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# PennState Alumni Association

## Collegian AIG

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### [AIG Call for Nominations](#)

Posted on **May 2, 2017** by [collegianaig](#)

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group is looking to fill four seats on its Board of Directors. Each involves a three-year term, beginning in the summer of 2017.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Anyone eligible for membership in the Collegian AIG — meaning anyone who once worked for The Daily Collegian — is eligible for election to the board. You must also be a member of the Penn State Alumni Association.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Members participate by telephone in periodic, hour-long sessions and in an annual meeting held in State College. In addition, members are expected to serve on committees that further the work of the board.

**HOW TO APPLY:** The Nominating Committee will advance a slate of candidates; to be considered, contact committee chairman Greg Rubin at [grubin38@gmail.com](mailto:grubin38@gmail.com) by May 15. Please include information about what you did for the Collegian, your graduating year; a resume or summary of your work experience, including your current position; and a paragraph explaining why you would like to join the board.

We worked hard and we played hard. Reconnect with fellow alumni and be part of leading the Collegian Alumni Interest Group into the future.

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## [Collegian Inc. Invites Applications for General Manager](#)

Posted on **October 11, 2016** by collegianaig



Collegian Inc., publisher of The Daily Collegian at Penn State, is seeking applications for general manager. The position requires “an outstanding leader with significant experience in digital as well as print news and business operations to provide vision, direction and inspiration in leading this independent student organization into the future of student media.”

For complete information and to apply for this position, [see the posting](#) on The Daily Collegian website.

Filed under: [AIG News](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Collegian AIG Annual Meeting Minutes](#)

Posted on **August 14, 2016** by collegianaig



**August 14, 2016**

**The Daily Collegian Office and via teleconference**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term End</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Attended</b>
Rossilynne Skena Culgan	2017	rossilynne@gmail.com	President	YES
Terrence Casey	2019	tjc246@gmail.com	Vice President & Events Chair	YES
Stacie Coleman	2019	stacie.coleman77@gmail.com	Treasurer & Events	YES
Abigail Fairman	2017	aafairman@gmail.com	Secretary & Alumni Engagement	YES
Lexi Belculfine	2019	abelculfine@gmail.com	Student Engagement	YES
Chuck Hall	2017	chuck@chuckemail.com	Alumni Engagement Chair	YES
Jordan Hyman	2019	Jordan.hyman@wsj.com	Alumni Engagement	YES
Casey McDermott	2018	casey.m.mcd@gmail.com	Student Engagement	NO
Elizabeth Murphy	2017	eam5115@gmail.com	Alumni Engagement	NO
Greg Rubin	2018	grubin38@gmail.com	Nominating/Bylaws Chair	YES
Katie Sullivan	2018	katiemaureensullivan@gmail.com	Student Engagement Chair	YES
<i>vacant</i>	2018			
Trudi Gilfillian		collegianadviser@gmail.com	TDC Professional Staff*	YES
Patti Hartranft		PAH12@psu.edu	TDC Professional Staff*	YES
Scott Witham		sjw129@psu.edu	TDC Professional Staff*	NO

\* *non-voting*

**The Daily Collegian AIG Mission Statement**

*The Daily Collegian AIG will promote The Daily Collegian and The Pennsylvania State University among prospective and current students, alumni, and friends; provide a means for alumni and friends of The Daily Collegian to connect for personal and professional enrichment; and stimulate continued interest in The Daily Collegian experience among of all its graduates.*

**Old board business**

1. Board unanimously approved July 2016 Minutes.
2. Recap of Election: we had 80 votes cast and the full slate was approved.
3. We thank Mike Signora, Andrew McGill and Renee Petrina for their service and welcome Jordan Hyman and Terry Casey to the Board.
4. Stacie delivered a check for Patti for the Brainworks invoice that included one license + an additional year for a total of \$2133.24.
5. Follow up item: Single Seat Vacancy
  1. We still have one board seat that is vacant. There are two years remaining on the term, but the individual will still be able to run for two full terms when the partial term is complete.
  2. Outgoing editor-in-chief (Shannon Sweeney) has expressed interest in helping out and the board discussed her appointment. There was some

concern about an uneven news-to-business ratio, but most believed having a recent graduate with ties to the current staff would be a benefit. Once elected, the new AIG President will make an appointment so that the Board is complete.

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  1. The board felt the biggest accomplishments of the last few years were: 125th Reunion in 2013, annual student scholarships, local meet-ups in major cities and the new Technology Fund.
  2. Majority of our efforts have been focused on fundraising and funding one-off projects for the paper. The board feels we need to focus more on alumni engagement, with the belief that the network will be more eager to donate/participate if they feel they are part of a dynamic organization.
  3. Our level of outreach to Collegian alumni also needs to improve. Several people gave examples of individuals who did not know the organization existed. Facebook pages were deemed "dormant" and the AIG website is in need of a refresh. Additionally, our lack of a proper alumni database is hurting our efforts to communicate effectively.
  4. Board Agreed that our 2016-2017 priorities will be:
    - Alumni Engagement (Chuck)
    - Alumni database (Rossilynne/Abby)
    - Alumni reunion in 2017 to mark 130 anniversary (Terry/Stacie)
1. Officer Selection
  1. All officer positions are currently valid for 2 years, but we propose to stagger them so that President and Treasurer do not reset in the same years. This will need to be approved by the membership next year.
  2. The Board unanimously approved the 2016-2017 Officers, with extensions for Vice President and Treasurer once approved by the membership.
    - President – Rossilynne Culkan (1 year 2016-2017)
    - Vice President – Terry Casey (2 year 2016 – 2018)
    - Treasurer – Stacie Coleman (2 year 2016 – 2018)
    - Secretary – Abby Fairman (1 year 2016-2017)
  3. Past President does not need to be filled at this time.

### **Committee Reports**

1. Executive Committee (Rossilynne)
  1. Treasurer's Report – balances have not changed. Checking balance is \$4,527.83 and the money market account is \$10,217.06
  2. Annual report has been submitted to the Penn State Alumni Association and accepted. Greg has confirmed Alumni Association membership for all Board members.
1. Nominating & Bylaws (Greg)
  1. Creating one committee so Greg can bring someone else up to speed on bylaws.
2. Alumni Engagement Committee (Chuck + Liz, Jordan, Abby)
  1. Changed name from Communications to Alumni Engagement.
  2. Will include website, social media, newsletter and improved alumni database.
3. Student Engagement (Katie + Lexi, Casey)
  1. Includes former Mentoring and Scholarship committees
4. Events Committee (Terry + Stacie, TBD)
  1. Includes fundraising and Alumni Reunion

### **Update from Collegian, Inc.**

- Candidate tryouts will commence on August 30.

#### General Announcements

- Committee Chairs should submit brief annual goals and plans to Rossilynne in advance of the next meeting.
- Monthly meetings will take place the second Wednesday of each month at Noon. Abby will send a new calendar invitation.

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### [On #GivingTuesday, We're Looking to the Future](#)

Posted on **December 1, 2015** by collegianaig

For years, *The Daily Collegian* has launched students to become the best in their fields. And as newsrooms change, we're helping our student journalists and sales representatives stay current with the latest technology.

This Giving Tuesday, we're dedicating all donations to a technology fund benefitting students at the Collegian. Guided by student leaders, every dollar will go to newsroom investments to keep our alma mater competitive amidst a time of great change.

[With your help, we can get there. Please give today!](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Collegian students](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

### [AIG Embarks on New Campaign to Support Collegian](#)

Posted on **November 25, 2015** by collegianaig

It's the end of an era. The Collegian's trusty steed, the belabored Subaru hatchback, [has seen its final miles](#).

Over the past two years, generous alumni like you have donated nearly \$4,000 toward the future of the aged car. Collegian students and staff have decided that they no longer need a staff car. Instead, they'll scrap what's left of the Subaru.

Now that the car has seen its last mile, our \$3,964 in alumni donations will be given to the Collegian as a one-time infusion restricted for transit uses, such as towing costs and reimbursements to students who will now use their own vehicles on Collegian assignments. We're grateful to alumni who have given so generously to this cause, and we're proud to help Collegian students with this donation. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Collegian students](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

### [Collegian AIG Board of Directors Election Results](#)

Posted on **July 31, 2015** by collegianaig

Thank you to everyone who voted in the annual Collegian AIG Board of Directors election. All the votes are in, and our three board members will be:

GREG RUBIN, '05

Collegian experience: Customer Service Manager

Current position: Digital Ad Operations Manager for A+E Networks

ROSSILYNNE SKENA CULGAN '10

Collegian experience: Editor in Chief

Current position: Marketing Communications Manager at the Carnegie Science Center

KATIE SULLIVAN '11

Collegian experience: Copy editor and reporter

Current position: Internship Coordinator for Penn State's Washington Program

The updates to the AIG's bylaws were also approved by the alumni. You can view the updated bylaws [here](#). Congratulations to our new and re-elected board members!



Additionally, the AIG annual meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 9, at The Daily Collegian office in State College. All AIG members are invited to attend either in person or by phone. If interested, please contact Rossilynne Culgan at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com).

Filed under: [AIG News](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Minutes from AIG 2013 Annual Meeting](#)

Posted on **July 28, 2015** by collegianaig

### **Meeting of AIG Board June 29, 2013**

**Attending:** Renee Petrina, Bruce Morris, Teresa Cook, Paul Rudoy, Rossilynne Skena, Andrew McGill, Greg Rubin, Susan Melle, Jerry Schwartz, Phil Gutis, Lexi Belculfine, Jen Miller and Candy Heckard.

**Absent:** Patti Hartranft, Ira Miller, Alison Kepner, Mike Signora, Jim Rodenbush.

Renee called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. and asked each member to introduce himself. She then thanked outgoing board members: [Continue reading →](#)

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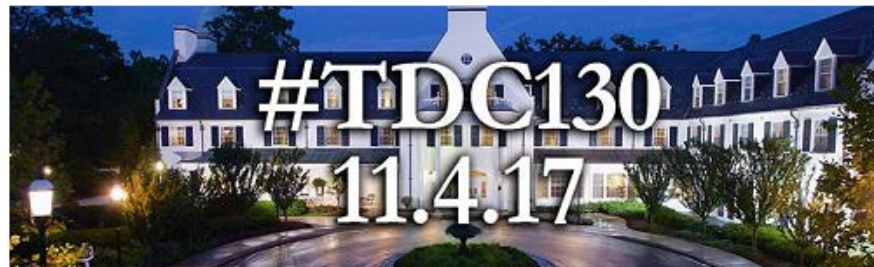
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**HOW TO APPLY:** The Nominating Committee will advance a slate of candidates; to be considered, contact committee chairman Greg Rubin at [grubin38@gmail.com](mailto:grubin38@gmail.com) by May 15. Please include information about what you did for the Collegian, your graduating year; a resume or summary of your work experience, including your current position; and a paragraph explaining why you would like to join the board.

We worked hard and we played hard. Reconnect with fellow alumni and be part of leading the Collegian Alumni Interest Group into the future.

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Stacie Coleman	2019	stacie.coleman77@gmail.com	Treasurer & Events	YES
Abigail Fairman	2017	aafairman@gmail.com	Secretary & Alumni Engagement	YES
Lexi Belculfine	2019	abelculfine@gmail.com	Student Engagement	YES
Chuck Hall	2017	chuck@chuckemail.com	Alumni Engagement Chair	YES
Jordan Hyman	2019	Jordan.hyman@wsj.com	Alumni Engagement	YES
Casey McDermott	2018	casey.m.mcd@gmail.com	Student Engagement	NO
Elizabeth Murphy	2017	eam5115@gmail.com	Alumni Engagement	NO
Greg Rubin	2018	grubin38@gmail.com	Nominating/Bylaws Chair	YES
Katie Sullivan	2018	katiemaureensullivan@gmail.com	Student Engagement Chair	YES
<i>vacant</i>	2018			
Trudi Gilfillian		collegianadviser@gmail.com	TDC Professional Staff*	YES
Patti Hartranft		PAH12@psu.edu	TDC Professional Staff*	YES
Scott Witham		sjw129@psu.edu	TDC Professional Staff*	NO

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[With your help, we can get there. Please give today!](#)

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**Pick up your memorabilia this weekend**

Posted on **October 14, 2012** by collegianaig

Does anyone else have an old(ish) Collegian T-shirt that needs to be updated? You will get your chance this weekend.



Collegian staff members will be selling commemorative 125th anniversary T-shirts on Sunday morning during tours at the Collegian office.

We'll also have bargain copies of the "Collegian Chronicles" book, which tells the story of Penn State through the pages of the paper — only \$5 plus tax!

Cash, checks, Visa and MasterCard accepted.

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Collegian Chronicles](#), [Events](#), [Reunions and gatherings](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

**5 Questions with: Marv Krasnansky**

Posted on **March 6, 2009** by collegianaig

**By Curt Harler, '71**

Marvin Krasnansky covered football for The Daily Collegian the year Joe Paterno came to Penn State to work with Rip Engle as an assistant coach for the Nittany Lions. Marv was editor during the 1951-52 academic year. A 1952 journalism graduate, he made a career in communications that spanned a half-century. More recently, he was the fireplug behind *The Collegian Chronicles*, a work of history and love that tells the history of Penn State through the pages of The Daily Collegian. He was inducted to The Collegian Alumni Hall of Fame in 2007. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Collegian Chronicles](#) | [1 Comment »](#)

**Remember when...Penn State last played in the Rose Bowl**

Posted on **December 12, 2008** by collegianaig

**A look at the pages of "The Collegian Chronicles"**

**By Julie L. Nash**  
**Managing Editor, 1994-95**

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"A national championship in sight, Penn State fans cheered on Kerry Collins, Ki-Jana Carter and Kyle Brady. They held their breath as the undefeated season almost collapsed in a close game with Indiana and then scrambled to make travel plans to Pasadena when Penn State's appearance there was confirmed. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [Collegian Chronicles](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Alumni Association recognizes AIG with book award](#)

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

**By Alison Kepner '03**

The Penn State Alumni Association honored the Collegian Alumni Interest Group this fall with its 2007 New/Innovative Event or Program Award. The Collegian AIG and the Advertising and Public Relations Affiliate Program Group were recognized for their members' work producing and marketing "*The Collegian Chronicles: A History of Penn State from the Pages of The Daily Collegian, 1887-2006.*" [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [Collegian Chronicles](#) | Tagged: [Spring 08 newsletter](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Celebrating the Collegian Chronicles](#)

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

**'The memories are what endure'**

**By Alison Kepner '03**

Collegianaires from the 1940s to the 2000s gathered in State College in June to celebrate publication of *The Collegian Chronicles: A History of Penn State From the Pages of The Daily Collegian 1887-2006*. The almost 400-page book was the collaboration of 150 Collegian alumni under the editorship of Marvin Krasnansky, '52. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [Collegian Chronicles](#) | Tagged: [Spring 08 newsletter](#) | [2 Comments »](#)

## [The Penn State story, Collegian-style.](#)

Posted on **February 27, 2008** by collegianaig

If it is true that journalists write the first draft of history, then the Daily Collegian has drafted the history of Penn State. Now that saga, written over the course of nearly 120 years, has been collected in a new book, *The Collegian Chronicles: A History of Penn State from the Pages of the Daily Collegian, 1887-2006*. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [Collegian Chronicles](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

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## On #GivingTuesday, We're Looking to the Future

Posted on December 1, 2015 by collegianaig

For years, *The Daily Collegian* has launched students to become the best in their fields. And as newsrooms change, we're helping our student journalists and sales representatives stay current with the latest technology.

This Giving Tuesday, we're dedicating all donations to a technology fund benefitting students at the Collegian. Guided by student leaders, every dollar will go to newsroom investments to keep our alma mater competitive amidst a time of great change.

[With your help, we can get there. Please give today!](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Collegian students](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## AIG Embarks on New Campaign to Support Collegian

Posted on November 25, 2015 by collegianaig

It's the end of an era. The Collegian's trusty steed, the belabored Subaru hatchback, [has seen its final miles](#).

Over the past two years, generous alumni like you have donated nearly \$4,000 toward the future of the aged car. Collegian students and staff have decided that they no longer need a staff car. Instead, they'll scrap what's left of the Subaru.

Now that the car has seen its last mile, our \$3,964 in alumni donations will be given to the Collegian as a one-time infusion restricted for transit uses, such as towing costs and reimbursements to students who will now use their own vehicles on Collegian assignments. We're grateful to alumni who have given so generously to this cause, and we're proud to help Collegian students with this donation. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Collegian students](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## Daily Collegian wins Online Pacemaker Award

Posted on March 30, 2015 by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian was awarded an Online Pacemaker Award during the National College Media Convention held Oct. 28 to Nov. 2 in Philadelphia.

The Pacemaker award is the highest award given by the Associated Collegiate Press to online college student publications. This competition replaces ACP's Best of the Net

student publications. [Continue reading →](#)

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## Reflections on a win — Upholding a tradition

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Posted on **January 17, 2013** by collegianaig

*When the Collegian was honored with a Pacemaker Award in November, we asked for some reactions from the professional staff. Here is the reaction column from Patti Hartranft, the paper's general manager.*

It's an honor just to be nominated. Isn't that what the Hollywood nominees tell us every year? In the last 30 years, Collegian has been honored with a Pacemaker nomination 11 times. From those 11 nominations, two Pacemaker awards have found their way to our trophy case.

And yes, we have been honored by other organizations. Columbia Scholastic Press Association has given us enough Silver Crowns and Gold Crowns to earn a Royal Burger King franchise. The Society of Professional Journalists has bestowed regional and national awards for individual achievement. We have some top national reporting award-winners from Hearst via the College of Communications. There are other state and national awards that recognize Collegian's achievements through the years, both in news and business.

Walk around the James Building basement and you'll find award certificates on walls and bulletin boards. Many of the plaques are in the trophy cases on the second floor, but in the storage area, you'll find a box of older awards.

So what does this all mean? [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Collegian students](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Collegian wins a Pacemaker](#)

Posted on **December 17, 2012** by collegianaig



The visual announcement of the Collegian's award — the coveted daily newspaper Pacemaker.

**By Jim Rodenbush**  
**The Daily Collegian News Advisor**

The Daily Collegian received six honors, including a Newspaper Pacemaker Award, from the Associated Collegiate Press at the ACP/CMA National College Media Convention.

The Collegian was selected as a Pacemaker winner in the Four-year Daily Newspaper category, along with four other publications, for its work during the 2011-12 publishing year. The Collegian staff earned its second Newspaper Pacemaker and first since 1985. The newspaper has been a finalist for the award 11 times, most recently in 2010. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [Collegian students](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Collegian, alumni win big](#)

Posted on **August 6, 2012** by collegianaig

You've heard, no doubt, about these recent accomplishments of Collegian alumni — and the newspaper itself. We want to share your news, too! Please send us an email at [brucem5@aol.com](mailto:brucem5@aol.com) with Collegian Alumni News in your subject line.

### **Collegian alumna wins Bronze Medal**

Natalie Dell, 27, was in the bow seat in the women's quadruple sculls for the United States when the team won its bronze medal at the 2012 Olympics in London. Read more in the [Cumberland Times-News](#). For more about Natalie, check out her public [Facebook page](#).

[Continue reading →](#)

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## [Editor-in-Chief reflects on coverage of Sandusky indictment](#)

Posted on **December 20, 2011** by collegianaig

By Lexi Belcufine

Editor-in-Chief, The Daily Collegian

For what should have been any other fall semester — reaching its apex with around-the-clock Homecoming coverage and the stellar football stories The Daily Collegian has become known for — it has been cracked into two segments: before Nov. 5 and after Nov. 5. [Continue reading →](#)

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### [AIG Annual Meeting Date Set](#)

Posted on **June 27, 2015** by collegianaig

The AIG annual meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 9 at The Daily Collegian offices in State College. All AIG members are invited to attend either in person or by phone. If interested, please contact Rossilynne Culgan at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com).

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Events](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

### [Annual meeting, pizza with students](#)

Posted on **June 18, 2014** by collegianaig

The board of the Collegian Alumni Interest Group will hold its annual meeting on July 19.

All Collegian alumni and friends are welcome to attend the annual meeting! **Please join us on Saturday, July 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Collegian offices in State College, 123 S. Burrowes St.**

We will be inviting current Collegian students to stop by for pizza and soda immediately following the meeting. If alumni are planning to attend, please RSVP to collegianaig [at] gmail [dot] com so we know how much pizza to order.

A roundup of annual meeting business will appear on the Collegian AIG website and in our next e-newsletter.

Not getting our emails? [Sign up here!](#)Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Events](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

### [2002 Subaru Legacy ready for retirement](#)

Posted on **January 8, 2014** by collegianaig

#### By The Collegian Car

Oh, the places I've been. The students I've known. The stories I've sent. The ads/money I handled. And yes, I even got a few tickets in my days. You know, parking and such. [Continue reading →](#)

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### [Your help needed to replace 'Collegian Car'](#)

Posted on **January 8, 2014** by collegianaig

Who says the season of giving is over?

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Your Collegian Alumni Interest Group is raising money to replace the Collegian's old [Subaru station wagon](#), which is crucial for students in the news and business divisions, and **we need YOUR help!**

On Feb. 8, in New York City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington D.C., we're asking alumni and friends of the Collegian to gather, drink, be merry — and fundraise. We're hoping to raise \$500 at a casual happy hour in each city, or \$2,000 toward an overall goal of \$15,000 to \$20,000. But that's just our goal; may the best city raise much more!

Please purchase tickets in advance through your city's Eventbrite page. Links to each city are below. Hosts will accept checks made payable to the Collegian AIG at the event. No cash, please. Additional donations can also be made through Eventbrite. (And if your company matches donations, the Collegian AIG is a 501(c)3 organization.)

Thank you for your contribution and helping to ensure the continued success of the students at the Collegian.

## The details

### New York City

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/341463592660433/?ref=22>

Get tickets or donate here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-york-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10130774419>

### Philadelphia

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/437104493082941/?ref=22>

Get tickets or donate here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/philadelphia-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10202067659>

### Pittsburgh

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/237326983102813/?ref=22>

Get tickets or donate here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pittsburgh-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10048028925>

### Washington, D.C.

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/471885136251526/?ref=22>

Get tickets or donate here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dc-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10130718251>

### Other cities

So you don't live in or near one of our four event cities? You can still participate in the fundraiser and have your own toast to the Collegian on Feb. 8. We're also collecting tax-deductible donations toward the Collegian Car Fund

here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/worldwide-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10202131851>

Filed under: [Events](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Welcome to our new board members](#)

Posted on **June 28, 2013** by collegianaig

Thank you to all of the Collegian alumni who participated in our recent election for new board members.

The following four alumni are new to the board, and will begin their terms at our annual meeting tomorrow:

- Lexi Belcuffine, '12
- Phil Gutis, '84
- Susan Melle, '85
- Jennifer Miller, '04

And we welcome back the following two board members, who have been re-elected to new terms:

- Andrew McGill, '10
- Michael Signora, '96

We will be running our annual meeting LIVE via Adobe Connect at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Collegian offices. Check here before the meeting begins, and we'll post a link.

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Events](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [AIG Board annual meeting](#)

Posted on **May 15, 2013** by collegianaig

The board of directors of the Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group will hold its annual meeting at the end of June.

The meeting will be June 29 (a Saturday), at the Collegian offices in State College, Pa. The meeting is open to the public and starts at 1 p.m..

New officer terms officially begin at the annual meeting. Please join us if you can!

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Events](#), [Uncategorized](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Congratulations to the Collegian AIG](#)

Posted on **May 14, 2013** by collegianaig

All of you who attended our reunion last fall know it was awesome, right?

Now Penn State has officially recognized its awesomeness.

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group won an Alumni Council award in the Fellowship and Networking category this year! We were among more than 100 nominations from other AIGs and regional chapters.

Congratulations once again to all who were involved in the planning of the reunion weekend. Let's keep up the momentum and continue to have great networking events for all generations of Collegianaires.

Do you have ideas of future networking events you'd like to see or participate in? Tell us in the comments!

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Events](#), [Reunions and gatherings](#), [Uncategorized](#) | Tagged: [award](#), [daily collegian](#), [penn state alumni association](#), [reunion](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)





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## [Collegian Alumni Interest Group mentoring program revamped](#)

Posted on [March 30, 2015](#) by [collegianaig](#)

Calling all Collegian alums, from news and business: Think about the work you're doing right now. Now, think about your time at the Collegian. What do you wish you'd known then? Or what did you learn then that helped you — maybe in some unexpected way — once you graduated? Now, hold that thought.

We're revamping the Collegian Alumni Interest Group mentoring program, and we'd love for you to be a part of it. If you think you might have some wisdom to offer today's Collegianaires, and if you might be willing to spare a day in State College meeting with those students in a classroom setting back in the James Building, we (and the Collegian) could use your help. The time frame on this is flexible and can be adjusted depending on the demands of your schedule. What we really need right now are volunteers who might be interested in participating. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Mentoring](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

### [Mentors needed!](#)

Posted on [October 9, 2008](#) by [collegianaig](#)**by Ira Miller, '66**

We need mentors! We need copy editors, news reporters, business reporters, business-side workers, photographers, and designers. We need mentors from just about every position in the newspaper business, either past or present.

I know this is a tough time. Many of you may be looking for jobs or otherwise just trying to make ends meet, but you need something to feel good about too! There are a lot of eager, young folks on the *Collegian* staff who want to learn more about newspapers and the communication business. They need advice and feedback on what they are doing today and where their chosen career path might lead them. All we ask for is a little of your time; you mentor by phone or e-mail and, for the most part, the student will set the pace. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Mentoring](#) | [2 Comments »](#)

### [Mentoring: Giving back for free](#)

Posted on [May 27, 2008](#) by [collegianaig](#)**By Ira Miller '66**

This is what's known as giveback time for alumni.

We don't want your money (well, actually, we'd kind of like it, but I'll let someone else

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deal with that).

All I am asking for is your time. Just a little. The same kind of time that, most likely, someone gave you when you were just starting out. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Mentoring](#) | Tagged: [Spring 08 newsletter](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

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## Celebration photos now available!

Posted on **October 23, 2012** by collegianaig

What a terrific 125th anniversary celebration! Thanks to all who participated. An album is now available for viewing, sharing and ordering photos — check it out:



[Click here to view the album](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Photos](#), [Reunions and gatherings](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## AIG's Kodak moments

Posted on **March 6, 2008** by collegianaig

We now have a growing album on flickr.com where you can view photos from past AIG events. Currently, we have photos from the 1999 reunion, the 2007 celebration of the Chronicles publication, and the Penn State Alumni Association Volunteer Award presentation.

To view all the photos, [click here](#).

If you'd like your photos from AIG events to appear on the site, e-mail them to [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com).

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## AIG Call for Nominations

Posted on **May 2, 2017** by collegianaig

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group is looking to fill four seats on its Board of Directors. Each involves a three-year term, beginning in the summer of 2017.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Anyone eligible for membership in the Collegian AIG — meaning anyone who once worked for The Daily Collegian — is eligible for election to the board. You must also be a member of the Penn State Alumni Association.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Members participate by telephone in periodic, hour-long sessions and in an annual meeting held in State College. In addition, members are expected to serve on committees that further the work of the board.

**HOW TO APPLY:** The Nominating Committee will advance a slate of candidates; to be considered, contact committee chairman Greg Rubin at [grubin38@gmail.com](mailto:grubin38@gmail.com) by May 15. Please include information about what you did for the Collegian, your graduating year; a resume or summary of your work experience, including your current position; and a paragraph explaining why you would like to join the board.

We worked hard and we played hard. Reconnect with fellow alumni and be part of leading the Collegian Alumni Interest Group into the future.

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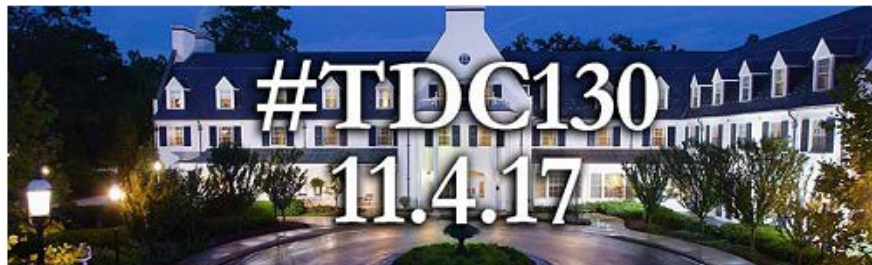
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### About the AIG

~ Collegian alumni connecting in the Penn State tradition~

The Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group provides opportunities for alumni and friends of the Daily Collegian to come together for professional and personal interests.

Here are just a few of the AIG's events and activities:

- Alumni weekend
- Scholarship
- Mentoring
- Newsletter
- Alumni of Distinction Awards
- Alumni Directory

The Penn State Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group is an affiliate group of the Penn State Alumni Association, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit association.

#### Daily Collegian AIG Meeting Minutes

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**Vice President: Terry Casey, '09**  
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 TERM ENDS 2019

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**Liz Murphy, '11**  
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**Greg Rubin, '05**

Digital Ad Operations Manager at A+E Networks

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TERM ENDS 2018

**Katie Sullivan, '11**

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TERM ENDS 2018

**Shannon Sweeney, '16**

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(Immediate past president: Renée Petrina, '04)

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**News Adviser: Trudi Gilfillian**

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**Bylaws**

BYLAWS OF THE DAILY COLLEGIAN ALUMNI INTEREST GROUP OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
*Collegian AIG Membership Ratified: 8/9/2015*

ARTICLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1: Name

The name of this organization shall be The Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group of The Pennsylvania State University (The Daily Collegian AIG or Collegian AIG).

Section 2: Mission

The Daily Collegian AIG will promote The Daily Collegian and The Pennsylvania State University among prospective and current students, alumni, and friends; provide a means for alumni and friends of The Daily Collegian to connect for personal and professional enrichment; and stimulate continued interest in The Daily Collegian experience among of all its graduates.

Section 3: Membership

A. Full Membership

Full Membership in The Daily Collegian AIG is available to individuals who have worked on the staff of The Daily Collegian. All members are strongly encouraged to join the Penn State Alumni Association.

B. Affiliate Membership

Any person who desires to support the continued success and ideals of The Daily Collegian shall be eligible for non-voting affiliate membership. Affiliate members are entitled to all other benefits of membership and may be subject to requirements established by the board. The total number of affiliate members shall not at any time exceed the number of full members.

Section 4: Conflicts

This constitution and bylaws and its amendments must not be in conflict with the constitution of the Penn State Alumni Association or the rules and regulations for Alumni Interest Groups (AIGs) as established by the Executive Board of the Penn State Alumni Council.

Section 5: Power to Amend

The Board shall have the power to recommend changes to these Bylaws or adopt new documents. Proposed changes to the Bylaws will be distributed to Board members at least 30 days prior to the vote. Amendments shall be subject to a vote by the general membership and require a popular "YES" of the vote for approval.

ARTICLE II: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: Authority

The business and affairs of the Collegian AIG shall be managed and controlled by the Board of Directors.

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## Section 2: Powers

The Board of Directors shall:

- A. Formulate the general policies to be followed in the management of the affairs, property and business of the Collegian AIG;
- B. Create and disband committees as necessary. The President of the Board shall appoint members of such committees if needed; and
- C. Remove a member of the Board for cause by majority vote.

## Section 3: Composition and Number of Members

- A. Twelve full members;
- B. The immediate past president of the board if otherwise not a full member. Voting privileges apply only to break ties if not already a full member.
- C. Three Collegian advisers, who shall not have a vote.

## Section 4: Eligibility

- A. Any individual wishing to serve on the Board of Directors must be eligible for Full Membership as described in Article I, Section 3. In addition, Board members are required to be members of the Penn State Alumni Association.
- B. Not more than three members from the same graduating year shall simultaneously serve on the Board of Directors. If the number of candidates in any election could violate this provision, the candidates will be seated according to the number of votes each receives (greatest to least number of votes). After three Board seats are filled in accordance with this section, the remaining candidates from that graduating year will be disqualified from the election.

## Section 5: Terms of Office

- A. Terms commence at the first Board meeting after election results are known.
- B. All members of the Board of Directors shall serve three-year terms.
- C. Terms of all officers shall be two years commencing at the first meeting of the Board after election results are known. Board Members may be in consideration for officer positions so long as he or she is not in the final year of their second term or in the final year of their first term and do not plan to be reelected to the Board.
- D. No voting member of the board shall be elected for more than two consecutive terms.
- E. The members of the Board shall continue in office until their successors are elected. The President shall assume the office of Immediate Past President if eligible.

## Section 6: Work Sessions

- A. The Board of Directors shall meet by telephone conference, at least on a quarterly basis.
- B. Based on need, the Board may call special meetings.
- C. The Board shall hold an annual meeting, which shall be open to all members of the Collegian AIG.

## Section 7: Quorum

At all meetings of the Board, a quorum shall be a majority of able-voting members. A quorum is required to transact all business of the Board.

## Section 8: Resignation

- A. Any board member may resign at any time by giving written notice of his or her resignation to the President of the Board of Directors. Any such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein or, if the time when it shall become effective is not specified therein, immediately upon receipt. Unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of any such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
- B. The President shall appoint an AIG member to fulfill the unexpired term of a board member who resigns or is removed for cause.
- C. The President may also ask the Nominating Committee for nominations to fulfill any unexpired term.

## Section 9: Removal

Board members who fail to attend seventy-five percent of work sessions or meetings

each year may be dismissed by a majority vote of the remaining Board of Directors and a successor may be appointed as a vacancy to complete the unexpired term.

#### Section 10: Compensation

Directors will serve without compensation for their services.

### ARTICLE III: NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS

#### Section 1: Nominating Committee

The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of not fewer than three members. The Nominating Committee will prepare a slate of qualified candidates. The Nominating Committee shall determine that members nominated are agreeable to the placing of their names in nomination and will accept office if elected.

#### Section 2: Notice and Deadline for Candidates

- A. The Nominating Committee shall announce board vacancies by publication on the Collegian AIG website and in the Collegian AIG newsletter 120 days prior to the date of the election.
- B. The Notice shall include contact information for the Nominating Committee and the deadline for nominations.

#### Section 3: Nomination by Committee, Self-Nomination, and Deadline

- A. Directors and officers shall be eligible for reelection unless he or she is completing their second term. Reelection is not automatic. If the Nominating Committee deems reelection appropriate, the Committee shall inquire whether sitting directors and officers are willing to be re-nominated prior to advancing their candidacies.
- B. The Nominating Committee will recruit members willing to be nominated by the Committee.
- C. Any eligible AIG member interested in serving on the Board of Directors who is not advanced by the Nominating Committee may be self-nominated by forwarding to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, by electronic or regular mail, a resume and statement describing interest of the candidate in serving on the Board of Directors and 20 Collegian AIG member signatures in support of their candidacy. The deadline for self-nominations shall be 30 days prior to the date of the election.
- D. All candidates must be members of the Penn State Alumni Association.
- E. The Nominating Committee shall issue a preliminary slate of nominees within 60 days of the deadline for election. The slate shall immediately be announced on the Collegian AIG website. The published announcement of the slate shall include information that individuals not included in the preliminary slate of the Nominating Committee may be nominated by petition and signatures as set forth in paragraph C above.

#### Section 4: Elections

- A. As set forth in Article 3, Section 3, the final slate of nominees, which includes statements of qualifications and biographical data, shall be published on the Collegian AIG website no later than 20 days prior to the election. The slate shall be presented in alphabetical order.
- B. Members shall be elected by popular vote of full members of the AIG prior to the annual meeting with ballots due 10 days prior to the annual meeting.
- C. The Board shall elect Officers from among current members of the Board at the annual meeting.
- D. Prior to the annual meeting, the results of the election shall be published on the Collegian AIG website.

### ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

The Board of Directors shall elect by majority vote from among its members the following Officers, which shall comprise the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Board of Directors of the Collegian AIG:

#### Section 1: President

- A. The duties of the President shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Act as a spokesperson for the affairs and acts of the AIG;

2. Set the agenda and conduct scheduled meetings of the Board;
3. Appoint members of committees, as needed;
4. Perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him or her by the Board of Directors.
5. Act as liaison to the Penn State Alumni Association.

#### Section 2: Vice-President

- A. The duties of the Vice President shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. In the absence of the President or in the event of the President's inability or refusal to act, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. The Vice-President shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to the Vice- President by the President or by the Board of Directors;
  2. Support the President;
  3. Coordinate activities of the group;
  4. Provide direct support to committee chairs.

#### Section 3: Secretary

- A. The duties of the Secretary shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. Record and file the minutes of all meetings;
  2. Read the minutes of previous meetings;
  3. Locate and reserve meeting rooms;
  4. Record attendance at meetings;
  5. Keep and maintain official records of the group, including membership and committee rosters.

#### Section 4: Treasurer

- A. The duties of the Treasurer shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. Record and maintain all official financial records;
  2. Report all financial transactions;
  3. Provide a financial report to the Board at each work session.

#### Section 5: Removal

Any officer may be removed for cause (i.e. failure to perform duties, failure to attend meetings, official conduct detrimental to the cause) by a majority vote of the directors during any board meeting provided prior notice of such intent is given to all directors.

### ARTICLE V: COMMITTEES

#### Section 1: Committee Structure

- A. The Board will create and dissolve Committees on an as needed basis depending on the current priorities established in the annual meeting.
- B. Once established, Committees will create a summary of goals that will be posted on the Collegian AIG website for public consumption.
- C. Each Committee must include at least one Board member.
- D. Committees may include non-Board members except in the case of the Executive Committee.

#### Section 2: Executive Committee

- A. The Executive Committee is the only permanent standing Committee and cannot be dissolved.
- B. The Executive Committee will be comprised of the officers of the Board, including the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the immediate past President. The Executive Committee shall: monitor budgets; establish policy; possess and exercise the powers of the Board in the management of the affairs and property of the Collegian AIG during the intervals between Board meetings; and report all of its actions and recommendations to the Board at its next meeting.

### ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

#### Section 1: Member Meetings



A. An annual Collegian AIG members meeting shall be held on a weekend at a place determined by the Board. Written notice of the annual meeting shall be published by the Board Secretary on the Collegian AIG website at least 30 days in advance.

Section 2: Work Sessions

There shall be at least quarterly Work Sessions of the Board.

Section 3: Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board may be called by or at the request of the President, or by any three directors currently in office.

### One Response

David Pellnitz (Editor in chief "53), on [March 30, 2015 at 4:23 pm](#) said:



The neeeew by-laws seem to cover everything needed. Good job!

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**The Daily Collegian Regional Meet-Ups Schedule Planned**

Posted on **June 27, 2015** by collegianaig

Tickets for #tdcmeetup 2015 are now on sale! Last year, New York edged out Pittsburgh to raise the most for Collegian student journalists and business team members. This time around, two new cities are entering the fray: Boston and State College. Buy tickets now to see old friends, build a technology fund for the Collegian newsroom and enjoy a frosty brew.

Boston: [Tickets](#) | [Facebook Event](#)

New York City: [Tickets](#) | [Facebook Event](#)

Philadelphia: [Tickets](#) | [Facebook Event](#)

Pittsburgh: [Tickets](#) | [Facebook Event](#)

State College: [Tickets](#) | [Facebook Event](#)

Washington, D.C.: [Tickets](#) | [Facebook Event](#)

Filed under: [Reunions and gatherings](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

**2015 Regional Daily Collegian meet-up week scheduled**

Posted on **March 30, 2015** by collegianaig

Last spring, four local Daily Collegian happy hours — in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New York and Washington, D.C. — brought hundreds of alumni together and raised more than \$3,000. We're bringing it back this year, bigger and better — literally!

Join us July 13-19 for a summertime #tdcmeetup spanning four cities and a whole week. Same idea — hang out with fellow alumni and share a drink to the benefit of students — but with each city staking out its own fundraising day. Plus, warmth. There's sure to be some competition to raise the most!

Details to follow. We're looking for volunteers interested in helping organize in all cities. Drop a line to Andrew ([andrewrmcgill@gmail.com](mailto:andrewrmcgill@gmail.com)) or Rossilynne ([rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com)) if you're willing to lend a hand.

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Reunions and gatherings](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

**Congratulations to the Collegian AIG**

All of you who attended our reunion last fall know it was awesome, right?

Now Penn State has officially recognized its awesomeness.

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group won an Alumni Council award in the Fellowship

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and Networking category this year! We were among more than 100 nominations from other AIGs and regional chapters.

Congratulations once again to all who were involved in the planning of the reunion weekend. Let's keep up the momentum and continue to have great networking events for all generations of Collegianaires.

Do you have ideas of future networking events you'd like to see or participate in? Tell us in the comments!

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Events](#), [Reunions and gatherings](#), [Uncategorized](#) | Tagged: [award](#), [daily collegian](#), [penn state alumni association](#), [reunion](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Celebration photos now available!](#)

Posted on **October 23, 2012** by collegianaig

What a terrific 125th anniversary celebration! Thanks to all who participated. An album is now available for viewing, sharing and ordering photos — check it out:



[Click here to view the album](#)

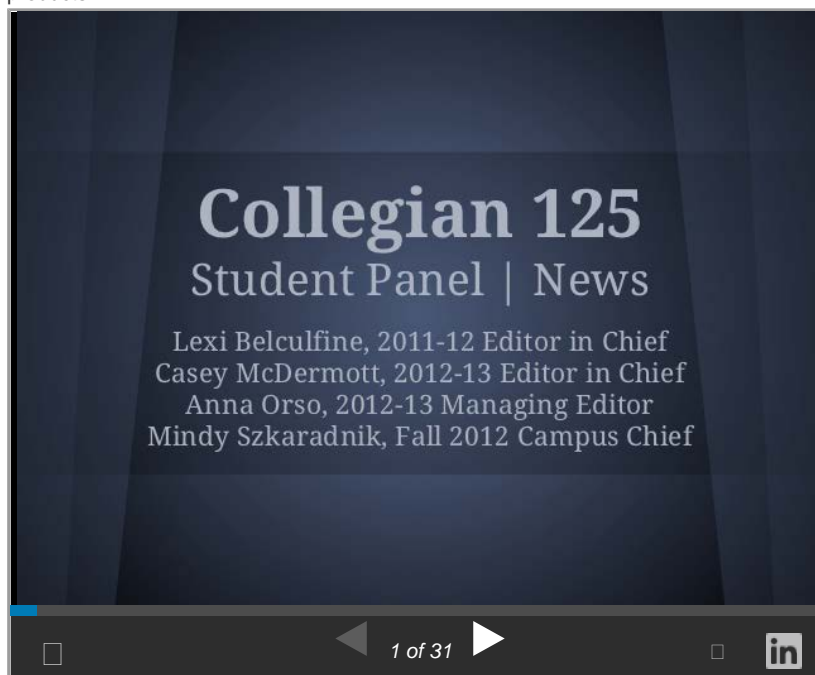
Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Photos](#), [Reunions and gatherings](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## [Collegian student leaders address alumni at panel](#)

Posted on **October 20, 2012** by collegianaig

More than 70 alumni and friends of the Collegian turned out this morning for a student panel about the Sandusky scandal. Students answered questions about the challenges they faced and whether they even went to class during that hectic time.

