



FINANCE & BUSINESS

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Long-time F&B administrators announce retirements

Dick Althouse leaving Budget Office after 36 years

Dick Althouse, Budget Officer of the University, will retire from his position on June 29, completing 36 years of dedicated service to Penn State.

Prior to his present position, Dick held several positions with progressive responsibility within the Penn State organization. He began his career at the University in November 1970 as a System Analyst in Data Processing Services. Before coming to Penn State, he worked for HRB Singer, Inc. and the MITRE Corporation in Washington, D.C. He has a B.S. in Mathematics and an M.S. in Computer Science, both from Penn State.

Dick has often said that he discovered early on that

he didn't like math all that much but found that he was good at it. And he has been good at it since he began his professional career, exemplified by his promotion to the Budget Officer position in April 1986 and continuing beyond his designation as the recipient of the University's Award for Administrative Excellence in 2002.



Dick Althouse

For the complete article, visit <http://www.psu.edu/oldmain/fab>



Tom Gibson stepping down from Associate V.P. role

Tom Gibson will retire from Penn State at the end of June, ending a 21-year career of leading the University's Auxiliary and Business units.



Tom Gibson

Gibson, recently named Associate Vice President for Finance & Business in 2005, came to Penn State from the University of Washington in Seattle, where he was a senior administrator of Food Services from 1981 to 1985.

In his previous position as Associate Vice President of Auxiliary & Business Services, he was responsible for all facets of Penn State's

housing and food services operations, in addition to the operations of the Bryce Jordan Center, Hospitality Services, and the Business Services unit including Multimedia & Print Center, Procurement and Materials Management, and Transportation Services.

Gibson earned his bachelor's degree in Banking and Business from Seattle University, and began working for Saga Corporation and remained there for 13 years in a variety of administrative positions.

For the complete article, visit <http://www.psu.edu/oldmain/fab>



Dining hall cook finishes in top three in culinary challenge

by Jessa Stephens

Executive Chef Bill Laychur and Executive Pastry Chef Lee Ann Adams shared a few words of wisdom with Sue Merritts as she prepared to com-

pete in a March 6 culinary challenge at Virginia Tech. Adams pointed out some of the things the judges would look for during the competition, Merritts recalls, while Laychur advised her to "keep things simple."

Merritts did just that—and took third place at the challenge as colleagues from Penn State Food Services and her husband Rodney cheered her on. She is the first Penn State cook ever to compete in the challenge,

which was sponsored by the National Association of College & University Food Services (NACUFS).

While Merritts says that the prospect of representing

Continued on page 3



As I See It . . .

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

Finance & Business will be changing in 2006. With the announcement of Dick Althouse and Tom Gibson's retirements

at the end of this fiscal year in June, Finance & Business will be losing two of its very best. I have worked with these two men for many years, and I know what they brought to our organization. Both men are dedicated to Penn State and committed to excellence and this is exemplified by the awards they have received: Dick was the recipient of the University Award for Administrative Excellence in 2002. Tom received the new Housing & Food Service Award, The Tom V. Gibson Creativity and Innovation Award, in 2005.

Many of us have had the pleasure to know and work with Dick for years. Since his promotion to the Budget Officer position in April 1986, Dick has led this arm of Finance & Business with tremendous skill and efficiency. He truly is a walking "fact book" of Penn State.

From the moment Tom came to Penn State in 1985, everyone knew immediately that the University had acquired a great leader. Tom's quiet, unassuming demeanor

brought out the best in everyone with whom he worked, and his confidence in the abilities of his managers and supervisors encouraged them to excel in their roles.

Both Dick and Tom will be missed in our organization, but I wish them the very best as they enter this new phase of their lives. No doubt, Dick will use his time to improve his golf game, and Tom will probably take more trips around the world to even more exotic places.

So, the next time you see these two, congratulate them and wish them well.

I would also like to welcome Steve Curley to his new role as University Budget Officer when Dick leaves in June. Steve currently serves as Financial Officer for the Executive Vice President and Provost and has worked closely with Dick and the Budget Office staff for many years. We are fortunate to have someone like Steve who can fill Dick's big shoes and make this a very smooth transition. The search committee continues its work to find Tom's successor. We have several very qualified candidates and I expect to name the new Associate Vice President for Finance & Business by early spring. I am reminded of the saying "The only constant is change!"

Steve Curley named to succeed Althouse in Budget Office

Steve Curley has been named to take over as University Budget Officer, replacing Dick Althouse, who will retire from the position in June.

Steve, who serves as the Financial Officer and Assistant to Dr. Rod Erickson, Executive Vice President and Provost, will assume the role on June 30. Since 1976, Steve has advised Penn State Provosts on issues related to the budget and financial operations. He has also worked with deans, vice presidents, vice

provosts and other administrators on budget and fiscal matters.

While working with the University's Budget Task Force, Steve has helped develop and oversee Penn State's annual operating budget, as well as the state appropriations request. Steve also lends his expertise to numerous University task forces and committees. He has provided support to the Cost Savings Task Force, the Tuition Task Force, University Future Committee, University Planning Council, the Facil-

ities Resources Committee and the Central Enrollment Management Group.

