Management	5-1356	sjw5@psu.edu

The Expenditures Team identifies and evaluates areas providing significant opportunity for improved efficiency and cost reduction while maintaining or enhancing customer service. The team makes recommendations and sets objectives for implementation of cost saving measures, develops action plans, and monitors progress in meeting specific goals.



Employee Survey Results Are In

An upcoming issue of this newsletter will take an in-depth look at results from the 2001 F&B Employee Survey. Look for it in 2002.

Colleagues Who Make A Difference

Nittany Lion Inn Named Favorite Meeting Place



The Nittany Lion Inn was named a winner of an “Excellence of the East” award from Meetings East magazine. The magazine had asked corporate and association meeting planners to vote for a favorite meeting property they had visited in the past two years. The Nittany Lion Inn was one of the showcased winners. Congratulations to the Inn’s staff for continued excellent service!

Dunlop Ends Term Chairing CIC Purchasing Consortium

Jim Dunlop, F&B’s Director of Procurement and Materials Management, recently completed a successful three-year term as the chair of the CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation) Purchasing Consortium. Dunlop headed the group during its first three years of existence. The group, which fosters cooperation among educational institutions, has worked on positive changes in commodity contracts and now plans to additionally support the development of better software agreements. Dunlop will continue to play an active role representing Penn State on the CIC Purchasing Consortium.

Finance and Business

Gary C. Schultz
Senior Vice President for Finance and Business/ Treasurer

P. Richard Althouse
Budget Officer

William J. Anderson
Assistant Vice President for Physical Plant

Kenneth S. Babe
Corporate Controller

David E. Branigan
Executive Director, Office of Investment Management

Robert C. Finley
Assistant Vice President Finance and Business Commonwealth Operations

Thomas V. Gibson
Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary and Business Services

Thomas R. Harmon
Director of University Police

Daniel W. Sieminski
Assistant Vice President for Finance and Business

Tony Wagner
Special Assistant to Senior Vice President for Finance and Business/Treasurer

Billie S. Willits
Assistant Vice President for Human Resources

Wayne W. Zolko
Associate Vice President for Finance and Business/ Controller College of Medicine

Finance & Business
Newsletter

Writer/Editor
Nancy Mahon

Newsletter Production
Penn State Document
Services

PENNSTATE



Finance & Business
The Pennsylvania State University
208 Old Main
University Park PA 16802

www.psu.edu/dept/fab



This publication is available in alternative media on request.
Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.
U.Ed.BSO 02-1001 DS52260ch

Story Ideas? Comments? Contact Nancy Mahon, Communications Specialist, Finance and Business at (814) 865-6574 or njr5@psu.edu.