Here is a slideshow from the News Division giving a timeline of planning and news products.



Unable to join us? Follow the events on Twitter (hashtags [#tdc125](#) and [#collegian125](#))

are in play) and stay tuned for more updates.

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Events](#), [Reunions and gatherings](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## **Pick up your memorabilia this weekend**

Posted on **October 14, 2012** by collegianaig

Does anyone else have an old(ish) Collegian T-shirt that needs to be updated? You will get your chance this weekend.

Collegian staff members will be selling commemorative 125th anniversary T-shirts on Sunday morning during tours at the Collegian office.

We'll also have bargain copies of the "Collegian Chronicles" book, which tells the story of Penn State through the pages of the paper — only \$5 plus tax!



Cash, checks, Visa and MasterCard accepted.

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Collegian Chronicles](#), [Events](#), [Reunions and gatherings](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

## **Tour AccuWeather Oct. 19!**

Posted on **September 15, 2012** by collegianaig

Attending the Collegian's anniversary celebration? If you're arriving early on Friday, Oct. 19, please consider touring AccuWeather's world headquarters in State College.

Dr. Joel Myers — a Collegian alumnus and founder, president and chairman of the board of AccuWeather, Inc. — has offered the facility for tours.

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### [Collegian hires news adviser](#)

Posted on **July 25, 2014** by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian has hired Trudi Gilfillian as its news adviser.

Gilfillian has been a reporter and weekend news director at The Press of Atlantic City. She also simultaneously served as newspaper adviser at Atlantic Cape Community College and on the faculty at Atlantic Cape.

"We're excited to have Trudi on board," said Patti Hartranft, Collegian general manager.

Filed under: [Uncategorized](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

### [Elections of officers and board members](#)

Posted on **July 19, 2014** by collegianaig

Rossilyne Skena '10 is the new board president of the Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group, having been elected during the organization's annual meeting on Saturday, July 19 in State College.

Prior to the meeting, the Collegian alumni also elected three new members of the AIG board. They are Abigail Fairman '99, Liz Murphy '11 and Ramit Plushnik-Masti '95.

At the board meeting, Lexi Belculfine '12 was elected vice-president, and Fairman was elected secretary.

Congratulations to all the new board members and officers.

Stay in touch with the AIG on Facebook or Twitter for the latest on social activities and ways to support current Collegian students.

Filed under: [Uncategorized](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

### [Penn State student news organization seeks news adviser](#)

Posted on **June 5, 2014** by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian is hiring a news adviser.

Adviser Jim Rodenbush, who had held the position since 2011, left the Collegian in May for personal reasons. He is now working as a regional digital editor for Southern Illinois with GateHouse Media.

deadline is 5 p.m. June 18.

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## [News Division scholarship goes to Sam Janesch](#)

Posted on **May 15, 2014** by collegianaig

As he maps his year-long tenure as Collegian's editor-in-chief, Sam Janesch plans to enhance the newspaper's Web product.

"(I'm) really focused on new media and digital," he said. "I want to make the digital aspect of the Collegian look different, more engaging."

Janesch began his job as the news division's top editor this month, a role that demands countless hours. Throughout his term, he'll be bolstered by the Collegian Alumni Interest Group's merit-based scholarship, assistance he calls "incredible."

"(It's) important for me and my parents. I've committed myself, sacrificing other work (options)," he said.

The print journalism major and English minor, a senior, plans to graduate in 2015. He joined the Collegian as a freshman, after graduating from Great Valley High School in Chester County. Janesch covered a variety of news stories, including greek life, THON, administration and crime. He then earned editing roles, serving as campus editor and twice as news editor.

When he's not tracking down news stories and leading reporters, Janesch enjoys the outdoors and movies. But his loyalty lies in the newsroom's basement office along South Burrowes Street.

"You just fall in love with this place ... the people and the work. It's incredibly rewarding," he said. "I made all my best friends here."

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## [Business Division scholarship goes to Victoria Lamina](#)

Posted on **May 15, 2014** by collegianaig

Victoria Lamina is honored to have been chosen as a recipient of one of this year's Collegian AIG scholarships.

"What the Collegian has taught me has been invaluable," Lamina said.

Joining the Collegian's Business Division in the spring of 2012 during her first year at Penn State, Lamina said her time with The Daily Collegian has been one of most rewarding parts of her collegiate career. Her ease into learning various roles within the paper provided the perseverance needed into growing her skills as a manager of the Layout department, blocking out the ads sold for each day's printing.

"The Collegian is an amazing, amazing publication, and I look forward to spending my senior year within its office doors," said the art history and journalism major who plans to graduate in 2015.

In her hope of being hired in the field of publishing and page design, this summer she will be applying her skills as an Editorial Beauty Intern for Marie Claire in New York City. Lamina then looks forward to re-joining the Layout department in the fall after a recent study abroad in Rome.

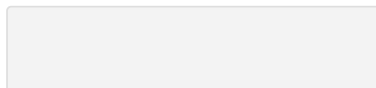
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## [Thank you, Dean Doug Anderson!](#)

Posted on **May 13, 2014** by collegianaig

For the past 15 years, Collegian Inc., has had support from an office you might not expect – an administrator. In his 15 years as [Dean of the College of Communications](#), Douglas Anderson has been a clear supporter of the student news organization – even though Collegian Inc. is independent of the university.

Dean Anderson has always seen the Collegian as a valuable training ground



where students hone their skills beyond the classroom. He taught an in-depth reporting class that enrolled many Collegian students whose work won countless Hearst Foundation awards.

“He knows that the combination of strong classroom instruction and a strong student paper make a powerful impact, on campus and on our students,” said Steve Sampsell, director of college relations for the College of Communications.

Alumni who attended the Collegian AIG’s October 2012 reunion event might not know that Dean Anderson supported us from the early planning stages. Collegian alumni were granted use of Carnegie Building at no charge for the weekend’s events, and the college helped defray costs for our guest speaker. Because of Dean Anderson’s support, more ticket revenue was able to be directed toward our scholarship endowment.

And for years, the College has provided financial administration to the [Collegian Alumni Interest Group Scholarship endowment](#), which rewards one Business and one News staff member each year with more than \$1,000 toward tuition. Our deserving recipients are feted by the college at an annual awards dinner.

[Dean Anderson is retiring at the end of June](#), and the Collegian AIG board wants to thank him for his steadfast support of Collegian Inc. during his tenure at the helm of the College of Communications. That’s why the board is making a donation to the Trustee Scholarship in Honor of Dean Douglas Anderson.

Thank you, Dean Anderson, for your unwavering support.

-Renée Petrina

President, Collegian AIG board

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## [How to donate to the Collegian AIG Scholarship Fund](#)

Posted on **May 6, 2014** by collegianaig

Our scholarship fund has more than \$50,000 in principal and grows as part of the larger Penn State endowment.

[Click here to be taken to Penn State’s online giving site.](#)

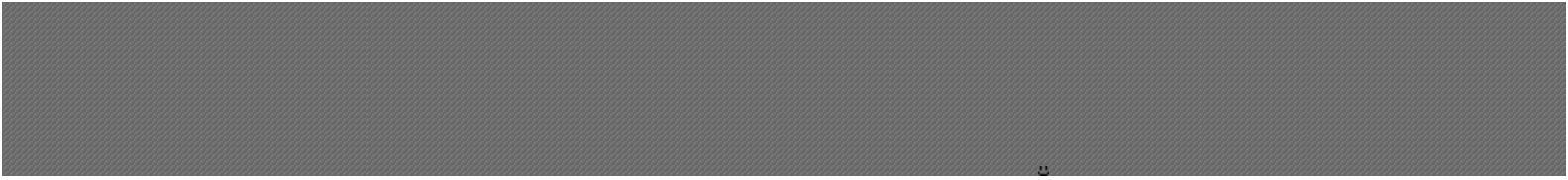
Check the box for “other” on the first page and be sure to type in “Collegian AIG Scholarship” in the comments box.

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Doug Anderson has served as dean of the College of Communications since 1999.





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## Collegian Inc. Invites Applications for General Manager

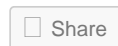
Posted on October 11, 2016 by collegianaig



Collegian Inc., publisher of The Daily Collegian at Penn State, is seeking applications for general manager. The position requires “an outstanding leader with significant experience in digital as well as print news and business operations to provide vision, direction and inspiration in leading this independent student organization into the future of student media.”

For complete information and to apply for this position, [see the posting](#) on The Daily Collegian website.

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**Collegian AIG Annual Meeting Minutes**

Posted on **August 14, 2016** by collegianaig

**August 14, 2016**

The Daily Collegian Office and via teleconference

Name	Term End	Email	Role	Attended
Rossilynne Skena Culgan	2017	rossilynne@gmail.com	President	YES
Terrence Casey	2019	tjc246@gmail.com	Vice President & Events Chair	YES
Stacie Coleman	2019	stacie.coleman77@gmail.com	Treasurer & Events	YES
Abigail Fairman	2017	aafairman@gmail.com	Secretary & Alumni Engagement	YES
Lexi Belculfine	2019	abelculfine@gmail.com	Student Engagement	YES
Chuck Hall	2017	chuck@chuckemail.com	Alumni Engagement Chair	YES
Jordan Hyman	2019	Jordan.hyman@wsj.com	Alumni Engagement	YES
Casey McDermott	2018	casey.m.mcd@gmail.com	Student Engagement	NO
Elizabeth Murphy	2017	eam5115@gmail.com	Alumni Engagement	NO
Greg Rubin	2018	grubin38@gmail.com	Nominating/Bylaws Chair	YES
Katie Sullivan	2018	katiemaureensullivan@gmail.com	Student Engagement Chair	YES
vacant	2018			
Trudi Gilfillian		collegianadviser@gmail.com	TDC Professional Staff*	YES
Patti Hartranft		PAH12@psu.edu	TDC Professional Staff*	YES
Scott Witham		sjw129@psu.edu	TDC Professional Staff*	NO

\* non-voting

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*The Daily Collegian AIG will promote The Daily Collegian and The Pennsylvania State University among prospective and current students, alumni, and friends; provide a means for alumni and friends of The Daily Collegian to connect for personal and professional enrichment; and stimulate continued interest in The Daily Collegian experience among of all its graduates.*

#### **Old board business**

1. Board unanimously approved July 2016 Minutes.
2. Recap of Election: we had 80 votes cast and the full slate was approved.
3. We thank Mike Signora, Andrew McGill and Renee Petrina for their service and welcome Jordan Hyman and Terry Casey to the Board.
4. Stacie delivered a check for Patti for the Brainworks invoice that included one license + an additional year for a total of \$2133.24.
5. Follow up item: Single Seat Vacancy
  1. We still have one board seat that is vacant. There are two years remaining on the term, but the individual will still be able to run for two full terms when the partial term is complete.
  2. Outgoing editor-in-chief (Shannon Sweeney) has expressed interest in helping out and the board discussed her appointment. There was some concern about an uneven news-to-business ratio, but most believed having a recent graduate with ties to the current staff would be a benefit. Once elected, the new AIG President will make an appointment so that the Board is complete.

#### **New board business**

1. Discussion of 2016-2017 AIG Goals and Objectives.
  1. The board felt the biggest accomplishments of the last few years were: 125th Reunion in 2013, annual student scholarships, local meet-ups in major cities and the new Technology Fund.
  2. Majority of our efforts have been focused on fundraising and funding one-off projects for the paper. The board feels we need to focus more on alumni engagement, with the belief that the network will be more eager to donate/participate if they feel they are part of a dynamic organization.
  3. Our level of outreach to Collegian alumni also needs to improve. Several people gave examples of individuals who did not know the organization existed. Facebook pages were deemed "dormant" and the AIG website is in need of a refresh. Additionally, our lack of a proper alumni database is hurting our efforts to communicate effectively.
  4. Board Agreed that our 2016-2017 priorities will be:
    - Alumni Engagement (Chuck)
    - Alumni database (Rossilyne/Abby)
    - Alumni reunion in 2017 to mark 130 anniversary (Terry/Stacie)
1. Officer Selection
  1. All officer positions are currently valid for 2 years, but we propose to stagger them so that President and Treasurer do not reset in the same years. This will need to be approved by the membership next year.
  2. The Board unanimously approved the 2016-2017 Officers, with extensions for Vice President and Treasurer once approved by the membership.
    - President – Rossilyne Culgan (1 year 2016-2017)
    - Vice President – Terry Casey (2 year 2016 – 2018)
    - Treasurer – Stacie Coleman (2 year 2016 – 2018)
    - Secretary – Abby Fairman (1 year 2016-2017)
  3. Past President does not need to be filled at this time.

#### **Committee Reports**

1. Executive Committee (Rossilyne)

1. Treasurer's Report – balances have not changed. Checking balance is \$4,527.83 and the money market account is \$10,217.06
2. Annual report has been submitted to the Penn State Alumni Association and accepted. Greg has confirmed Alumni Association membership for all Board members.
  
1. Nominating & Bylaws (Greg)
  1. Creating one committee so Greg can bring someone else up to speed on bylaws.
2. Alumni Engagement Committee (Chuck + Liz, Jordan, Abby)
  1. Changed name from Communications to Alumni Engagement.
  2. Will include website, social media, newsletter and improved alumni database.
3. Student Engagement (Katie + Lexi, Casey)
  1. Includes former Mentoring and Scholarship committees
4. Events Committee (Terry + Stacie, TBD)
  1. Includes fundraising and Alumni Reunion

#### Update from Collegian, Inc.

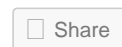
- Candidate tryouts will commence on August 30.

#### General Announcements

- Committee Chairs should submit brief annual goals and plans to Rossilynne in advance of the next meeting.
- Monthly meetings will take place the second Wednesday of each month at Noon. Abby will send a new calendar invitation.

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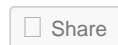
Posted on December 1, 2015 by collegianaig

For years, *The Daily Collegian* has launched students to become the best in their fields. And as newsrooms change, we're helping our student journalists and sales representatives stay current with the latest technology.

This Giving Tuesday, we're dedicating all donations to a technology fund benefitting students at the Collegian. Guided by student leaders, every dollar will go to newsroom investments to keep our alma mater competitive amidst a time of great change.

[With your help, we can get there. Please give today!](#)

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## AIG Embarks on New Campaign to Support Collegian

Posted on November 25, 2015 by collegianaig

It's the end of an era. The Collegian's trusty steed, the beloved Subaru hatchback, [has seen its final miles](#).

Over the past two years, generous alumni like you have donated nearly \$4,000 toward the future of the aged car. Collegian students and staff have decided that they no longer need a staff car. Instead, they'll scrap what's left of the Subaru.

Now that the car has seen its last mile, our \$3,964 in alumni donations will be given to the Collegian as a one-time infusion restricted for transit uses, such as towing costs and reimbursements to students who will now use their own vehicles on Collegian assignments. We're grateful to alumni who have given so generously to this cause, and we're proud to help Collegian students with this donation.

As the Collegian's financial needs change, so have the Collegian AIG's. Ultimately, it's the AIG's goal to continue to support the evolving need of the students in the basement of the James Building. As the AIG listens and learns of the needs on the ground, we're refocusing our fundraising efforts.

That means the AIG is embarking on its next stage of fundraising for students. With direction from our friends at 123 S. Burrowes, we're working to help students cover Penn State as they never have before. This Giving Tuesday, we're asking alumni to help us fund the latest and greatest technologies to help Collegian students build the newsroom of the future.

On **Giving Tuesday, Dec. 1**, consider giving back to the institution that gave you so much. We'll be in touch soon with more details.

Please contact us ([CollegianAIG@gmail.com](mailto:CollegianAIG@gmail.com)) with any questions/comments about the car fund within the next 30 days. And as always, we welcome your ideas for alumni activities, engagement, fundraising, and mentoring. Let us know what you think.

All my best,  
Rossilynne Skena Culgan and Collegian AIG

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## Collegian AIG Board of Directors Election Results

Posted on July 31, 2015 by collegianaig

Thank you to everyone who voted in the annual Collegian AIG Board of Directors election. All the votes are in, and our three board members will be:

**GREG RUBIN, '05**

Collegian experience: Customer Service Manager

Current position: Digital Ad Operations Manager for A+E Networks

**ROSSILYNNE SKENA CULGAN '10**

Collegian experience: Editor in Chief

Current position: Marketing Communications Manager at the Carnegie Science Center

**KATIE SULLIVAN '11**

Collegian experience: Copy editor and reporter

Current position: Internship Coordinator for Penn State's Washington Program

The updates to the AIG's bylaws were also approved by the alumni. You can view the updated bylaws [here](#). Congratulations to our new and re-elected board members!

Additionally, the AIG annual meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 9, at The Daily Collegian office in State College. All AIG members are invited to attend either in person or by phone. If interested, please contact Rossilynne Culgan at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com).

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## Minutes from AIG 2013 Annual Meeting

Posted on July 28, 2015 by collegianaig

### Meeting of AIG Board June 29, 2013

**Attending:** Renee Petrina, Bruce Morris, Teresa Cook, Paul Rudoy, Rossilynne Skena, Andrew McGill, Greg Rubin, Susan Melle, Jerry Schwartz, Phil Gutis, Lexi Belculfine, Jen Miller and Candy Heckard.

**Absent:** Patti Hartranft, Ira Miller, Alison Kepner, Mike Signora, Jim Rodenbush.

Renee called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. and asked each member to introduce himself. She then thanked outgoing board members:

The board of the Collegian Alumni Interest Group would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to Alison (Kepner) May, Ira Miller and Paul Rudoy, who leave the board this month as their terms end. Their years of leadership — underscored by careful financial management and work on a student/alumni mentoring program — were integral in forging a solid foundation for the AIG. The three directors were key players in ensuring the Collegian celebrated its 125th anniversary with an alumni reunion in Oct. 2012. Thank you, Alison, Ira and Paul, for your outstanding work on behalf of Collegian alumni.

#### Penn State Alumni Association updates

Renee has a copy of the strategic plan from the PSAA. If anyone wants to see it, Renee can send it to you. We are to see where our group aligns with policies outlined in the plan.

Renee reports there has been no word of a prize for winning the alumni contest. The event celebrating the winners will be held Nov. 1. Since it would be a good networking opportunity, it is possible board members will attend. Renee said she turned down an offer to order PSU swag or football tickets since we had trouble selling them in the past.

We have to submit an annual report to the PSAA. We will use portions of the application for the alumni award in our report, plus our financial statement.

#### Finance

There is a balance of \$12,606.10 in our account. Paul moves that we transfer \$2,000 into our scholarship fund. Andrew seconds. Motion is approved. Paul does not know how much is in the scholarship fund, he guesses around \$70,000-\$80,000. The university sends that number later in the year.

#### Communications

Rossilynne reports that the Collegian AIG Twitter account has been launched. We have 33 followers. The social media manager is Mike Verbickas. Greg suggests adding a Twitter button to our website. There is discussion of uploading more photos of alumni to the website and Facebook page.

Bruce reports that the Go Daddy account is up for renewal for two years. The account is

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used for sending out our newsletters. If we approve now, the discounted price is \$249.41. Bruce moves, Andrew seconds, that we approve the renewal. Motion is approved.

#### **Next newsletter**

Will have profiles of the scholarship winners, a welcome to new board members, new things coming up at the Collegian in the fall. The Collegian plans a new website.

#### **Student outreach**

Greg reports that he and Candy would be meeting with students to discuss outreach for the coming year. One suggestion is to write a letter from the president of the AIG board to graduating seniors to welcome them into the AIG and tell them about what we do.

#### **Officers**

Jen Miller agrees to serve as treasurer. She and Paul can meet to transfer records. Renee continues as president, Bruce as vice president and Teresa as secretary.

#### **Committees**

The board votes to combine fundraising and events under one committee. The lineup of committees is:

- Bylaws: Greg is chairman with Renee, Bruce and Andrew
- Communications: Bruce is chairman with Rossilynne, Renee and Susan
- Fundraising and Events: Rossilynne and Andrew are co-chairmen with Susan and Lexi
- Nominations: Jerry is chairman with Mike and Susan
- Outreach: Greg is chairman with Lexi and Jen. Greg will ask Ira if he wants to stay on.
- Scholarship: Teresa is chairman with Paul, Jerry and Phil

#### **Events**

Rossilynne suggests a more low-key event every year and a more formal gathering every five years. Paul said it would be great to have an annual campaign. Each year we could set a fundraising goal and target it to specific needs of the Collegian, such as technology or sending kids to conferences.

Rossilynne also suggests regional reunions in several cities, coordinating them for the same day. These would be in addition to the central event, or in place of it.

We'll discuss possible dates for next fall at the next meeting. There is discussion of time of year for reunions. The committee will go over some ideas and present at next meeting.

Rossilynne also suggests some type of merchandise to raise funds, since the mugs were popular at the reunion.

#### **For the good of the order**

News scholarship winner Brittany Horn is introduced and congratulated. Business winner Sarika Patel could not attend.

#### **Next meeting**

Renee will do an online poll to determine date.

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### Pick up your memorabilia this weekend

Posted on **October 14, 2012** by collegianaig

Does anyone else have an old(ish) Collegian T-shirt that needs to be updated? You will get your chance this weekend.

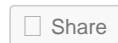


Collegian staff members will be selling commemorative 125th anniversary T-shirts on Sunday morning during tours at the Collegian office.

We'll also have bargain copies of the "Collegian Chronicles" book, which tells the story of Penn State through the pages of the paper — only \$5 plus tax!

Cash, checks, Visa and MasterCard accepted.

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## 5 Questions with: Marv Krasnansky

Posted on **March 6, 2009** by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Marvin Krasnansky covered football for The Daily Collegian the year Joe Paterno came to Penn State to work with Rip Engle as an assistant coach for the Nittany Lions. Marv was editor during the 1951-52 academic year. A 1952 journalism graduate, he made a career in communications that spanned a half-century. More recently, he was the fireplug behind *The Collegian Chronicles*, a work of history and love that tells the history of Penn State through the pages of The Daily Collegian. He was inducted to The Collegian Alumni Hall of Fame in 2007.

Of the many innovations he's seen in the business, the rise of the Web is the one he says is most amazing. He first delved into it in 1994 when he talked to a group of corporate PR people in the Bay Area about the World Wide Web. He recalls they dismissed his enthusiasm as "another of Crazy Marv's ideas." But he admits he had no idea how quickly it would take off as the Internet and its potential both for good and bad. "*The Collegian Chronicles* is a product of the Internet," he says. "It literally would have taken years to complete the book without the ability to use the Internet to stay in touch with the writers – from London to Honolulu — and to fact-check." Marv now lives in Bainbridge Island, Wash., and answered our five questions from his home overlooking Puget Sound.



Marv Krasnansky

**Your tenure in Happy Valley goes back a half-century. Much has changed. What is the same for journalists today as it was then?**

We lived in a much smaller and simpler world. Penn State and State College were much more isolated, and communications were much more limited — we had a single AP wire in the Collegian office to bring us in touch with the "outside," for example. The AP photo service was limited, and there was almost no TV. So we focused our coverage mostly on the campus. Nonetheless, the principles of journalism — get the facts, fairness and balance — are timeless. And like today's Collegian staffers, we had great fun!

**Were the writers you worked with in the 1950s as good as the web-savvy ones of today?**

We all thought were hot stuff and, indeed, we had some very talented people on the staff in my era who went on to successful careers (Dean Gladfelter and Dave Jones with The New York Times; Ron Bonn with CBS and NBC; and George Glazer at Hill & Knowlton). But I must confess that, based on my work on *The Collegian Chronicles*, I

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think that recent graduates rank right up there with the best.

That said, I think Collegian has produced many outstanding journalists down through the years, as demonstrated by their prose in the pages of the *Chronicles*. While the book is graphically excellent, what stands out is the quality of the writing.

**You were the impetus behind *The Collegian Chronicles*. Where did the genesis of the idea come from?**

The idea for *The Collegian Chronicles* evolved from my putting together an account of my year as editor of Collegian for a 50th reunion of staff members in 2002. The piece ran about 5,000 words, and it gave me the idea that doing a history of Penn State and Collegian written by people who worked on the paper and could add an historic and inside perspective to the telling of the emergence of Penn State as a great institution would be a major addition to the university, while at the same time demonstrate the skills and talents of Collegian's alumni.

As an aside, I would mention how much fun it was discovering so much of the "hidden history" of a place that was yet to become Happy Valley. The book is crammed with information I wish I had had when I was editor. Advice to current and future staffers: Read *The Collegian Chronicles*!

The most difficult task was rounding up Collegian alumni who were willing to undertake the task of writing a chapter and had the time to do so. I had great help from Communications College staffers finding the right people, and some authors took on several chapters. Since the vast majority of the copy was first-rate, it did not require heavy editing. The second-most-difficult task was finding the right photos to illustrate each chapter. And, finally, raising the money to get the book on the press. But we had a great nucleus of people who worked to make it all happen, notably Mike Poorman, Pete Waldron and Dave Pellnitz.

**Talk a bit about your work in public relations. Is it really journalism or does it fall under the new tag "communications?"**

While public relations is not journalism, working on a newspaper or in the electronic media is great training for PR. I'm biased, but I believe the best PR people have media experience — in my case, 10 years. The news experience enables you to think in terms of the people on the other side of the "transaction" and to understand their interests and needs. It also gives you the opportunity to develop personal relationships with newspeople.

The relationships I developed with people at the Wall Street Journal (where I worked for three years), The New York Times, the major national magazines and business editors in major cities served me well throughout my 33-year PR career

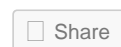
**What was your Collegian experience? How did it help?**

As a kid from an immigrant blue collar family from Brooklyn, Penn State and Collegian took me to another world and opened up so many horizons for me. In addition to honing my journalistic skills, my work on Collegian exposed me to people like Milton Eisenhower, Rip Engle and Joe Paterno, as well as such outstanding former Collegian editors as Lou Bell, Jim Coogan, Ridge Riley and Ross Lehman, who at one time all served in key posts at the College at the same time and who helped make Penn State a special place for me.

My greatest achievement was in taking on the Communist witch hunt stoked by Joe McCarthy, which reached into the life of the campus. Given the hysteria sweeping the country, looking back it might have been risky, but I give much credit to Dr. Eisenhower for not interfering with our freedom to express our opinion.

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#### One Response

**Dennis Malick '60**, on [March 8, 2009 at 8:19 pm](#) said:



Well, yeh, the internet was integral to getting the Collegian Chronicles completed, but it was the intermarv that made it happen and without whom it surely would not have happened. Thanks, Marv.

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## Remember when...Penn State last played in the Rose Bowl

Posted on December 12, 2008 by collegianaig

### A look at the pages of "The Collegian Chronicles"

By Julie L. Nash  
Managing Editor, 1994-95

"A national championship in sight, Penn State fans cheered on Kerry Collins, Ki-Jana Carter and Kyle Brady. They held their breath as the undefeated season almost collapsed in a close game with Indiana and then scrambled to make travel plans to Pasadena when Penn State's appearance there was confirmed.

Then Rose Bowl frenzy exploded in State College.

The Rose Bowl-bound football team and its stars dominated *Collegian's* front page and sports section with headlines like "Bowl bid hysteria" and "Smell roses, smell profit." *Collegian* reporters informed students how to get Rose Bowl tickets and where to buy bowl gear.

The team's 38-20 victory over the Oregon Ducks was documented in a 10-page Rose Bowl section. *Collegian* writers and photographers traveled to Pasadena and returned with game stories and information about up-and-coming players such as redshirt freshman Joe Jurevicius.

Following the football season, Ki-Jana Carter was selected first in the NFL draft by the Cincinnati Bengals. And Penn State fans got to know Carter through profiles in *Collegian*, including this description:

'Maybe it's the smile.

That wide grin that can light up a room, never forced or faked — always genuine.

Maybe it's his talkative nature. The ability to take a question and run with it the same way he runs with the football.'

'Whatever it is that makes Ki-Jana Carter so charming, there's little doubt that his off-field personality adds to the reason why Penn State fans love him.'

But there was disappointment, too. Despite its undefeated season, Penn State missed out on the national championship, finishing second to Nebraska.

'Lions still No. 1 in hearts of PSU fans,' a front-page headline declared. Bumper stickers and T-shirts agreed. And sports columnists challenged the football team's second-place finish.

One column proclaimed, 'Penn State is No. 2, say the media in such a convincing fashion that one wonders if they ever looked up from behind their keyboards.' (This national championship debate led the creation of the Bowl Championship Series, or B.C.S., in later years.)

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The *Collegian* staff did look up from their keyboards. And a year's worth of thoughtful, in-depth journalism was the result."

*The Collegian Chronicles, A History of Penn State from the Pages of The Daily Collegian, 1887-2006* (\$29.95), can be purchased by calling the *Collegian* office (814-865-2531) or from the [newspaper's online store](#).

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## Alumni Association recognizes AIG with book award

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

By **Alison Kepner '03**

The Penn State Alumni Association honored the Collegian Alumni Interest Group this fall with its 2007 New/Innovative Event or Program Award. The Collegian AIG and the Advertising and Public Relations Affiliate Program Group were recognized for their members' work producing and marketing "*The Collegian Chronicles: A History of Penn State from the Pages of The Daily Collegian, 1887-2006.*"

Under the leadership of AIG President Emeritus Marvin Krasnansky and AIG board member David Pellnitz, more than 150 Collegian alumni worked on the 383-page book. They wrote and edited chapters, searched photo archives and designed page layouts. More than 140 Advertising and Public Relations APG members then helped market and advertise the finished product.



Scott Sesler (center) accepts the award.

"This is a pretty unique undertaking. ... I know of no other history of a college written from the perspective of the students as it was recorded in the college paper," Krasnansky said. "The bottom line for me is how reflective it is of the quality of the people who work on Collegian...and the quality of the education they are getting both in the classroom and from working on the paper."

Scott Sesler, Collegian AIG's immediate past president, accepted the award on behalf of the AIG at an Oct. 26 ceremony at the Nittany Lion Inn.

"There were many, even some within the university, who had expressed doubt that the AIG would ever finish the Chronicles project," Sesler said later. "That fact hanging over our heads made accepting the award on behalf of all those who had worked so hard to make the Chronicles all the more gratifying."

"I knew the day I submitted the award application that the Alumni Association would have to recognize the superlative efforts of so many Collegian alums," Sesler said.

"Despite some extremely trying moments, it was one of the most rewarding projects I have ever been privileged to be a part of. All associated with *The Collegian Chronicles* should be proud of this accomplishment."

With winners selected by the Alumni Council's awards committee, the award recognizes affiliate groups that distinguish themselves through an exceptional new innovative program or award, according to the Alumni Association. The honor comes with a \$500 grant to be used in future programming.

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The Dance Marathon AIG also was honored with the same award in 2007.

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### [Everyone belongs: Board eliminates dues](#)

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

By Jill Leonard '02

Membership in the Collegian Alumni Interest Group is now free for all of the newspaper's graduates.

The AIG board of directors voted in January to discontinue dues. [Continue reading →](#)

Filed under: [AIG News](#) | Tagged: [Spring 08 newsletter](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

### [We're back online](#)

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The Collegian AIG is back on the Web! [Continue reading →](#)

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### [AIG awards scholarships, makes \\$5,000 donation to fund](#)

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

4 selected as recipients

By Curt Harler, '71

Outstanding students on *The Daily Collegian's* editorial and business staffs were awarded nearly \$2,000 in scholarships this spring. [Continue reading →](#)

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### [Contributing Time, Talent or Treasure](#)

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

A message from the Penn State Collegian AIG President

Dear Collegian AIG members,

Whether you wrote your Collegian story on a typewriter or keyboard, or tracked ads on a ledger or computer program, likely your *Daily Collegian* experience is one you look on with fondness and maybe even some gratitude for skills learned and connections made.

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### [Mentoring: Giving back for free](#)

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**By Ira Miller '66**

This is what's known as giveback time for alumni.

We don't want your money (well, actually, we'd kind of like it, but I'll let someone else deal with that).

All I am asking for is your time. Just a little. The same kind of time that, most likely, someone gave you when you were just starting out. [Continue reading →](#)

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## [Alumni Association recognizes AIG with book award](#)

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

**By Alison Kepner '03**

The Penn State Alumni Association honored the Collegian Alumni Interest Group this fall with its 2007 New/Innovative Event or Program Award. The Collegian AIG and the Advertising and Public Relations Affiliate Program Group were recognized for their members' work producing and marketing "*The Collegian Chronicles: A History of Penn State from the Pages of The Daily Collegian, 1887-2006.*" [Continue reading →](#)

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## [Celebrating the Collegian Chronicles](#)

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

**'The memories are what endure'**

**By Alison Kepner '03**

Collegianaires from the 1940s to the 2000s gathered in State College in June to celebrate publication of *The Collegian Chronicles: A History of Penn State From the Pages of The Daily Collegian 1887-2006*. The almost 400-page book was the collaboration of 150 Collegian alumni under the editorship of Marvin Krasnansky, '52. [Continue reading →](#)

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**Celebrating the Collegian Chronicles**

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

**‘The memories are what endure’**

**By Alison Kepner ‘03**

Collegianaires from the 1940s to the 2000s gathered in State College in June to celebrate publication of *The Collegian Chronicles: A History of Penn State From the Pages of The Daily Collegian 1887-2006*. The almost 400-page book was the collaboration of 150 Collegian alumni under the editorship of Marvin Krasnansky, '52.

The weekend opened with a College of Communications reception at the Carnegie Building attended by 46 former Collegianaires, college staff and faculty, and current *Collegian* staff members. The celebration continued Saturday as alumni and their guests enjoyed a continental breakfast while mingling with current *Collegian* staff members and touring *Collegian* offices in the James Building.

A luncheon at the HUB drew almost 60 people, followed by a screening of “The Paper,” a documentary by Aaron Matthews that chronicles a year at the *Collegian*. The weekend also featured keynote speeches by two Distinguished Alumni: Newsweek Chief Foreign Correspondent Rod Nordland and author and Hollywood screenwriter Paul Levine.

The alumni had a lot to celebrate after five years of hard work to make *Collegian Chronicles* a reality. The book began as a question as Rochelle (Shelly) Robinson Sufrin '78 and Krasnansky prepared for the 2002 Collegian Alumni Weekend. Sufrin asked Krasnansky why there had never been a comprehensive history published to date.

“His sentiment reflected the obvious: The task was daunting, and besides, who would do it?” Sufrin said. “I asked, ‘Why don’t we do it?’”

Five years and many obstacles later, the book hit the press. Asked how it felt for the book finally to be published, Sufrin said, “Imagine how you felt when you saw the paper every day as a *Collegian* staffer — proud, pumped and invigorated. Imagine that, times five years!”

“When the AIG Board set out to do the book project, I don’t think any of us imagined the amount of time and effort that we would put forth to produce this publication,” said Pete Waldron, general manager for the book project. “It was thousands and thousands of volunteer hours spanning 4 ½ years from a collective group of almost 150 people. The last year and a half – especially the last six months – was intense. But as I look back, and page through a copy of The Chronicles, we can all reach the same conclusion – it was all worth it.

“We produced a beautiful publication that may have been history making in itself as a first among collegiate daily newspapers. What a wonderful gift to the University.



Paul Levine



Rod Nordland

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However, a by-product of this effort was the friendships forged between Collegian alumni spanning many generations. A core group of us met at 11 AM every Wednesday for a year and half via conference call. It was our “virtual newsroom” tying in the West Coast with the East Coast. We shared a lot together – a myriad of emotions and everyday life issues: kids, grandchildren, health issues, Penn State football, death and even the birth of a baby!

“I have such admiration for the team I worked with. I admire Marv Krasnansky for his idea and fortitude; Mike Poorman for his expertise and good humor; Katie Krebs for her multi-tasking skills to juggle PR, the photo and illustration search, and her first pregnancy; Dave Pellnitz for his attention to detail; Michael Hollyfield for his creative graphic design talent; Scott Sesler and the AIG Board for their leadership; Dean Anderson, Lynn Culver and Cyndi Engle from the College of Communications for their support and for lending us Mike Poorman; Roger Williams of the Alumni Association and all of our generous donors who helped bring the book to press.”

While Krasnansky sees the book as a nice piece of graphic work with good photography, he said really it is a writer’s book: “Its greatest value is in the quality of the writing and telling a good story.”

Sufrin said they set out to tell the story of Penn State through the pages of *Collegian* but “in so doing, we told the story of the indelible influence history, *Collegian* and Penn State had on us — the influence which has connected each of us for over a century. This story is told through our eyes, our *Collegian* eyes,” she said.

David Pellnitz '53, the book’s managing editor and chief copy editor, worked closely with Krasnansky on the project.

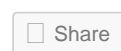
“What I would hope people get from reading the book is a greater appreciation for efforts that the students put into the publishing of the *Collegian*, as well as learning a lot about the university they never knew,” he said. “As editor when the paper was usually only eight pages I stand in awe of the staff that puts out the *Collegian* of today.”

Penn State’s College of Communications also takes pride in the book, which showcases the talents of many of its graduates.

“The book’s scope, breadth and depth are a tribute to every single contributor’s love of — and belief in — *The Collegian*,” said Mike Poorman, senior lecturer and director of alumni relations for the College of Communications. “Whether they graduated in the 1930s or in 2007, all the *Chronicles* staffers were eager to be a part of it. For them, and the book, the memories are what endure.”

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## 2 Responses

**Phil Norton**, on [February 16, 2010 at 2:11 pm](#) said:



I watched Marv's efforts during the year leading up to the publication of this book. He is an example of great passion and dedication to produce such an historic work. I was honored to have one photo published in the book that I took on the steps of the Collegian office around 1979 when black students burned the newspaper in protest. I was a photographer on campus at the same time as Pat Little who is now a professor of photojournalism at PSU. He published his own book with Then & Now scenes of State College. Here is my humble version of "then & now" shots of Joe Paterno that I took in 1979 and 2009: <http://www.philnorton.net/PNwebsite/sport.htm>

[Reply](#)

**Pat Little**, on [February 16, 2010 at 5:23 pm](#) said:



Just a few minor corrections to Phil's note. I am the photo adviser at the Collegian, not a professor of photojournalism at Penn State. The name of my book is Penn State Then and Now. Phil and I and many others continue to keep it touch through the years. The Collegian is a strong bond at an important time in our lives.

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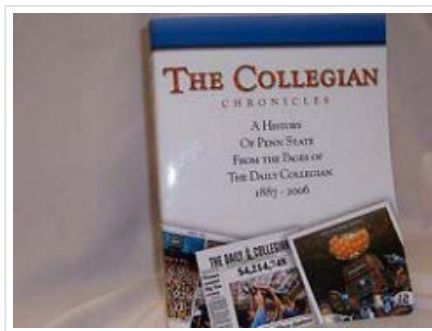
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## The Penn State story, Collegian-style.

Posted on February 27, 2008 by collegianaig

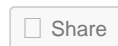
If it is true that journalists write the first draft of history, then the Daily Collegian has drafted the history of Penn State. Now that saga, written over the course of nearly 120 years, has been collected in a new book, *The Collegian Chronicles: A History of Penn State from the Pages of the Daily Collegian, 1887-2006*.



Produced by the Collegian Alumni Interest Group, the compilation of over a century's worth of reporting serves as an historical account of Penn State as told by the student reporters and editors. The book explores how world events impacted campus life and how students impacted the world around them. Former Collegian writers, editors and business managers from eight decades contributed all-new, all-original stories to this book.

Relive the stories that shaped your Collegian experience!  
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## Daily Collegian wins Online Pacemaker Award

Posted on **March 30, 2015** by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian was awarded an Online Pacemaker Award during the National College Media Convention held Oct. 28 to Nov. 2 in Philadelphia.

The Pacemaker award is the highest award given by the Associated Collegiate Press to online college student publications. This competition replaces ACP's Best of the Net competition, which began in 1995 as the first nationwide competition for online college student publications.

The web site must be produced and maintained primarily by students. Awards are based on design, ease of navigation, writing and editing, graphics and interactivity. Sites are judged by non-ACP staff members knowledgeable about design, journalism and interactive media.

Editor-in-Chief Sam Janesch, Managing Editor Kelsey Tamborrino, and Campus Editor Shannon Sweeney, along with News Adviser Trudi Gilfillian, attended this year's convention.

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## Reflections on a win — Upholding a tradition

Posted on **January 17, 2013** by collegianaig

*When the Collegian was honored with a Pacemaker Award in November, we asked for some reactions from the professional staff. Here is the reaction column from Patti Hartranft, the paper's general manager.*

It's an honor just to be nominated. Isn't that what the Hollywood nominees tell us every year? In the last 30 years, Collegian has been honored with a Pacemaker nomination 11 times. From those 11 nominations, two Pacemaker awards have found their way to our trophy case.

And yes, we have been honored by other organizations. Columbia Scholastic Press Association has given us enough Silver Crowns and Gold Crowns to earn a Royal Burger King franchise. The Society of Professional Journalists has bestowed regional and national awards for individual achievement. We have some top national reporting award-winners from Hearst via the College of Communications. There are other state and national awards that recognize Collegian's achievements through the years, both in news and business.

Walk around the James Building basement and you'll find award certificates on walls and bulletin boards. Many of the plaques are in the trophy cases on the second floor, but in the storage area, you'll find a box of older awards.

So what does this all mean? That we're doing our jobs here, establishing and maintaining high standards to fulfill our mission of publishing a quality college newspaper and providing a solid educational experience for our staff.

Throughout my time here, I've watched student journalists suspend their student status to report on the big stories.

- The day the American hostages were set free by their Iranian captors as Ronald Reagan was inaugurated in 1981.
- The student who was brutally murdered in her S. Allen Street apartment during spring break in 1987.
- The young woman who calmly aimed her rifle and started shooting on the HUB lawn on a September morning in 1996.
- Sept. 11, 2001.

But in 2011-12, the story began Nov. 5, 2011. A new chapter started Jan. 22, 2012. For Penn State, it was the worst of times. But for The Daily Collegian, it was the best of journalism.

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Winning the Pacemaker this year didn't surprise me. But even if we hadn't won the award, no one here could forget the thousands of Penn State alumni who called in to get the papers from November and January. They needed to see how The Daily Collegian covered these events. Because when they were students, it was The Daily Collegian that helped them navigate Penn State.

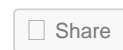
Have we done great work that wasn't rewarded? Absolutely. Does that stop us from doing our best? Never. We will continue to uphold the tradition of solid campus journalism, in print, on line or in the cloud.