Steve, who has lived in the area most of his life, began working one week after graduating from the University in 1970 with a B.S. in Business Administration. His first job was in the Controller's Office as an accounting trainee. He quickly worked his way up the administrative ladder in the Controller's Office moving to Assistant Manager of Financial Studies and then to the College of Business Administration as the Fi-



Steve Curley

nancial Officer. From there, he moved to the Provost's Office.

For the complete article, visit <http://www.psu.edu/oldmain/fab>



Police Services' Bill Donahue graduates from FBI Academy

Bill Donahue, Police Services Assistant Director, graduated from the FBI National Academy on March 17.

The Academy, which prepares law enforcement leaders for complex and contemporary challenges, is a professional course of study for U.S. and international leaders that serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments and agencies and to raise law enforcement standards,



Bill Donahue

knowledge, and cooperation worldwide.

"I am proud of Bill for having attended and completed this prestigious training program," says Steve Shelow, University Police Director. "I am also pleased that the FBI continues to demonstrate its commitment to enhancing the relationship between federal, state and local law enforcement authorities."

As a graduate, Donahue is among leaders and managers of state and local police, sheriffs' departments, military police organizations,

and federal law enforcement agencies who participate in the invitation-only program. Participants are drawn from every state, from U.S. territories, and from more than 150 nations.

For 10 weeks, four times a year, classes of some 250 officers take undergraduate and/or graduate college courses on the Quantico, Va., campus in the following areas: Law, Behavioral Science, Forensic Science, Leadership Development, Communication, and Health/Fitness. Officers participate in a wide range

of leadership and specialized training, and they share ideas, techniques, and experiences with each other, creating lifelong partnerships that span state and national lines.

Following graduation, each officer has the opportunity to join the FBI National Academy Associates, an organization of more than 15,000 law enforcement professionals who actively work to continue developing higher levels of competency, cooperation, and integrity across the law enforcement community. ■

Challenge

continued from page 1

Penn State in the challenge was "a little nerve-racking," she adds that her experience as a cook at McElwain Dining Hall prepared her well. "I had learned a lot from Penn State," she says, "so I had a lot that I felt would be to my advantage once I got there."

Merritts competed against cooks from nine other colleges and universities in the mid-Atlantic region, racing against the clock to prepare four portions of a chicken entrée and several side dishes in just 60 minutes. A team of judges observed the contestants as they set up their workstations and prepared their recipes, then awarded points for creativity, organization, culinary technique, taste, and presentation.

It all added up to a lot of slicing, dicing, chopping, and sautéing, but Merritts remained calm and focused throughout. "I wasn't as nervous as I thought I would be," she says. "I just blocked everybody out and pretended like I was at home in the kitchen."

Each contestant had to develop his or her own original recipes for the competition—a process that started long before the cooks stepped up to their induction burners on March 6. Merritts, for one, spent weeks fine-tuning her entry, which featured blackened chicken, tropical fruit compote, sautéed zucchini, and redskin potato cups filled with Yukon and sweet potatoes. She prepared it for co-workers, friends, and family

many times in the days leading up to the challenge—and says their comments helped her perfect it.

"Everybody was really helpful," Merritts says. "I figured if I could get on the good side of just about everybody [before] I went in front of the judges, then they would probably be pleased, too."

Merritts also prepared her entrée and side dishes during a February event in Redifer Commons, when she competed with two other Penn State Food Services cooks for the honor of representing Penn State



Sue Merritts and her husband, Rodney Merritts display the certificate Sue won at the competition in March.

at the NACUFS challenge. Laychur was one of the judges. "She did a wonderful job," he noted after the Redifer event. "It takes a lot of time and a lot of effort to do the preparation for this." For busy dining hall cooks, he added, "This is over and above what they do every day." ■

Jason Godinez newest participant in F&B internship program

Jason C. Godinez is the newest participant in the Finance & Business Diversity Internship Program. He works in the Bursar's Office as assistant accountant II. Jason, a native of Queens, N.Y., attended Penn State Hazleton for two years and graduated from University Park in spring 2004 with a B.S. in Management. After graduating, he worked as a mortgage broker for about a year and a half before returning to Penn State. Jason works with the Assistant Bursar, posting debits

and credits to non-student receivables accounts. He also works with various University departments and individuals concerning issues that include group insurance, non-student medical services, short- and long-term advances, salary advances, general sales, retiree billing, and non-credit accounts.

Finance & Business launched the Diversity Internship Program in 2002, a program for graduates from diverse cultural and socio-economic backgrounds who

have a career interest in higher education management.

Designed to be the benchmark for all internships of its type, the program funds up to three internships throughout Finance & Business each year with the intent of offering available full-time positions to interns who successfully complete the program.

Thirteen internship opportunities have been offered to



Jason Godinez

students since the program began. Five interns are now in full-time jobs at Penn State.

For more information about the program, call Steve Hayes at 865-2885. ■

Finance and Business

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