Keep reading!

—*Patti Hartranft, General manager, Collegian Inc.*

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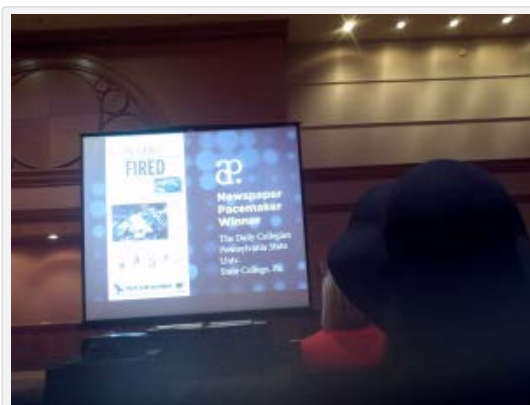
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## Collegian wins a Pacemaker

Posted on December 17, 2012 by collegianaig



The visual announcement of the Collegian's award — the coveted daily newspaper Pacemaker.

**By Jim Rodenbush**  
**The Daily Collegian News Advisor**

The Daily Collegian received six honors, including a Newspaper Pacemaker Award, from the Associated Collegiate Press at the ACP/CMA National College Media Convention.

The Collegian was selected as a Pacemaker winner in the Four-year Daily Newspaper category, along with four other publications, for its work during the 2011-12 publishing year. The Collegian staff earned its second Newspaper Pacemaker and first since 1985. The newspaper has been a finalist for the award 11 times, most recently in 2010.

The Pacemaker is the highest honor given to a newspaper by the ACP. According to its [website](#), Pacemaker winners are selected based on “coverage and content, quality of writing and reporting, leadership on the opinion page, evidence of in-depth reporting, design, photography, art and graphics.”

“Here is a lot – A lot of interesting content, well-reported content, appealing content. Great use of photos, displayed well, enhancing solid reporting of controversial events,” read the judges’ comments on The Daily Collegian.

Managing editor Anna Orso won Reporter of the Year for her coverage of the Jerry Sandusky scandal.

Orso, whose entry included the stories “[Sandusky charged: Curley](#),

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[Shultz step down](#),” [“Legislators seek open records”](#) and [“Curley Schultz headed toward trial”](#),” was selected over two other finalists. She is the first staff member from The Daily Collegian to win the Reporter of the Year award.

“Orso’s stories about the Jerry Sandusky sexual assault case and the cover up by school officials were clear when the subject was confusing and emotional,” read the judges’ comments. “Orso’s coverage was in-depth and thorough. Her copy was clean and she refrained from being overly dramatic or using flowery language. Her coverage was comprehensive and included the trial, school board meetings and legislation that resulted. In other words, we were hard-pressed to say where a professional daily newspaper staff’s coverage would have differed from Orso’s.”



Collegian news leadership (from left) Lexi Belculfine, Casey McDermott and Anna Orso presented a talk called “Paterno & The Predator: How to Report a High-Profile Scandal” during the Associated Collegiate Press convention in Chicago, Oct. 31-Nov. 4.

Other award winners included sports editor Mike Still, who earned fifth place in Sports Story of the Year for his article, “Board of Trustees fires Joe Paterno.” Former photo editor Chloe Elmer won an honorable mention in the Spot News Picture category for a photo of Paterno taken during a students’ rally outside his home.

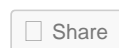
In addition, The Daily Collegian won first place in Best of Show for its Oct. 10, 2012, edition, which was published the day after Jerry Sandusky’s sentencing. The Daily Collegian Online won ninth place in Best of Show.

The ACP/CMA National College Media Convention was held Oct. 31-Nov. 4 in Chicago.

Former editor-in-chief Lexi Belculfine, current editor-in-chief Casey McDermott, Orso and news adviser Jim Rodenbush participated in a pair of panel discussions at the convention, each focusing on The Collegian’s coverage of the Sandusky scandal.

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## Collegian, alumni win big

Posted on August 6, 2012 by collegianaig

You've heard, no doubt, about these recent accomplishments of Collegian alumni — and the newspaper itself. We want to share your news, too! Please send us an email at [brucem5@aol.com](mailto:brucem5@aol.com) with Collegian Alumni News in your subject line.

### Collegian alumna wins Bronze Medal

Natalie Dell, 27, was in the bow seat in the women's quadruple sculls for the United States when the team won its bronze medal at the 2012 Olympics in London. Read more in the [Cumberland Times-News](#). For more about Natalie, check out her public [Facebook page](#).

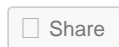
### Collegian named College Newspaper of the Year

Over the past year, The Daily Collegian produced startlingly good journalism. Staffers at Penn State University's 125-year-old independent student newspaper rose to the challenge of reporting upon a multi-headed, complex, feral, real-time beast of a news story that continues to scrape and claw for attention. Amid a massive scandal that has eaten PSU alive, one bright spot has been the Collegian. Read more in the [announcement from College Media Matters](#).

### Penn State alumna Sara Ganim wins Pulitzer Prize

Penn State Alumna Sara Ganim, along with the other members of the Harrisburg Patriot-News, won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize in Local Reporting after their breaking and ongoing coverage of the Jerry Sandusky child sexual abuse case. Read more in [The Daily Collegian](#).

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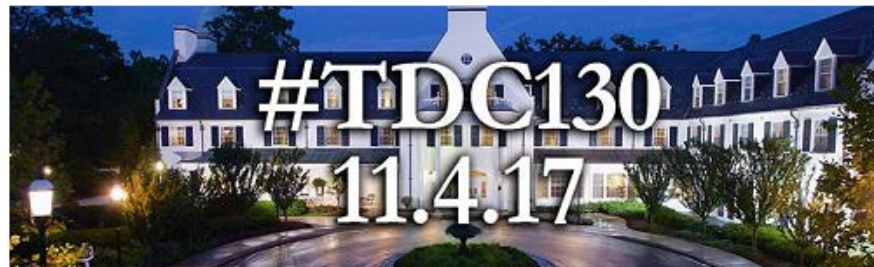
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## Editor-in-Chief reflects on coverage of Sandusky indictment

Posted on December 20, 2011 by collegianaig

By Lexi Belculfine  
Editor-in-Chief, The Daily Collegian

For what should have been any other fall semester — reaching its apex with around-the-clock Homecoming coverage and the stellar football stories The Daily Collegian has become known for — it has been cracked into two segments: before Nov. 5 and after Nov. 5.

In the light of the charges brought against former football coach Jerry Sandusky and administrators Gary Schultz and Tim Curley, everything changed, but the foundation the Collegian built for the news division enables us to keep trudging through the scandal that has rocked Penn State.

The weekend of Nov. 5, Collegian Managing Editor Casey McDermott and I drove home to Pittsburgh. We left State College late Thursday night. By Saturday morning, we were packing to return. Our trip had been cut short when the initial grand jury presentment had been released and charges were filed. There was no question where we needed to be. The car ride was filled with extensive planning, excerpts from the presentment being read aloud and long silences.

That's how this story really started for me, in a Honda Civic, on a three hour drive back to State College.

I think this goes without saying, but as a journalist first and foremost, it has been hard to define this situation on a personal level. The grief, sadness, lows — whatever it was we've experienced in the newsroom — have been nothing when held next to those identified as victims in the grand jury presentments. Our successes in the past month-and-a-half stem in charges so gruesome, I almost vomited the first time I read them.

The first question I always get: How have you and the newsroom separated yourselves from the story? Usually, it baffles me, because there never was any time to figure out my connection to this story other than that of my connection as a journalist. You learn that on day one of candidate school.

The only real personal connection I can't, and don't want to shake, is that my only sister is 10. The perspective this gives me, I think, is invaluable. Of course, as a woman, I am heartbroken by the severity of the abuse Sandusky has been charged with. As a Penn Stater, I am ashamed and look forward to the day when I will be able to comfortably wear PSU gear in public again.

Nothing matters, though, when in comparison to my connection as the Collegian's editor.

As the Collegian's editor and a devout member of the newsroom, I've watched some of the most heartbreakingly low moments and through-the-roof highs in the basement of the James Building.

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In the first week after charges were filed, I couldn't sleep. On an average night, I got home from the Collegian at about 3 a.m. I'd lie in bed and catch up on the day's news I'd missed, read emails and send out story ideas. At 7 a.m., I'd wake up, wide-eyed and terrified that I had missed something in the few hours I hadn't been in the newsroom. Classes be damned. (I am pleased to report, however, that I managed to more than pass all of my classes this semester.) I was one of many pulling these hours for weeks.

On Wednesday, Nov. 9 we worked to put out what has become known as the "Fired edition" of the Collegian. Starting at 10 a.m., after Joe Paterno announced his coming retirement, nearly the entire staff worked to produce the section the Collegian has been on waiting for decades: A 10-page section on the legendary career of a coach. But the context was unlike anything we could have imagined, and so we outlined his fall from grace.

There was a constant tension in the newsroom, as we braced ourselves for the next big moments in the night. And then the trustees made their announcement, and the riots broke out.

We'd anticipated them. Most of our reporters who had spent the day staking out The Penn Stater and Old Main were back in the office, and as the first reports of a gathering came in, many emptied into the streets to cover the mass of students and locals absentmindedly moving through State College.

Two would return after being pepper sprayed. I instinctively hugged the one reporter, Anna Orso; the side of my face that touched hers burned for the rest of the night.

She filed her story on deadline.

As soon as I woke up the next morning, I ran out of my apartment — no makeup, in my pajamas — to go get copies of the paper. I had to check three different distribution locations before I could find any. Don't tell, but I took all of them off the rack.

As I walked across campus, balancing my brick of newspapers, students stopped me: "Is that a Collegian? I can't find it anywhere, can I please have one?"

Turns out, you can get it on eBay — I found one for about \$26.

That Saturday, we worked to put out the first Sunday edition of The Daily Collegian since the 1950s, when Penn State won a wrestling title.

General Manager Patti Hartranft's lasagna fueled us. Patti wasn't the only one to feed us, though. In that week, the previous managing editor, Alex Weisler, sent us pizza. He's in Europe; his mom helped. We had Subway platters sent from Liz Murphy, Aubrey Whelan, Andrew McGill and Rossilynne Skena, and a crew of Collegianaires from '80s ordered pizzas for us.

The support of alumni kept us fed — because, when news is breaking, the last thing you would ever think of doing is eat — and inspired and comforted.

The accomplishments of the newsroom astound me daily. Job and freelancing offers have flooded our staff members (most have chosen to continue reporting this tale for the Collegian).

[@dailycollegian](#) is now the most followed collegiate newspaper Twitter account and was named one of Buzzfeed's 90 best of 2011.

A student painted an entire collection of artwork based on Collegian coverage. News Adviser Jim Rodenbush and I are decking it out to buy the best one.

Spring applications flooded in, most reporters applying for either the administration or cops beat. It showed me that the Collegian continues to understand how important this story will be; they have a grasp of just how long its legs are.

I am in awe of and feel eternally grateful to have been able to work alongside such a dedicated, talented group of journalists. We've grieved and celebrated together, like any family would.

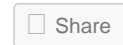
Almost two months after Nov. 5, everyday continues to be different. Each day presents new challenges and small successes, as we continue to tell the stories that will be told

for years to come.

*Lexi Belcuffine is a senior majoring in print journalism from Aliquippa, Pa., and is The Daily Collegian's editor-in-chief. Email her at [editorinchief@psucollegian.com](mailto:editorinchief@psucollegian.com).*

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**One Response**

**Gene Foreman**, on [December 21, 2011 at 5:27 pm](#) said:



Congratulations, Lexi, to you and your hard-working staff. You can be very proud of the coverage of this sad but vitally important story. Journalists have to overcome their personal grief in a situation like this and concentrate on getting the story. That is what you did.

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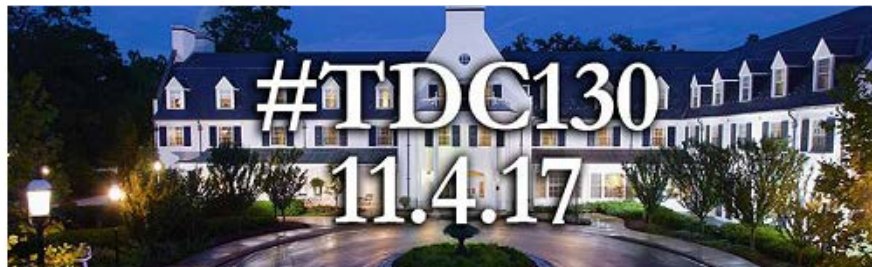
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## AIG Annual Meeting Date Set

Posted on **June 27, 2015** by collegianaig

The AIG annual meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 9 at The Daily Collegian offices in State College. All AIG members are invited to attend either in person or by phone. If interested, please contact Rossilynne Culgan at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com).

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## Annual meeting, pizza with students

Posted on **June 18, 2014** by collegianaig

The board of the Collegian Alumni Interest Group will hold its annual meeting on July 19.

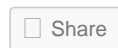
All Collegian alumni and friends are welcome to attend the annual meeting! **Please join us on Saturday, July 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Collegian offices in State College, 123 S. Burrowes St.**

We will be inviting current Collegian students to stop by for pizza and soda immediately following the meeting. If alumni are planning to attend, please RSVP to collegianaig [at] gmail [dot] com so we know how much pizza to order.

A roundup of annual meeting business will appear on the Collegian AIG website and in our next e-newsletter.

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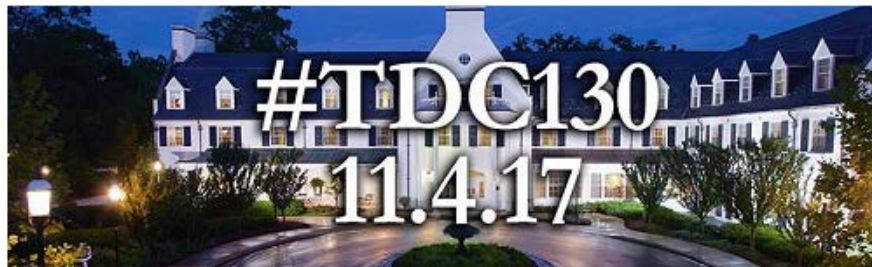
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## 2002 Subaru Legacy ready for retirement

Posted on **January 8, 2014** by collegianaig

By **The Collegian Car**

Oh, the places I've been. The students I've known. The stories I've sent. The ads/money I handled. And yes, I even got a few tickets in my days. You know, parking and such.

I have served Collegian well, mostly without spending too much time out for repairs. (Ask the football writers about a trip to Ohio State a few years ago.) Not important. And sometimes, staff members forget to take their stuff with them. I carried many bags of snacks (we like pumpkin seeds especially) and many soda and juice cans. And once I even carried some guy's underwear around for a while.

From time to time, I have proudly sported a card with the word PRESS in my front window. I went to a lot of sporting events. Sometimes, reporters even write their stories as they sit in my plush blue seats. I also went to a lot of court house events. There were so many good stories from that town called Bellefonte.

I even have my very own parking space at the office, like I'm the mayor.

But I would like to retire. [Can you help?](#)



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## Your help needed to replace 'Collegian Car'

Posted on **January 8, 2014** by collegianaig

Who says the season of giving is over?

Your Collegian Alumni Interest Group is raising money to replace the Collegian's old [Subaru station wagon](#), which is crucial for students in the news and business divisions, and **we need YOUR help!**

On Feb. 8, in New York City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington D.C., we're asking alumni and friends of the Collegian to gather, drink, be merry — and fundraise. We're hoping to raise \$500 at a casual happy hour in each city, or \$2,000 toward an overall goal of \$15,000 to \$20,000. But that's just our goal; may the best city raise much more!

Please purchase tickets in advance through your city's Eventbrite page. Links to each city are below. Hosts will accept checks made payable to the Collegian AIG at the event. No cash, please. Additional donations can also be made through Eventbrite. (And if your company matches donations, the Collegian AIG is a 501(c)3 organization.)

Thank you for your contribution and helping to ensure the continued success of the students at the Collegian.

### The details

#### New York City

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/341463592660433/?ref=22>  
Get tickets or donate here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-york-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10130774419>

#### Philadelphia

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/437104493082941/?ref=22>  
Get tickets or donate here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/philadelphia-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10202067659>

#### Pittsburgh

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/237326983102813/?ref=22>  
Get tickets or donate here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pittsburgh-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10048028925>

#### Washington, D.C.

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/471885136251526/?ref=22>  
Get tickets or donate here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dc-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10130718251>

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So you don't live in or near one of our four event cities? You can still participate in the fundraiser and have your own toast to the Collegian on Feb. 8. We're also collecting tax-deductible donations toward the Collegian Car Fund

here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/worldwide-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10202131851>

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## Welcome to our new board members

Posted on **June 28, 2013** by collegianaig

Thank you to all of the Collegian alumni who participated in our recent election for new board members.

The following four alumni are new to the board, and will begin their terms at our annual meeting tomorrow:

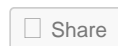
- Lexi Belcuffine, '12
- Phil Gutis, '84
- Susan Melle, '85
- Jennifer Miller, '04

And we welcome back the following two board members, who have been re-elected to new terms:

- Andrew McGill, '10
- Michael Signora, '96

We will be running our annual meeting LIVE via Adobe Connect at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Collegian offices. Check here before the meeting begins, and we'll post a link.

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## AIG Board annual meeting

Posted on **May 15, 2013** by collegianaig

The board of directors of the Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group will hold its annual meeting at the end of June.

The meeting will be June 29 (a Saturday), at the Collegian offices in State College, Pa. The meeting is open to the public and starts at 1 p.m..

New officer terms officially begin at the annual meeting. Please join us if you can!

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Posted on **May 14, 2013** by collegianaig

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Now Penn State has officially recognized its awesomeness.

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Congratulations once again to all who were involved in the planning of the reunion weekend. Let's keep up the momentum and continue to have great networking events for all generations of Collegianaires.

Do you have ideas of future networking events you'd like to see or participate in? Tell us in the comments!

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## [Collegian Alumni Interest Group mentoring program revamped](#)

Posted on **March 30, 2015** by [collegianaig](#)

Calling all Collegian alums, from news and business: Think about the work you're doing right now. Now, think about your time at the Collegian. What do you wish you'd known then? Or what did you learn then that helped you — maybe in some unexpected way — once you graduated? Now, hold that thought.

We're revamping the Collegian Alumni Interest Group mentoring program, and we'd love for you to be a part of it. If you think you might have some wisdom to offer today's Collegianaires, and if you might be willing to spare a day in State College meeting with those students in a classroom setting back in the James Building, we (and the Collegian) could use your help. The time frame on this is flexible and can be adjusted depending on the demands of your schedule. What we really need right now are volunteers who might be interested in participating.

The goal of this new mentoring approach is to bring alumni directly into the newsroom for workshops or other conversations that would empower current students in their transition to life post-Collegian — ideally, they might be able to learn something they could apply to their work immediately.

This is entirely open-ended. Did you successfully navigate a transition from the Collegian to an internship to a job? Maybe you could lead a resume/job hunting session. Have you leveraged public records, digital tools or computer-assisted reporting to enhance your work as a journalist? Your expertise would probably be beneficial to the news staff. Or, have you translated what you learned while working on the business staff into a career in media sales, media management, public relations, advertising or elsewhere? The possibilities are wide-reaching, and we welcome pitches or participation from all interested alumni.

If you have an idea, or if you want to find out more information, please contact Adam Bittner ([fugimaster240@gmail.com](mailto:fugimaster240@gmail.com)) and Casey McDermott ([caseymmcd@gmail.com](mailto:caseymmcd@gmail.com)) to get the ball rolling.

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### Mentors needed!

Posted on **October 9, 2008** by collegianaig

by **Ira Miller, '66**

We need mentors! We need copy editors, news reporters, business reporters, business-side workers, photographers, and designers. We need mentors from just about every position in the newspaper business, either past or present.

I know this is a tough time. Many of you may be looking for jobs or otherwise just trying to make ends meet, but you need something to feel good about too! There are a lot of eager, young folks on the *Collegian* staff who want to learn more about newspapers and the communication business. They need advice and feedback on what they are doing today and where their chosen career path might lead them. All we ask for is a little of your time; you mentor by phone or e-mail and, for the most part, the student will set the pace.

Those of us who went into the business almost surely had someone helping when we were in college... Now it's time to give back! Please consider volunteering; we will pair you with a student in your field of expertise. Just drop an e-mail to [irapsu66@comcast.net](mailto:irapsu66@comcast.net) with these details:

- **Your Name**
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**Skena, Leslie Stahl** In "AIG News" In "Collegian students"  
In "Collegian students"

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Mentoring](#) |

« [Five questions with: Ted Anthony Faces of the Daily Collegian](#) »

## 2 Responses

**Maria Koklanaris Bonaquist**, on [October 19, 2008 at 5:41 pm](#) said:



I've worked for weeklies, Wash. Post. (edit. asst.) Wash Times (reporter) now write for an educational publishing house <http://www.parent-institute.com>

and an online media company covering higher ed. <http://www.hewi.net>

send anyone my way, especially if they are interested in education reporting, but i have also done politics, cops, etc.

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**Ira Miller**, on [October 27, 2008 at 9:04 am](#) said:



Maria — Please send along your contact info (e-mail, phones) to [irapsu66@comcast.net](mailto:irapsu66@comcast.net) so I may add you to the mentor roles. Thanks — Ira Miller

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## Mentoring: Giving back for free

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

By Ira Miller '66

This is what's known as giveback time for alumni.

We don't want your money (well, actually, we'd kind of like it, but I'll let someone else deal with that).

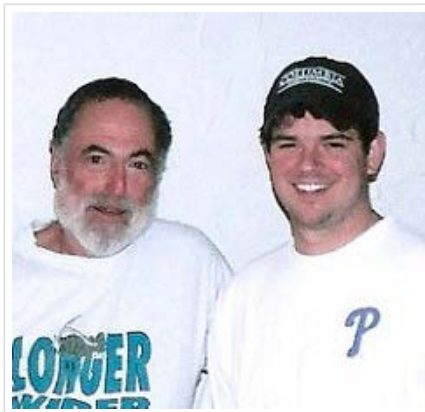
All I am asking for is your time. Just a little. The same kind of time that, most likely, someone gave you when you were just starting out.

Here at the Collegian AIG, we have a mentoring program. It has been in hiatus while the board was restructured, but I have tried to keep it going with at least a few students. Now we want to get people involved again.

It's real simple. We ask Collegian alumni, particularly those working in the communications business, to set aside a little time for the students who have followed them.

Take their phone calls. Answer their e-mails. Critique their work, if they ask. It's not a job service, although unquestionably I know that Joe Grata's mentoring with Wade Malcolm helped Wade join Joe on the staff of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

I got heavily involved with the mentoring program about six years ago. At one time, we had mentors for almost every person on the *Collegian* sports staff, where the program was concentrated. I worked closely with Chris Korman, a splendid young talent now working at the Bloomington (Ind.) *Herald-Times* after earning a master's degree at Columbia.



Ira Miller, mentoring chair; Chris Korman.

Chris has told me he thought the mentoring program was extremely worthwhile and, in fact, he took the initiative in carrying it out through other students while he was still at Penn State.

The real-world experience of our alumni is invaluable for the students hoping to enter the same world. And don't think we want only "older" alums as mentors. Recent grads can be terrific mentors because, while they won't have the wealth of experience to call on, they are much more in tune with today's job market than many of us are.

Our mentoring program will be a no-mess, no-fuss, no-paperwork project. The only

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involvement from the AIG will be to make the connection and, at some time in the future, most likely will ask for feedback on how it's going. If you become a mentor, it will strictly be between you and the student to decide how frequently you want to talk, meet, e-mail, whatever, and the relationship will take its course.

We will not ask for regular reports, evaluations or critiques. The idea is to help the students, not produce a batch of paperwork.

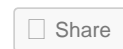
#### Get involved

If you are interested, please reply to me at: [irapsu66@comcast.net](mailto:irapsu66@comcast.net), with the information requested below. I hope enough of you will, and I can assure you, you will find this a rewarding experience.

- Name
- E-mail
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- Position
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## Celebration photos now available!

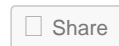
Posted on **October 23, 2012** by collegianaig

What a terrific 125th anniversary celebration! Thanks to all who participated. An album is now available for viewing, sharing and ordering photos — check it out:



[Click here to view the album](#)

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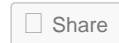
Posted on **March 6, 2008** by collegianaig

We now have a growing album on flickr.com where you can view photos from past AIG events. Currently, we have photos from the 1999 reunion, the 2007 celebration of the Chronicles publication, and the Penn State Alumni Association Volunteer Award presentation.

To view all the photos, [click here](#).

If you'd like your photos from AIG events to appear on the site, e-mail them to [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com).

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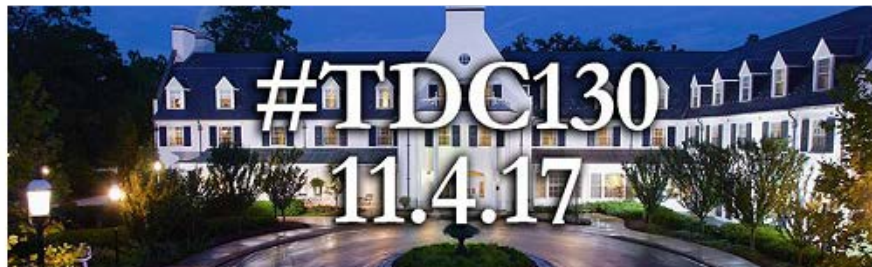
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## Join The Collegian Alumni Interest Group Board of Directors

Posted on **March 30, 2015** by collegianaig

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group is looking to fill three seats on its Board of Directors. Each involves a three-year term, beginning in the summer of 2015.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Anyone eligible for membership in the Collegian AIG — meaning anyone who once worked for The Daily Collegian — is eligible for election to the board.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Members participate by telephone in periodic, hour-long sessions scheduled on weekdays, and in an annual general meeting held in State College. This year's meeting has not yet been scheduled. In addition, members are expected to serve on committees that further the work of the board.

**HOW TO APPLY:** The Nominating Committee will advance a slate of candidates; to be considered, contact committee chairman Liz Murphy at [eam5115@gmail.com](mailto:eam5115@gmail.com) by May 15. Please include information about what you did for the Collegian, your graduating year; a resume or summary of your work experience, including your current position; and a paragraph explaining why you would like to join the board.

If your nomination is not advanced by the committee, you may then self-nominate by collecting the signatures of 20 Collegian alumni who are supporters. These applications must be sent by June 15 to [eam5115@gmail.com](mailto:eam5115@gmail.com), or 330 Delafield Place NW, #4, Washington, D.C., 20011.

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## Call for nominations to Collegian AIG board

Posted on **March 12, 2014** by collegianaig

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group is looking to fill three seats on its Board of Directors. Each involves a three-year term, beginning in the summer of 2014.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Anyone eligible for membership in the Collegian AIG — meaning anyone who once worked for The Daily Collegian — is eligible for election to the board.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Members participate by telephone in periodic, hour-long sessions scheduled during work hours on weekdays, and in an annual general meeting held in State College; this year's meeting is scheduled for July 19. In addition, they are expected to serve on committees that further the work of the board.

**HOW TO APPLY:** The Nominating Committee will advance a slate of candidates; to be considered, contact committee chairman Jerry Schwartz at [jschwartz@ap.org](mailto:jschwartz@ap.org) by May 1. Please include information about what you did for the Collegian and your graduating year; a resume or summary of your work experience, including your current position; and a paragraph explaining why you would like to join the board.

Anyone who wants to self-nominate must collect the signatures of 20 Collegian AIG members who are supporters. These applications must be sent by June 1 to [jschwartz@ap.org](mailto:jschwartz@ap.org), or 420 E. Dudley Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.

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## Collegian AIG seeks to fill board seats

Posted on December 20, 2011 by collegianaig

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group is looking to fill three seats on its Board of Directors. Each involves a three-year term, beginning in the spring of 2012.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Anyone eligible for membership in the Collegian AIG — meaning anyone who once worked for The Daily Collegian — is eligible for election to the board. Board members also must be members of the Penn State Alumni Association.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Members participate by telephone in periodic, hour-long sessions scheduled during work hours on weekdays, and in an annual general meeting held in State College in the spring. In addition, they are expected to serve on committees that further the work of the board.

**HOW TO APPLY:** There are two ways to be placed on the ballot.

The Nominating Committee will advance a slate of candidates; to be considered, please contact committee chairman Jerry Schwartz at [jschwartz@ap.org](mailto:jschwartz@ap.org) by Jan. 11.

Anyone who wants to self-nominate must provide the committee with a statement describing his or her interest, a resume, and the signatures of 20 Collegian AIG members who are supporters. These applications must be received by March 22. Send to [jschwartz@ap.org](mailto:jschwartz@ap.org), or 420 E. Dudley Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.

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## Minutes from AIG 2014 Annual Meeting

Posted on July 28, 2015 by collegianaig

**Meeting of AIG Board**  
**July 19, 2014**

### Attending

On Call: Renee, Liz, Ramit, Lexi, Greg, Jeremy  
In Person: Candy, Patti, Rossilynne, Andrew, Abby

Renee welcomes the three new members of the Board of Directors to the group.

Renee discusses the election results. Almost 150 votes were tabulated. Bruce provided some additional data on the conversion percentage and traction between sending out availability to vote and number of people who actually voted. Several discussions on trying to see what additional data could be gathered and applied to expand our email distribution potential.

A question was asked to compare year over year voting numbers. Will follow up with Bruce on the data, but Greg and Renee believe the number of voters is about the same. Lexi asks for more details about the voter pool between the AIG's listserv and PSU's listserv. Abby suggests some additional methods we can use for alumni outreach (example: Mail Chimp) in voting and general communication. Andrew will follow up when talking about the communications committee.

Renee begins discussion on Board elections as she becomes Immediate Past President. Three positions are available:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary

Andrew asks that a review is given on each position opening for new Board Members before selection. Of note regarding the Secretary position and keeping the minutes, all past minutes are now available on a Google drive file.

- For Board President, Andrew nominates Rossilynne, Abby seconds, Rossilynne accepts and group vote confirmed
- For Board Vice President, Rossilynne nominates Lexi, Liz seconds, Greg self-nominates, Andrew and Renee second.
- Discussion commences on bylaws of the position
- Lexi makes a statement for position
- Greg makes a statement for position
- Roll call vote by Candy:
  - For Greg: Andrew, Renee, Greg
  - For Lexi: Abby, Lexi, Ramit, Liz, Susan
  - Abstain: Rossilynne

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Lexi becomes Vice President

- For Secretary, Andrew nominates Abby, Roslynnne seconds, Abby accepts and group vote confirmed
- Renee approves last meeting's minutes, Susan seconds, board votes to approve.

#### **Committee reports**

##### Nominating committee report by Renee

- Additional follow up on the voting procedure
- Will continue format for next year
- Jerry mentioned that the next nominating committee chair not have a conflict of interest (Greg mentioned that there is an unwritten protocol but agrees that bylaw changes may be put in place to prevent the issue)

##### Scholarship committee report by Renee

- Discussion of the qualifications to have a candidate be eligible for the scholarship
- Andrew brings up the point of "junior and senior standing" as a point of change
- Renee says we can change the criteria to make the control less on PSU standings and more to Collegian criteria
- Victoria is now eligible to receive the scholarship; Sam is currently not eligible by current standards
- Rossilynne asks how other groups handle this issue. It may need to be a procedural change that the Board needs to make. Discussion continues on the current procedure
- Candy notes that she works with the PSU scholarship group (Janet) on non-AIG Collegian scholarships
- AIG Board reaches conclusion to change language for parameters of the scholarship which the new committee will work on before the next scholarship selection kicks off
- Additional general background is given by Renee to the new Board members

##### Communications committee report by Renee

- Mostly discussed earlier when talking about the voting results
- Renee acknowledges Lexi on her social media work towards the AIG Board vote, including tweets to remind people to vote

##### Bylaws by Greg

- Refreshing the bylaws (Greg)
  - Goal is to have bylaws updated by the committee for Board review by end of September
  - Review and feedback from whole Board finalized by end of 2014
  - Review and feedback from AIG membership by end of March 2014
  - Vote to approve updated bylaws by next election to be installed at 2015 annual meeting
- Background on the bylaws given as requested by Rossilynne
- Items that we want to change asked by Abby
  - Officer description
  - Combining Outreach and Communication Committees

##### Fundraising/Events Committee by Andrew

- Andrew recaps the effort to help the Collegian buy a new car
  - Spring and Fall events
  - Collegian merchandise
  - General donations
- Takeaways from the meet up in February 2014
  - No open bar

- Tax deductible information in advance
- Extension of voice about the event through other alumni
- Current Event Calendar over the next few years
  - Fall 2014 plan to launch an online store for Collegian merchandise to be further discussed in committee
  - Spring 2015 plan to hold a Blue/White Tailgate
  - Fall 2015-Spring 2016 Regional events
  - Spring 2017 leads into the 130th Anniversary Reunion
- Further fundraising discussions include potential use of donation management systems
- Discussion continues on how people can donate to the Collegian directly versus to the Collegian AIG
- Goal for full fundraising of the Collegian car is 2017 after the 130th reunion

#### Outreach Committee report by Lexi

- Lexi talks about the current methods and feedback
- Overall the 1-on-1 program doesn't work, so will start over with a new method
- 3 part program has been designed and distributed to the Board
- Online Database by decade
- Create Listservs
- Workshops towards students (In person and online group chats)
- Current communications with students – what's the current practice to help us connect the AIG to students
- Fundamental problem that students don't know we exist
- Patti suggests an alumni week

#### **Patti updates on the search for News Adviser**

#### **Committee assignments (Emailed to the group to select members)**

- Scholarship – Renee (Chair), Greg, Andrew
- Nominating – Liz (Chair)
- Outreach – Lexi (Chair)
- Communications – Bruce (Chair-Tentative)
- Fundraising – Andrew (Chair)
- Bylaws – Greg (Chair)
- Committees will be fully filled by next call

#### **Good of the order**

- Renee received the annual report that needs to be filled out for the Collegian AIG, due by August 22
  - Jen needs to fill out the financial form
  - Opportunity to become a group in good standing or group of distinction
- Happy birthday Rossilynne

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## Minutes from AIG 2012 Annual Meeting

Posted on August 21, 2012 by collegianaig

The AIG Board approved the minutes at the July 31 meeting as submitted.

**Meeting of AIG Board**  
**Sunday, April 22**  
**State College, Pa.**

### Attending

AIG Board: Alison Kepner, Greg Ruben, Paul Rudoy, Bruce Morris, Jerry Schwartz, Ira Miller, Andrew McGill, Rossilynne Skena; Renee Petrina (participating by phone)  
Collegian reps: Patti Hartranft, Jim Rodenbush, Candy Heckard  
Guests: Kelly Ash, Nicole Conley

### Absent

AIG Board: Teresa Cook, Dave Pellnitz, Michael Signora

### I. Election of Officers

Alison Kepner nominates Renee Petrina as President.  
Kepner nominates Paul Rudoy as Treasurer.  
Kepner nominates Teresa Cook as Secretary.  
Petrina nominates Bruce Morris as Vice President.  
Board accepts all nominations unanimously.

### II. Minutes

Approved as submitted

### III. Treasurer's report (Rudoy)

Just more than \$13,000 sits in AIG account.  
Rudoy proposes moving \$3,000 of that money from the AIG account to the scholarship fund, which will leave \$10,000 in the fund for the anniversary celebration.  
The board agrees unanimously to move the \$3,000 to the scholarship fund.

Petrina asks if there is a minimum for our room block at the anniversary celebration and if our group will incur fees for not meeting that amount. Kepner said there is no minimum and that we'll pay for food by the plate.

### IV. Committee reports

#### Communications and Fundraising (Petrina)

Working to create a communication line where AIG gets info from the university about who gives and how it's directed to the AIG scholarship fund.  
Idea to form a committee of board members to write thank you notes to donors.  
AIG needs to get regular info from PSU Alumni Association.  
Continuing to incorporate social media and thinking about our reach – are we getting to all generations of alumni?

Morris suggests used LinkedIn to identify all PSU alumni and mass mailing them

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about fundraising.

McGill suggests reaching out to people who have given in the past to the Collegian.

Petrina said it's important to use continuing engagement with fundraising.

Suggests group can use social media to thank donors, like a donor badge on their Facebook. Also can use social media to connect alumni.

Will consider in the future buying a HootSuite account that can schedule posts and allow multiple people to manage accounts.

Considering a "hashtag" on Twitter for Collegian anniversary, like #TDC125.

Rudoy asks what does Collegian need in terms of fundraising – donation to scholarships in general or something else?

Kepner suggests donation reward cards that could tell donors they purchased a computer for a Collegian student or a scholarship, etc.

Kepner said it will take \$100,000 in funds to endow both scholarships.

Rudoy suggests a fundraising meeting with Patti, Jim and Candy.

Miller suggests a check-off space on anniversary invitation about donating.

Heckard said donors could get a free t-shirt.

#### Newsletter

Heckard suggests writing about Wayne Hillinski and said there's an article online we could use.

Kepner will write about PSU Pulitzer winners.

McGill will write about students from Collegian competing at Hearst.

Petrina will write a column from the president, talking about work on fundraising.

Kepner will write about plaque for students and scholarship recognition.

#### Mentoring (Miller)

Rubin said students are getting good first-time jobs because of their mentoring.

Miller said students need to follow-up and get involved.

McGill said relationship is geared toward advice, and it's better to be transactional.

Rubin said he tells students they'll get out of the program what they put into it.

Rubin said students applying to be mentored state what they want to get out of program; Miller said he sends students a long letter at the beginning of the program, then relationship falls apart.

Heckard suggests giving students ideas of what to ask/do with their mentor.

Both Miller's (editorial) and Rubin's (business) programs are open to any age students.

#### Anniversary celebration (Skena)

Morris said to review the contract's attrition clause to ensure there's no room block associated with food/beverage rates.

Hartranft said Collegian will induct the following people into Alumni Hall of Fame:

Jane Murphy Schultz

Larry Foster

Allan W. Oster and Roberta Hutchinson

Staff of 2011-12 for their excellent coverage this year

Board reviewed books received so far for Collegian library:

Paul Levine

Jenny Gardiner (2 books)

Walter Meyer (3 books)

Judy Stimson (2 books)

Douglas Stauffer (5 books)

Board listed other alumni who might have works to donate:

Ted Anthony

Jerry Schwartz  
Alicia Swazy  
Marty Smith (Jerry will find his e-mail address)  
Tom Verducci  
Norman Mike Miller  
Farnoosh Torabi

Skena will work to contact these authors. She will submit article to newsletter about these books and soliciting others.

Rudoy suggests adding a signed alumni-authored book to the silent auction.

Group discusses silent auction at event. Ideas: framed copy of Paterno paper; NFL memorabilia (Miller)

Group discusses levels of donations for event; also says to add a note on the invitation about 501c3 status and company matching.

\$75 – regular admission

\$300

\$500

\$1,000 and up – table sponsor

Skena to meet with event vendor, Nittany Lion Inn, and will report back.

#### **V. Old business**

Election redux

#### **VI. New business**

Next year's schedule

Will set at later date.

#### **VII. News for the good of the order**

Scholarship winners recognition

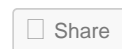
Casey McDermott (editorial) and Julie Mastrine (business) receive awards.

Plaque presentation

#### **VIII. Adjourn for luncheon with students**

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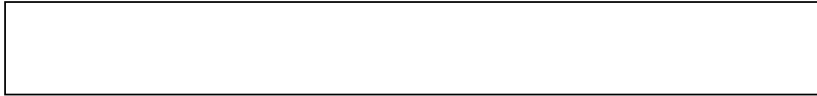
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## Minutes from AIG 2011 Annual Meeting

Posted on April 27, 2011 by collegianaig

Collegian AIG minutes, annual meeting  
April 17, 2011

**Attending in person:** Alison Kepner, Paul Rudoy, Teresa Cook, Ira Miller, Renee Petrina; Candace Heckard, Jim Rodenbush, Patti Hartranft

**Attending by phone:** Terry Casey, Jerry Schwartz, Dave Pellnitz

**Also in attendance:** Greg Rubin, Stephen Frankok, Emily Fischer, Lexi Belcufline

**Election of officers:** Officers for 2011-12 will be Alison Kepner, president; Renee Petrina, vice president; Paul Rudoy, treasurer; Teresa Cook, secretary.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the March meeting are approved as submitted.

**Treasurer's report:** We have \$11,683.91 in our account after transferring \$6,825 to the scholarship fund. Candy asked if money had been received from Old State Clothing Company for sales of Chronicles. Paul said no. The amount of sales is probably small, but the store has not been cooperative.

Question asked: How much is in our scholarship fund? \$49,775, as soon as our latest contribution is posted in May we'll have over \$50,000.

Renee asked what the reimbursement from the Penn State Alumni Association was. It was \$2,399 this year.

The treasurer's report is approved.

**Bylaws:** In reviewing bylaws, a couple of questions came up. Are columnists considered AIG members? Answer: They would be affiliates. Newer columnists go through candidate school, so they could be AIG members.

Question about immediate past president. New bylaws would formalize immediate past president's participation on board, allowing for 13 total board members.

The board made changes to the proposed new bylaws as follows:

#### Article II, Section 8

Part B to read: The President shall appoint a new member of AIG to fulfill the unexpired term of a board member who resigns or is removed for cause.

Section 9 – change "meetings" to "work sessions."

Article III, Section 1 — Strike out "to present at the annual meeting for election by the board."

#### Section 3

Part A — move last sentence down to part C and change from 75 days to 30 days.

Part C – Renee asks if requiring 20 signatures is too much. Alison said that for younger members it is not. Paul said the nominating committee knows who's familiar with board,

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but the petition process allows someone not chosen by the committee to say he's still interested.

Part E – To read: “The Nominating Committee shall issue a preliminary slate of nominees within 60 days of the deadline for election. The slate shall be immediately announced on the Collegian AIG website.

#### **Section 4**

Part A to read: “As set forth in Article 3, Section 3, the final slate of nominees, which includes statements of qualifications and biographical data, shall be published on the Collegian AIG website no later than 20 days prior to the election.”

Part B to read: “Members shall be elected by majority vote of full members of the AIG prior to the annual meeting, with ballots due 10 days prior to the annual meeting.”

Part D to read: “Within 7 days prior to the annual meeting, the results of the election shall be published on the Collegian AIG website.”

Article VI, Section 1

Part A: end sentence at website. Delete rest of that section.

The board votes to approve bylaws as amended and to send to a vote by general membership.

**Communications:** Terry Casey, chairman had to leave call. Renee reports that she would like to start a Daily Collegian Facebook page and otherwise improve communications.

Renee said she's been finding Collegian alumni who don't know that there is an active Collegian group and that we should have more communications with our members. She would set a goal to look at newsletter again because of contract; we have money we could spend on a newsletter that allows us to do more. Also start a Linked-in group. Candy says there is a Linked-in group for Daily Collegian alumni. Candy will send invitations to board members to sign up.

**Fundraising:** Renee reports that we have more than \$50,000 in our endowment fund as soon as the latest contribution is posted by the university.

The committee is working on creating an annual giving concept, more structured way to reach out. Of Penn State alumni groups, we are near top for having money in our scholarship fund. She would like to study effectiveness of the newsletter, is it worth using? We need to educate alumni about what we do. And we need to make sure people know how to give money to Penn State but designate it to the Collegian AIG. Renee also suggests that we thank our donors. The thank you comes from Penn State, but not from the AIG.

**Mentoring:** Ira reports that he has plenty of mentors for the news side and is working on getting more students. Greg Rubin reported that the pilot program on the business side has 23 mentors and 33 students. There was discussion of combining the two mentoring programs. No decision made.

**Scholarship:** The Collegian AIG scholarships are presented to the two winners: Emily Fischer on the business side and Lexi Belcuffine on news.

**Election redux:** Renee said she was surprised that the survey monkey sent out for board election was not secure. A total of 161 votes were cast, about 5 percent of the alumni. Renee suggested that it would be worth spending some of the money Penn State gives us for communications to have a more secure, professional voting procedure. Alison said she would talk to Charlene about how vote was conducted.

**Scheduling:** It is agreed that 11:30 a.m. on Thursday is a good time for phone call work sessions. Work sessions will be held quarterly. The first will be held in July. Alison will suggest dates via email.

#### **Committees for the 2011-12 year:**

**Bylaws** – Amy Constantine, chair; Alison Kepner, Ira Miller

**Finance** – Paul Rudoy, chair

**Fundraising** – Renee Petrina, chair; Greg Rubin, Ryan Pfister, Sheila Young

**Mentoring** – Ira Miller, chair; Greg Rubin, Jeremy Drey

**Nominating** – Jerry Schwartz, chair; Mike Signora, Paul Rudoy



**Scholarship** – Dave Pellnitz, chair; Renee Petrina, Teresa Cook  
**Communications** – Terry Casey, chair; Renee Petrina, Kelly Bradish  
**Reunion, anniversary** – Alison Kepner, chair; Mike Signora, Teresa Cook, Ira Miller, Dave Pellnitz

**Anniversary:** Collegian will be 125 years old in 2012. Board discusses possible times for reunion and anniversary celebration. Fall 2012 on a non-football weekend is suggested.

**Board vacancies:** Amy and Sheila have both resigned, effective immediately. The nominating committee will be asked to suggest replacements at the July board work session.

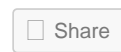
**Negotiations with Penn State:** Dave asks Patti Hartranft how negotiations are going. She reports that she is still meeting with the university and is hopeful to have contract agreement by mid-May.

**Contact list:** Dave requests an updated list of board members and contact information. Alison promises to send one out.

Meeting is adjourned 12:30 p.m.

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**One Response**

Renee Petrina, on [April 29, 2011 at 9:38 am](#) said:



A clarification on fundraising: We are in the top for our CATEGORY of student organizations for the scholarship fund. This is groups that are not officially linked to a particular college/department/major or Greek organization.

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## Minutes from AIG's annual meeting

Posted on **July 9, 2010** by collegianaig

Collegian AIG Annual Meeting  
June 26, 2010, Hintz Alumni Center, State College

In attendance in person: Andy Staub, Jill Leonard, Ira Miller, Alison Kepner, Paul Rudoy, Sheila Young and Dave Pellnitz

In attendance by phone: Renee Petrina, Charlie Alexander

Guests: Richard Leonard, Liz Murphy, Alex Weisler and incoming board member Terry Casey

Called to order at 11:22 a.m. and approved May minutes

Paul reported our cash balance is at \$15,835.40.

Jill reported Collegian AIG won tickets in the Alumni Association's football lottery for 12 tickets to the Northwestern game. She suggested again giving them to those who donate \$250 or more.

Sheila asked if AIG gets money for scholarship donations. Paul said Penn State manages the account.

Renee suggested also trying to get tickets for the Indiana game being played in D.C.

Jill said we had submitted for home games.

Paul said applications already are out to order the tickets, and Sheila said she heard not as many people have been buying them as expected.

Ira suggested trying to get people with boxes.

Renee suggested trying to tie something to the 15th anniversary of the Washington program and its reunion this fall, perhaps tickets to sporting event in DC

Sheila moved that we go forward with Jill's suggestion and use the donations toward the Marv scholarship. Andy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Paul discussed the options for setting up an account for the Marv scholarship: 1) go through Penn State 2) rename current Collegian AIG scholarship 3) set up separate checking and savings accounts 4) use Chronicle funds

Ira said he likes the idea of combining the current scholarship and naming for Marv.

Sheila said it may be easier to encourage people to donate to a general scholarship

Paul said our current scholarship is endowed at \$50,000  
Andy asked if family specified any preferences for who receives it

Sheila suggested starting with the family to see if they want to set parameters such as need, academic standing, leadership on Collegian or decide among ourselves but said

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best to keep it general so we don't pin ourselves in and not be able to give it to someone worthy

Sheila said we should put something together ourselves and run it by the family. Once established, we can solicit donations to scholarship to Marv's classmates

Dave said he thinks Marv would want it to go toward someone most in need. Also should probably specify recipient needs to work full year at Collegian. Could use Chronicle funds toward it.

Jill said she believes we have about \$6,100 from sales to put toward it.

Sheila said key is to keep soliciting each year for it.

Renee asked if that would hurt us in going after money for endowed stuff, such as the technology fund for the Collegian. Are we taking on too much?

Sheila said the Marv donors are a separate set and most likely to donate toward the Marv fund and nothing else

Sheila said we could give two awards out of the AIG scholarship and name one after Marv

Renee left call at 11:58 a.m.

Sheila suggested giving the family this proposal: winner chosen based on need, significant contribution to Collegian, full year at Collegian

Dave will contact Marv's family to run it by them.

Jill will contact the College of Communications to discuss naming an endowed scholarship after Marv

Ira introduced his idea for a liaison committee to the Collegian board.

Paul supported the idea, noting we need to work together

Alison said group also can reach out to students

Terry noted students don't realize what AIG is, does, says there's such a disconnect

Andy said need to create more of a presence, get kids involved as soon as they graduate

Paul suggested two face-to-face meetings a year

Liz also said AIG and Collegian Board need to work together

Alison said could tie face-to-face meetings to mentoring program

Andy noted the networking benefit

Sheila suggested Linked In group, and Alison said we should have a Facebook group, too.

Charlie supported idea said he would vote yes for it and left call at 12:13 p.m.

Ira moved to create the liaison committee. Alison seconded. Passed unanimously

Jill nominated Ira to chair it and Andy, Terry and Paul as members.

Ira said he will contact president of the board to ask for current bylaws, GM duties and finances for past five years.

Discussed sharing with board comparisons we did with professional staffing and organization of other college papers. Alison suggested we look at how other student papers' business departments work too

Next year's officer board was discussed. Alison nominated Jill as president. Sheila seconded. Approved unanimously.

Ira nominated Alison as vice president. Sheila seconded. Approved unanimously.

Alison nominated Teresa as secretary. Sheila seconded. Approved unanimously.

Dave nominated Paul as treasurer. Sheila seconded. Approved unanimously.

Discussed other committees. For mentoring, Ira said the challenge is to get students involved. The program currently covers the news division. Jill will contact the two division advisors and see if they would like to maintain this or consider any changes to the AIG's involvement in mentoring.

Discussed Andy's idea for a future alumni formal reunion.

Decided to set other committees' memberships next meeting.

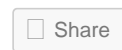
Reviewed Collegian board terms:

Ira (2013)  
Dave (2013)  
Charlie (2011)  
Terry (2013)  
Teresa (2011)  
Sheila (2012)  
Amy (2012)  
Andy (2012)  
Alison (2013)  
Paul (2013)  
Renee (2011)  
Jill (2013)

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

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**Bylaws**

BYLAWS OF THE DAILY COLLEGIAN ALUMNI INTEREST GROUP OF THE  
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
*Collegian AIG Membership Ratified: 8/9/2015*

**ARTICLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Section 1: Name**

The name of this organization shall be The Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group of The Pennsylvania State University (The Daily Collegian AIG or Collegian AIG).

**Section 2: Mission**

The Daily Collegian AIG will promote The Daily Collegian and The Pennsylvania State University among prospective and current students, alumni, and friends; provide a means for alumni and friends of The Daily Collegian to connect for personal and professional enrichment; and stimulate continued interest in The Daily Collegian experience among of all its graduates.

**Section 3: Membership**

**A. Full Membership**

Full Membership in The Daily Collegian AIG is available to individuals who have worked on the staff of The Daily Collegian. All members are strongly encouraged to join the Penn State Alumni Association.

**B. Affiliate Membership**

Any person who desires to support the continued success and ideals of The Daily Collegian shall be eligible for non-voting affiliate membership. Affiliate members are entitled to all other benefits of membership and may be subject to requirements established by the board. The total number of affiliate members shall not at any time exceed the number of full members.

**Section 4: Conflicts**

This constitution and bylaws and its amendments must not be in conflict with the constitution of the Penn State Alumni Association or the rules and regulations for Alumni Interest Groups (AIGs) as established by the Executive Board of the Penn State Alumni Council.

**Section 5: Power to Amend**

The Board shall have the power to recommend changes to these Bylaws or adopt new documents. Proposed changes to the Bylaws will be distributed to Board members at least 30 days prior to the vote. Amendments shall be subject to a vote by the general membership and require a popular "YES" of the vote for approval.

**ARTICLE II: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1: Authority**

The business and affairs of the Collegian AIG shall be managed and controlled by the Board of Directors.

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## Section 2: Powers

The Board of Directors shall:

- A. Formulate the general policies to be followed in the management of the affairs, property and business of the Collegian AIG;
- B. Create and disband committees as necessary. The President of the Board shall appoint members of such committees if needed; and
- C. Remove a member of the Board for cause by majority vote.

## Section 3: Composition and Number of Members

- A. Twelve full members;
- B. The immediate past president of the board if otherwise not a full member. Voting privileges apply only to break ties if not already a full member.
- C. Three Collegian advisers, who shall not have a vote.

## Section 4: Eligibility

- A. Any individual wishing to serve on the Board of Directors must be eligible for Full Membership as described in Article I, Section 3. In addition, Board members are required to be members of the Penn State Alumni Association.
- B. Not more than three members from the same graduating year shall simultaneously serve on the Board of Directors. If the number of candidates in any election could violate this provision, the candidates will be seated according to the number of votes each receives (greatest to least number of votes). After three Board seats are filled in accordance with this section, the remaining candidates from that graduating year will be disqualified from the election.

## Section 5: Terms of Office

- A. Terms commence at the first Board meeting after election results are known.
- B. All members of the Board of Directors shall serve three-year terms.
- C. Terms of all officers shall be two years commencing at the first meeting of the Board after election results are known. Board Members may be in consideration for officer positions so long as he or she is not in the final year of their second term or in the final year of their first term and do not plan to be reelected to the Board.
- D. No voting member of the board shall be elected for more than two consecutive terms.
- E. The members of the Board shall continue in office until their successors are elected. The President shall assume the office of Immediate Past President if eligible.

## Section 6: Work Sessions

- A. The Board of Directors shall meet by telephone conference, at least on a quarterly basis.
- B. Based on need, the Board may call special meetings.
- C. The Board shall hold an annual meeting, which shall be open to all members of the Collegian AIG.

## Section 7: Quorum

At all meetings of the Board, a quorum shall be a majority of able-voting members. A quorum is required to transact all business of the Board.

## Section 8: Resignation

- A. Any board member may resign at any time by giving written notice of his or her resignation to the President of the Board of Directors. Any such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein or, if the time when it shall become effective is not specified therein, immediately upon receipt. Unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of any such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
- B. The President shall appoint an AIG member to fulfill the unexpired term of a board member who resigns or is removed for cause.
- C. The President may also ask the Nominating Committee for nominations to fulfill any unexpired term.

## Section 9: Removal

Board members who fail to attend seventy-five percent of work sessions or meetings

each year may be dismissed by a majority vote of the remaining Board of Directors and a successor may be appointed as a vacancy to complete the unexpired term.

#### Section 10: Compensation

Directors will serve without compensation for their services.

### ARTICLE III: NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS

#### Section 1: Nominating Committee

The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of not fewer than three members. The Nominating Committee will prepare a slate of qualified candidates. The Nominating Committee shall determine that members nominated are agreeable to the placing of their names in nomination and will accept office if elected.

#### Section 2: Notice and Deadline for Candidates

- A. The Nominating Committee shall announce board vacancies by publication on the Collegian AIG website and in the Collegian AIG newsletter 120 days prior to the date of the election.
- B. The Notice shall include contact information for the Nominating Committee and the deadline for nominations.

#### Section 3: Nomination by Committee, Self-Nomination, and Deadline

- A. Directors and officers shall be eligible for reelection unless he or she is completing their second term. Reelection is not automatic. If the Nominating Committee deems reelection appropriate, the Committee shall inquire whether sitting directors and officers are willing to be re-nominated prior to advancing their candidacies.
- B. The Nominating Committee will recruit members willing to be nominated by the Committee.
- C. Any eligible AIG member interested in serving on the Board of Directors who is not advanced by the Nominating Committee may be self-nominated by forwarding to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, by electronic or regular mail, a resume and statement describing interest of the candidate in serving on the Board of Directors and 20 Collegian AIG member signatures in support of their candidacy. The deadline for self-nominations shall be 30 days prior to the date of the election.
- D. All candidates must be members of the Penn State Alumni Association.
- E. The Nominating Committee shall issue a preliminary slate of nominees within 60 days of the deadline for election. The slate shall immediately be announced on the Collegian AIG website. The published announcement of the slate shall include information that individuals not included in the preliminary slate of the Nominating Committee may be nominated by petition and signatures as set forth in paragraph C above.

#### Section 4: Elections

- A. As set forth in Article 3, Section 3, the final slate of nominees, which includes statements of qualifications and biographical data, shall be published on the Collegian AIG website no later than 20 days prior to the election. The slate shall be presented in alphabetical order.
- B. Members shall be elected by popular vote of full members of the AIG prior to the annual meeting with ballots due 10 days prior to the annual meeting.
- C. The Board shall elect Officers from among current members of the Board at the annual meeting.
- D. Prior to the annual meeting, the results of the election shall be published on the Collegian AIG website.

### ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

The Board of Directors shall elect by majority vote from among its members the following Officers, which shall comprise the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Board of Directors of the Collegian AIG:

#### Section 1: President

- A. The duties of the President shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Act as a spokesperson for the affairs and acts of the AIG;

2. Set the agenda and conduct scheduled meetings of the Board;
3. Appoint members of committees, as needed;
4. Perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him or her by the Board of Directors.
5. Act as liaison to the Penn State Alumni Association.

#### Section 2: Vice-President

- A. The duties of the Vice President shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
  1. In the absence of the President or in the event of the President's inability or refusal to act, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. The Vice-President shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to the Vice- President by the President or by the Board of Directors;
  2. Support the President;
  3. Coordinate activities of the group;
  4. Provide direct support to committee chairs.

#### Section 3: Secretary

- A. The duties of the Secretary shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
  1. Record and file the minutes of all meetings;
  2. Read the minutes of previous meetings;
  3. Locate and reserve meeting rooms;
  4. Record attendance at meetings;
  5. Keep and maintain official records of the group, including membership and committee rosters.

#### Section 4: Treasurer

- A. The duties of the Treasurer shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
  1. Record and maintain all official financial records;
  2. Report all financial transactions;
  3. Provide a financial report to the Board at each work session.

#### Section 5: Removal

Any officer may be removed for cause (i.e. failure to perform duties, failure to attend meetings, official conduct detrimental to the cause) by a majority vote of the directors during any board meeting provided prior notice of such intent is given to all directors.

### ARTICLE V: COMMITTEES

#### Section 1: Committee Structure

- A. The Board will create and dissolve Committees on an as needed basis depending on the current priorities established in the annual meeting.
- B. Once established, Committees will create a summary of goals that will be posted on the Collegian AIG website for public consumption.
- C. Each Committee must include at least one Board member.
- D. Committees may include non-Board members except in the case of the Executive Committee.

#### Section 2: Executive Committee

- A. The Executive Committee is the only permanent standing Committee and cannot be dissolved.
- B. The Executive Committee will be comprised of the officers of the Board, including the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the immediate past President. The Executive Committee shall: monitor budgets; establish policy; possess and exercise the powers of the Board in the management of the affairs and property of the Collegian AIG during the intervals between Board meetings; and report all of its actions and recommendations to the Board at its next meeting.

### ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

#### Section 1: Member Meetings

A. An annual Collegian AIG members meeting shall be held on a weekend at a place determined by the Board. Written notice of the annual meeting shall be published by the Board Secretary on the Collegian AIG website at least 30 days in advance.

Section 2: Work Sessions

There shall be at least quarterly Work Sessions of the Board.

Section 3: Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board may be called by or at the request of the President, or by any three directors currently in office.

### One Response

David Pellnitz (Editor in chief "53), on [March 30, 2015 at 4:23 pm](#) said:



The neeeew by-laws seem to cover everything needed. Good job!

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### The Daily Collegian Regional Meet-Ups Schedule Planned

Posted on **June 27, 2015** by collegianaig

Tickets for #tdcmeetup 2015 are now on sale! Last year, New York edged out Pittsburgh to raise the most for Collegian student journalists and business team members. This time around, two new cities are entering the fray: Boston and State College. Buy tickets now to see old friends, build a technology fund for the Collegian newsroom and enjoy a frosty brew.

Boston: [Tickets](#) | [Facebook Event](#)

New York City: [Tickets](#) | [Facebook Event](#)

Philadelphia: [Tickets](#) | [Facebook Event](#)

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## 2015 Regional Daily Collegian meet-up week scheduled

Posted on **March 30, 2015** by collegianaig

Last spring, four local Daily Collegian happy hours — in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New York and Washington, D.C. — brought hundreds of alumni together and raised more than \$3,000. We're bringing it back this year, bigger and better — literally!

Join us July 13-19 for a summertime #tdcmeetup spanning four cities and a whole week. Same idea — hang out with fellow alumni and share a drink to the benefit of students — but with each city staking out its own fundraising day. Plus, warmth. There's sure to be some competition to raise the most!

Details to follow. We're looking for volunteers interested in helping organize in all cities. Drop a line to Andrew ([andrewrmcgill@gmail.com](mailto:andrewrmcgill@gmail.com)) or Rossilynne ([rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com)) if you're willing to lend a hand.

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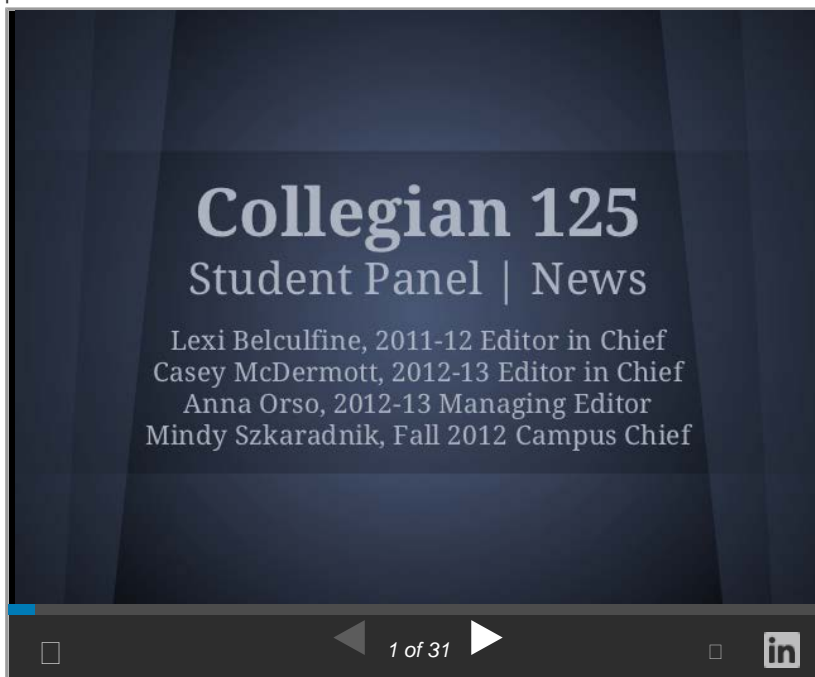


### [Collegian student leaders address alumni at panel](#)

Posted on **October 20, 2012** by collegianaig

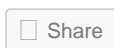
More than 70 alumni and friends of the Collegian turned out this morning for a student panel about the Sandusky scandal. Students answered questions about the challenges they faced and whether they even went to class during that hectic time.

Here is a slideshow from the News Division giving a timeline of planning and news products.



Unable to join us? Follow the events on Twitter (hashtags [#tdc125](#) and [#collegian125](#) are in play) and stay tuned for more updates.

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## Tour AccuWeather Oct. 19!

Posted on September 15, 2012 by collegianaig

Attending the Collegian's anniversary celebration? If you're arriving early on Friday, Oct. 19, please consider touring AccuWeather's world headquarters in State College.

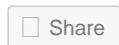
Dr. Joel Myers — a Collegian alumnus and founder, president and chairman of the board of AccuWeather, Inc. — has offered the facility for tours.

AccuWeather is the nation's largest and best-known commercial weather service, providing forecasts and data to more than 10,000 clients around the world.

Tour must be arranged by Thursday afternoon, Oct. 18. Tours are about an hour long and will run between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

To arrange your tour, contact: Holly Myers, 235-8520, [myersh@accuweather.com](mailto:myersh@accuweather.com) or Lauren Byron, 235-8500, [byronl@accuweather.com](mailto:byronl@accuweather.com).

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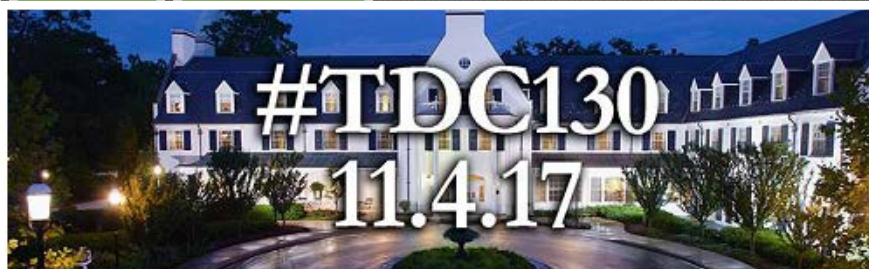
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## Collegian hires news adviser

Posted on July 25, 2014 by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian has hired Trudi Gilfillian as its news adviser.

Gilfillian has been a reporter and weekend news director at The Press of Atlantic City. She also simultaneously served as newspaper adviser at Atlantic Cape Community College and on the faculty at Atlantic Cape.

"We're excited to have Trudi on board," said Patti Hartranft, Collegian general manager.

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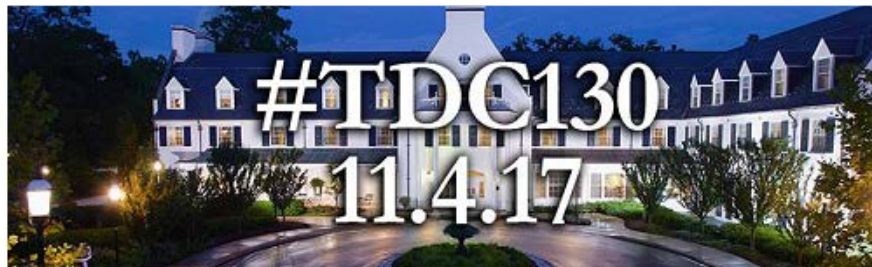
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### Elections of officers and board members

Posted on July 19, 2014 by collegianaig

Rossilynne Skena '10 is the new board president of the Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group, having been elected during the organization's annual meeting on Saturday, July 19 in State College.

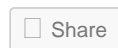
Prior to the meeting, the Collegian alumni also elected three new members of the AIG board. They are Abigail Fairman '99, Liz Murphy '11 and Ramit Plushnik-Masti '95.

At the board meeting, Lexi Belculfine '12 was elected vice-president, and Fairman was elected secretary.

Congratulations to all the new board members and officers.

Stay in touch with the AIG on Facebook or Twitter for the latest on social activities and ways to support current Collegian students.

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## [Penn State student news organization seeks news adviser](#)

Posted on **June 5, 2014** by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian is hiring a news adviser.

Adviser Jim Rodenbush, who had held the position since 2011, left the Collegian in May for personal reasons. He is now working as a regional digital editor for Southern Illinois with GateHouse Media.

[You can click through to read the job posting on JournalismJobs.com.](#) The application deadline is 5 p.m. June 18.

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## News Division scholarship goes to Sam Janesch

Posted on **May 15, 2014** by collegianaig

As he maps his year-long tenure as Collegian's editor-in-chief, Sam Janesch plans to enhance the newspaper's Web product.

"(I'm) really focused on new media and digital," he said. "I want to make the digital aspect of the Collegian look different, more engaging."

Janesch began his job as the news division's top editor this month, a role that demands countless hours. Throughout his term, he'll be bolstered by the Collegian Alumni Interest Group's merit-based scholarship, assistance he calls "incredible."

"(It's) important for me and my parents. I've committed myself, sacrificing other work (options)," he said.

The print journalism major and English minor, a senior, plans to graduate in 2015. He joined the Collegian as a freshman, after graduating from Great Valley High School in Chester County. Janesch covered a variety of news stories, including greek life, THON, administration and crime. He then earned editing roles, serving as campus editor and twice as news editor.

When he's not tracking down news stories and leading reporters, Janesch enjoys the outdoors and movies. But his loyalty lies in the newsroom's basement office along South Burrowes Street.

"You just fall in love with this place ... the people and the work. It's incredibly rewarding," he said. "I made all my best friends here."

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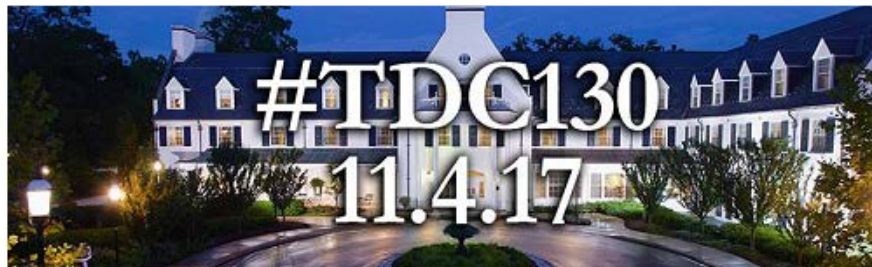
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## Business Division scholarship goes to Victoria Lamina

Posted on May 15, 2014 by collegianaig

Victoria Lamina is honored to have been chosen as a recipient of one of this year's Collegian AIG scholarships.

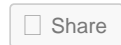
"What the Collegian has taught me has been invaluable," Lamina said.

Joining the Collegian's Business Division in the spring of 2012 during her first year at Penn State, Lamina said her time with The Daily Collegian has been one of most rewarding parts of her collegiate career. Her ease into learning various roles within the paper provided the perseverance needed into growing her skills as a manager of the Layout department, blocking out the ads sold for each day's printing.

"The Collegian is an amazing, amazing publication, and I look forward to spending my senior year within its office doors," said the art history and journalism major who plans to graduate in 2015.

In her hope of being hired in the field of publishing and page design, this summer she will be applying her skills as an Editorial Beauty Intern for Marie Claire in New York City. Lamina then looks forward to re-joining the Layout department in the fall after a recent study abroad in Rome.

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## Thank you, Dean Doug Anderson!

Posted on **May 13, 2014** by collegianaig

For the past 15 years, Collegian Inc., has had support from an office you might not expect – an administrator. In his 15 years as [Dean of the College of Communications](#), Douglas Anderson has been a clear supporter of the student news organization – even though Collegian Inc. is independent of the university.

Dean Anderson has always seen the Collegian as a valuable training ground where students hone their skills beyond the classroom. He taught an in-depth reporting class that enrolled many Collegian students whose work won countless Hearst Foundation awards.



Doug Anderson has served as dean of the College of Communications since 1999.

“He knows that the combination of strong classroom instruction and a strong student paper make a powerful impact, on campus and on our students,” said Steve Sampsell, director of college relations for the College of Communications.

Alumni who attended the Collegian AIG’s October 2012 reunion event might not know that Dean Anderson supported us from the early planning stages. Collegian alumni were granted use of Carnegie Building at no charge for the weekend’s events, and the college helped defray costs for our guest speaker. Because of Dean Anderson’s support, more ticket revenue was able to be directed toward our scholarship endowment.

And for years, the College has provided financial administration to the [Collegian Alumni Interest Group Scholarship endowment](#), which rewards one Business and one News staff member each year with more than \$1,000 toward tuition. Our deserving recipients are feted by the college at an annual awards dinner.

[Dean Anderson is retiring at the end of June](#), and the Collegian AIG board wants to thank him for his steadfast support of Collegian Inc. during his tenure at the helm of the College of Communications. That’s why the board is making a donation to the Trustee Scholarship in Honor of Dean Douglas Anderson.

Thank you, Dean Anderson, for your unwavering support.

-Renée Petrina

President, Collegian AIG board

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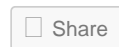
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« [How to donate to the Collegian AIG Scholarship Fund Business Division scholarship goes to Victoria Lamina](#) »

### One Response

**Rochelle R. Sufrin**, on [May 16, 2014 at 8:33 am](#) said:



I am compelled to send a public acknowledgment and note of thanks to Dean Anderson for his investment, support and encouragement of Collegian AIG activities, projects and missions from his early days and our very beginning. His first year as Dean, was my first year as a dues paying member of the AIG and within a year I came to know Dean Anderson as a committed partner, steadfast cheerleader and active sounding board during my first year as president in 2000. It was clear that over the next three years, he was our beacon, showing us the way through challenging waters of University policy and protocol, as Collegian held the most unique position among all the alumni AIGs, alumni groups and societies. He provided oversight yet supported Collegian's independence and was an active partner with our alumni, faculty, the PSAA and the University administration. He was first on board to support the Collegian AIG's second reunion which earned our first PSAA Achievement Award for New & Innovative Events and was an engaged supporter of The Collegian Chronicles, which earned us our second PSAA award. Now, as he moves onto the next phase of his life, he leaves the Collegian AIG with its third PSAA award for Fellowship. We wish him the best that life has to offer. Dean, your star power has brought the golden years to the COC, the Collegian AIG and the University. For all of us who were fortunate to be engaged during your tenure, we thank you and hope there is an incredible chapter waiting to be written for your next endeavor. With sincere gratitude,  
Rochelle R, Sufrin '78

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## How to donate to the Collegian AIG Scholarship Fund

Posted on **May 6, 2014** by collegianaig

Our scholarship fund has more than \$50,000 in principal and grows as part of the larger Penn State endowment.

[Click here to be taken to Penn State's online giving site.](#)

Check the box for "other" on the first page and be sure to type in "Collegian AIG Scholarship" in the comments box.

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## Alumni, students call for reinstatement of John Harvey

Posted on May 29, 2009 by collegianaig

The Collegian AIG, along with hundreds of Collegian staff members and alumni, is calling for the reinstatement of ousted News Adviser John Harvey.

Collegian General Manager Gerry Hamilton's May 20 firing of Harvey, who has guided student journalists at the paper for the past 11 years, has prompted an outpouring of support for Harvey, whom many alumni and students have credited as their greatest teacher and mentor. It also has led to questions of Hamilton's management.

The student and alumni outcry has led the Collegian Board of Directors to call a special meeting. The group will gather in a closed session next week to discuss the matter. A public meeting also may be called if action is to be taken.

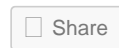
The AIG has shared its position with the directors in [this statement](#): "The Daily Collegian AIG strongly protests the dismissal of Mr. John Harvey. The AIG board asks that the board of directors reverse John Harvey's dismissal and, further, that the board of directors takes a more active role in overseeing the Collegian's operations so that it can resume its proper role of educating and training student journalists. The AIG board further asks that the board take a close look at the way the Collegian has been managed. The Daily Collegian AIG will place a moratorium on its fundraising efforts in support of the Collegian until the AIG board is satisfied that Collegian Inc. is moving in a direction the AIG can support."

To get involved, send letters to Mike Hofherr, president of the Collegian Inc. board of directors. He will compile all correspondence and share with the entire board. While letters in support of Harvey are welcomed, Hofherr has urged writers not to include personal attacks. (6/3/09 update: Letters are being shared with the board tonight. Future Collegian-related correspondence can be sent to Mike at [collegian09@gmail.com](mailto:collegian09@gmail.com).)

Alumni have established two Web sites to keep people abreast of developments: a public [Facebook page](#) and a [blog](#).

Links also are available under "links" on the left side of this page.

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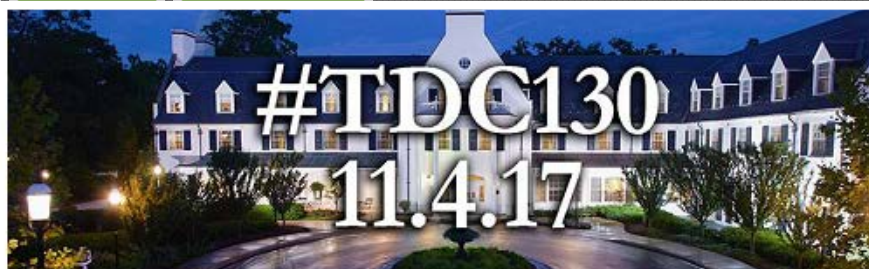
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## [Press release: Firing of adviser brings storm of criticism](#)

Posted on **June 24, 2009** by collegianaig

### FIRING OF ADVISER TO PENN STATE STUDENT NEWSPAPER BRINGS STORM OF CRITICISM FROM STAFF, ALUMNI, CALLS FOR CHANGES IN PAPER'S GOVERNANCE

STATE COLLEGE, PA. — The firing of the editorial adviser to The Daily Collegian, the student newspaper at Penn State University, has touched off a storm of criticism of the newspaper's general manager and board of directors by the newspaper's staff members and alumni, demands for reinstating the adviser and calls for overhauling the way the paper is governed.

The call for change is being led by the Collegian Alumni Interest Group, an arm of the Penn State Alumni Association, representing more than 3,000 of the Collegian's alumni. The Collegian is one of the nation's oldest college publications, dating back to 1887 and ranked among the nation's best college newspapers.

John Harvey, the popular news adviser, was dismissed by general manager Gerry Hamilton with virtually no advance notice, and Harvey's health insurance coverage was summarily cut off with only four days' notice.

More than a month has passed. The Collegian Inc. board of directors said it was looking into the issue but has remained mostly mute, and Michael Hofherr, the board president, didn't appear at a meeting of the alumni group after initially promising to attend.

The alumni group, which had been planning to launch a major fundraising campaign, issued a strong statement calling for a complete halt to fundraising until the group "is satisfied that Collegian Inc. is moving in a direction the (alumni group) can support."

Jill Leonard, president of the alumni group, described herself as "devastated" by Harvey's firing and said she was concerned for the students who are about to return to campus and publish the newspaper without the professional leadership and expertise that Harvey provided.

"These aspiring journalists, at a tender stage in their education, have no one to turn to," Leonard said. "John wasn't only a teacher for staff members. He was a cheerleader, a coach, at times a surrogate parent."

With publication of the newspaper for the summer semester scheduled to resume July 1, the student staff members have no idea who will train their new editors or who will train the new class of candidates for the paper; training was scheduled to begin June 27. In fact, the board of directors has kept the staff members in the dark on its plans, just as it has resisted calls for transparency from the alumni.

Harvey had been with the Collegian for 11 years. Hamilton, meanwhile, is the

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longtime general manager whose relations with the student staff have been contentious at best. Hamilton reports to the Collegian Board of Directors, an odd amalgam of students and faculty members who rarely remained on the board long enough to become comfortable with the board's responsibility for governance and accountability.

Harvey's firing came shortly after a group of young alumni called for an independent audit of the paper's operation. The Collegian has been losing money for several years, long before the current recession, even though it continues to dominate its market in both circulation and advertising.

Discontent is widespread, aligning current staff members with alumni whose terms on the paper ended more than a half-century ago. An editorial posted by the newspaper's Board of Editors said, "It's impossible to assert that anyone could do a better job" than Harvey, who was fired on vague grounds of "insubordination."

Harvey "ran the Collegian's candidate training program — recognized by many as one of the best in the country," the editors said.

"Officially, Harvey's training program lasted a semester, but all staff members knew that he would continue to provide lessons throughout their Collegian careers. In terms of publishing a quality newspaper, Harvey was essential to the process."

Both the recent graduates, who called for the audit, and older alumni have expressed concern — not only about the paper's finances but also the disconnect between Hamilton and the students. The fractious relationship Hamilton has had with the staff was very different from the traditionally warm mentoring that previous professionals — and Harvey — had established.

As a result, the alumni group has called, among other things, not only for Harvey's reinstatement, but also revisions in the paper's governance so that student staff members and alumni who are former staff members have significant input in the operation. The Collegian is a nonprofit corporation tied to Penn State only through location and a contract through which the university purchases newspapers for distribution to students.

To put it in perspective, four of the 11 voting members of the Collegian's board of directors are students who are not members of the newspaper's staff, and the majority of the non-student directors never worked on the paper. Only one member of the board, Malcolm Moran, the director of Penn State's sports journalism program, has any significant professional newspaper experience. Moran was a sportswriter with The New York Times, Chicago Tribune and USA Today. Hofherr is an information technology manager at Penn State's Smeal College of Business.

History long ago lost the details of how the board's makeup was determined, but it has been suggested that having such a board control the newspaper would be like having the head of the math department calling plays for Joe Paterno's football team.

At any rate, many prominent alumni have called for Hamilton's dismissal. Among the most vocal have been Marvin Krasnansky, a Collegian editor in the 1950s who edited the recent publication of a history covering Penn State's first 150 years, The Collegian Chronicles, and Ira Miller, a former president of the Pro Football Writers of America, who was on the Collegian staff in the 1960s.

"The paper belongs to the students, not to some distant, ill-equipped or absentee landlords manipulated by a domineering general manager, and has failed miserably to exercise its fiduciary and oversight responsibility," said Krasnansky, one of just 10 members of the Collegian Alumni Hall of Fame.

Aaron Matthews, an award-winning documentary filmmaker who followed the Collegian for a year to produce an acclaimed film, "The Paper," said he "followed (Harvey) and his students around The Daily Collegian's newsroom nearly every

day over the course of one year (and) it became clear early on in the process that John was no ordinary instructor.”

“He was the kind of teacher you get every once in a while, who is as interested in the subject as in sharing it with inquiring minds, the kind of teacher that gives you just enough information to make discoveries on your own,” said Matthews, who is not connected to either Penn State or the Collegian.

Matthews said the film about the Collegian is being used in “over 300 (and counting) schools and universities to teach people about journalism,” and that the State Department “has ordered hundreds of copies . . . to show foreign countries what a real American newsroom looks like.”

“Many of the reviews of the film and comments at film festivals speak directly to John’s leadership and professionalism in his role at the Collegian,” Matthews said.

In the [Board of Editors editorial](#), the current editors wrote:

“He followed staffers throughout their careers at the Collegian, so that he could better advise the editor in chief where each person belonged each semester. His intricate knowledge of newsroom positions and personnel, combined with his ability to judge journalistic talent, was an indispensable resource to those students tasked with running the Collegian.

“And for Harvey, the job went further. He was the Collegian’s de facto career counselor; in this difficult time for journalism, his willingness to discuss with staff members whether journalism was the proper career choice for them was invaluable.

“His ties in the industry helped countless Collegian alumni or staff members land jobs or internships. His loss inflicts real damage on the ability of current staff members to have those same opportunities.

“Harvey also inspired a sense of ‘family’ at the Collegian, as evidenced by the incredible outpouring of support for him almost immediately after news of his dismissal.

“The Board of Editors has seen no planning to transfer the institutional knowledge Harvey carried to another Collegian employee.

“And the people who ultimately suffer from the complete and total loss of everything Harvey brought to the Collegian are the students who are responsible for publishing a paper every day.”

In the month-plus since Harvey’s dismissal, the Collegian board of directors has held two closed-door meetings and issued two statements which said, essentially, only that the board was looking into the issue. In what may be described as curious timing, former board president Renee Flemish, who was known as an ally of Hamilton, submitted her resignation from the board following the closed-door meeting.

Also, Hamilton chose to fire Harvey after students had gone home following the spring semester, which made it more difficult for them to protest the loss of their adviser.

Nonetheless, they have rallied plenty of support, including a [“Support John Harvey” page](#) on Facebook that has nearly 400 members.

\* \* \* \* \*

**For further information:**

Jill Leonard, president, Collegian Alumni Interest Group  
([www.psucollegianalumni.com](http://www.psucollegianalumni.com)), [jill@pennstatefan.net](mailto:jill@pennstatefan.net), 724-331-6405

Gerry Hamilton, general manager, The Daily Collegian,  
[glhamilton48@gmail.com](mailto:glhamilton48@gmail.com), 814-865-1828

John Harvey, [johnharvey42@gmail.com](mailto:johnharvey42@gmail.com), 814-777-6355

Doug Anderson, dean, Penn State College of Communications, 814-863-1484,  
[doug-anderson@psu.edu](mailto:doug-anderson@psu.edu)

Michael Hoffherr, president, board of directors, Collegian, Inc., 814-865-0366  
[collegian09@gmail.com](mailto:collegian09@gmail.com)

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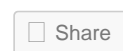
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## One Response

Beth Phelan Stokes, Class of 1989, on [June 27, 2009 at 2:06 am](#) said:



Dear Collegian Alumni Interest Group and current staff members,

As a former member of the Collegian business staff who does not know John Harvey at all, and who barely knows Gerry Hamilton, I am disappointed by the way this situation with John Harvey's dismissal is being handled by people who have allegedly been trained by Mr. Harvey to be better journalists!

As journalists who claim to have been trained and mentored by Mr. Harvey, you're doing a poor job of presenting both sides of this story in a thoroughly researched and objective manner. Your press release reads like a communal wine made by folks who only know how to describe people and situations with adjectives and opinions rather than facts.

Employees are not retained based solely on their popularity with other staff members. And employers are not required to justify their personnel actions to other staff members. There are many people in this world who can be described with strings of positive adjectives, yet who have also been fired from jobs.

I laughed when I read the press release citing that Mr. Harvey was now without health insurance and an income. So are an alarming number of other Americans at the moment. Mr. Harvey is eligible for COBRA coverage for 18 months after his group health plan is terminated, so if there is a gap in his health insurance, it is because he hasn't signed the paperwork to continue with COBRA.

Being fired doesn't necessarily preclude Mr. Harvey from collecting unemployment insurance, either.

Mr. Harvey sounds like the kind of person I would have liked as well had he been at the Collegian in my day. But liking Mr. Harvey doesn't mean that Gerry Hamilton is the personification of evil just because you disagree with him. I graduated 20 years ago, and at that time, Gerry was nothing but supportive of the staff and advisers.

Some interesting issues regarding the board of directors have been raised recently. There may be a problem with the board's structure and responsibilities. I hope the Collegian staff will investigate this further as a separate issue from Mr. Harvey's dismissal, and report back in a way that upholds Collegian standards.

The Collegian is a newspaper. I encourage current staff, as well as alumni, to act like the good journalists they claim Mr. Harvey trained them to be and start presenting both sides of this story more objectively. If you can't, then you shouldn't be speaking on behalf of the Collegian, its alumni or the alumni interest group.

Respectfully,

Beth Phelan Stokes  
Penn State Class of 1989

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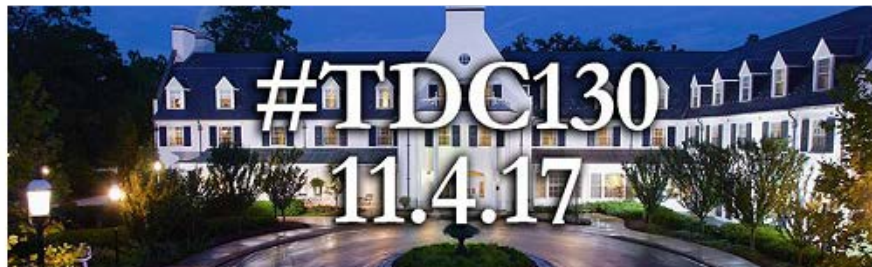
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## Editor, business manager selected

Posted on March 24, 2009 by collegianaig

By Ben Skalina  
Collegian Staff Writer

The Collegian Inc. Board of Directors recently selected Rossilynne Skena as The Daily Collegian's editor in chief and Holly Colbo as business manager for the 2009-2010 school year.

Skena, the Collegian's investigative team leader, ran against Multimedia Editor Lauren McCormack for editor in chief, while Colbo ran unopposed for her new position.

Colbo has been one of three managers in the Collegian's sales department for the past two years.

Skena will replace Editor in Chief Terry Casey at the conclusion of the academic year, while Colbo will succeed Business Manager Stef Kemmler.

All three candidates were interviewed for approximately 20 minutes by the board and answered questions regarding their management styles and plans for the future of the Collegian, among others.

The candidates had each submitted proposals to the board, which were reviewed before Wednesday's meeting.

Renee Flemish, president of the board, said all of the proposals were "great" and choosing the editor in chief was "in general, a tough call." She praised Skena's direction and vision for the paper, calling her "crisp, sharp, and professional."

As for Colbo, Flemish said "she had creative ideas" and is "very much a realist." Flemish also noted the research Colbo had done on the strategies of the business divisions of other college newspapers.

Collegian General Manager Gerry Hamilton, who is a nonvoting member of the board, said he's confident Skena and Colbo will succeed in their new roles.

Both Skena and Colbo said they were excited to have landed the top management positions at the Collegian, and Colbo's predecessor noted that the fact Colbo was the only applicant for the business manager position wasn't an issue.

"I'm really happy she applied," Kemmler said. "She was the clear choice; she's well-liked, well-respected and



Rossilynne Skena



Holly Colbo

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really knows how to get the job done.”

After their selections were announced, Skena and Colbo both noted the importance of embracing the online presence of the Collegian.

“I’m most eager to work with the Web site,” Skena said. “That’s the place we have the most room for improvement.”

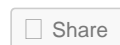
Colbo echoed the need to “focus on online,” adding fundraising for the long-term financial future of the Collegian will be needed to help the paper get through uncertain economic times.

Casey said he’s known Skena since she started her career at the Collegian.

“Rossilynne was campus chief when I was campus editor. It was one of the best semesters I had as an editor,” he said. “She’s one of the Collegian’s most dedicated employees, and she’s an extremely talented writer and editor.”

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## Anniversary celebration: Last chance to RSVP!

Posted on August 27, 2012 by collegianaig



**Saturday, Sept. 1** is your last chance to RSVP to The Daily Collegian's 125th anniversary celebration. We hope you're as excited as we are to join your fellow Collegian alumni Oct. 19-21 in State College for a weekend to recognize the paper's powerful legacy.

Please [RSVP online](#) by Sept. 1. You may pay via [PayPal](#) or by a check made out to "Collegian AIG" and a printed copy of your registration form sent to The Daily Collegian, c/o Candy Heckard, at 123 S. Burrowes St., State College, PA, 16801.

The cost for the weekend of events is \$75/person, including dinner. Please consider giving an additional amount to fund Collegian scholarships.

A block of rooms is reserved at The Nittany Lion Inn ([814-865-8500](#)). Room rate: **\$125/night**. Reservation code: **COLJ12A**.

Normal check-in is 3 p.m.; check-out is noon.

Our schedule for the weekend:

- o Friday, Oct. 19
  - 7 p.m.: Informal happy hour at Whiskers at the Nittany Lion Inn. (All events at the Nittany Lion Inn include cash bars.)
- o Saturday, Oct. 20
  - 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Student panel reflecting on a year of coverage and navigating the Collegian through the Penn State scandal.
  - 4-5 p.m.: Cocktail hour in the atrium of the Nittany Lion Inn.
  - 5-8 p.m.: Formal dinner in the Nittany Lion Inn ballroom.
  - 8 p.m.: TV tailgate at Whiskers at the Nittany Lion Inn.
- o Sunday, Oct. 21
  - 10 a.m.: A breakfast of Ye Olde College Diner's famous grilled stickies at the James Building (123 S. Burrowes St.), followed by a reception honoring alumni authors and a tour of the Collegian offices.

We invite you to take a look at the reunion's [See You There](#) list to find others from your class attending the reunion.

**Please spread the word of this special event for the Collegian — and send your Collegian pictures and memories to [arm5077@gmail.com](mailto:arm5077@gmail.com) for a presentation at the dinner.**

Any questions? Email Rossilynne at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com).

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## Anniversary celebration schedule

Posted on **September 15, 2012** by collegianaig

We're looking forward to the 125th anniversary celebration in State College! If you missed the deadline to sign up for the reunion, it's not too late. Please e-mail [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com), and we'll work to accommodate you. Commemorative t-shirts and Collegian Chronicles will also be [available for purchase](#)! As a reminder, here is the schedule for the weekend:

- Friday, Oct. 19
  - 7 p.m.: Informal happy hour at Whiskers at the Nittany Lion Inn. (*All events at the Nittany Lion Inn include cash bars.*)
- Saturday, Oct. 20
  - 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Student panel reflecting on a year of coverage and navigating the Collegian through the Penn State scandal. Carnegie Cinema, Carnegie Building
  - 4-5 p.m.: Cocktail hour in the atrium of the Nittany Lion Inn.
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**Please send your Collegian pictures and memories to [arm5077@gmail.com](mailto:arm5077@gmail.com) before Friday, Oct. 12 for a presentation at the dinner.**

Any questions? Email Rossilynne at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com).

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### Faces of the Daily Collegian: Rossilynne Skena, Leslie Stahl

Posted on September 30, 2009 by collegianaig

By Renee Petrina, '04

With the start of the new semester, we continue our popular series, Faces of the Daily Collegian. This issue, we have two Collegian seniors who met long before Penn State — both worked on the same high school paper!

#### Rossilynne Skena

When Rossilynne Skena first arrived at Penn State, she had trouble finding the Collegian offices. Now the building is practically her home address — she's even put carpeting in her editor-in-chief's office.

The woman who grew up in a tiny suburb ("I live on a farm, actually") of Pittsburgh knew in middle school that she wanted to be a journalist. She joined the News Division in her first semester and worked her way to the top.

You might think the Collegian is already a very local publication, but Skena wants to go further: Hyperlocal. She wants stories of national interest to go beyond just adding a quote from a Penn State professor.

For example, when President Obama gave his speech on health care, a Collegian reporter and photographer went to a local viewing party and asked students what they thought about the issues.

"We're really trying to focus on things that our readers can only get here," Skena said.

Other goals for the Collegian include improving its Web presence, even though she's thrilled with its current form. "We're really investing a lot of our time to think, 'What does our Web site need to look like to be best for our readers?'" she said.

With the Web as journalism's future, she wants the Collegian to be prepared.

Though she spent a lot of time as a reporter, covering Thon and then working on long-form investigative pieces, Skena, a journalism-women's studies double major, has come to love editing and the complexities of running a newsroom.

"I want to start out as a reporter at a daily newspaper," she said. "I'd like to move into content editing. ... I really like this role as a newsroom manager, being able to coordinate how the newspaper is going to come together."

Of course, if Skena has any questions, she can turn to her Collegian Alumni Interest



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Group mentor, Alison Kepner. Skena said the mentoring program is a fantastic way that alumni can assist current students.

"It's been really helpful to have an alumna from the Collegian who is out in the field now and able to talk to me about what's going on there."

#### **Leslie Stahl**

"I really tried to transform the sales meetings into sales workshops," she says.

Sounds like a high-powered manager at a major firm, right?

It is a high powered manager — the Collegian's advertising manager, who leverages the power of the student newspaper brand to clients in Centre County and beyond.

Leslie Stahl, 21, doesn't just want her sales team on the Business Division to meet quota. She wants to beat it. And her keen instincts can help the team do just that.

Rather than handing out protocol during meetings, sales managers now meet with small groups to help account executives tailor their pitches to specific clients. She encourages students to point out that Collegian hasn't increased ad rates — the shows Collegian cares about customers in a tough economy.



Through her efforts, the sales teams are being proactive. They go to clients with a new outlook: "That we are offering a solution, as opposed to just another product."

She says the down economy and dismal national ad numbers are no excuse. "There's always other ways to really promote our product and convince people that they do need it."

Beyond current efforts, Stahl wants to leave a lasting change in the culture of sales at the Collegian. She's talked with Business Division Adviser Candy Heckard about modifying the training program with a possible sales track.

Stahl, a marketing and public relations double-major who'll graduate this spring, originally started in a newsroom. She and Editor in Chief Rossilynne Skena actually worked on the same high school newspaper. "But I realized that the industry wasn't really going in the direction that I wanted to be involved with," Stahl said.

She found the opportunity to use writing and communications skills to support the newspaper in a different way, going from account executive to sales manager and now to advertising manager. "I really love being able to work with people, set goals and help people to achieve them," she said.

When she isn't managing at the Collegian, Stahl is a leader at her business fraternity, Alpha Kappa Psi, where she is vice president. She's completed two public relations internships: one at The Second Mile and one at EuroRSCG's Pittsburgh office. After graduation, she thinks corporate public relations will be the right fit to start. She wants to gain experience and move into PR for a high-level nonprofit agency.

She says Collegian alumni can help current students by staying in touch with the office. "We really are a newer, more naive version of what they are right now. We need the alumni, and they need us to stay connected with Penn State."

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**Faces of the Daily Collegian**

Posted on **October 9, 2008** by collegianaig

by **Renee Petrina, '04**

We all remember how many long hours we spent in the basement of Carnegie or the James Building. For many of us, it made it hard to have any other job to help pay for our Penn State education. Today's students who make *The Daily Collegian* happen are no different.

The Collegian AIG works to make scholarships available and to help keep the *Collegian* financially viable despite downturns in the newspaper industry and economy. Your donations, as well as your purchases of *The Collegian Chronicles* and other *Collegian* gear, can help students like these focus on making a great product and getting practical, real-world experience. We don't want to lose good journalists or sales representatives because they need a job in the dining hall to make ends meet and can't work on the paper.

I want to introduce you to two of our talented *Collegian* students, one from the Business Division and one from the News Division, who impressed me with both their poise and their lengthy resumes. I hope you enjoy reading about them as much as I did getting to know them. We'll introduce more talented students in newsletters to come. I hope that their stories will inspire you to [give to the Collegian](#) or Collegian AIG, or to [serve as a mentor](#) to current *Collegian* students.

**Ryan Pfister**

*Collegian* columnist Ryan Pfister prefers print editions of newspapers.

"It is an essential part of my day every day to get the paper and sit down at a meal and read it on the table there. You can't get the same thing on the Internet."

But the mark that Pfister will leave on *The Daily Collegian* when he graduates in May is definitely digital.

He knew he liked journalism when he arrived at Penn State but had also always been a fan of computers — so much so that the Schreyer Scholar left the College of Communications to major in information science and technology, and economics. After two years of reporting, Pfister took the role of Web editor for the 2007-08 academic year, shepherding changes to the *Collegian's* digital presence, both to readers (the Web site) and to the paper's staff (the intranet).



Ryan Pfister

But the Lower Gwynedd, Pa., native doesn't want to take all the credit. He points out that *Collegian* staffers Steve Clancy and Dan Serpiello, among others, were major contributors who made it possible for the news organization to set records for traffic at [www.collegian.psu.edu](http://www.collegian.psu.edu).

As for the future, Pfister thinks the *Collegian* will continue to develop outstanding Web

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journalists. “The fact is that since people are seeing the potential of a Web career and ... people grew up with it, I actually feel pretty confident that we will have a talented Web person year after year.”

But he thinks there is still a place for print editions.

Newspapers aren't getting worse, he thinks, but instead they face a practical problem.

“You see a lot of people making those very small economic choices, and it adds up,” he says, pointing out his own recent decision not to subscribe to The New York Times during a programming internship at Merrill Lynch.

When it comes to his future after next semester, Pfister has no set plans. Merrill Lynch offered him a job that was still available after the company's headline-making downfall, but he's exploring other options. The digitally organized student (check out his Web calendar if you need to meet with him) keeps a spreadsheet of companies he's applied to.

Now the question is which skill sets (see examples at [www.ryanpfister.com](http://www.ryanpfister.com)) he wants to employ after graduation.

“My tenure as Web editor, even if I don't go into journalism, has really catapulted me on the business side as well — it ended up being a great element on my resume because it's really practical experience.”

### **Stef Kemmler**

Stef Kemmler may have been a day late, but she definitely wasn't a dollar short.

As a freshman English major, Kemmler wanted to join *The Daily Collegian's* news staff. But she mixed up the dates in her calendar, missed the news tryout and decided to join the business staff as a trainee in the meantime.

“I liked it so much that I ended up switching my major to advertising,” says the senior from Westchester, Pa. (She'll still have an English minor when she graduates in the spring, though.)



Stefanie  
Kemmler

Now the *Collegian's* business manager, Kemmler has given so much time to the paper's operations that she hasn't been able to commit to internships or much else during her time at Penn State. So she wants to give back upon graduation. She plans to apply to Teach for America this fall and wants to be assigned to her home area of Philadelphia.

“Philly needs teachers. I don't see a reason to leave and go somewhere else, so that's where I'm looking to do it.”

But some students want wider options — so Kemmler said that she'd love to hear from *Collegian* alumni who can offer internship or job leads to her staff.

The *Collegian* is experiencing benchmark circulation upward of 20,000 on some days, she said. The Business Division has been focused heavily on branding, associating the *Collegian* name with other entities that students trust. For example, the paper has partnered with [LionMenus.com](http://LionMenus.com), which for years has linked students to their favorite takeout and delivery eateries.

Also, the *Collegian* is a major sponsor, working with Nike, of Penn State's annual football White Out T-shirt contest. The winning design will be worn by thousands of students, and the only brands on the shirt will be the *Collegian* and Nike.

“We're still doing really well, and we're really expanding,” Kemmler said. “We might change, but *Collegian's* going to be here for a while and remain independent from the school.”

On Sept. 18, *Collegian* students spoke to a conference of small newspapers in the region. They addressed the nuances of the student marketplace, which has been a captive audience that allows Collegian Inc. to thrive when other traditional print outlets are floundering.

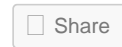
Kemmler and the others were communicating and working with adults as equals. She realized it's a skill the *Collegian* provided, a skill that few other students can match.

"I'm negotiating contracts with the head of Penn State athletics," she said. And Nike. Don't forget Nike.

"We're just students, but at the same point, it really does give you a responsibility and a sense of 'I can do this, I can go out there, I can get a job and really bring something to a company.' "

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**Collegian AIG celebrates 10th anniversary**

Posted on May 27, 2008 by collegianaig

**A Retrospective—1998-2008**

By Shelly Sufrin '78

As Collegian alumni, our work is collectively archived on the pages of *The Free Lance*, *the Penn State Collegian* and *The Daily Collegian*. What those pages don't reveal is how Collegian relationships have weathered the test of time and how Collegian alumni and their relationships continue to impact lives. For many of us, one thing is certain: The experience of publishing *The Collegian* has left an indelible imprint—and continues to do so. The Collegian AIG is proof.

Some of us remember celebrating The Collegian's 100th anniversary in 1987, *The Daily Collegian's* 50th anniversary in 1991, the Collegian AIG's first reunion in 1999, the dedication of Collegian's historical marker in 2002, touching moments during the Alumni of Distinction Awards dinner and the Carnegie Building's centennial in 2004. Collegian alumni love reunions and celebrating milestones.

We gravitate to see friends who worked on staff during our tenure and relish the chance to meet some of the legendary Collegian reporters, editors and business staffers who preceded us. Among our professional contributions, Collegian alumni have become leading figures in news, entertainment, business, publishing, communications, education and literature, and yet we still want to talk about our time at the *Collegian* and Penn State as among the best of memories.

**The PSAA creates the Alumni Interest Group**

In 1997, the Penn State Alumni Association announced the formation of Alumni Interest Groups, in addition to the college and geographical alumni chapters and societies. The creation of an alumni interest group (AIG) would soon fill the void of "home" for *Collegian* alumni and their yearning for being together again. Kristen Fortney, former director of alumni relations for the College of Communications, initiated the creation of our Collegian AIG.

In 1997, approximately 40 percent of Collegian alumni were College of Communications majors.

**Our first and current boards of directors**

In 1998, the first board was led by Marvin Krasnansky ('52 Journalism) and included: Wilson Barto Sr. ('51 Journalism), Rob Biertempfel ('87 Journalism), Vicki Fong, ('81 Journalism), Curt Harler, ('71 Journalism and General Agriculture), Megan O'Matz ('87 Journalism), Judy Stimson ('79 Management), and the late Herbert Zukauskas ('42 Journalism). Ex-officio members were the professional advisers: Candy Heckard, John Harvey and Gerry Lynn Hamilton.

During the past ten years, alumni have given generously in their service as board

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members. Their aim is to continue the AIG's missions of reconnecting Collegian alumni to each other, the *Collegian* and Penn State by supporting students and by promoting and preserving the best interests of the *Collegian* and Penn State.

The current board includes President Sandra Fischione Donovan ('72 English), Secretary Jill Leonard ('02 Journalism), Treasurer Paul Rudoy ('83 Accounting), Dr. Lil Junas ('57 Journalism, '61 g Journalism), Alison Kepner ('03 Journalism), Kelly Bradish ('01 Journalism), Ira Miller ('66 Journalism), Dave Pellnitz ('53 Journalism), Rochelle Robinson Sufrin ('78 General Arts and Sciences), Immediate Past President Scott Sesler ('78 Management), and Harler, vice president.

As of this year our alumni number more than 3,000.

### **First goals: Reunions and scholarship fund**

The first board focused on organizing a reunion for April 1999, and 70 people gathered at the Nittany Lion Inn. They created a scholarship fund and exceeded its first-year goals, awarding its first two \$500 scholarships to Collegian juniors, one each from business and editorial staffs.

The AIG's first treasurer, Judy Stimson, initiated a \$10,000 challenge grant. Thanks to her leadership, in just a few years, the AIG endowed two scholarships and has maintained its commitment to award yearly scholarships (now between \$800 and \$1,000 each) to two deserving Collegian staff members.

As of April 10, 2008, the scholarship fund totaled \$42,604.28.

### **Early membership**

About 300 alumni responded to the initial mailing to 2,000 Collegian alumni, with more than 60 becoming the first group of paid members. Within four years, our paid membership doubled, and we established our first group of life members.

This year's board disbanded paid membership, partly due to the difficulty maintaining yearly communications. And though we have been slightly diminished from a few years without regular communication and paid members, our zeal to connect and fulfill the Collegian AIG mission has not.

### **Mentoring connects alumni with students**

From 1999-2003, an AIG Outreach Committee led by Wilson Barto Sr. mentored high school journalists by serving as judges for the Pennsylvania School Press Association. In 2002, through the creation of a mentoring initiative, currently chaired by Ira Miller, we now have more than 50 alumni interested in mentoring *Collegian* students on each of the editorial and business staffs.

### **AIG communications evolve with the Internet**

From 1998 until 2003, the AIG communicated with its constituents numerous ways: for the first four years, via two annual print newsletters. For another two years, we used a university-supported listserv. During 2001-2003, thanks to Jack Jackson, our Intranet enabled our board to creatively communicate, post news and updates, and share ideas, votes and photos.

This year, under President Sandy Donovan's leadership, and thanks to Web coordinator Kelly Bradish, the AIG has an interactive web site. We invite all *Collegian* alumni to share thoughts and photos. Visit the site for AIG news and information on events and happenings; search the *Collegian* and PSU links. Tell us what you think, want to see in programming and how we can enrich your alumni experience by e-mailing us at [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com).

We're now proudly available to you here at <http://www.psucollegianalumni.com/>

### **Collegian AIG wins PSAA awards**

Within the last six years, our AIG has been recognized with two awards from the Penn State Alumni Association. The first came in 2002 with the AIG of the Year Award for Innovative Programming for our successful 2002 Reunion Weekend and the creation of the Collegian AIG Alumni of Distinction Awards program.

The second came in 2007 with the Joint Activity Award for our collaboration with the College of Communications Advertising/PR Affiliate Program Group (APG) on the publication of *The Collegian Chronicles – A History of Penn State from the Pages of The Daily Collegian 1887-2006*.

### Collegian AIG publishes The Collegian Chronicles

*The Chronicles* concept was seeded as The Collegian History Project among the 2002 board and officially announced at its 2002 Reunion Weekend. It took four and a half years to publish. Led by Marv Krasnansky, more than 90 alumni representing eight decades of alumni contributed chapters. It is an interesting read and a unique perspective of Penn State history. The cost of design, printing, distribution, marketing and advertising was funded with support from the College of Communications, The Daily Collegian Inc., the Penn State Alumni Association and 60 Collegian alumni and friends. Sales of the book generated around \$12,000 profit. This year, the AIG board contributed \$5,000 of the proceeds to the Collegian AIG scholarship fund and is considering future donations.

### Close association with The College of Communications

The AIG has also enjoyed a close association with the Penn State College of Communications, some of whose students staff *The Collegian*. That is an association the college clearly supports.

“To begin, I think the best university journalism programs need strong independent campus daily newspapers to be all they can be, just as I think strong independent campus daily newspapers need excellent journalism schools to be all they can be,” said College of Communications Dean Douglas A. Anderson. “Each clearly enhances the other—and the students are the real winners.

“I am grateful that the Collegian AIG was formed a decade ago—just as I am thankful that we have nurtured and enjoyed such a positive relationship through the years. A large percentage, more than two-thirds, of the Collegian AIG members are graduates of the College of Communications.”

The College, through its Office of External Relations, was also pleased to be involved in and provide support for the AIG’s 2002 inaugural Awards of Distinction dinner and the 2007 Collegian Chronicles Celebration dinner. “We’ve been great partners—and I am grateful for and appreciative of the close association.,” Dean Anderson said. “We’ve made each other stronger.”

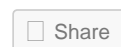
### Looking ahead

The current interim board will soon elect new leadership for its 2008-2009 year. We hope to hold a 2009 Alumni Weekend with milestone reunions; grow our newly reformed mentoring initiative; attract new energy for board and committee involvement, communications and program opportunities; and of course, continue our support of *The Daily Collegian*. We are also excited to anticipate the Collegian’s 125th Anniversary in 2012. Hope to see you there! In the meantime, let us hear from you by e-mailing us at [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com)

As always, we are ... Collegian. We Are ... Penn State.

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## Candidate Statements for AIG board

Posted on **June 19, 2014** by collegianaig

### JEREMY DREY, '06

**Collegian experience:** Photographer.**Current position:** Photographer for the Reading Eagle, Reading, Pa.

**Statement:** With eight semesters being a staff member of The Daily Collegian, I tried my hand at every aspect of the art department on the editorial side. I started as a graphic artist in spring of 2003, and graduated in 2006 as chief photographer. In between I was a junior and senior photographer, graphics editor, page designer, and managing editor of design. I wholly attribute my career to the many aspects of journalism I learned in the basement of the James Building. Being on the board would allow me to give back to one of the best non-classroom experiences around. I'm very excited to help in the learning process and mentor up and coming journalists.

### ABIGAIL FAIRMAN, '99

**Collegian experience:** Ad sales representative.**Current position:** Director of Marketing and Business Development for Richards Kibbe & Orbe LLP, New York, NY

**Statement:** I have often said that I learned more from my time at The Collegian than in any of my classes at Penn State. Whether it was learning the business of advertising or how to navigate a difficult client or even working with a team of people, I graduated with nearly four years of work experience that gave me a real advantage in the job market. During my first job interview, I was able to tell success stories and speak like a seasoned veteran – at the ripe age of 22. Now as someone doing the interviewing, I always look for the entry level candidates who have worked in similar roles because I know they will be prepared well beyond their peers. I think the AIG can support both the recent alumni facing an uncertain job-market, as well as more established alumni who are looking for ways to remain connected to Penn State. The Collegian Car fundraisers this past year demonstrated that there are large Collegian populations in key markets and a strategy to engage those individuals on a regular basis should be considered. I also think there are ways to engage the local Alumni Chapters to organize co-branded Collegian events, perhaps raising money for both scholarship funds. A few ideas include: a year-in-pictures exhibit at the end of the school year with the photographers; bringing in the football beat writers to preview the season in late summer; engaging alumni in the area to do panel discussions on career opportunities. These are just a few suggestions and I think there are many more opportunities that could be developed with the right team in place.

### LIZ MURPHY, '11

**Collegian experience:** Editor in Chief.**Current position:** Communications manager, League of American Bicyclists, Washington, D.C.

**Statement:** I'd like to join the AIG Board because I want be a part of the effort to ensure the Collegian's future for many generations of students at Penn State. The Collegian and its people have had the single most profound effect on shaping me, both

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professionally and personally. I think that's probably a feeling many Collegian alumni hold — and it's a legacy that should continue. The AIG Board's fundraising efforts in the past couple of years have been tremendous, and I'd like to lend my experience and support to help continue this important campaign. I helped coordinate the Washington, D.C., happy hour earlier this year, and I attended the 125 anniversary celebration in State College in 2012. More activities like these that bolster engagement and connection among alumni are so important — and I'd love to be a part of directly helping these efforts. What's more, I had the keen privilege of serving as the interim news adviser for the first half of my year as EIC. Working as a teacher and mentor is a humbling experience, but it's something I enjoy immensely. The AIG's mentorship program is a great asset, and it has great potential to be even better. I'd absolutely be interested in assisting with the coordination of the program. All told, I believe I'd be an asset to the Board and a faithful steward of the Collegian and the students who make it a vibrant institution.

**RAMIT PLUSHNICK-MASTI, '95**

**Collegian experience:** Reporter.

**Current position:** Houston-based reporter for The Associated Press, Houston, Texas

**Statement:** Nearly 20 years ago I graduated from Penn State, proud of my degree and prouder still of the years I had spent at The Daily Collegian, the ticket to my first job in journalism. Since then, I have enjoyed quite a ride, covering everything from Israeli-Palestinian peace talks during 10 years in Jerusalem to the Gulf Oil Spill as Texas' environmental writer. Never have I forgotten how it all began or missed an opportunity to brag about the Collegian, its accomplishments and the wonderful learning experience it provides to aspiring journalists. Now, looking at my own three sons grow up and knowing they will soon be off to college and need similar opportunities to help them get a foot in the door in the careers of their choosing, I believe it is my time to give back to those entering journalism. I would love to have the opportunity to share my experience, knowledge and passion with students seeking to carve out a journalism career just as the industry goes through unprecedented changes in the digital age.

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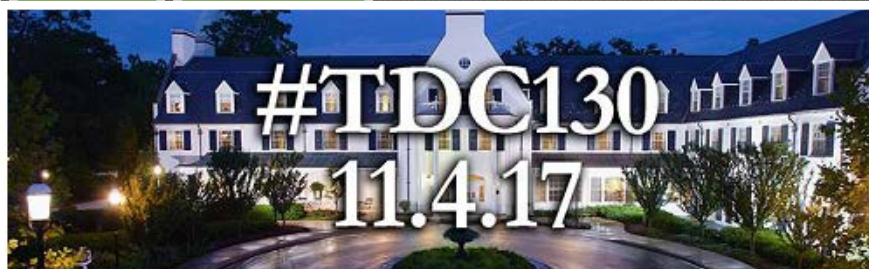
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## Scholarship endowment reaches milestone

Posted on August 17, 2011 by collegianaig

by Renee Petrina ('04)

The Collegian alumni scholarship endowment recently reached a milestone: It crossed the \$50,000 mark.

This is in no small part thanks to you, the Collegian alumni who make our scholarships possible.

Roger Williams, executive director of the Penn State Alumni Association, congratulated our alumni on the achievement.

"We are thrilled with the response of our affiliate groups, especially the Collegian Alumni Interest Group, which this year climbed over the new \$50,000 minimum now required for undergraduate scholarships," Williams said.

The Collegian AIG fund was started years ago, when the minimum was only \$25,000. Penn State has been encouraging all of its alumni interest groups to grow their endowments.

The alumni association categorizes the Collegian AIG scholarship fund with interest groups that are not tied to a particular greek organization, major or department. Other groups in our category include Parmi Nous, one of the secret societies. Our endowment is already in the top 5 in this category, according to figures provided by PSAA. However, our endowment had not seen major additions until this year, when the Collegian AIG Board gave more than \$6,000 from the sale of the "Collegian Chronicles" books.



Lexi Belcufine

"It's essential that we continue to build the endowment," said Renee Petrina, chairwoman of the Collegian AIG fundraising committee. "That money is a strong base, and its annual interest provides scholarships year after year. I hope that with continued alumni support, in just a few years we can double the amount of scholarships the AIG awards."

This fall, two talented, committed Collegian staff members each will receive more than \$1,000 to help defray tuition costs next. Lexi Belcufine and Emily Fischer were the deserving recipients chosen by alumni from a strong

applicant pool.

"Attending Penn State and all of the monetary burdens that go along with being a college student can be very daunting for my parents and for them to have this burden be lessened is an immense gift," Fischer wrote in a thank-you message to the AIG. "The Collegian has become a huge part of my life at Penn State, and I am so grateful

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that you support my experience there through this scholarship.”

The Collegian AIG wants to continue to support student experiences through its scholarship endowment. One way to do this will be to connect with enough alumni to create an annual campaign, Petrina said, noting that other AIGs have found success in annual giving drives.

If you have an interest or experience in fundraising would like to help as Collegian AIG embarks on this new challenge, please contact Petrina at [renee.petrina@gmail.com](mailto:renee.petrina@gmail.com).

If you already donate to Penn State, consider designating a portion of your regular gift to the Collegian AIG Scholarship Fund. Remember, this fund is by Collegian alumni, for Collegian students, and it gets no money from the university’s departments.

[Giving to the endowment](#) is easy to do: Simply write “Collegian AIG Scholarship” in the “other” section of your gift/pledge form. If you are giving online, choose “other” from the drop-down menu and type in “Collegian AIG Scholarship.”



Emily Fischer

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## Vote for Your Collegian AIG Board of Directors

Posted on July 8, 2015 by collegianaig

The annual BOD election has begun. Ballot collection will remain open until 11:59 p.m. on July 30. You may vote for up to three candidates, each of whom serve three-year terms on the AIG board. The BOD candidates are:

### GREG RUBIN, '05

Collegian experience: Customer Service Manager  
Current position: Digital Ad Operations Manager for A+E Networks

### ROSSILYNNE SKENA CULGAN '10

Collegian experience: Editor in Chief  
Current position: Marketing Communications Manager at the Carnegie Science Center

### KATIE SULLIVAN '11

Collegian experience: Copy editor and reporter  
Current position: Internship Coordinator for Penn State's Washington Program

The Board has also put forth new bylaws for the Daily Collegian AIG. A PDF version is [available here](#). These were provided to the membership in March with an open comment period. AIG members may now vote on the bylaws, through the same ballot.

**Ballots were sent via email. If you did not receive a ballot, please email [CollegianAIG@gmail.com](mailto:CollegianAIG@gmail.com), and we will send you one.**

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**AIG board discusses future plans, networking events**

Posted on July 7, 2008 by collegianaig

by Sandy Donovan '72

The Penn State Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group's annual meeting June 14 at the Collegian offices in State College gave board members insight into the problems facing The Collegian and some ideas for getting alums together.

Gerry Lynn Hamilton, Collegian general manager, reported to the board that The Collegian plans to raise funds for an endowment to fund stipends paid to staffers. An endowment would put the paper, which has operated at a deficit in recent years, on a solid financial footing.

Incoming President Jill Leonard and outgoing president Sandy Donovan also discussed ideas obtained at a May leadership conference sponsored by the Penn State Alumni Association. Those ideas for alumni and Collegian staffer networking included a tailgate party next spring at the Blue and White game and an informal gathering in the fall of 2009. Stay tuned to this Web site for more information about both events! And to volunteer to help and participate, e-mail us at [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com).

The board bade a fond farewell to Dr. Lil Junas '57, '61 MA, who served as board secretary for many years and newsletter editor this year; as well as outgoing immediate past president Scott Sesler '78, who is also exiting the board. A third outgoing board member is Rochelle "Shelly" Sufrin '78, who served as past president and immediate past president. The board thanks all three for their service to the AIG.

New board members Teresa Villa Cook '74 and Charlie Alexander '06 attended the annual meeting in person, with new board member Larry Reibstein '71 attending via telephone.

The new board officers as of July 1 are President Jill Leonard '02; Vice President Curt Harler '71; Secretary Alison Kepner '03; and Treasurer Paul Rudoy '83. Sandy Donovan '72 will serve as immediate past president.

In addition to the three new board members, the board will also include incumbents Kelly Bradish '01; Ira Miller '66; David Pellnitz '53; and Renee Petrina '04.

Ex-officio members John Harvey and Candy Heckard, editorial and business advisers to The Collegian, respectively, attended the meeting, as did PSAA liaison Charlene Gaus.

The board is grateful to The Collegian for hosting the annual meeting and luncheon in its conference room.

Check back on the AIG and Collegian Web sites for more information on the plan to keep the Collegian in business and how you can support those efforts.

[View photos from the meeting here.](#)

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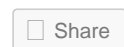
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## [Interview with NPR's Jim Zarroli, reunion keynote speaker](#)

Posted on **October 5, 2012** by collegianaig

Interview by Lexi Belcufine, Copy Editor, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette;  
EIC and various positions at The Daily Collegian 2008 – 2012

*Collegian alumnus Jim Zarroli writes to us from Europe, where his job at NPR has most recently taken him. With The Daily Collegian's 125th reunion just weeks away, Zarroli reflects on his time at the Collegian — and the career it helped launch.*

### What brings you to Europe?

I was in Berlin and Athens to do some stories about the economy. It was my fourth or fifth time there over the past couple of years and my first trip to Greece. I went to the north, where tourists rarely go, and people are really hurting. The economy really, truly is global these days, and it's hard to understand what's happening without traveling.

### What is an "average" day-in-the-life at NPR like?

No day is really average. When I have a breaking-news day I am really quite busy and have to make use of every minute I have, so things are hectic, but I also have slower days when I work on features. They are actually very challenging, because the expectations (mostly self-imposed) are higher. I work out of the New York bureau in midtown, but the technology is such that I can pretty much do my job anywhere there is an internet connection, so some days I stay home in my apartment.

**You've covered some of the nation's defining moments in recent years — from 9/11 to Hurricane Katrina. Can you pass along an anecdote or two from the field to help us understand what those experiences were like for you?**

Getting put on a big story like that is really busy and kind of draining, and you are operating on a lot of adrenalin. But in a way, those stories are easier as a journalist, because angles present themselves to you everywhere you go. In Mississippi, you could find stories to cover down every road, and people were for the most part willing to talk, which is rarely the case for a business reporter. What's harder is to cover the fed's latest statement and try to do it in a way you haven't done before.



### If you could re-start your career, what — if anything — would you do differently?

I don't believe people who say they have no regrets in life. When you get started down that road, it is easy to think of a lot of things you could have done differently. I took jobs early on that were probably not right for me, and I wanted to leave but was perhaps afraid of taking a chance and giving up what I had. Still, I ended up in a good place, so I cannot really complain.

### What did you do at The Daily Collegian?

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I was a reporter, copy editor and ultimately the editorial page editor. We all did lots of things, probably just the way it is at the Collegian today.

#### **What was the most important lesson you learned from your time at The Daily Collegian?**

I think it was Doug Coupland who said that your ability to make new friends ends around the time you buy your first piece of expensive furniture, which is only something of an exaggeration. I made some great, lifelong friends at the Collegian, people I am still in touch with. The people I worked with were funny and smart, and I think we all learned from each other.

#### **What advice would you pass along to students still at The Daily Collegian?**

Journalism has obviously gone through a lot of changes, good and bad, as its economic model has fallen apart. I think in the long run, things will balance out and a new model will emerge, and journalists will continue to play an indispensable role in society, as they do now. So I guess my advice would be, "Hold on for the ride." And be content with the idea of not making much money.

#### **What is your favorite Collegian memory?**

Hard to say, since a lot of them probably involved alcohol and are a little hazy. I just remember a lot of late nights sitting around the circular copy-editing table in the old Carnegie Building, with funny people working hard. Penn State for me was a big, somewhat anonymous place — my home was really the Collegian and the journalism school.

#### **Your favorite spot in State College?**

We always ended up at The Diner somehow, eating things we shouldn't have. Amazing the number of calories your body can consume at 21 without gaining weight.

#### **Favorite Creamery flavor?**

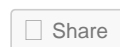
Back then it was butter pecan, but that was a long time ago. Today I prefer cookies and cream, and I am not sure if they sell it.

#### **What about the reunion are you most looking forward to?**

Seeing some people I don't get to see enough.

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## AIG tailgate Saturday!!

Posted on **March 6, 2009** by collegianaig

Blue/White Weekend is almost here! Join the Collegian AIG at its tailgate party, which will be held at **10 a.m. Saturday, April 25**, along the third-base wall of Medlar Field. Look for the Collegian vans!

If you're interested in attending, please RSVP to [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com) so we can get an estimate of how many people to expect. See you there!

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## Faces of the Daily Collegian: Kristen Huth, Max George

Posted on March 6, 2009 by collegianaig

By Renee Petrina, '04

Kristen Huth

Daily Collegian Managing Editor of Design Kristen Huth isn't afraid of bugs. Except maybe outdated ones.

Web bugs, in News Division lingo, are the little icons that tell readers of the print edition what extra content they will find at [www.psucollegian.com](http://www.psucollegian.com). Huth is semi-serious when she says that the old icon looked like a screenshot of a pixelated cursor arrow. She and a graphic artist created 13 symbols that page designers can turn to as they work to connect the Collegian's print and online content.

"I wanted to have a family of Web bugs so that they could refer to different things."

There are images for video, photo galleries, documents and more.

The senior from Sarver, Pa., has been leading the Collegian's design staff for three semesters, allowing her to spend more time than her predecessors honing the craft. Much of her work has been what are called refers or promos, letting readers know what to expect in future issues or online. Under Huth's tenure, the sports section was redesigned to add a comprehensive preview page on Fridays that lets fans know what events the Collegian is covering and what matches to keep an eye on. She also created a style for skyboxes, which appear atop the front page and promote coverage inside the print edition.

Although design appeals to her organizational side, Huth's also dabbled in copyediting, spending the summer at the (Norfolk) Virginian-Pilot for a Dow Jones Newspaper Fund editing internship.

She went into the program to expand her skill set, but she realized she could see herself in copyediting as a career path. "I loved it — more than I thought I would," she said.

The experience also helped her work as part of a newsroom team.

"I think a lot more about content now when I'm doing a design," she said. "Text used to be an afterthought — you can think of it as an art element."

But her summer experience wasn't entirely word-focused: The paper is often cited for its dynamic design. (During an ice storm years ago, the masthead was made to look frozen over.) Some of that mindset has followed her back to the Collegian offices: "I've been



Kristen Huth

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doing more Pilotesque stuff, I like to say.”

When she’s not spending 50 hours a week at the Collegian, Huth explores editing and design job prospects. She’ll graduate in May with a journalism major and French minor — and she’s trying not to worry too much about life after college in a down economy. “It’s easy to get freaked out about it,” she said, still with an optimistic smile. “My health care gets cut as soon as I walk across the stage.”

But she’s noticed how opportunities present themselves in strange ways. She turned down an unpaid internship, then was cold-called by a recruiter from a Gannett paper. She gets every bit of advice she can from recent Collegian alumni who are out in the shaky full-time journalism world.

“If you do everything you can, I think — I hope — things will work out.”

### Max George

It’s crunch time. Penn State seniors are hunting for jobs during a recession, unsure of what graduation will bring.

That is, Penn State seniors except for Max George. The Daily Collegian’s customer service manager in the Business Division has had his job set since the end of the summer. And what does he have to thank for it?

“I credit the Collegian, I really do,” says the Media, Pa., native.

George, an accounting major, will be working for KPMG in federal income tax compliance. His exit interview after a 10-week summer internship in the company’s Philadelphia offices focused intensely on his work at the Collegian.

“The opportunity to manage your peers was one thing that they seemed to love.” He was offered a position on the spot.



Max George

“It has made my senior year just so relaxing,” he says. “I’m just so thankful to have it locked up.”

And relaxation can be helpful when you’re dealing with some of the not-so-fun aspects of the Customer Service department. In addition to handling national ad accounts, answering phones, and coordinating classifieds, the dozen or so students on George’s team have the responsibility of debt collection.

The more senior members of the department handle calls to advertisers who haven’t paid their bills, an even harder situation in a down economy. Having to deal with irate customers on billing and other issues helps students grow and mature, says George, who is in his fifth semester as leader of the department.

So why did a future accounting major join a mainly advertising staff?

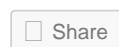
Starting as a freshman, he says, “I wanted to have an activity I’d be really involved with. And I stayed because of the people at the Collegian, my friends there and even the professional staff, the care that they had for me — they wanted to see me grow.”

The time-management skills, work ethic and client-service practical experience were all valuable things that the Collegian imparted on George. His advice to younger students? Apply for management positions, even if you’re somewhat scared — it doesn’t hurt to try out, and you learn from the experience if nothing else.

“I don’t think employers right now want to look for somebody that’s complacent. They are looking for somebody who’s motivated and wants to be involved.”

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## 5 Questions with: Marv Krasnansky

Posted on **March 6, 2009** by collegianaig

By **Curt Harler, '71**

Marvin Krasnansky covered football for The Daily Collegian the year Joe Paterno came to Penn State to work with Rip Engle as an assistant coach for the Nittany Lions. Marv was editor during the 1951-52 academic year. A 1952 journalism graduate, he made a career in communications that spanned a half-century. More recently, he was the fireplug behind *The Collegian Chronicles*, a work of history and love that tells the history of Penn State through the pages of The Daily Collegian. He was inducted to The Collegian Alumni Hall of Fame in 2007.

Of the many innovations he's seen in the business, the rise of the Web is the one he says is most amazing. He first delved into it in 1994 when he talked to a group of corporate PR people in the Bay Area about the World Wide Web. He recalls they dismissed his enthusiasm as "another of Crazy Marv's ideas." But he admits he had no idea how quickly it would take off as the Internet and its potential both for good and bad. "*The Collegian Chronicles* is a product of the Internet," he says. "It literally would have taken years to complete the book without the ability to use the Internet to stay in touch with the writers – from London to Honolulu — and to fact-check." Marv now lives in Bainbridge Island, Wash., and answered our five questions from his home overlooking Puget Sound.



Marv Krasnansky

**Your tenure in Happy Valley goes back a half-century. Much has changed. What is the same for journalists today as it was then?**

We lived in a much smaller and simpler world. Penn State and State College were much more isolated, and communications were much more limited — we had a single AP wire in the Collegian office to bring us in touch with the "outside," for example. The AP photo service was limited, and there was almost no TV. So we focused our coverage mostly on the campus. Nonetheless, the principles of journalism — get the facts, fairness and balance — are timeless. And like today's Collegian staffers, we had great fun!

**Were the writers you worked with in the 1950s as good as the web-savvy ones of today?**

We all thought were hot stuff and, indeed, we had some very talented people on the staff in my era who went on to successful careers (Dean Gladfelter and Dave Jones with The New York Times; Ron Bonn with CBS and NBC; and George Glazer at Hill & Knowlton). But I must confess that, based on my work on *The Collegian Chronicles*, I

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think that recent graduates rank right up there with the best.

That said, I think Collegian has produced many outstanding journalists down through the years, as demonstrated by their prose in the pages of the *Chronicles*. While the book is graphically excellent, what stands out is the quality of the writing.

**You were the impetus behind *The Collegian Chronicles*. Where did the genesis of the idea come from?**

The idea for *The Collegian Chronicles* evolved from my putting together an account of my year as editor of Collegian for a 50th reunion of staff members in 2002. The piece ran about 5,000 words, and it gave me the idea that doing a history of Penn State and Collegian written by people who worked on the paper and could add an historic and inside perspective to the telling of the emergence of Penn State as a great institution would be a major addition to the university, while at the same time demonstrate the skills and talents of Collegian's alumni.

As an aside, I would mention how much fun it was discovering so much of the "hidden history" of a place that was yet to become Happy Valley. The book is crammed with information I wish I had had when I was editor. Advice to current and future staffers: Read *The Collegian Chronicles*!

The most difficult task was rounding up Collegian alumni who were willing to undertake the task of writing a chapter and had the time to do so. I had great help from Communications College staffers finding the right people, and some authors took on several chapters. Since the vast majority of the copy was first-rate, it did not require heavy editing. The second-most-difficult task was finding the right photos to illustrate each chapter. And, finally, raising the money to get the book on the press. But we had a great nucleus of people who worked to make it all happen, notably Mike Poorman, Pete Waldron and Dave Pellnitz.

**Talk a bit about your work in public relations. Is it really journalism or does it fall under the new tag "communications?"**

While public relations is not journalism, working on a newspaper or in the electronic media is great training for PR. I'm biased, but I believe the best PR people have media experience — in my case, 10 years. The news experience enables you to think in terms of the people on the other side of the "transaction" and to understand their interests and needs. It also gives you the opportunity to develop personal relationships with newspeople.

The relationships I developed with people at the Wall Street Journal (where I worked for three years), The New York Times, the major national magazines and business editors in major cities served me well throughout my 33-year PR career

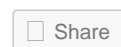
**What was your Collegian experience? How did it help?**

As a kid from an immigrant blue collar family from Brooklyn, Penn State and Collegian took me to another world and opened up so many horizons for me. In addition to honing my journalistic skills, my work on Collegian exposed me to people like Milton Eisenhower, Rip Engle and Joe Paterno, as well as such outstanding former Collegian editors as Lou Bell, Jim Coogan, Ridge Riley and Ross Lehman, who at one time all served in key posts at the College at the same time and who helped make Penn State a special place for me.

My greatest achievement was in taking on the Communist witch hunt stoked by Joe McCarthy, which reached into the life of the campus. Given the hysteria sweeping the country, looking back it might have been risky, but I give much credit to Dr. Eisenhower for not interfering with our freedom to express our opinion.

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**Dennis Malick '60**, on [March 8, 2009 at 8:19 pm](#) said:



Well, yeh, the internet was integral to getting the Collegian Chronicles completed, but it was the intermarv that made it happen and without whom it surely would not have happened. Thanks, Marv.

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## Marv Krasnansky, 1930-2010

Posted on April 9, 2010 by collegianaig

*The Collegian AIG extends its condolences to family and friends of Marv Krasnansky. Marv was a mentor to many and will be remembered for his countless contributions to his alma mater and community.*

Marvin L. Krasnansky of Bainbridge Island, WA passed away Monday evening, March 8, at his home.

He enjoyed a long career in journalism and investor relations, including the Easton (PA) Express, the Lancaster (PA) New Era, the Wall Street Journal, The New York Stock Exchange, Paine Webber Jackson and Curtis, Becton Dickinson, and McKesson Corporation. In 1984, as a vice president of McKesson, he was instrumental in forming CALSTAR, the California Shock Trauma Air Rescue which served California and Nevada. He served on the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Zoological Society and The California Parks Foundation.

He was named an Alumni Fellow of the School of Communications at Penn State, the highest honor the university can extend among an alumni base of 450,000. In 2006, he served as editor-and chief and creator of The Collegian Chronicles, a 383-page history of Penn State from the pages of the Daily Collegian.

He and his late wife established several scholarships at Penn State and the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA, where his wife had graduated from nursing school. He was proud of being a first-generation American and prouder still to be in a position to pay it forward to help young people attain their educational goals.

Marvin L. Krasnansky was born in Brooklyn, NY, February 18, 1930 to Anna and Isadore Krasnansky. He grew up in Brooklyn and Philadelphia, PA. He was a graduate of Central High School in Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania State University, class of 1952, where he was editor of the Daily Collegian, the student newspaper. He lived in San Francisco and Sonoma, CA for 25 years prior to his move to Bainbridge Island to live near his daughter and her family. His wife of 50 years, Josie Krasnansky, died in 2005.

He is survived by his daughter, Melanie Jo Olson (Douglas) of Bainbridge Island; his sons, Timothy Krasnansky, D.V.M. (Dr. Loyanne Wilson) of Davis, CA, and William Krasnansky; and his grandchildren, Samantha Olson of Seattle, Midshipman Olaf D. Olson of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD, and Katie and Kai Krasnansky; his brother, Dr. Ed Keynes of Kiel, Germany; and his poodle, Lady Bug.

In keeping with Marvin's concern for the least among us, donations may be made to [Doctors Without Borders](#), P.O. Box 5030, Hagerstown, MD 21741; [Westsound Wildlife Shelter](#), 7501 NE Dolphin Drive, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110; or a charity of your choice.

Arrangements by the Cook Family Funeral Home, Bainbridge Island, WA.

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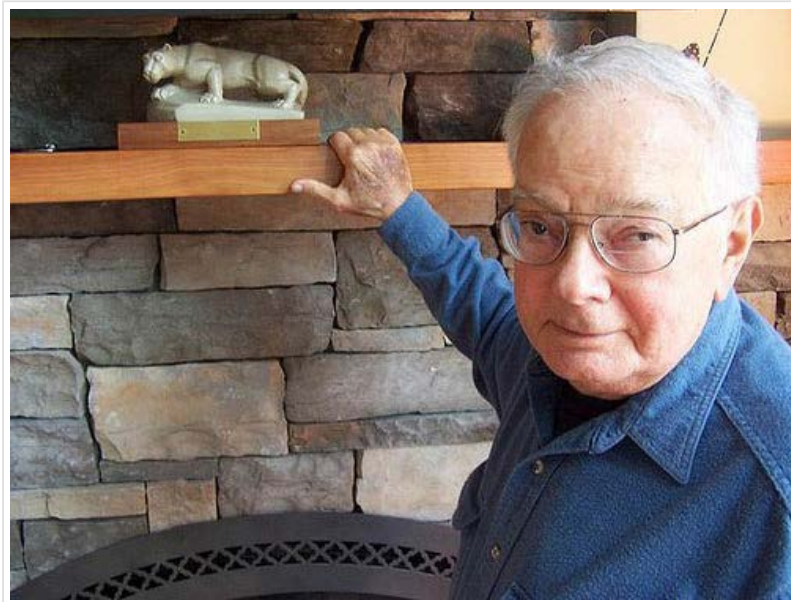
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## Faces of the Daily Collegian: Andy Staub, Chris Weidman

Posted on December 12, 2008 by collegianaig

by Sandra Fischione Donovan, '72

### Andy Staub

Andy Staub really felt he was doing his job as a *Collegian* sportswriter after the final regular-season women's basketball game in 2006, coached by the embattled Rene Portland.

Staub, one of several *Collegian* sportswriters at a press conference after a game, asked Portland a question about allegations she had discriminated against a player. The charges constituted a potential violation of university policy and had resulted in a protest against Portland at the game, both inside and outside the Bryce Jordan Center.

"Can't we just talk about basketball? You guys have been trying for six goddamn months, excuse my language," Portland said.

"To me, it kind of felt we were doing our job," says Staub, 23, a senior from Hanover, Pa. "We needed to be asking those questions. The university concluded that she had violated the university discrimination policy. ... It was an interesting season to cover her. It was much more than basketball, and I liked that."



Andy Staub

The gravity of that controversy-ridden season stayed with Staub. In the spring 2007 semester, he switched from sports to news "to do something different." Staub found he enjoyed "the variety of it, and the seriousness, too."

Having stayed with news, Staub is now *Collegian* managing editor. A Collegian AIG scholarship winner this year, he finds it a challenge "to find ways to fit everything into the paper.

"Our paper is not getting any bigger, so we have to merge the print product with the Web product," he says. "We have to find out how we can use the Web site to supplement it and not make it a dumping ground for extra stories."

Accompanying the development of the *Collegian* Web site is the challenge of changing the mentality of reporters, Staub says.

"People thought if a story ran on the Web site, it wasn't a good story," he says. Not so. Staub says the *Collegian* is using Web-only coverage, including blogging, "in a way that benefits the paper and complements our (hard copy) coverage. We've been doing that with video, with photo galleries and sidebars" on the Web site.

The presidential election was another instance of dealing with the unexpected on election night and became a challenge Staub relished.

"We did a lot of really good student-based coverage. Eight or nine stories came together at one o'clock in the morning. ... Students took to the streets after Obama won," he says. "It was a challenging night, but also fun. It was a good experience to deal with

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election coverage.”

Staub's introduction to journalism was in high school, when he worked for a student-produced section of the *Hanover Sun*. Once at Penn State, he was conflicted about whether to major in business or journalism. With math not his strong point, journalism – and the *Collegian*, which he joined as a freshman in 2004 – won out.

Penn State football was one of Staub's beats on the sports desk, but Joe Paterno and Penn State Sports Information were two obstacles he and other *Collegian* reporters regularly found themselves challenged to surmount.

“You see (Paterno) from a reporting standpoint, and you get annoyed because he doesn't answer questions directly,” Staub says. Paterno and the football staff are “so guarded, they don't let a lot out. Once inside the program, you have to go through Penn State Sports Information. (Interviews) hardly ever materialized. I got one and thought that was pretty impressive.”

Instead, Staub and other beat reporters had to think of different ways to cover the team, such as calling players' parents to get a different perspective, which resulted in stories the players never thought would come to light. They also called players' high school coaches, other Big Ten coaches or alumni no longer in the football program.

Though he and subsequent *Collegian* football beat writers struggled with the situation, “being 21 following a major college program was awesome,” says Staub, who traveled to games at Notre Dame, and Tampa for the 2007 Outback Bowl.

Looking ahead to a spring graduation, Staub says his biggest challenge will be finding a job in a beleaguered economy. He says jobs are available in far-flung locations, such as Montana or Nebraska.

“If you want to find a job, you have to travel. That might be nice, to see different parts of the country,” he says. “Ideally, I'd like to work on the news side: crime and courts. I'm not as good with video, but I'd like to learn how to do that, because it's in pretty high demand.”

And despite his experiences with Paterno and Penn State Sports Information, he says, “I think the only thing that would take me back to sports would be covering college football.”

### **Chris Weidman**

*Collegian* advertising manager Chris Weidman has set ambitious goals both for his own Penn State career and for the *Collegian* sales staff.

Weidman, 20, a junior from Mullica Hill, N.J., is a finance major who plans to include a double minor in business law and political science. His main goal is to become a lawyer, though he's not sure in what area. As part of that goal, “I wanted a strong undergraduate degree,” he says.



Chris Weidman

In high school, Weidman played three sports and was involved in many clubs, “so it only felt right to keep the same busy schedule at Penn State,” he says. After receiving an e-mail early freshman year about the business division of the *Collegian*, he went to the information session and building tour.

“I immediately wanted to do it,” he says. “I liked the atmosphere, the potential experience I could gain, and the people who worked there seemed great. Since I've joined I've never regretted my decision, even though it dominated my time outside of school work. I felt the *Collegian* was the best way for me to prepare for the business world outside of school.”

Weidman became the *Collegian's* sales manager his sophomore year. Now he supervises three sales managers and about 30 account executives, where he puts his ambitious nature to work to help the *Collegian* find its way through the grim economy.

“It has been a tough year,” Weidman says. “We are down (in ad revenue) from last year,” though he won't say by how much. “It was not a shock. We knew we had a lot of struggles going into this year. We've hit a rough patch, and that's what we're seeing

across the country.”

Though he says the *Collegian* is not as affected by the economy as non-student newspapers have been, Weidman knows “there are factors we can’t control. That’s not an excuse; we have to find answers. There’s not just one answer.”

The goals Weidman and the rest of the business staff have set are finding creative ways to increase revenue.

Among those efforts have been partnerships with businesses, including recruiting advertisers to sponsor videos on the *Collegian* Web site. The business staff has also expanded its target market to include areas beyond State College, such as the Boalsburg vicinity, as well as national advertising markets, he says. An additional proposal is selling reproductions of *Collegian* photographs, as many non-student newspapers do.

“There’s definitely room for improvement,” but Weidman says that improvement does not focus on advertising executives. The managers are surveying the account executives to see how they as managers could better supervise and support.

“I’ve learned that even if you are a very approachable manager, AE’s may not feel comfortable critiquing your management style unless it’s in an anonymous survey form,” he says. “What’s been great is that people are really taking the time to fill these out, even if they didn’t have a problem. The feedback is always really appreciated.”

The account executives are Weidman’s greatest source of *Collegian* pride. “I think my proudest accomplishment is seeing the success of our newer account executives,” he says. “Because I was one of the people who interviewed, trained, mentored and managed these AE’s, any accomplishment they have I feel as if I contributed to that. Whether it be as great as getting a client to buy a bigger contract or finally selling a difficult client a small Web ad, I know that I was part of that process even if it is indirectly related.”

Weidman points to one bright spot in the bleak economy: The *Collegian*’s circulation is rising, an advantage many non-student newspapers these days do not have.

“Circulation has been going so well, whether because the football team has been doing so well, or because our news staff this year is so strong. We tell advertisers our circulation is up,” which helps sell ads. And he is firm in his belief that the print product “is our bread and butter.”

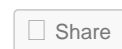
Despite the struggles and factors beyond the *Collegian*’s control, Weidman and the sales managers “are really proud of the account executives and the job they’ve done this year. What helps me stay optimistic with the upcoming semesters is the positive energy of our staff, their willingness to contribute to the *Collegian* anyway they can, and overall high office morale. ... We are capable of overcoming this recession.”

Weidman says the business staff hopes to learn from the current weaknesses and struggles:

“We hope to come out stronger.”

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## A bad outcome, but a good time

Posted on February 2, 2009 by collegianaig

By Sandra Fischione Donovan, '72

New Year's Day 2009 dawned sunny in southern California, and our spirits were high: We had tickets to see our beloved Nittany Lions in the 95th annual Rose Bowl.

The three of us Donovans were really looking forward to our first game in the "granddaddy of them all." Our tickets were hard-won with hours of repeated calls to the Bryce Jordan Center. Our airplane trip from Pittsburgh took practically an entire day with two stops before our California arrival.

But at last, we were in Pasadena.

The day began with a great prelude: the Rose Bowl Parade on Colorado Boulevard. We parked about six blocks away and found a decent (read: free) vantage point behind three rows of people and across the street from a reviewing stand.

While the parade is beautiful on television, seeing the textures of the gorgeous flowers on the massive floats makes the view worth the trip. The theme was "Hats Off to Entertainment," so we saw enormous, flower-bedecked characters from The Wizard of Oz, the Roadrunner cartoon, and Alice in Wonderland. More amazing still were floats that were animated. But two of the best attractions to these Penn State Daily Collegian alums were the Blue Band playing Penn State fight songs and the cheerleaders on a float with blue and white flowers. We saw grand marshal Cloris Leachman, winner of Oscar and Emmy awards, as she and her family passed by on their float.

Our party broke up after the parade, with four of us staying for the game. The stadium is in the Arroyo Seco, an old river gorge, and situated beside two 18-hole golf courses. It took us 45 minutes to drive to a parking space at the far end of the arroyo from the stadium. We found out just how far we had traveled when it took us an hour to walk to the Rose Bowl and thought we should perhaps have parked elsewhere and taken the bus.

But that wasn't the last challenge of game day. Our tickets said we were to enter through Tunnel 11. But when we got to the tunnel, an usher put up a sign that said we had to wait until the fans ahead of us walked through.

The four of us were in the same section in the Penn State end zone, but split. Dan gave our nephew-in-law, Kevin, and me tickets he thought were closer, taking Row N tickets for himself and son Neil. Kevin and I were about 14 rows back from the Penn State end zone. Row N turned out to be – the first row!

However, neither set of tickets was ideal. We all sat so low, it was difficult to see the plays once the game actually started. But we were near the Blue Band and Penn State cheerleaders and with an enthusiastic group of cheering Penn State fans. Kevin said he had never attended any sporting event that loud.

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We had great hopes for the Lions in the first quarter, when the score was tied at 7. The second quarter was very hard, with Penn State falling behind 31-7.

Almost as bad were the antics of USC linebacker Rey Mauualugo, who first kicked the Penn State insignia painted on the grass, then planted a USC flag there. Penn State fans shouted a condemnation that will go unquoted here. Later, we saw a YouTube video of Mauualugo making another classless move, a suggestive grinding motion behind a female sportscaster who was unaware he was behind her.

Penn State picked up the action in the second half and gave us hope with two touchdowns and field goal, but time ran out and a victory was not to be. It was a more somber Penn State crowd that trekked back to their cars after the 38-24 loss to the Trojans. And once we got to the car, it was every vehicle for itself toward the exits.

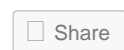
Still, it was stirring to have been a part of a huge crowd (about 40 percent of the fans) that had come so far to cheer on the Lions and see the spectacular parade, too.

Would I go again? Ask me when the Lions are again invited.

*(Penn State Collegian AIG past president Sandra Fischione Donovan ('72) attended the Rose Bowl game with her husband, Dan Donovan ('71), a former Collegian sports editor; son Neil, 15; and nephew-in-law Kevin Parmenter of Phoenix, a good guy though he roots for the Arizona Cardinals.)*

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**Smelling the roses**

Posted on February 2, 2009 by collegianaig

**Couple of thorns in the side for Collegian crew in Pasadena**

By Sandra Fischione Donovan, '72

By Collegian football editor Brian Eller's account, pregame coverage of the Rose Bowl went smoothly for the Collegian sports staff in Pasadena. It was only on game day that things went a little haywire – at least for Eller.

The football staff – writers Travis Johnson, Andrew Wible and Josh Langenbacher, photographer Nate Smith, and Eller stayed at Smith's house in Highland, Calif., about 80 minutes from the media hotel in Los Angeles. Each left from various locations the day after Christmas, with the Collegian paying their airfare and car rental, said editorial adviser John Harvey. Each day the group would travel into the city and take part in the press conferences, luncheons and a few practices.

"We had a system where we would complete the press conferences and gather quotes and ask questions, then either head back to our place or simply back to the hotel to write the stories," Eller said. "Once they were written, I would take a look at them and then post them up on our paper's Web site right from my laptop. Photo galleries worked the same way. The only trouble we ran into was getting video for things. We were able to shoot it but couldn't transfer it back to our video crew to post up."



Collegian photo by Nathan A. Smith

"I have nightmares that they're panhandling for grub in L.A. somewhere," Harvey said Dec. 30. "I do know one thing for sure: They're working hard. I hope they're having a trip of a lifetime."

The Collegian sports staffers "pretty much worked every day, from about 6 a.m. which was the wake-up, until 7 p.m., when we'd get back home or be done with the stories for that day," Eller said.

Then came game day. The sportswriters and photographer Smith headed to the Rose Bowl. Eller, struck with a violent stomach virus, headed to a local hospital emergency room.

He recovered enough to take in some go-karting the last day the staffers were in town. Despite missing the game, Eller recently gave some insights into Penn State's preparation for the game and the game's aftermath.

"Looking at it from Penn State's side, I'd say they really weren't affected by the layoff," he said. "The Penn State coaches do a great job of keeping the tempo up in practice,

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and it simply was a number of early mistakes and mental slipups that seemed to let the Trojans run away with the game.

“Unfortunately this loss probably hurts the Big Ten more than Penn State. We’ll hear more about how the conference can’t stack up to the SEC, Big 12 and Pac-10, and maybe not. But we’ll definitely hear more about that.”

Eller thinks Penn State’s preseason ranking for the 2009 season “will be slightly weighed on the Rose Bowl, but I don’t see it impacting it too much. What will cause it to slide or slip will be who from the team enters the NFL Draft in April. Look for the Lions to be in the Top 25, probably around 15 to 20.”

The group drove past the Hollywood sign one day and on the last day rode the go-karts, but didn’t do any other tourist-type things, Eller said.

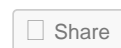
Despite the fact it was a working trip and he had the virus, Eller enjoyed the experience.

“My favorite thing about the trip was honestly just having the opportunity. We spent most of the time sleep deprived, stressed out, and on game day, violently ill, but I wouldn’t trade it for anything. I met some interesting people and got to spend the holidays in sunny California.

“Not too shabby.”

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## Ballot finalized

Posted on **May 15, 2013** by collegianaig

The following candidates will be on the ballot in the upcoming election for Collegian AIG board of directors:

- Lexi Belculfine, '12
- Phil Gutis, '84
- Andrew McGill, '10
- Susan Melle, '85
- Jennifer Miller, '04
- Michael Signora, '96

The election will open June 6 and be available for two weeks online. Alumni should watch their email for the link.

There are six seats available. Directors serve three-year terms beginning at the time of the Collegian AIG annual in-person board meeting. The 2013 meeting will be June 29 at the Collegian offices.

Here are the candidate statements:

### Lexi Belculfine

On Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2011, I stood at the sports editor's desk with my colleagues — more aptly described as family — and watched a press conference in which giants fell. Later that night, I helped a reporter, who had covered riots, wash pepper spray from her eyes. And finally, after we had stopped the presses once, rewritten an entire section, and put the Collegian to bed well past its bedtime, I sauntered home with my roommate — the first friend I made in my very first candidate class, four years earlier.

And it seemed impossible that simply by walking across a stage in the Bryce Jordan Center, that my love for and support of The Daily Collegian would be subdued. Of course I still passionately believe in the work that the students in the basement of the James Building can — and will continue to — accomplish, no matter the issues they face. So here I am now, only a year removed, applying to be a member of the Alumni Interest Group's board of directors.

As a board member, I would take very seriously the task of supporting current Collegianaires and ensuring that they can continue to produce the crucial journalism and award-winning work the paper has always been known for. In addition to supporting the students who are still working too much and sleeping too little, I would work to connect alumni, reinforcing the familial ties that kept so many of us at the Collegian for so long.

I spent my four-year tenure at the paper reporting, beat and copy editing and eventually became editor in chief. During my year as editor, we produced nationally recognized

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coverage of the Jerry Sandusky scandal and the death of Joe Paterno. After graduation, I returned to my hometown to work for the paper I grew up reading, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and am the night cops reporter there. If there's anything else you may want to know, or ask, I'm here: @LexiBelc and here: [www.lexibelcutfine.com](http://www.lexibelcutfine.com). Thank you for your time and support.

### **Phil Gutis**

Since graduating from Penn State 30 years ago, I've held a series of "all time" jobs that left little to no opportunity for outside activities or interests. During those decades, however, I've never forgotten the Collegian experience and how much the paper did to provide a foundation for my work in journalism and communications. Given that I have more time now, I'm interested in seeing what I can do to assist those who have succeeded us in running the Collegian and I think I can provide a useful perspective on the ever-evolving news business and help mentor the young people who are starting their communications careers.

While at Penn State, I joined the Collegian in my second trimester and worked on the paper until I left State College in 1983. In those years, I held a variety of positions in the newsroom including Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Town editor and several reporting roles. After leaving Penn State, I became a copy boy at The New York Times and worked the clerical ranks until the editors selected me as a reporter-trainee and then reporter. I worked primarily on the Metro Desk of the Times. After making the decision to leave the paper, I joined the American Civil Liberties Union as Media Relations Director and then the Director of Federal Communications. My most recent job was as Communications Director for the Natural Resources Defense Council, a post that included publishing NRDC's award-winning independent magazine OnEarth.

### **Andrew McGill**

I'm a Class of 2010 graduate who spent four years at the Collegian, finishing up as the paper's managing editor. Since then, I've worked at the Allentown Morning Call and now am a reporter at the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. I joined the AIG last year to fill a vacancy and helped organize our 125th anniversary reunion. (You'll likely remember me from the registration table and our endless invitation emails.)

Given that the Collegian showed me the true path in college — I was on track to become a biologist — it's important to me that it remain a vital and viable institution. I'd like the chance to continue our work.

### **Susan Melle**

My interest in serving on the board comes from a number of things. First is the experience I gained working at the newspaper's business office in college was probably one of the most influential experiences in terms of my career in Finance and most rewarding experiences I've had. I use the skills I learned while at the Collegian everyday as a Senior Finance Director at GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals. I am eager to see how the paper continues to support students and their overall education. Also my interest now is because my daughter recently started college and I finally can devote more time to not only my work at GlaxoSmithKline but also to outside interests. I've continued to follow the Collegian and Penn State and feel that I would be able to contribute my years of experience in the business world and add insight to the board as needed. And the last reason but not least I'm interested in serving on the Collegian AIG Board is my deep love for Penn State and the community that I still call home and am very loyal to.

I would be proud to serve on the board.

CV Highlights:

- 1982-1985 Worked in the Daily Collegian Business Office- various roles incl National Advertising Manager and Business Manager-Dec 1983- Dec 1984



(while Alecia Swasy was Editor)

- Graduated PSU 1985 BS in Finance
- GE Capital Corporation 1985-1991
  - Financial Mgmt Training Programme
  - Various roles-staff accountant, senior investment analyst,
  - Masters in Business Administration- Information Systems 1997 St. Joseph's University
  - GlaxoSmithKline 1991-present
    - Various roles from staff accountant to current role as Senior Finance Director supporting R&D Clinical Operations Budget

#### Jennifer Miller

I worked in the Customer Service and Accounting Departments from 2001 – 2003. My experience at The Daily Collegian provided me with invaluable experience when I entered the workforce. I also met some of my best friends at the Collegian. I would love to give back to the organization. I have been a C.P.A. for 7 years and worked as an Auditor, Controller and Business Advisor. In these positions, I have developed expertise in financial reporting, supervising employees, business management and communication skills. I have also had a great deal of experience in helping my clients understand the financial implication of their business decisions. These skills paired with my experience in the business division at the Collegian will allow me to offer a unique viewpoint to the board for decision making.

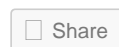
#### Mike Signora

My time at Penn State played an integral role in who I am today. I feel it is my responsibility to do everything I can to help other students have as positive an experience as I did. Foremost among those positive experiences was my tenure as a staff member at The Daily Collegian. Working at the paper from freshman to senior year in a variety of writing and editing positions on the sports staff, including serving as a football beat writer in 1995, I learned valuable lessons in a professional setting that added greatly to what I was being taught in the classroom. By serving on the Collegian AIG board, I hope to continue to give back.

Signora was named the National Football League's Vice President of Football Communications on June 1, 2010. In this role, he oversees all football publicity efforts for the league, driving media coverage to support multiple NFL initiatives and serving as spokesman to the media on key league issues and policies. Signora is responsible for directing media operations of all NFL events, including the Super Bowl, Pro Bowl, AFC and NFC Championship Games, the NFL Draft and the league's International Series of regular-season games. Signora, an NFL staffer for 17 years, joined the league after interning at NFL headquarters for three summers during his time at Penn State.

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### Everyone belongs: Board eliminates dues

Posted on May 27, 2008 by collegianaig

By Jill Leonard '02

Membership in the Collegian Alumni Interest Group is now free for all of the newspaper's graduates.

The AIG board of directors voted in January to discontinue dues.

The elimination of a yearly fee is something Marv Krasnansky ('52), a past AIG president, has advocated for years, he said.

"Membership based on a dues structure had never really taken off," said Krasnansky, a retired vice president for McKesson Corp., a health care company based in San Francisco.

Krasnansky believes free membership in the AIG will encourage more alumni to donate to the group for projects such as its scholarship fund, which awards funds twice a year to one student in the News Division and one in the Business Division.

"(The elimination of dues) opens up soliciting a lot more from people, both in terms of their interest and seeking their financial support," he said. "There are a lot of alums who could afford to do more."

The support of alumni is the lifeblood for the AIG, said Sandra Fischione Donovan ('72), AIG president.

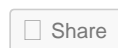
"While alums still building their careers might opt to contribute to the AIG by mentoring Collegian staffers, which costs nothing but time, I would hope that those with established careers would step forward to support our operations by donating," Donovan said. "And I would strongly encourage our alums to join the [Penn State Alumni Association](#), which established our AIG and has many membership benefits for Collegian alums."

Contributions would offer a much-needed boost for the AIG's programs and services, Krasnansky said. Among the group's goals for this year are reviving and updating the Web site ([www.psucollegianalumni.com](http://www.psucollegianalumni.com)), and making plans for a future celebration.

"A good financial foundation is going to make (them) a lot more feasible," he said.

Members who have paid for a life membership will receive a \$50 credit to their next three events. Should dues be reinstated in the future, they would be exempt.

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## We're back online

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

The Collegian AIG is back on the Web!

For the latest news and event details from the organization, bookmark [www.psucollegianalumni.com](http://www.psucollegianalumni.com) or add it to your RSS subscriptions.

Visit the site for updates on future events and projects, photos, links to networking groups such as MySpace and Facebook, and more. You'll also find links to online stores where you can purchase [The Collegian Chronicles](#) and [Daily Collegian apparel](#).

Kelly Bradish ('01), a former *Collegian* online editor, is coordinating the new site.

"The Web site is starting off with the basics of letting everyone know the latest plans and inviting them to get involved," she said. "Down the road, I hope we can develop some more features for networking and encouraging participation."

Future plans for the site include a Collegian alumni blogroll, details on books and articles by alumni, and more tools and resources.

Send your suggestions and photos for the site to [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com).

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## [AIG awards scholarships, makes \\$5,000 donation to fund](#)

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

### 4 selected as recipients

By Curt Harler, '71

Outstanding students on *The Daily Collegian's* editorial and business staffs were awarded nearly \$2,000 in scholarships this spring.

Soon-to-be managing editor Andrew Staub won the Collegian Alumni Interest Group editorial scholarship, and, on the business side, Stefanie Kemmler, business manager-elect, was honored.

In a show of support for continuation of the Collegian AIG scholarship program, the Board of Directors of the AIG voted to contribute an additional \$5,000 to increase the funding available for student awards. The total for the fund is approaching \$50,000.

The \$5,000 comes from the proceeds from the sale of *The Collegian Chronicles* book. Because all of the capital expenses of publishing the *Chronicles* are covered, the board hopes to be able to make further substantial contributions as book sales continue.

In addition to funds from the sale of the *Chronicles*, members of the AIG can send individual contributions to *The Daily Collegian* Scholarship Fund, c/o Jill Leonard, 140 Apollo Road, Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666. Checks should be made out to "Penn State" (by sending the check made out to Penn State you can ensure that our scholarship fund gets credit, the AIG gets recognition, and you get your full tax deduction).

Both of this past year's scholarship winners were outstanding candidates, said AIG President Sandra Fischione Donovan.

Staub, a fourth-year junior, has served as a sportswriter and sports editor and will spend his final year as managing editor. He has also been a member of *The Collegian's* Board of Opinions and Board of Editors.

Kemmler, a third-year junior, has served as sales account executive, account executive and advertising manager.

"I believe the AIG couldn't have found a more deserving scholarship recipient than Andy Staub," said Collegian editorial adviser John Harvey. "He is the quintessential Collegianaire, a lifer who has put all that he has into making this a better paper."

"I am extremely grateful to the AIG for recognizing me with this generous gift," Staub said. "It is especially gratifying because it comes from people who have been here and done this. So many Collegian alumni have been instrumental in my personal development, and to now have the entire alumni interest group recognize my work, that is very special. Thanks again to the Collegian AIG for this honor."



Staub



Kemmler

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Kemmler "has been a true leader on the business staff this year and has a great sense of humor and a strong business ethic," said Candace Heckard, business adviser.

"I am so excited to receive this scholarship," Kemmler said. "Having a top position at the Collegian disallows me from having another job, so this scholarship will be extremely useful in helping to defray my living costs. I think it's awesome that AIG offers this to students at the Collegian year after year. "

Harvey said Staub "has readily accepted all challenges we've thrown at him, from covering Penn State football to serving as sports editor, and at each stop he has excelled. His final year here he will serve as managing editor, and that doesn't go to just anyone. Andy Staub has earned all of the accolades he receives. Thanks to the AIG for recognizing his contribution."

The AIG also wishes to congratulate the 2007 AIG scholarship winners set to graduate in 2008. They are sports writer Jon Blau, winner of the Collegian AIG editorial scholarship, and Lauren Nemchik, the business side winner, who will graduate in the fall of this year after she completes student teaching. Both have proven to be fine mentors for the next crop of Collegian staff members.



Blau

"Lauren Nemchik was a great person to select for the Collegian AIG scholarship from the Business Division," Heckard said. "She (was) an advertising account executive since she was a freshman and is our most senior sales person. She (was) entrusted with some of our most important clients and (did) everything with a smile on her face."



Nemchik

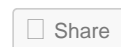
Nemchik also became a role model for younger staff members. "Lauren (served) as a mentor to trainees every semester. We will miss her when she graduates in May," Heckard said.

Harvey had similar high praise for Blau. "I have a very deep appreciation for Jon and all he has done for this organization. Jon is a Collegian through and through, a lifer from the moment he stepped foot in the James Building as a freshman," Harvey said.

"No one works harder than Jon ... And in this, his senior year, he has stepped up to be a mentor of sorts for many of our younger writers," Harvey said. "He's been a loyal, dedicated, hardworking staff member who has earned the respect of everyone in the newsroom."

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# PennState Alumni Association

## Collegian AIG

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## [Contributing Time, Talent or Treasure](#)

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

### **A message from the Penn State Collegian AIG President**

Dear Collegian AIG members,

Whether you wrote your Collegian story on a typewriter or keyboard, or tracked ads on a ledger or computer program, likely your *Daily Collegian* experience is one you look on with fondness and maybe even some gratitude for skills learned and connections made.

The Penn State Collegian Alumni Interest Group is a way to rekindle those fond memories that you might have recalled if you read the AIG's recent publication, *The Collegian Chronicles*.

Subtitled *a History of Penn State from the Pages of The Daily Collegian 1887-2006*, *The Collegian Chronicles* was edited by our president emeritus, Marvin Krasnansky '52, with chapter contributions from scores of Collegian alums.

After a busy five years spent writing and publishing that crowning achievement, the re-energized and reorganized Collegian AIG is now refocusing on its primary missions of supporting the *Collegian* and reconnecting alumni. As we do so, we hope that you will consider sharing your time, talent and a bit of treasure with us as we give alums opportunities to reminisce, network and support the *Collegian*:

- Our new Web site, [www.psucollegianalumni.com](http://www.psucollegianalumni.com). Log on and see this newsletter in electronic form and visit periodically for Collegian alumni news and features.
- If you haven't already done so, buying and reading *The Chronicles*, available through the Penn State bookstore by calling 1-800-543-5659 or [online](#).
- Helping the AIG by volunteering for a committee or serving on the board by e-mailing us at [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com).
- Mentoring a current Collegian staffer and passing on your experience and expertise (see Ira Miller's [story on mentoring](#) for how to volunteer).
- Donating to the AIG's scholarship fund, which each year makes two awards to Collegian students. If you are an alum who wants to contribute to our scholarship fund, please make checks out to Penn State and mail to Collegian AIG Secretary Jill Leonard at 140 Apollo Road, Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666. And now that the AIG has eliminated dues, we surely wouldn't turn down any contributions made out to the Collegian AIG to support our operating expenses.

No matter how long or short your tenure on the *Collegian*, the experience is unlike any other for real-world experience.

So rekindle your Collegian memories by becoming involved with the Collegian AIG this year. Share your time, talent or (if you can afford it), a bit of treasure.

I look forward to seeing you at the next Collegian AIG gathering!

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*Sandra Fischione Donovan '72*  
*Collegian AIG president*

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**Celebrating the Collegian Chronicles**

Posted on **May 27, 2008** by collegianaig

**‘The memories are what endure’**

**By Alison Kepner ‘03**

Collegianaires from the 1940s to the 2000s gathered in State College in June to celebrate publication of *The Collegian Chronicles: A History of Penn State From the Pages of The Daily Collegian 1887-2006*. The almost 400-page book was the collaboration of 150 Collegian alumni under the editorship of Marvin Krasnansky, '52.

The weekend opened with a College of Communications reception at the Carnegie Building attended by 46 former Collegianaires, college staff and faculty, and current *Collegian* staff members. The celebration continued Saturday as alumni and their guests enjoyed a continental breakfast while mingling with current *Collegian* staff members and touring *Collegian* offices in the James Building.

A luncheon at the HUB drew almost 60 people, followed by a screening of “The Paper,” a documentary by Aaron Matthews that chronicles a year at the *Collegian*. The weekend also featured keynote speeches by two Distinguished Alumni: Newsweek Chief Foreign Correspondent Rod Nordland and author and Hollywood screenwriter Paul Levine.

The alumni had a lot to celebrate after five years of hard work to make *Collegian Chronicles* a reality. The book began as a question as Rochelle (Shelly) Robinson Sufrin '78 and Krasnansky prepared for the 2002 Collegian Alumni Weekend. Sufrin asked Krasnansky why there had never been a comprehensive history published to date.

“His sentiment reflected the obvious: The task was daunting, and besides, who would do it?” Sufrin said. “I asked, ‘Why don’t we do it?’”

Five years and many obstacles later, the book hit the press. Asked how it felt for the book finally to be published, Sufrin said, “Imagine how you felt when you saw the paper every day as a *Collegian* staffer — proud, pumped and invigorated. Imagine that, times five years!”

“When the AIG Board set out to do the book project, I don’t think any of us imagined the amount of time and effort that we would put forth to produce this publication,” said Pete Waldron, general manager for the book project. “It was thousands and thousands of volunteer hours spanning 4 ½ years from a collective group of almost 150 people. The last year and a half – especially the last six months – was intense. But as I look back, and page through a copy of The Chronicles, we can all reach the same conclusion – it was all worth it.

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“I have such admiration for the team I worked with. I admire Marv Krasnansky for his idea and fortitude; Mike Poorman for his expertise and good humor; Katie Krebs for her multi-tasking skills to juggle PR, the photo and illustration search, and her first pregnancy; Dave Pellnitz for his attention to detail; Michael Hollyfield for his creative graphic design talent; Scott Sesler and the AIG Board for their leadership; Dean Anderson, Lynn Culver and Cyndi Engle from the College of Communications for their support and for lending us Mike Poorman; Roger Williams of the Alumni Association and all of our generous donors who helped bring the book to press.”

While Krasnansky sees the book as a nice piece of graphic work with good photography, he said really it is a writer’s book: “Its greatest value is in the quality of the writing and telling a good story.”

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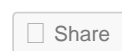
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## 2 Responses

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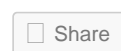
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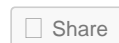
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## Welcome to the Daily Collegian AIG site!

Posted on February 22, 2008 by collegianaig

Hello and welcome to the Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group site! Here, you'll find updates on upcoming AIG events, resources for networking with other alumni, and much more. Additional features are coming soon, so check back for updates!

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## Reflections on a win: Shine a spotlight on students

Posted on **January 17, 2013** by collegianaig

*When the Collegian was honored with a Pacemaker Award in November, we asked for some reactions from the professional staff. Here is the reaction column from news adviser Jim Rodenbush.*

What stood out to me most during my time spent at the recent [National College Media Convention](#) in Chicago was not the announcement of the Newspaper Pacemaker Awards.

First, to be clear: Winning a Pacemaker Award is a tremendous achievement. It's the highest honor given by the Associated Collegiate Press. Some would argue it's the highest honor out there in college journalism. I would agree. It's a big deal. It deserves to be recognized and celebrated.

But what deserves to be celebrated more are the student journalists that have produced tremendous work since Nov. 5, 2011. They are the ones who made this achievement possible.

As anyone who has spent any time at a work conference knows, participants walk around with some form of a gaudy nametag, either pinned or worn around the neck. My nametag made multiple people stop in their tracks. I'm guessing the words "Pennsylvania State University" had something to do with that.

Without question, people wanted to talk about Penn State. All of them had something to say about the work The Daily Collegian had done in covering the Jerry Sandusky scandal. What they had to say about that work was most memorable to me.

There was the convention-goer that marveled at the day-to-day, unwavering commitment of The Daily Collegian staff and the volume of work the newspaper had produced. One wondered out loud how a large group of students could respond with such maturity to a challenging, tragic, constantly evolving story. Another made it a point to tell me that it was The Daily Collegian, not the national media, that he checked-in with regularly to get his updates on the Sandusky story. Still another called The Daily Collegian a role model for other newspaper staffs.

All who approached me raved about the group of students who represented The Daily Collegian during the convention. Former editor-in-chief Lexi Belculfine, current editor-in-chief Casey McDermott and managing editor Anna Orso gave two presentations on the newspaper's coverage of the Sandusky story. They spoke before hundreds and answered questions for

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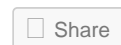
nearly two hours and, in the process, represented the newspaper with poise and professionalism. One attendee called the group the most impressive and most memorable speakers during the convention's three days.

This much became obvious to me from these numerous conversations: The Daily Collegian had earned the respect and admiration of its peers in college journalism. The students over the past year had faced a difficult assignment, responded by reporting with the highest of standards, and others had taken notice.

And to me, that was bigger than any award the newspaper could have won.

— *Jim Rodenbush, News adviser*

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## Collegian AIG seeks to fill board seat

Posted on August 6, 2012 by collegianaig

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group is looking to fill a vacancy on its board. The term expires next April.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Members participate by telephone in periodic, hour-long sessions scheduled during work hours on weekdays, and in an annual general meeting held in State College in the spring. In addition, they are expected to serve on committees that further the work of the board.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Anyone eligible for membership in the Collegian AIG — meaning anyone who once worked for The Daily Collegian — is eligible for election to the board. Board members also must be members of the Penn State Alumni Association.

If you're interested, please contact Nominations Committee chairman Jerry Schwartz at [jschwartz@ap.org](mailto:jschwartz@ap.org).

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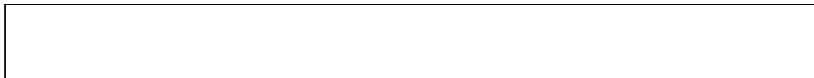
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## [Business manager reflects on staff response](#)

Posted on **December 20, 2011** by collegianaig

By Stephanie Haas  
Business Manager, The Daily Collegian

News of Jerry Sandusky's alleged sexual abuse began filling Business Division staff members' Twitter feeds during an annual mid-semester social function. Jerry Sandusky's name was still foreign to us, and we could never have predicted the devastating grand jury reports or subsequent media frenzy.

While the News Division may be accustomed to reacting to such breaking news, this experience was entirely unfamiliar to my staff. Almost overnight, our Business Operations Department began fielding calls from CNN, The New York Times, and numerous other national media outlets; the Sales Department had to adjust their selling tactics; the Layout Department shifted from placing ads in 12-page papers to 30-page papers; I took on the role of monitoring campus for empty distribution racks, a problem we rarely encounter. My team exemplified a skillful grace under pressure that they had never before needed to exhibit.

As news continued to break and drastic changes were made to our university's leadership, the Business Division maintained a strong focus on finding the delicate balance between achieving the goals we set every day — whether it be surpassing a sales quota or promoting our publication — and approaching each situation with increased tact. The first sales meeting following the release of the grand jury report was completely devoted to learning how to capitalize on the high demand of our paper, without selling bad news to our local clients. Because the news was changing with such rapidity, campus clients could not be convinced to advertise. They were unsure what message they should send the students: support for Sandusky's alleged victims, pride for the Penn State reputation, or goodbye and thank you messages to Graham Spanier and Joe Paterno. Their reluctance to select a message, in fear that it could be misconstrued or deemed inappropriate, matched our newfound sensitivity to the everyday task of selling advertising.

The Daily Collegian's offices have never been busier during my tenure, and I have never had more pride for the work we do to release a product every day, but every task since this news has broken seems to come with a surreal double take. Are we really selling poster reprint packages to commemorate the end of Joe Paterno's career? Do we actually need to prepare for a special Sunday Edition of the Collegian to cover the candlelight vigil for the eight initial victims?

It is easy for our staff to be enveloped by the chaos of working for Penn State's student newspaper during this volatile time, but my goal has been to uphold our obligations to this publication while also encouraging an acute awareness of the nature of the scandal itself. Our staff members continue to appreciate the significance of working for the business side of the Collegian and will begin the Spring 2012 semester with the same grace under pressure of which I know they are capable.

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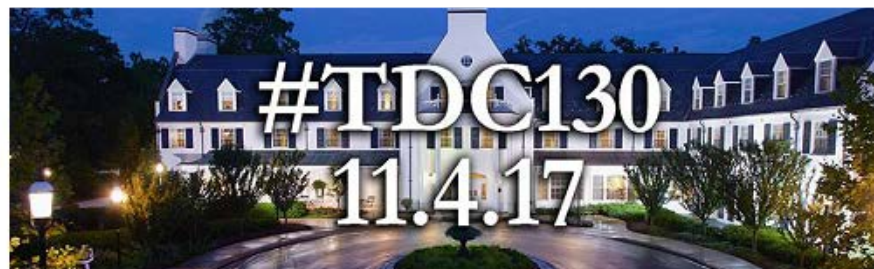
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## AIG Board of Directors candidacy announcements

Posted on February 3, 2012 by collegianaig

The nominating committee for the Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group has endorsed the following slate to fill three expiring terms on its Board of Directors: Megan Culhane Galbraith, '88; Bruce Morris, '79; and Rossilynne Skena, '10. All three are currently members of the board.

Any eligible AIG member interested in serving on the Board of Directors who was not advanced by the committee may self-nominate by collecting the signatures of 20 Collegian AIG members in support of their candidacy.

The signatures — along with a resume and a statement describing the candidate's interest in serving on the board — should be sent to the committee's chairman, Jerry Schwartz. His address is 420 E. Dudley Ave., Westfield, N.J.; email is [jschwartz@ap.org](mailto:jschwartz@ap.org). The deadline for self-nominations is March 12, 2012.

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## Editor-in-Chief reflects on coverage of Sandusky indictment

Posted on December 20, 2011 by collegianaig

By Lexi Belculfine  
Editor-in-Chief, The Daily Collegian

For what should have been any other fall semester — reaching its apex with around-the-clock Homecoming coverage and the stellar football stories The Daily Collegian has become known for — it has been cracked into two segments: before Nov. 5 and after Nov. 5.

In the light of the charges brought against former football coach Jerry Sandusky and administrators Gary Schultz and Tim Curley, everything changed, but the foundation the Collegian built for the news division enables us to keep trudging through the scandal that has rocked Penn State.

The weekend of Nov. 5, Collegian Managing Editor Casey McDermott and I drove home to Pittsburgh. We left State College late Thursday night. By Saturday morning, we were packing to return. Our trip had been cut short when the initial grand jury presentment had been released and charges were filed. There was no question where we needed to be. The car ride was filled with extensive planning, excerpts from the presentment being read aloud and long silences.

That's how this story really started for me, in a Honda Civic, on a three hour drive back to State College.

I think this goes without saying, but as a journalist first and foremost, it has been hard to define this situation on a personal level. The grief, sadness, lows — whatever it was we've experienced in the newsroom — have been nothing when held next to those identified as victims in the grand jury presentments. Our successes in the past month-and-a-half stem in charges so gruesome, I almost vomited the first time I read them.

The first question I always get: How have you and the newsroom separated yourselves from the story? Usually, it baffles me, because there never was any time to figure out my connection to this story other than that of my connection as a journalist. You learn that on day one of candidate school.

The only real personal connection I can't, and don't want to shake, is that my only sister is 10. The perspective this gives me, I think, is invaluable. Of course, as a woman, I am heartbroken by the severity of the abuse Sandusky has been charged with. As a Penn Stater, I am ashamed and look forward to the day when I will be able to comfortably wear PSU gear in public again.

Nothing matters, though, when in comparison to my connection as the Collegian's editor.

As the Collegian's editor and a devout member of the newsroom, I've watched some of the most heartbreakingly low moments and through-the-roof highs in the basement of the James Building.

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In the first week after charges were filed, I couldn't sleep. On an average night, I got home from the Collegian at about 3 a.m. I'd lie in bed and catch up on the day's news I'd missed, read emails and send out story ideas. At 7 a.m., I'd wake up, wide-eyed and terrified that I had missed something in the few hours I hadn't been in the newsroom. Classes be damned. (I am pleased to report, however, that I managed to more than pass all of my classes this semester.) I was one of many pulling these hours for weeks.

On Wednesday, Nov. 9 we worked to put out what has become known as the "Fired edition" of the Collegian. Starting at 10 a.m., after Joe Paterno announced his coming retirement, nearly the entire staff worked to produce the section the Collegian has been on waiting for decades: A 10-page section on the legendary career of a coach. But the context was unlike anything we could have imagined, and so we outlined his fall from grace.

There was a constant tension in the newsroom, as we braced ourselves for the next big moments in the night. And then the trustees made their announcement, and the riots broke out.

We'd anticipated them. Most of our reporters who had spent the day staking out The Penn Stater and Old Main were back in the office, and as the first reports of a gathering came in, many emptied into the streets to cover the mass of students and locals absentmindedly moving through State College.

Two would return after being pepper sprayed. I instinctively hugged the one reporter, Anna Orso; the side of my face that touched hers burned for the rest of the night.

She filed her story on deadline.

As soon as I woke up the next morning, I ran out of my apartment — no makeup, in my pajamas — to go get copies of the paper. I had to check three different distribution locations before I could find any. Don't tell, but I took all of them off the rack.

As I walked across campus, balancing my brick of newspapers, students stopped me: "Is that a Collegian? I can't find it anywhere, can I please have one?"

Turns out, you can get it on eBay — I found one for about \$26.

That Saturday, we worked to put out the first Sunday edition of The Daily Collegian since the 1950s, when Penn State won a wrestling title.

General Manager Patti Hartranft's lasagna fueled us. Patti wasn't the only one to feed us, though. In that week, the previous managing editor, Alex Weisler, sent us pizza. He's in Europe; his mom helped. We had Subway platters sent from Liz Murphy, Aubrey Whelan, Andrew McGill and Rossilynne Skena, and a crew of Collegianaires from '80s ordered pizzas for us.

The support of alumni kept us fed — because, when news is breaking, the last thing you would ever think of doing is eat — and inspired and comforted.

The accomplishments of the newsroom astound me daily. Job and freelancing offers have flooded our staff members (most have chosen to continue reporting this tale for the Collegian).

[@dailycollegian](#) is now the most followed collegiate newspaper Twitter account and was named one of Buzzfeed's 90 best of 2011.

A student painted an entire collection of artwork based on Collegian coverage. News Adviser Jim Rodenbush and I are decking it out to buy the best one.

Spring applications flooded in, most reporters applying for either the administration or cops beat. It showed me that the Collegian continues to understand how important this story will be; they have a grasp of just how long its legs are.

I am in awe of and feel eternally grateful to have been able to work alongside such a dedicated, talented group of journalists. We've grieved and celebrated together, like any family would.

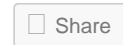
Almost two months after Nov. 5, everyday continues to be different. Each day presents new challenges and small successes, as we continue to tell the stories that will be told

for years to come.

*Lexi Belcuffine is a senior majoring in print journalism from Aliquippa, Pa., and is The Daily Collegian's editor-in-chief. Email her at [editorinchief@psucollegian.com](mailto:editorinchief@psucollegian.com).*

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**One Response**

**Gene Foreman**, on [December 21, 2011 at 5:27 pm](#) said:



Congratulations, Lexi, to you and your hard-working staff. You can be very proud of the coverage of this sad but vitally important story. Journalists have to overcome their personal grief in a situation like this and concentrate on getting the story. That is what you did.

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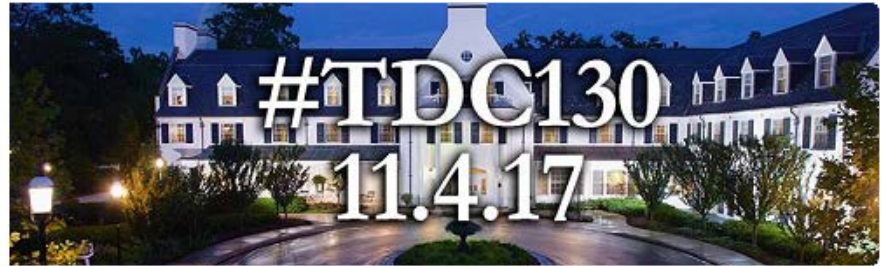
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## Spring election results

Posted on April 22, 2012 by collegianaig

Thank you to everyone who voted in the Collegian AIG's spring election. The following candidates won three-year terms: Bruce Morris, Greg Rubin and Rossilynne Skena.

And a reminder that the AIG's annual meeting in State College is at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 22 at the Collegian offices. Hope to see you there.

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### Photo: Collegian AIG recognized by Alumni Association

Posted on **January 9, 2014** by collegianaig

If you attended the Collegian AIG's reunion in 2012, you know how awesome it was. In late 2013, the AIG was formally recognized by the Penn State Alumni Association for outstanding Fellowship and Networking.

Want to read all the nice things PSAA said about us (and hear about some other winners, too)? [Here's the article!](#)

Do you have ideas of future networking events you'd like to see or participate in? Tell us in the comments!

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From left: Alumni Council Executive Director Roger Williams, College of Communications Doctoral Candidate Melanie Formentin, Daily Collegian alum and College of Communications Doctoral Candidate Steve Bien-Aime and Alumni Council President Kay Frantz Salvino.

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### Join the board meeting

Posted on **June 29, 2013** by collegianaig

We'll start at 1 p.m. Eastern.

Click the Adobe Connect meeting link to join, then choose "Sign in as a guest."

[Daily Collegian Connect Room](#)

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## [Less than a week away! Use hashtag #TDCmeetup](#)

Posted on **February 1, 2014** by collegianaig

As you may have read in our last newsletter, the Collegian alumni are hosting a [meetup fundraiser on Feb. 8](#) — that's this coming Saturday!

If you are in any of four major east coast cities, please join friends of the Collegian for a local celebration. We're donating the proceeds from these meetups to help buy a car so Collegian students can use to travel to news assignments or to meet with business clients.

The events will be simultaneous in [Philadelphia](#), [Pittsburgh](#), [New York City](#) and [Washington, D.C.](#) (Click a city to buy tickets there.)

But for those of us who live and work elsewhere, there are still lots of ways to be involved. This whole week we're asking Collegian alumni to "toast" the Collegian — in word or in image — on social media using the hashtag #TDCmeetup.



Teresa ('74) demonstrates how to toast the Collegian with her reunion mug. Share your photos with us!

Hopefully you'll virtually "meet" some new Collegian friends.

So share your tweets, Instagrams, Facebook photos and more — and share your love for the Collegian!

If you aren't a social media user, you can still participate. Email [CollegianAIG@gmail.com](mailto:CollegianAIG@gmail.com) with your supportive message. Even better — send us a picture of yourself "toasting" the Collegian, and we'll share it with other alumni on our website. You might even make the next newsletter!

Click here to donate to the Collegian Alumni Interest Group's car fundraiser:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/worldwide-daily-collegian-meet-up-and-fundraiser-tickets-10202131851> (Donations are tax deductible.)

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## Daily Collegian alumni group board seeks new members

Posted on February 6, 2013 by collegianaig

Are you looking for a way to stay connected with Penn State? Do you value the time you spent at The Daily Collegian?

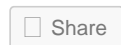
The Collegian Alumni Interest Group, an official affiliate of the Penn State Alumni Association, is looking to fill four seats on its board of directors.

Terms begin at our annual open board meeting this summer and last three years. Anyone who ever worked on the Collegian's news or business divisions is eligible, but if elected, you must also be a dues-paying member of PSAA.

Board members take part in hour-long teleconferences — usually once a month and on a weekday — and one in-person board meeting per year. It's a nice reason to travel to State College (but even if you can't make it, you can still serve). Board members also serve on committees, including scholarships, student outreach and communications.

The board's Nominating Committee will advance a slate of candidates; to be considered, please contact committee chairman Jerry Schwartz using the email address jschwartz – at – ap.org.

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## AIG seeks new member

Posted on **October 7, 2010** by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group provides opportunities for alumni and friends of the Daily Collegian to come together for professional and personal interests and offers support to students at the Collegian through scholarships, mentoring and other programs.

The AIG board is seeking a new member to fill a vacancy caused by a recent resignation. Interested candidates should be available to participate in monthly conference calls at lunchtime on Thursdays. The board also has an annual meeting in the spring in State College.

To apply, please send a resume and statement explaining your interest in serving on the board to President Alison Kepner at [alisonkepner@gmail.com](mailto:alisonkepner@gmail.com). Deadline is Oct. 29.

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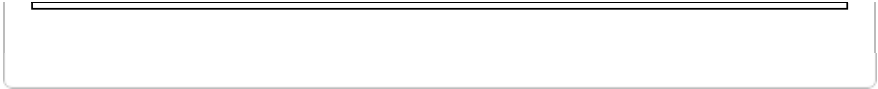
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## Six board seats open

Posted on **April 26, 2013** by collegianaig

Six seats are open for three-year terms on the Board of Directors of the Collegian Alumni Interest Group.

Candidates must be eligible for membership in the Collegian AIG — meaning anyone who once worked for The Daily Collegian — and must be members of the Penn State Alumni Association.

Members participate by telephone in periodic, hour-long sessions scheduled during work hours on weekdays, and in an annual general meeting held in State College in the spring. In addition, they are expected to serve on committees that further the work of the board.

The board has approved this slate of candidates for the upcoming election:

- Lexi Belcuffine, '12
- Phil Gutis, '84
- Andrew McGill, '10
- Susan Melle, '85
- Jennifer Miller, '04
- Michael Signora, '96

In addition, candidates can join the ballot by self-nominating. Anyone interested must provide the nominating committee with a statement describing his or her interest, a resume, and the signatures of 20 Collegian AIG members who are supporters. These applications must be sent by May 6 to jschwartz@ap.org, or 420 E. Dudley Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.

The final ballot will be announced May 16. The election will be held June 6-20.

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## Statements from AIG Board candidates

Posted on **March 21, 2012** by collegianaig

The following candidates are seeking seats in the Collegian AIG's April election. AIG members should check their inboxes for an electronic ballot or this site, where a link to the ballot also will be posted.

### **Megan Galbraith, Class of 1988, Principal, Megan Galbraith & Associates**

Had it not been for The Collegian, I would not have fully realized two things: My abiding love for the written word and myriad lifelong friendships. There are few places, even professionally, that have measured up to the incredible experience I had at The Collegian as a columnist, opinion editor, sports writer, and assistant sports editor. As an AIG board member, I will work to ensure a vibrant alumni voice that encourages connection and reconnection with the paper and its alums. Years have passed since I graduated in 1988, but the pride I have felt in The Collegian, even through these trying times, reminds me that I learned the fundamentals of practical and responsible journalism beside colleagues and friends who have become some of the best writers and voices of our generation. I would be proud to serve another team as a board member of The Collegian AIG. Thank you for considering me.

### **Bruce Morris, Class of 1979, EVP/Managing Director, SourceMedia**

If not for Penn State and The Daily Collegian my life today would be very different, and probably not for the better. My media career path started at The Daily Collegian and I met my wife of 31 years and counting at Penn State. After serving for one year on the AIG Board and the past six months as the Board's Communications Committee Chair, I want to continue my service to the Board for two reasons. First, because I enjoy giving back to the institution that enabled so many positive aspects of my life today. Secondly, because I believe my 33 years of experience as a media business professional offers the Collegian AIG both a strategic and practical approach to recognizing new opportunities and problem solving solutions.

### **Greg Rubin, Class of 2005, Ad Operations Specialist, New Media for Discovery Communications**

I am extremely passionate about the Collegian and the experiences it brought me as a student. As the alumni founder of the Collegian Mentoring Program for business staff, I continue to hold the belief that a key strength of the Collegian lies in the successful relationship between its students, professional staff and alumni. If elected to the Board, I will ensure an open and regular dialogue between all members of the Group. In addition, I hope to grow the mentoring program into one unified initiative that supports all Collegian students and alumni. All of us can attribute where we are in our careers because of the time we spent at the Collegian. My goal is to maintain focus, how we grow as an alumni group and what we can do to give back to the organization that ties us together. I hope to have your vote and look forward to communicating with

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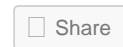
all of you in the future. For the glory!

#### **Rossilynne Skena, Class of 2010, reporter, (Greensburg) Tribune-Review**

Working as a Collegian staff member was one of the most formative and special experiences of my life. I hold my Collegian memories dear, and I draw on my Collegian experiences often in my work as a professional reporter. The opportunity to give back to the organization that gave me so much would be an honor. I'm running for re-election to the board of the Alumni Interest Group because I'm passionate about spurring fundraising for the Collegian and about encouraging alumni-student mentoring. I'm helping to plan the newspaper's 125th anniversary celebration/reunion which will marry those two missions as well as provide a time for alumni to reconnect and celebrate more than a century of Collegian's excellence. It would be a special privilege to continue that work and to continue my tenure as a board member. Thank you.

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### AIG Board updates bylaws

Posted on **March 29, 2015** by collegianaig

The Collegian AIG Board has reviewed and updated our bylaws to remain consistent with the goals and requirements of the Penn State Alumni Association. [They are available here for review](#) and approval by all Collegian AIG members.

Please submit any feedback to Greg Rubin ([grubin38@gmail.com](mailto:grubin38@gmail.com)) before May 1, 2015. The final draft of the Bylaws will be voted upon during the upcoming Board elections.

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## Five questions with: Ted Anthony

Posted on **October 8, 2008** by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Former Collegianaire Ted Anthony works for the Associated Press. He covered both the Democratic and the Republican parties' political conventions this year and has a front-row seat to the election scene. We asked him five questions:

**We understand you covered both conventions and are involved in election coverage in an ongoing basis. How do you prepare for this?**

My role until Inauguration Day is covering the intersection of politics and culture, a fascinating but often bypassed prism into how Americans deal with the presidency and the elections. So I wasn't covering the race itself – we have people far more talented than I am doing that – but looking at what effectively was the story behind the story. In effect, I wanted to help people understand what makes these things tick – and offer some historical context to boot.

So preparation involved reaching out to a diversity of sources across the spectrum – from rhetoric experts to historians to pop-culture gurus to even an ethicist and a neurologist. I also read huge amounts of stuff, from rereading The Federalist Papers to political blogs to a history of the first decade of the 20th century, which has some amazing parallels with this era. I had about 15 books going at once, and many of those authors ended up being interviewed in my stories. The aim was to be able to put together insightful essay-features on deadline.



Ted Anthony

**What were your deadlines like, and what technology did you use to file copy?**

Having been a foreign correspondent and an AP journalist for 16 years, I certainly thrive on deadlines. But as the son of college professors, I also recognize the value of considered thought. With deadline essays, the two can come into conflict. So in Denver and St. Paul, I would try to work a day ahead, evaluating the story of the cycle and thinking ahead to what people might want to know about it if, say, they were reading a week-in-review piece days later. Then, often while the spot news story was still live, I would start putting together a piece that looked at it through an unusual window. An example: I noticed in Denver that Democrats by the dozen were using the image of the kitchen table to add potency to their oratory: "When Americans are sitting at their kitchen table at night ...," "Paying your bills around the kitchen table ..." So I decided to do an "anatomy of a metaphor" about the kitchen table and its role as the modern hearth. Among other sources, I spoke to the editor of a homes magazine and an author who had done a history of housework in America. The result got a lot of clicks and attention because, I think, it resonated with people who were hearing this image used by politicians and wondering about it.

**How do you sort the planned hype from real news?**

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My particular job (the project is called “Measure of a Nation”) sort of lends itself to that – it is, in many cases, writing the metastory. So I have the luxury of looking at what’s unfolding in the horse race and teasing out connecting strands, then saying, loosely, “What does this say about America?” Or “What is it about the culture that’s causing this particular thing to happen?” From there, I develop a thesis that, in the best case, possibly offers something considered that would not appear in other coverage. I also try to get a diversity of voices into the copy – academics from both small and large institutions, political operatives from both sides, delegates, unexpected figures in the culture.

I’m not one of those who is immediately suspicious of experts; I want to find out what I don’t know about this stuff, which also helps inoculate against hype. Additionally, realizing the connections between culture and politics – just examining this stuff with a gimlet eye to begin with – is, I think, kind of an exercise in anti-hype. So developing the idea in itself is useful in combating spin.

#### **What was your *Collegian* experience? How did it help?**

I did everything from reporting to being Assistant Campus Editor and Town Editor to editing special projects, and rarely does a week go by when I do not think about – and am grateful for – my *Collegian* experience. Particularly when I work with journalists just out of school and talk to them about their experiences with campus journalism, I realize how unusual an experience those of us who worked at the *Collegian* had. The professionalism with which we were able to approach our jobs was a real preparation for what we would face in the real world. And knowing that former Collegianaires were already out there with good jobs in the field was a constant inspiration as well.

I remember a time in September 2003 when I was in western China’s Xinjiang region, which is predominantly Muslim, reporting a story. I had spent 2001 and 2002 splitting my time between China and Afghanistan/Pakistan in the aftermath of 9/11, and had just gotten back from two months in Iraq. And I was there in Hotan, a little (by Chinese standards) town in the desert, and I thought back to when I was a candidate in fall 1987 doing my first story comparing WPSU with the Lock Haven radio station. And it occurred to me then, in the middle of this desert: The *Collegian* is a big part of why I’m here.

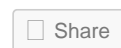
#### **What’s the best thing about being a journalist in times so uncertain for the industry?**

This is the best time there could be to be a journalist. We hear that the mainstream media is increasingly irrelevant, but I don’t believe that for a moment. Smart, nimble and insightful journalism – across all platforms – has never been more important. I do believe, of course, that a tectonic shift is under way in our industry. But in a world of fragments and static, it’s harder than ever to make sense of things. Innovative – and, yes, entrepreneurial – journalists who understand the importance of depicting reality and telling stories in new, effective ways are going to be indispensable figures in this new landscape. There is an amazing amount of uncharted territory to scope out, and there are lots of intriguing things that, if we do it right, we can help the world to understand. That leads to better decisions, which leads to a better society. And that’s still why I’m in this business.

To read some of Ted Anthony’s political work this year, [click here](#).

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### Mentors needed!

Posted on **October 9, 2008** by collegianaig

by **Ira Miller, '66**

We need mentors! We need copy editors, news reporters, business reporters, business-side workers, photographers, and designers. We need mentors from just about every position in the newspaper business, either past or present.

I know this is a tough time. Many of you may be looking for jobs or otherwise just trying to make ends meet, but you need something to feel good about too! There are a lot of eager, young folks on the *Collegian* staff who want to learn more about newspapers and the communication business. They need advice and feedback on what they are doing today and where their chosen career path might lead them. All we ask for is a little of your time; you mentor by phone or e-mail and, for the most part, the student will set the pace.

Those of us who went into the business almost surely had someone helping when we were in college... Now it's time to give back! Please consider volunteering; we will pair you with a student in your field of expertise. Just drop an e-mail to [irapsu66@comcast.net](mailto:irapsu66@comcast.net) with these details:

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## 2 Responses

**Maria Koklanaris Bonaquist**, on [October 19, 2008 at 5:41 pm](#) said:



I've worked for weeklies, Wash. Post. (edit. asst.) Wash Times (reporter) now write for an educational publishing house <http://www.parent-institute.com>

and an online media company covering higher ed. <http://www.hewi.net>

send anyone my way, especially if they are interested in education reporting, but i have also done politics, cops, etc.

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**Ira Miller**, on [October 27, 2008 at 9:04 am](#) said:



Maria — Please send along your contact info (e-mail, phones) to

[irapsu66@comcast.net](mailto:irapsu66@comcast.net) so I may add you to the mentor roles. Thanks — Ira Miller

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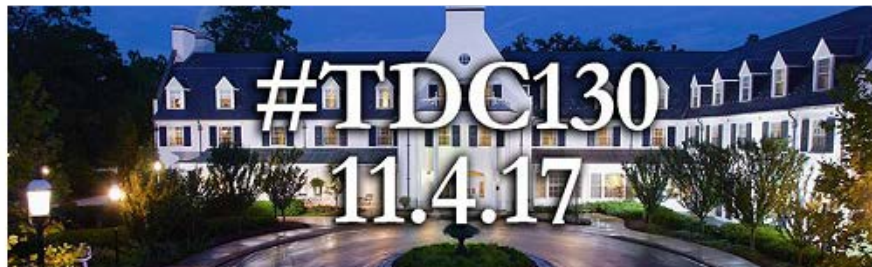
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### Mentors needed!

Posted on **October 9, 2008** by collegianaig

by Ira Miller, '66

We need mentors! We need copy editors, news reporters, business reporters, business-side workers, photographers, and designers. We need mentors from just about every position in the newspaper business, either past or present.

I know this is a tough time. Many of you may be looking for jobs or otherwise just trying to make ends meet, but you need something to feel good about too! There are a lot of eager, young folks on the *Collegian* staff who want to learn more about newspapers and the communication business. They need advice and feedback on what they are doing today and where their chosen career path might lead them. All we ask for is a little of your time; you mentor by phone or e-mail and, for the most part, the student will set the pace.

Those of us who went into the business almost surely had someone helping when we were in college... Now it's time to give back! Please consider volunteering; we will pair you with a student in your field of expertise. Just drop an e-mail to [irapsu66@comcast.net](mailto:irapsu66@comcast.net) with these details:

- **Your Name**
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## Updates: Reunion weekend, annual meeting

Posted on December 20, 2011 by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian 125th anniversary celebration and reunion is set for the weekend of October 19-21, 2012. The Nittany Lion Inn (814.865.8500) is now accepting reservations for our room block.

Can you suggest a speaker for the event? We're looking for a notable Collegian alumnus to consider as a speaker. Please send suggestions to event co-chairwoman Rossilynne Skena at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com)

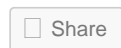
### Calling All Authors

Do you know a Collegian alumnus who has penned a book? We're asking authors with Collegian ties to donate a signed copy of their book to a Collegian library. We'll celebrate their work at a reception during the anniversary weekend. E-mail anniversary committee co-chairwoman Rossilynne Skena at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com) for details.

### Mark Your Calendar

The Collegian AIG's annual meeting is on April 22 in State College.

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## Events raise \$3,703 toward car fund

Posted on **March 11, 2014** by collegianaig

The alumni and friends of the Daily Collegian are awesome. During February, you raised \$3,703 toward a fund to buy a new Collegian car — that's more than 150% of our goal! The total comes mainly from meetup events in four cities, but Collegian supporters sent contributions and well-wishes from all over.

And the car wanted to thank you in her (his? its?) own way:

*Dear alumni,*

*I am touched by your good feelings and generosity. I hope that you had fun telling stories about the time we drove to . . . and almost . . .*

*Your contributions to my retirement fund could not have come at a better time. Although I am still shy of the six-figure mileage zone, it will be here before I know it. (Hope I'm not in Cleveland when it happens!)*

*I hope to see you all at my retirement party.*

*Beep Beep!*



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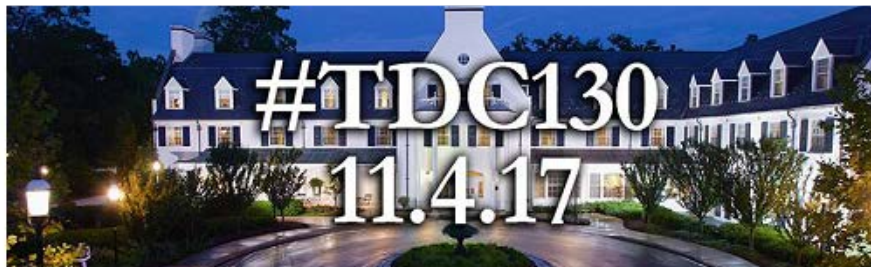
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## AIG board election results

Posted on April 26, 2011 by collegianaig

Congratulations to Teresa Cooke, Renee Petrina and Jerry Schwartz on their recent election to the AIG board.

Thank you to all the candidates as well as all of the AIG members who took part in the election.

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## AIG welcomes new board members

Posted on August 17, 2011 by collegianaig

by Alison Kepner ('03)

Congrats to Teresa Villa Cook ('74), Renee Petrina ('04) and Jerry Schwartz ('77) on their success in the AIG's spring election. A special thanks to all the candidates and members who voted in the spring election, our first using an online ballot. Their terms end in 2014.

The board also recently appointed two new members to fill vacancies: Megan Culhane Galbraith ('88) and Bruce Morris ('79). Both fill unexpired terms of board members who resigned because of other obligations. Their terms will end in 2012, when they will be eligible to run for election for the seats.

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## Minutes from AIG 2011 Annual Meeting

Posted on **April 27, 2011** by collegianaig

Collegian AIG minutes, annual meeting  
April 17, 2011

**Attending in person:** Alison Kepner, Paul Rudoy, Teresa Cook, Ira Miller, Renee Petrina; Candace Heckard, Jim Rodenbush, Patti Hartranft

**Attending by phone:** Terry Casey, Jerry Schwartz, Dave Pellnitz

**Also in attendance:** Greg Rubin, Stephen Frankok, Emily Fischer, Lexi Belcufline

**Election of officers:** Officers for 2011-12 will be Alison Kepner, president; Renee Petrina, vice president; Paul Rudoy, treasurer; Teresa Cook, secretary.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the March meeting are approved as submitted.

**Treasurer's report:** We have \$11,683.91 in our account after transferring \$6,825 to the scholarship fund. Candy asked if money had been received from Old State Clothing Company for sales of Chronicles. Paul said no. The amount of sales is probably small, but the store has not been cooperative.

Question asked: How much is in our scholarship fund? \$49,775, as soon as our latest contribution is posted in May we'll have over \$50,000.

Renee asked what the reimbursement from the Penn State Alumni Association was. It was \$2,399 this year.

The treasurer's report is approved.

**Bylaws:** In reviewing bylaws, a couple of questions came up. Are columnists considered AIG members? Answer: They would be affiliates. Newer columnists go through candidate school, so they could be AIG members.

Question about immediate past president. New bylaws would formalize immediate past president's participation on board, allowing for 13 total board members.

The board made changes to the proposed new bylaws as follows:

#### Article II, Section 8

Part B to read: The President shall appoint a new member of AIG to fulfill the unexpired term of a board member who resigns or is removed for cause.

Section 9 – change "meetings" to "work sessions."

Article III, Section 1 — Strike out "to present at the annual meeting for election by the board."

#### Section 3

Part A — move last sentence down to part C and change from 75 days to 30 days.

Part C – Renee asks if requiring 20 signatures is too much. Alison said that for younger members it is not. Paul said the nominating committee knows who's familiar with board,

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but the petition process allows someone not chosen by the committee to say he's still interested.

Part E – To read: “The Nominating Committee shall issue a preliminary slate of nominees within 60 days of the deadline for election. The slate shall be immediately announced on the Collegian AIG website.

#### **Section 4**

Part A to read: “As set forth in Article 3, Section 3, the final slate of nominees, which includes statements of qualifications and biographical data, shall be published on the Collegian AIG website no later than 20 days prior to the election.”

Part B to read: “Members shall be elected by majority vote of full members of the AIG prior to the annual meeting, with ballots due 10 days prior to the annual meeting.”

Part D to read: “Within 7 days prior to the annual meeting, the results of the election shall be published on the Collegian AIG website.”

Article VI, Section 1

Part A: end sentence at website. Delete rest of that section.

The board votes to approve bylaws as amended and to send to a vote by general membership.

**Communications:** Terry Casey, chairman had to leave call. Renee reports that she would like to start a Daily Collegian Facebook page and otherwise improve communications.

Renee said she's been finding Collegian alumni who don't know that there is an active Collegian group and that we should have more communications with our members. She would set a goal to look at newsletter again because of contract; we have money we could spend on a newsletter that allows us to do more. Also start a Linked-in group. Candy says there is a Linked-in group for Daily Collegian alumni. Candy will send invitations to board members to sign up.

**Fundraising:** Renee reports that we have more than \$50,000 in our endowment fund as soon as the latest contribution is posted by the university.

The committee is working on creating an annual giving concept, more structured way to reach out. Of Penn State alumni groups, we are near top for having money in our scholarship fund. She would like to study effectiveness of the newsletter, is it worth using? We need to educate alumni about what we do. And we need to make sure people know how to give money to Penn State but designate it to the Collegian AIG. Renee also suggests that we thank our donors. The thank you comes from Penn State, but not from the AIG.

**Mentoring:** Ira reports that he has plenty of mentors for the news side and is working on getting more students. Greg Rubin reported that the pilot program on the business side has 23 mentors and 33 students. There was discussion of combining the two mentoring programs. No decision made.

**Scholarship:** The Collegian AIG scholarships are presented to the two winners: Emily Fischer on the business side and Lexi Belcuffine on news.

**Election redux:** Renee said she was surprised that the survey monkey sent out for board election was not secure. A total of 161 votes were cast, about 5 percent of the alumni. Renee suggested that it would be worth spending some of the money Penn State gives us for communications to have a more secure, professional voting procedure. Alison said she would talk to Charlene about how vote was conducted.

**Scheduling:** It is agreed that 11:30 a.m. on Thursday is a good time for phone call work sessions. Work sessions will be held quarterly. The first will be held in July. Alison will suggest dates via email.

#### **Committees for the 2011-12 year:**

**Bylaws** – Amy Constantine, chair; Alison Kepner, Ira Miller

**Finance** – Paul Rudoy, chair

**Fundraising** – Renee Petrina, chair; Greg Rubin, Ryan Pfister, Sheila Young

**Mentoring** – Ira Miller, chair; Greg Rubin, Jeremy Drey

**Nominating** – Jerry Schwartz, chair; Mike Signora, Paul Rudoy

**Scholarship** – Dave Pellnitz, chair; Renee Petrina, Teresa Cook  
**Communications** – Terry Casey, chair; Renee Petrina, Kelly Bradish  
**Reunion, anniversary** – Alison Kepner, chair; Mike Signora, Teresa Cook, Ira Miller, Dave Pellnitz

**Anniversary:** Collegian will be 125 years old in 2012. Board discusses possible times for reunion and anniversary celebration. Fall 2012 on a non-football weekend is suggested.

**Board vacancies:** Amy and Sheila have both resigned, effective immediately. The nominating committee will be asked to suggest replacements at the July board work session.

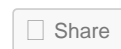
**Negotiations with Penn State:** Dave asks Patti Hartranft how negotiations are going. She reports that she is still meeting with the university and is hopeful to have contract agreement by mid-May.

**Contact list:** Dave requests an updated list of board members and contact information. Alison promises to send one out.

Meeting is adjourned 12:30 p.m.

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**One Response**

Renee Petrina, on [April 29, 2011 at 9:38 am](#) said:



A clarification on fundraising: We are in the top for our CATEGORY of student organizations for the scholarship fund. This is groups that are not officially linked to a particular college/department/major or Greek organization.

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## 5 Questions with: Dana DiFilippo

Posted on **June 11, 2010** by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Dana DiFilippo is a reporter for the Philadelphia Daily News. True to the White and Blue, she organizes a Collegian e-mail newsletter for folks that focuses mostly on the 1990-1995 era of Penn State. Dana was graduated in May, 1992 with a degree in journalism and a minor in photography. Among her Collegian positions were campus reporter, women's issues reporter, LGTBSA reporter, campus editor, and managing editor. We asked Dana five questions:

### 1. You organized a Collegian e-mail newsletter that focuses mostly on the 1990-1995 era. What got you going?

Equal parts nostalgia and maternity-leave-fueled boredom. It was 2002, and it was the first time in a decade I'd been away, consistently, from the frenetic pace of a newspaper newsroom. I decided to track down a few old friends from the Collegian, just to catch up. But it was so fun to reconnect and so fascinating to learn what different paths they took that I thought other Collegian alums might enjoy hearing about everyone as much as I did. So in 2002, I sent out an e-newsletter that had short updates on about 25 alums.

I didn't intend for it to be an ongoing e-newsletter, but as I heard from or tracked down more old friends, I wanted to share their news with everyone else. Often, it's good news – job promotions, weddings, births, moves, book publications, major scoops. But sometimes, it's not – layoffs and unfortunately, occasionally, deaths. To me, it's a bit of two things I like immensely – breaking news and gossiping. Since it started, it's evolved into this gossip grapevine, professional network, cheerleader, public announcement service and comforter, all rolled into one. Now that Facebook is so ubiquitous, my e-newsletter sometimes seems unnecessary, but I still enjoy doing it, so I'll continue.



Dana DiFilippo

### 2. What was your trail to the Philadelphia Daily News?

My first job out of college was at the North Hills News Record, a suburban Pittsburgh weekly that went daily in the wake of the Pittsburgh Press' 1992 strike. It was an invigorating job – as close to the birth of a newspaper as I've ever been (it's also where I met my husband, a photographer).

I spent two years there before climbing to bigger jobs covering everything from health and schools to government and police at bigger newspapers, including the Bucks County Courier Times, the Cincinnati Enquirer and now the Philadelphia Daily News.

I've been at the Daily News, where I cover crime, breaking news and enterprise, since

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2000. It's a tabloid and the smaller of Philadelphia's two major dailies and now is neck-deep in a contentious bankruptcy. We've had buyouts, layoffs and so many budget cuts that I've lost track (who needs a plant-watering service and gift shop, anyway?!). But it is, hands-down, my favorite job. Philly is a great news town, and I adore my co-workers and the kick-ass newspapers we produce.

We have a fraction of the staff and the budget of our competitor the Inquirer, but we do far more than hold our own.

### **3. Like many of us, you are working in print but distributing news in electronic format. Is print dying? If there is a place for both, where does each fit?**

I was cleaning out my attic a few months ago and came across a midterm exam that asked the same question – and that was 18 years ago. It still amazes me that so few saw this coming.

Still, I firmly believe that, while we might not know what journalism will look like 10 years – or even 10 months – from now, it will always be crucial to our communities. I do think there is a place for both; I think the future for print journalism relies both on not giving its content away for free online, as well as partnering with foundations (like the St. Petersburg Times-Poynter Institute partnership) to support our work.

### **4. What is your advice to people starting out?**

There's the age-old advice, of course: Be curious, be a good storyteller, get it fast but get it RIGHT, etc.

But in the era of Final-Cut Pro and Facebook, I think anyone starting out should make themselves as multimedia as possible. If you're a writer, you now have to be so much more: Learn video, experiment with audio, carry a camera everywhere, study all the software programs so that you become a one-man band. And don't relax during unemployment. DO SOMETHING – blog, make videos of your dog, design the phone directory for your kid's elementary school. Even if it doesn't land you a job, it'll expand your mind – and look good, when a prospective employer does express interest.

### **5. What was your Collegian experience? How did it help you get where you are today?**

I started at the Collegian my sophomore year as a campus reporter. I later covered women's issues and lesbian and gay issues, became campus editor and ended my senior year as managing editor, under Editor-in-Chief Isabel Molina.

I loved the Collegian so much that I spent more time at 123 S. Burrowes St. than I did anywhere else (well, OK, except for Zeno's).

I discovered my passion for news and justice there (I remember sprinting with reporter Mike Abrams around campus to get reaction when the Gulf War broke out and sneaking around Old Main and the Hub after midnight with reporter Amanda Thompson, trying to crash secret society meetings). I grappled with grown-up stuff there (the tragic death of sportswriter Kent Petersen and the international uproar over columnist Chino Wilson's call to arms). And I also learned how to vogue (a la Madonna) there.

But mostly, the Collegian instilled in me a love of and faith in journalism that hasn't faded, even as the doomsayers persuade less-committed colleagues to switch careers.

---

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## Here's your chance for football tickets!

Posted on **September 21, 2010** by collegianaig

Don't have tickets for a Penn State football game yet? Here's your chance!

For a \$250 contribution to the Collegian AIG, you'll receive two tickets to the PSU-Northwestern game on Saturday, Nov. 6.

It's a great way to see your Nittany Lions and support scholarships for current Collegian staff members.

Contact Jill Leonard at [jill@pennstatefan.net](mailto:jill@pennstatefan.net) if you're interested. The Collegian AIG has a limited number of tickets.

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### We hope you'll join us!

Posted on July 30, 2012 by collegianaig



Seems like just yesterday, doesn't it?

We hope you remember your Collegian experiences fondly and often. We're Collegian alumnae Rossilynne Skena and Jill Leonard, and we're planning a celebration to recognize The Daily Collegian's 125 years of excellence. Please join us and your fellow Collegian alumni in State College this fall for a reunion.

Festivities will begin Friday evening, Oct. 19, with an informal happy hour. Saturday will include an afternoon reception honoring Collegian alumni and a silent auction. Keynote speaker Jim Zarroli, a National Public Radio business and economy reporter, will speak at a dinner Saturday night at The Nittany Lion Inn. Join us for a TV tailgate after the banquet, where we'll watch Penn State trounce (fingers crossed) Iowa.

The event will conclude Sunday with a tour of the newspaper's James Building office.

A block of rooms is reserved at The Nittany Lion Inn (814-865-8500). Room rate: \$125/night. Reservation code: COLJ12A.

The cost for the weekend of events is \$75/person, including dinner. Please consider giving an additional amount to fund Collegian scholarships.

We thank you deeply for the time you spent making the Collegian what it is today. And we hope you'll join us to celebrate the paper's 125 years of excellence.

Please [RSVP online](#) by Sept. 1. You may pay via [PayPal](#) or by a check made out to "Collegian AIG" and a printed copy of your registration form sent to

The Daily Collegian  
c/o Candy Heckard  
123 S. Burrowes St.  
State College, PA 16801

As you prepare your event registration, please note that proceeds will benefit Collegian scholarships. Registration is not refundable.

Any questions? Email Rossilynne at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com).

Come share a memory — and give your support.

Sincerely,

*Rossilynne Skena & Jill Leonard*

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### Looking ahead for Collegian alumni

Posted on **January 23, 2013** by collegianaig

2012 was a fantastic year for the Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group. We raised more than \$7,000 for student scholarships in just a single event. We got to know each other better through our reunion. And we watched with pride as current Collegian students accepted award after award for their superb work during difficult times for Penn State.

As we begin 2013, we have a lot of exciting things on tap. First, we are looking for some new leadership from among Collegian alumni. A few of our board members are approaching their term limits, and we need dedicated alums to serve in their place. If you are interested, contact nominating committee chairman [Jerry Schwartz](#).

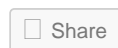
Another cool new thing is the Daily Collegian app, which works on Apple and Android devices.

[Click here to download it for Android](#). Navigate to the app store to download on an iPhone or iPod.

We are always looking for news about Collegian alums. Please stay connected with us through this blog or on [Facebook](#).

*-Renee Petrina, president, Collegian AIG Board*

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## One cool atmosphere

Posted on March 31, 2009 by collegianaig

### AccuWeather founder helps Collegianaires toward bright future

By Sandra Fischione Donovan '72

When Joel N. Myers, '61, '63g, '71 Ph.D., was a sophomore meteorology major at Penn State in 1958, he offered to write a daily weather forecast for The Daily Collegian. He could do that, said the paper's editorial adviser – as long as he also agreed to write police news.

Back then, female students had an 8 p.m. curfew and the Collegian didn't have any spare male staffers to visit the State College police station at 9:30 p.m.

Myers agreed. He wrote the weather and police news – and found he enjoyed both. During graduate school, he wrote other kinds of news, including coverage of student government meetings, and edited, too.

"Journalism professors started critiquing my stories," said Myers, 69, of State College. Eventually he went on to become Collegian makeup editor and to write a column, "Snowed," which included commentary on not only the weather, but also "all kinds of things."

After graduation, Myers continued his meteorological education, eventually earning both a master's degree and a Ph.D. in meteorology at Penn State. But he never forgot the journalism lessons learned at the Collegian.

Myers managed to combine his scientific education and journalistic avocation to make weather useful and appealing to the general public at his company, State College-based AccuWeather. The firm employs more than 300 people and does weather reports 24/7 for media outlets, private companies and other customers around the world. And what's more, says Henry Margusity, 48, of State College, AccuWeather.com Information Manager and Sr. Meteorologist, Myers has taught his employees many of the same lessons he learned during his Collegian years.

When U.S. pilot Francis Gary Powers' U-2 airplane was shot down in 1960 over Russia, Myers wrote a column containing the opinion that Powers could not have flown a weather plane. Myers knew weather planes.

"Two or three days later, Eisenhower went on television and said it was not a weather plane," Myers said. Myers remembers the Centre Daily Times commended him for his correct analysis of the Powers situation.

"It was a big help, getting a journalism education," Myers said of his Collegian experience. "I got a lot of insight into how the media works. It was a big help selling my

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services and making weather more of a journalistic product. We (at AccuWeather) really revolutionized (weather reporting) by using the King's English in a meaningful way."

From its 1962 roots, when Myers started the company as a graduate student, AccuWeather has gone on to become a business that serves thousands of clients and thereby millions of people around the world. Some are television and radio stations and newspapers; others are private companies dependent on the weather.



Dr. Joel N. Myers

In the case of many newspaper clients, AccuWeather provides the entire editorial product that goes straight from the State College-based company into print. The newspapers trust AccuWeather that much.

"We do 800 newspapers a day," Myers said, "The Washington Post, the Dallas Morning News, the Wall Street Journal ... the pages are done completely here. We're producing the finished product. It saves them money." When AccuWeather also sells weather-related advertising for those pages, the newspapers receive a cut.

The company produces weather forecasting for foreign-language newspapers in about nine or 10 languages. It's not that difficult, Myers said: "You only need about 500 words to cover all the weather. We've boiled it down."

Soon after AccuWeather began providing weather forecast services for La Nacion in Buenos Aires, Myers said, the newspaper publisher ran into the head of the Argentine meteorological services. The meteorology official asked how the newspaper could rely on the weather forecasting of "gringos" instead of the homegrown service.

"About 60 days later, we received a letter from the La Nacion publisher saying, 'We checked the forecasts for accuracy. AccuWeather was right 78 percent of the time and the Argentine meteorological service 49 percent of the time. AccuWeather stays.'"

"People told me I was nuts; that I'd be competing with free" services from the National Weather Service, Myers said. But he believes he was able to make his company successful because it is "more accurate, and it saves labor. We provide content in a usable format. And we offer things that aren't available elsewhere, such as whether snow is accumulating on roads, if there's black ice," and other kinds of necessary information for people seeking to function in all kinds of weather.

AccuWeather also provides localized weather and "a million different ways we can add value to a business," Myers said. The company has developed iPhone weather communications and has a relationship with technology companies such as Apple and Samsung so it can formulate ways to use new technology to communicate the weather before the advances are even unveiled. AccuWeather is the industry leader in wireless and Internet weather.

"I think newspapers have got to find the right balance between print, online and wireless," Myers said.

"We've tried to persuade them to have a model that makes sense."

AccuWeather continues its relationship with the Collegian. In its hiring of interns to write the news, AccuWeather has employed some with Collegian experience that has proven useful to both intern and AccuWeather.

One of the interns this semester is Gina Cherundolo, 21, a Penn State senior majoring in public relations





Cherundolo & Margusity

and minoring in anthropology. A Collegian staffer for all but two semesters at Penn State, Cherundolo, of Montrose, says her journalism courses and Collegian experience have helped her write stories quickly that within an hour or two are posted on the Internet.

Margusity said one of Cherundolo's recent weather stories was picked up by the Associated Press. That story included research on the type of airplane used in the March 21 plane crash in Montana that killed 14. Cherundolo's story compared the Montana airplane and the icy weather in which it took off with a similar airplane and weather situation March 26, 2005, in State College, which killed six.

A few days later, the National Transportation Safety Board commented on the similarities between the two crashes, "so we led the charge on that one," Margusity said. The story was picked up by a variety of news agencies, including the Chicago Tribune, MSNBC and Fox News.

Her Collegian experience and courses in journalism have taught Cherundolo that "any mistakes I have with my writing are inexcusable," she said. At the Collegian, she was called upon to write stories for the next day. "At AccuWeather, I write and it's on the site in an hour, an hour and a half." AccuWeather has helped her ability to "translate (jargon) into something the average Joe can understand."

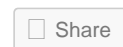
Cherundolo said she wants to find a career that will combine all her strengths, including that anthropology minor that "helps me understand human interactions... I have used it I can't tell you how many times."

But it's the Collegian interactions that have made a huge difference at AccuWeather.

"Joel was able to teach us way, way back how to write weather stories based on his Collegian experience," Margusity says. "With his Collegian experience, he has taught us how to communicate (the weather) effectively – and now we communicate to millions of people in an effective manner."

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## One Response

Dennis Malick '60, on [April 1, 2009 at 7:48 pm](#) said:



I was Daily Collegian editor during those Joel Myers early PSU days. Check these excerpts from my take on those years recounted in "The Collegian Chronicles":  
"... an ominous 'Gracie Heads Toward State' story marked a significant weather stepping stone for the byliner of the piece, Joel Myers. Little noticed as a skinny freshman in the back of the Collegian newsroom writing brief Page One weather reports, accompanied by Nancy Wigfield's Lion caricatures, Joel went on to found Accuweather ..."

"'Actually weather forecasting is not as easy as some people think,' Joel Myers wrote in a mid-April (1960) column after getting drenched by a storm on a day he predicted sunshine."

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## Statement on reinstatement of John Harvey

Posted on July 2, 2009 by collegianaig

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group commends the board of directors of Collegian Inc. for its reinstatement of news adviser John Harvey, a decision that is not only just, but in the best interest of the students and future of the Collegian. The AIG also lauds the board's decision to revise the Collegian's bylaws and looks forward to working with the board to support this and other needed changes. Wednesday's decision is the first step in an important process to strengthen the Collegian and ensure it remains both financially viable and student-centered.

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### Statement on upcoming hearing

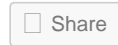
Posted on **June 28, 2009** by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group is pleased that Collegian Inc.'s board of directors finally will hold a hearing and make a ruling on the dismissal of news adviser John Harvey, which both the AIG and hundreds of alumni have protested since the day it happened in May.

We hope and pray the board will come to a quick and just resolution, which would get Mr. Harvey back on the job at once, and restore the guiding hand the students on the staff must have.

Further, the reinstatement of Mr. Harvey is urgently needed to end this unseemly chapter in the Collegian's history and to allow the paper to move forward and grow.

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## Board nomination slate announced

Posted on **May 15, 2014** by collegianaig

The nominating committee for the Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group has endorsed the following slate to fill three expiring terms on its Board of Directors: Ramit Masti, '95; Abigail Fairman, '99; and Jeremy Drey, '06. Any eligible AIG member interested in serving on the Board of Directors who was not advanced by the committee may self-nominate by collecting the signatures of 20 Collegian AIG members in support of their candidacy. The signatures — along with a resume and a statement describing the candidate's interest in serving on the board — should be sent to the committee's chairman, Jerry Schwartz. His address is 420 E. Dudley Ave., Westfield, N.J.; email is jschwartz@ap.org. The deadline for self-nominations is June 1, 2014.

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## Thank you, Dean Doug Anderson!

Posted on **May 13, 2014** by collegianaig

For the past 15 years, Collegian Inc., has had support from an office you might not expect – an administrator. In his 15 years as [Dean of the College of Communications](#), Douglas Anderson has been a clear supporter of the student news organization – even though Collegian Inc. is independent of the university.

Dean Anderson has always seen the Collegian as a valuable training ground where students hone their skills beyond the classroom. He taught an in-depth reporting class that enrolled many Collegian students whose work won countless Hearst Foundation awards.

“He knows that the combination of strong classroom instruction and a strong student paper make a powerful impact, on campus and on our students,” said Steve Sampsell, director of college relations for the College of Communications.

Alumni who attended the Collegian AIG’s October 2012 reunion event might not know that Dean Anderson supported us from the early planning stages. Collegian alumni were granted use of Carnegie Building at no charge for the weekend’s events, and the college helped defray costs for our guest speaker. Because of Dean Anderson’s support, more ticket revenue was able to be directed toward our scholarship endowment.

And for years, the College has provided financial administration to the [Collegian Alumni Interest Group Scholarship endowment](#), which rewards one Business and one News staff member each year with more than \$1,000 toward tuition. Our deserving recipients are feted by the college at an annual awards dinner.

[Dean Anderson is retiring at the end of June](#), and the Collegian AIG board wants to thank him for his steadfast support of Collegian Inc. during his tenure at the helm of the College of Communications. That’s why the board is making a donation to the Trustee Scholarship in Honor of Dean Douglas Anderson.

Thank you, Dean Anderson, for your unwavering support.

-Renée Petrina

President, Collegian AIG board



Doug Anderson has served as dean of the College of Communications since 1999.

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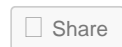
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« [How to donate to the Collegian AIG Scholarship Fund Business Division scholarship goes to Victoria Lamina](#) »

**One Response**

**Rochelle R. Sufrin**, on [May 16, 2014 at 8:33 am](#) said:



I am compelled to send a public acknowledgment and note of thanks to Dean Anderson for his investment, support and encouragement of Collegian AIG activities, projects and missions from his early days and our very beginning. His first year as Dean, was my first year as a dues paying member of the AIG and within a year I came to know Dean Anderson as a committed partner, steadfast cheerleader and active sounding board during my first year as president in 2000. It was clear that over the next three years, he was our beacon, showing us the way through challenging waters of University policy and protocol, as Collegian held the most unique position among all the alumni AIGs, alumni groups and societies. He provided oversight yet supported Collegian's independence and was an active partner with our alumni, faculty, the PSAA and the University administration. He was first on board to support the Collegian AIG's second reunion which earned our first PSAA Achievement Award for New & Innovative Events and was an engaged supporter of The Collegian Chronicles, which earned us our second PSAA award. Now, as he moves onto the next phase of his life, he leaves the Collegian AIG with its third PSAA award for Fellowship. We wish him the best that life has to offer. Dean, your star power has brought the golden years to the COC, the Collegian AIG and the University. For all of us who were fortunate to be engaged during your tenure, we thank you and hope there is an incredible chapter waiting to be written for your next endeavor. With sincere gratitude,  
Rochelle R, Sufrin '78

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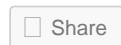
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## Statement from the Collegian AIG on the dismissal of John Harvey

Posted on May 21, 2009 by collegianaig

"The Daily Collegian AIG strongly protests the dismissal of Mr. John Harvey. The AIG board asks that the board of directors reverse John Harvey's dismissal and, further, that the board of directors takes a more active role in overseeing the Collegian's operations so that it can resume its proper role of educating and training student journalists. The AIG board further asks that the board take a close look at the way the Collegian has been managed. The Daily Collegian AIG will place a moratorium on its fundraising efforts in support of the Collegian until the AIG board is satisfied that Collegian Inc. is moving in a direction the AIG can support."

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« [Alumni, students gather for tailgate](#) [Alumni, students call for reinstatement of John Harvey](#) »

### 3 Responses

Chris Korman, on [May 21, 2009 at 12:43 pm](#) said:  
Bravo, and thanks.



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**Nichole Dobo**, on [May 21, 2009 at 1:03 pm](#) said:



Amen.

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**Mike Caggese**, on [May 21, 2009 at 7:56 pm](#) said:



Thank you, Collegian AIG.

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## [AIG statement on Board of Directors statement](#)

Posted on **June 5, 2009** by collegianaig

The students of The Daily Collegian have spoken. They want their adviser back. Without John Harvey, and with Gerry Lynn Hamilton as self-proclaimed adviser/manager, the students are in a negative work environment without a trust relationship and someone they can turn to. Inaction and delay on the part of the Board of Directors creates stress for the students and costs them valuable experience.

Here are some of the other costs:

John Harvey — and his wife — have been without his health care for **6** days. They have been without one source of income for **15** days, a source they relied on for **11** years.

The students of the Collegian have been without the trusted adviser for **15** days. **Thousands of dollars** in potential scholarship donations have been kept from the Collegian AND ITS STUDENTS.

**More than 350** people want John reinstated, and they want action now.

**Twelve** members of the Collegian Alumni Interest Group Board of Directors, on behalf of the **more than 3,000** Collegian alumni from decades at Penn State, demand that the Collegian board provide a timetable of their action plan as well as details on how concerned alumni can be a part of the process, and the reinstatement of Mr. Harvey's health care in the absence of a decision regarding his employment. This is to include meeting dates and times, as well as documentation required or requested.

This process ought to include a meeting with Mr. Harvey before the board WITHOUT Gerry Hamilton in the room, and with an associate that Mr. Harvey selects to join him.

The Collegian AIG board hopes that the Board of Directors understands the urgency of this situation. Many members of the Collegian AIG board will be in State College in a few weeks and look forward immensely to discussing the situation and fallout with each of you in person.

The AIG also notes that anyone interested in contacting Collegian Board of Directors President Michael Hofherr can send their feedback to him at [collegian09@gmail.com](mailto:collegian09@gmail.com).

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### 3 Responses

**Anonymous**, on [June 10, 2009 at 11:02 am](#) said:



I find it disturbing that the AIG is willing to hurt the current students working at the Collegian by withholding scholarship money. I understand the support that is being shown for John, but what is the point in hurting all of the students who work in all divisions of the Collegian by affecting their scholarships. This will only harm the paper in the long run because there are many people who would not be able to devote the time they put into the paper without receiving the scholarships.

[Reply](#)

**Collegian AIG**, on [June 16, 2009 at 12:01 pm](#) said:



The Collegian AIG is NOT withholding scholarship money. The AIG has imposed a moratorium on future fundraising until stability is restored within Collegian Inc. The scholarships that the AIG has awarded for years through Penn State will continue. You may be getting scholarships and grant checks confused. Grant checks are administered through Collegian Inc.

[Reply](#)

**A. Nonymous**, on [June 26, 2009 at 10:20 am](#) said:



Has the AIG put its support of Harvey to a vote with its members?

Has the AIG even bothered to poll its membership?

Or has Jill Leonard decided on her own to deride Hamilton and trash his reputation without even "reporting" his side of the story?

This is absurd.

Harvey may very well be God's gift to a college newspaper, but the AIG is SOOOOO out of line on this.

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## Alumni, students gather for tailgate

Posted on April 29, 2009 by collegianaig

By Sandra Fischione Donovan '72

The morning of April 24 was sunny and warm on the Penn State campus, a perfect day for the first Blue-White Game tailgate sponsored by the Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group. About 50 alumni, students and Collegian employees turned out for the event, along the third-base wall of Medlar Field.

The event featured hamburgers and hot dogs, most grilled by Collegian AIG President Jill Leonard '02. The only problem was the wind, which challenged the structural integrity of the tents Collegian editorial adviser John Harvey brought. The tents eventually were dismantled.

"We couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day," Leonard said. "The tailgate provided the perfect opportunity to bring students and alumni together in a casual and fun setting. It was a perfect opportunity for alumni to interact with students, a situation we as an AIG are trying to encourage.



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"We'll aim for attendance from even more alumni and an even better event next year."

Tailgaters from the Collegian staff included outgoing Editor in Chief Terry Casey ('09); incoming editor Rossilyne Skena ('10); and scores of Collegian staff, advisers and employees, including Harvey and business adviser Candy Heckard, along with their spouses, Judy Harvey and Bob Heckard. Collegian General Manager Gerry Hamilton and Operations Manager Patti Hartranft also attended.

Among the alumni attending were Leonard, former AIG secretary Lil Junas, ('57, '61 MA); AIG Treasurer Paul Rudoy ('83) and his son, Matthew; former Collegian sportswriter Dan Donovan ('71); his wife, Sandy Donovan ('72), AIG immediate past president; and their son, Neil.

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## Interview with Patti Hartranft

Posted on **September 29, 2010** by collegianaig

By **Teresa Cook**

Patti Hartranft, who has worked at the Daily Collegian for 34 years, became general manager Sept. 1, replacing Gerry Hamilton who retired last year.

Originally from the Wilkes Barre area, Hartranft is a 1976 graduate of Penn State in Secondary Education — English/Journalism. She did not work on the Collegian as a student, but after her marriage, she returned to State College and began working as a typesetter for the Collegian in late 1976.

Since then she has been a production manager, assistant general manager and operations manager.

She has served as interim general manager for the past year.

The AIG talked with Hartranft in a telephone interview on Sept. 10 and asked about her plans for the paper.

### What are your duties?

I oversee the day-to-day operations of the paper and work on longer term agreements with printers and any other obligations. I am liaison to our national advertising representative firm. I'm right now the head human resources person dealing with health insurance, parking, other duties. I'm a member of local and national human resource associations. I also have been training the editor and business manager in management and personnel issues; I oversee their boot camp where they go to every department to learn; I supervise circulation and billing. I represent Collegian on the student readership program. That program includes the New York Times, The Centre Daily Times, USA Today and the Collegian.



Patti Hartranft

### How much contact do you have with students?

A lot of contact, I'm a resource person, we talk about strategic things, legal issues. I am in charge of the management team – Mteam, really makes all the crucial operating decisions. Mteam is the group that decided to start running front page ads – or for example if we're going to undertake a new publication. Members are the editor, business manager, advisers, managing editor, advertising manager and systems manager.

### What changes do you plan?

As interim GM, I was charged to submit a balanced budget and I made some changes

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to do that — cutbacks in scholarships, cutbacks in staff. We can't be staffed as we were in 2000 with 18-20 pages a day. Now we run closer to 14 pages per day. The best ideas come from the students — we have started some partnerships with other organizations (some still under negotiation) with the Dining Guide, we're looking at using the Penn State Marketing Association to do some research for us. We do some work with a local radio station — they read our headlines in the morning.

The Collegian to me is always changing — I don't think I've been here through a static time — it's going to continue to change.

**How many students on the staff?**

It varies – between 150-200 in news, 50-100 in business.

**How many get stipends?**

We give out 132 scholarships.

**Have you cut number or amount?**

That's a choice students make – they preferred to cut numbers, not amounts. For the summer we cut amounts, but for fall and spring we cut numbers.

**How many?**

Off the top of my head I don't know, certainly less than 10 percent.

**The average stipend?**

There are three different levels – \$600 to \$2,000 per semester.

**Have you made professional staff cuts?**

We cut one person completely, and will cut another person at the end of this semester. We cut hours back for all full-time employees. I am anticipating not hiring an operations manager (Hartranft's previous position), will delegate to other members, have them take on more duties.

**The news adviser and business adviser have been cut to part-time?**

I don't consider them part-time, they get 32 hours plus full benefits. That changed from 40 to 32 in June. Some staff went from 40 to 35 or 40 to 37 1/2 hours.

**Do you anticipate more staff cutbacks?**

I don't.

We had a good deal of success — last year – established a hard-selling atmosphere, that continues. We saw improvements in ad sales in spring and that has continued under Kelsey Thompson, with small staff, but really aggressive selling.

**Will you look at changing the business model? Do more with the web?**

The problem with the web and the problem we're seeing on a national basis, is we've given away content for so long, people don't want to pay. We could sell our whole ad space, and not make enough.

The only new business model would mean the Collegian wouldn't be a newspaper.

**News advisor John Harvey is [leaving Oct. 1](#). How do you plan to address the status of news adviser? Any leads yet?**

I wasn't empowered to do this until a week ago. A committee internally will make recommendations. John Harvey has set up the semester for candidate school. As of today a new class is starting. Liz Murphy and the managing editor will teach candidate classes as long as needed.

**Will you be updating Collegian computer equipment and systems?**

We just installed 20 new computers in the newsroom, for editing, all news functions. Next year, we'll work on servers and keeping those updated and will probably update more computers. Our systems manager buys components and builds our computers.

**What percentage of the budget is allocated to students?**

10-12 percent.

**Will student scholarships continue to be cut, how much?**

No

**Will you try to restore them?**

I would like to. Employees here have not gotten a raise in 5 years, I would like to do that too.

**What are the biggest financial reductions you anticipate?**

I'm not expecting any.

**On the distribution contract with the university, which comes up for renewal this year, how do you plan to deal with the University?**

I plan to keep kind of mum about my plans, but I'll try to get the best deal we possibly can get. Negotiations start in two weeks.

**Do you have long-range plans for the Collegian?**

I don't have a lot of faith in long-range plans when it comes to media. Ten years ago we couldn't have foreseen the downturn in the economy and changes in the industry. We do what we can with knowledge we have now. We're going to be the best information provider for Penn State, and the best training ground for students.

**What is the Collegian's competition?**

We have considerable competition – a startup paper for Greeks, the Onward State website. The Centre Daily Times is always looking over our shoulders. There is competition.

**Any new ventures with the web and social media?**

We're doing what's popular right now. We have people tweeting, we have a facebook group, the website. I'm not sure what's coming down the pike, but I'm sure we're going to be doing it.

**How do you plan to deal with public relations — any plans to change relations with alumni, with the College of Communications and with Penn State?**

I'd sure like to hit the re-set button on everything.

Frankly, my challenge right now is, internally, I'm still doing two jobs.

I need to get my own house straightened out. Next is the Penn State contract, really an all-consuming process, I've been in the background before during negotiations. The work is extensive. That is really going to occupy my time.

I'd like to reach out to the dean of the College (of Communications), to see if we can establish a better relationship.

**How do you plan on working with the Collegian AIG?**

I'm not sure what's going to happen with the AIG. It was a peaceable kingdom up until a year ago. I'm not sure how we're going to change that.

**What can alumni do to help the Collegian?**

I think the inherent role in the AIG is we need the mentorship of alumni to our students. A member of the staff has a facebook page; students rely on that for job postings. Alumni could take over that role, that's suitable to the role of the AIG.

It would be wonderful to have an endowed scholarship for the editor and business manager and as many others as we could have, to save money from the operating budget.

We gave thought this year to the Penn State class gift – we talked about some year that the Collegian could be the class gift.

**On the Collegian board of directors, do you think the board needs more professional input, more people with past Collegian experience?**

Not really. The board president right now (Ty Strohl) is a former Collegian member.

Last year we had three board members from Collegian alumni. I think the Collegian board does a good job overseeing the company. They don't do day-to-day and I don't think they want to, they're a volunteer board.

**The makeup of the board is satisfactory?**

Yes. Last year the board had a bylaws review, the changes came from within. We talked about the makeup of the board and we decided we like it the way it is.

**Do you recognize that your selection process is questionable?**

I do know that.

**What do you have to say to that?**

Nothing, unless you have a specific question.

**The selection process was changed, there were candidates and then the process was interrupted.**

The (selection) process was flawed in that those (selection) committees leaked a lot of information — the first one. And the second one leaked some things too.

**Do you see a conflict in that you have a close relationship with Ty (Collegian board president)? Does that undermine credibility?**

I have a good relationship with a lot of former students, especially business managers. It's not something that I have ever tried to hide. I am as close to others — it was not a big factor. I've always been pretty up front about disclosing it. These kinds of things, there are special relationships between professional staff and students here and I really do value those. We like to keep in touch with alumni.

Yes I kept in touch with Ty, he worked in town. He did that with a couple people here. He also recused himself from my interviews. He did not participate in the final interview with me.

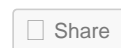
As for the AIG — I think that last year, when the AIG started taking positions and questioning things the board did, that was a breaking point and I don't know how we can go back.

**Would you like to add anything?**

No one wants the Collegian to succeed more than I do. I really want this organization to thrive and go forward and I want someone to be sitting here 50 years from how to say we did things right. I have the company's best interests at heart.

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« [5 questions with: Ramit Plushnick-Masti AIG seeks new member](#) »

### One Response

**Scott Sesler**, on [October 1, 2010 at 11:28 am](#) said:



This was a good interview with Patti. She was very open and candid in her answers. It's clear that the best interests of the Collegian are foremost in her plans. I applaud her selection as General Manager by the Board as wish her the very best in these trying times. Now, hopefully, the AIG can work at resolving their earlier issues and move forward in their support of Patti and the Collegian.

—Scott Sesler, '78 – former Collegian Business Manager and Past AIG President

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### [Press release: Firing of adviser brings storm of criticism](#)

Posted on **June 24, 2009** by collegianaig

#### **FIRING OF ADVISER TO PENN STATE STUDENT NEWSPAPER BRINGS STORM OF CRITICISM FROM STAFF, ALUMNI, CALLS FOR CHANGES IN PAPER'S GOVERNANCE**

STATE COLLEGE, PA. — The firing of the editorial adviser to The Daily Collegian, the student newspaper at Penn State University, has touched off a storm of criticism of the newspaper's general manager and board of directors by the newspaper's staff members and alumni, demands for reinstating the adviser and calls for overhauling the way the paper is governed.

The call for change is being led by the Collegian Alumni Interest Group, an arm of the Penn State Alumni Association, representing more than 3,000 of the Collegian's alumni. The Collegian is one of the nation's oldest college publications, dating back to 1887 and ranked among the nation's best college newspapers.

John Harvey, the popular news adviser, was dismissed by general manager Gerry Hamilton with virtually no advance notice, and Harvey's health insurance coverage was summarily cut off with only four days' notice.

More than a month has passed. The Collegian Inc. board of directors said it was looking into the issue but has remained mostly mute, and Michael Hofherr, the board president, didn't appear at a meeting of the alumni group after initially promising to attend.

The alumni group, which had been planning to launch a major fundraising campaign, issued a strong statement calling for a complete halt to fundraising until the group "is satisfied that Collegian Inc. is moving in a direction the (alumni group) can support."

Jill Leonard, president of the alumni group, described herself as "devastated" by Harvey's firing and said she was concerned for the students who are about to return to campus and publish the newspaper without the professional leadership and expertise that Harvey provided.

"These aspiring journalists, at a tender stage in their education, have no one to turn to," Leonard said. "John wasn't only a teacher for staff members. He was a cheerleader, a coach, at times a surrogate parent."

With publication of the newspaper for the summer semester scheduled to resume July 1, the student staff members have no idea who will train their new editors or who will train the new class of candidates for the paper; training was scheduled to begin June 27. In fact, the board of directors has kept the staff members in the dark on its plans, just as it has resisted calls for transparency from the alumni.

Harvey had been with the Collegian for 11 years. Hamilton, meanwhile, is the

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longtime general manager whose relations with the student staff have been contentious at best. Hamilton reports to the Collegian Board of Directors, an odd amalgam of students and faculty members who rarely remained on the board long enough to become comfortable with the board's responsibility for governance and accountability.

Harvey's firing came shortly after a group of young alumni called for an independent audit of the paper's operation. The Collegian has been losing money for several years, long before the current recession, even though it continues to dominate its market in both circulation and advertising.

Discontent is widespread, aligning current staff members with alumni whose terms on the paper ended more than a half-century ago. An editorial posted by the newspaper's Board of Editors said, "It's impossible to assert that anyone could do a better job" than Harvey, who was fired on vague grounds of "insubordination."

Harvey "ran the Collegian's candidate training program — recognized by many as one of the best in the country," the editors said.

"Officially, Harvey's training program lasted a semester, but all staff members knew that he would continue to provide lessons throughout their Collegian careers. In terms of publishing a quality newspaper, Harvey was essential to the process."

Both the recent graduates, who called for the audit, and older alumni have expressed concern — not only about the paper's finances but also the disconnect between Hamilton and the students. The fractious relationship Hamilton has had with the staff was very different from the traditionally warm mentoring that previous professionals — and Harvey — had established.

As a result, the alumni group has called, among other things, not only for Harvey's reinstatement, but also revisions in the paper's governance so that student staff members and alumni who are former staff members have significant input in the operation. The Collegian is a nonprofit corporation tied to Penn State only through location and a contract through which the university purchases newspapers for distribution to students.

To put it in perspective, four of the 11 voting members of the Collegian's board of directors are students who are not members of the newspaper's staff, and the majority of the non-student directors never worked on the paper. Only one member of the board, Malcolm Moran, the director of Penn State's sports journalism program, has any significant professional newspaper experience. Moran was a sportswriter with The New York Times, Chicago Tribune and USA Today. Hofherr is an information technology manager at Penn State's Smeal College of Business.

History long ago lost the details of how the board's makeup was determined, but it has been suggested that having such a board control the newspaper would be like having the head of the math department calling plays for Joe Paterno's football team.

At any rate, many prominent alumni have called for Hamilton's dismissal. Among the most vocal have been Marvin Krasnansky, a Collegian editor in the 1950s who edited the recent publication of a history covering Penn State's first 150 years, The Collegian Chronicles, and Ira Miller, a former president of the Pro Football Writers of America, who was on the Collegian staff in the 1960s.

"The paper belongs to the students, not to some distant, ill-equipped or absentee landlords manipulated by a domineering general manager, and has failed miserably to exercise its fiduciary and oversight responsibility," said Krasnansky, one of just 10 members of the Collegian Alumni Hall of Fame.

Aaron Matthews, an award-winning documentary filmmaker who followed the Collegian for a year to produce an acclaimed film, "The Paper," said he "followed (Harvey) and his students around The Daily Collegian's newsroom nearly every

day over the course of one year (and) it became clear early on in the process that John was no ordinary instructor.”

“He was the kind of teacher you get every once in a while, who is as interested in the subject as in sharing it with inquiring minds, the kind of teacher that gives you just enough information to make discoveries on your own,” said Matthews, who is not connected to either Penn State or the Collegian.

Matthews said the film about the Collegian is being used in “over 300 (and counting) schools and universities to teach people about journalism,” and that the State Department “has ordered hundreds of copies . . . to show foreign countries what a real American newsroom looks like.”

“Many of the reviews of the film and comments at film festivals speak directly to John’s leadership and professionalism in his role at the Collegian,” Matthews said.

In the [Board of Editors editorial](#), the current editors wrote:

“He followed staffers throughout their careers at the Collegian, so that he could better advise the editor in chief where each person belonged each semester. His intricate knowledge of newsroom positions and personnel, combined with his ability to judge journalistic talent, was an indispensable resource to those students tasked with running the Collegian.

“And for Harvey, the job went further. He was the Collegian’s de facto career counselor; in this difficult time for journalism, his willingness to discuss with staff members whether journalism was the proper career choice for them was invaluable.

“His ties in the industry helped countless Collegian alumni or staff members land jobs or internships. His loss inflicts real damage on the ability of current staff members to have those same opportunities.

“Harvey also inspired a sense of ‘family’ at the Collegian, as evidenced by the incredible outpouring of support for him almost immediately after news of his dismissal.

“The Board of Editors has seen no planning to transfer the institutional knowledge Harvey carried to another Collegian employee.

“And the people who ultimately suffer from the complete and total loss of everything Harvey brought to the Collegian are the students who are responsible for publishing a paper every day.”

In the month-plus since Harvey’s dismissal, the Collegian board of directors has held two closed-door meetings and issued two statements which said, essentially, only that the board was looking into the issue. In what may be described as curious timing, former board president Renee Flemish, who was known as an ally of Hamilton, submitted her resignation from the board following the closed-door meeting.

Also, Hamilton chose to fire Harvey after students had gone home following the spring semester, which made it more difficult for them to protest the loss of their adviser.

Nonetheless, they have rallied plenty of support, including a [“Support John Harvey” page](#) on Facebook that has nearly 400 members.

\* \* \* \* \*

**For further information:**

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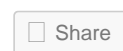
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## One Response

**Beth Phelan Stokes, Class of 1989**, on [June 27, 2009 at 2:06 am](#) said:



Dear Collegian Alumni Interest Group and current staff members,

As a former member of the Collegian business staff who does not know John Harvey at all, and who barely knows Gerry Hamilton, I am disappointed by the way this situation with John Harvey's dismissal is being handled by people who have allegedly been trained by Mr. Harvey to be better journalists!

As journalists who claim to have been trained and mentored by Mr. Harvey, you're doing a poor job of presenting both sides of this story in a thoroughly researched and objective manner. Your press release reads like a communal wine made by folks who only know how to describe people and situations with adjectives and opinions rather than facts.

Employees are not retained based solely on their popularity with other staff members. And employers are not required to justify their personnel actions to other staff members. There are many people in this world who can be described with strings of positive adjectives, yet who have also been fired from jobs.

I laughed when I read the press release citing that Mr. Harvey was now without health insurance and an income. So are an alarming number of other Americans at the moment. Mr. Harvey is eligible for COBRA coverage for 18 months after his group health plan is terminated, so if there is a gap in his health insurance, it is because he hasn't signed the paperwork to continue with COBRA.

Being fired doesn't necessarily preclude Mr. Harvey from collecting unemployment insurance, either.

Mr. Harvey sounds like the kind of person I would have liked as well had he been at the Collegian in my day. But liking Mr. Harvey doesn't mean that Gerry Hamilton is the personification of evil just because you disagree with him. I graduated 20 years ago, and at that time, Gerry was nothing but supportive of the staff and advisers.

Some interesting issues regarding the board of directors have been raised recently. There may be a problem with the board's structure and responsibilities. I hope the Collegian staff will investigate this further as a separate issue from Mr. Harvey's dismissal, and report back in a way that upholds Collegian standards.

The Collegian is a newspaper. I encourage current staff, as well as alumni, to act like the good journalists they claim Mr. Harvey trained them to be and start presenting both sides of this story more objectively. If you can't, then you shouldn't be speaking on behalf of the Collegian, its alumni or the alumni interest group.

Respectfully,

Beth Phelan Stokes  
Penn State Class of 1989

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### 5 Questions with: Robert Gavazzi

Posted on March 24, 2009 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Robert Gavazzi, director of global innovation with Hershey Foods, held several positions on The Daily Collegian's business staff between 1987 and 1991. If you know him as "Robert," you're a Collegian friend. If you know him as "Bob," you know him from another life. The reason is simple: When he was on the Collegian, there were five Bobs working on the paper. One kept Bob. One became known as Bert. He went by Robert. Problem solved.

Just out of college, he started selling ad space for a group of magazines. Then, the opportunity arose to start a division selling direct mail-order products related to magazines such as Walking and Vegetarian Times. This was a success, but after a few years, he looked for another challenge. It was then that he accepted a job at Hershey Foods in marketing. We asked Bob five questions:

#### What was your growth/migration path from The Daily Collegian to Hershey Foods?

After college, I was interested in furthering my education by applying to a couple of master of communications programs but didn't have much luck with the few that I chose. I was able to land a job shortly thereafter with Cowles Magazines (as it was called then) outside of Harrisburg selling ad space in a few of their titles. My Collegian experience was instrumental in helping me land the position.

I then had an opportunity to be part of a new, more marketing-oriented group whose task was to develop and launch a mail-order catalog business (the preferred method of start-ups at the time). After declining a chance to move to Cowles' new corporate headquarters in Stamford, Conn., I was fortunate to land a position in Hershey's marketing department, where I've been for the past 12 years. I've had the good fortune to learn and grow at Hershey's – managing world-class brands, launching exciting new products and running national promotions (such as Hershey's NASCAR sponsorship and movie tie-ins).

#### Is selling ideas in corporate America akin to selling ad space?

Very much so, but I would put it in the context of simply knowing your audience and being adaptable to any situation. At the Collegian, my job would take me from talking to a rabbi, a Catholic priest, the head of the PSU bookstore and finally ending with the head of the bursar's office ... all in one afternoon. The same is true with the corporate world – you need to be able to "think on your feet" quite a bit. Now that I'm a bit seasoned, I find myself in very similar situations.

#### What sort of innovations will we see from Hershey in the near future?

Honestly, a little bit of everything. It seems cliché to say "the landscape is changing," but it is, and that's a good thing. If not, your category isn't dynamic. The neat thing about

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confection is that you have somewhat of an unlimited palate – chocolate, sugar candies, gum, mints. ... We offer just about everything.

### **You hang on The Daily Collegian's Facebook and LinkedIn pages. What's the community there like?**

Extremely dynamic. I was a bit reluctant about joining at first, but have found it to be well worth it. I must confess to being a novice.

I had lunch with a friend from high school a few weeks ago who uses Facebook to access his clients. In some instances, it's a forum for not only their social networking, but the place where they conduct their business transactions as well.

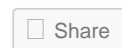
### **What was your Collegian experience? How did it help?**

I first worked on the office staff and was eventually promoted to office manager. That same year, I ran for business manager against a much more qualified colleague and lost out on the job. It turned out that it was probably the best thing that could have happened for me – my sales experience at The Daily Collegian not only opened a lot of early doors for me, but it really provided with a base business 'acumen' that allowed me to comfortably transition to the reality of a full-time job.

I honestly cannot say enough good things about my tenure at The Daily Collegian. It truly is a 'real-world' experience at college regardless of whether you enter into media, journalism or some other business-related profession.

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## Faces of the Daily Collegian: Holly Colbo, Leslie Small

Posted on **March 25, 2009** by collegianaig

By **Jill Leonard, '02**

### Holly Colbo

Holly Colbo is used to people asking her how she ended up at Penn State.

Colbo, who was recently named the Collegian's next business manager, hails from Mission Viejo, Calif.

"I really wanted a big school with the same kind of school spirit as a UCLA," she said.

Colbo, a junior, said she has three goals for her tenure as business manager: improve the customer service department, emphasize fundraising and advance the newspaper's Web site.

"I'd really like the Business Division to be a more cohesive, more collaborative effort," she said.

She said she was drawn to the Collegian because "she knew she liked to talk."

One professor, Steve Manuel, has helped attract her to a career field, however.

Law school is still a possibility, said Colbo, a public relations major, but she said there's a greater likelihood she'll pursue a job in corporate communications or in crisis communications, which she said Manuel has a background in.

"I like pressure, being on the spot," she said.

One Collegian memory sticks in Colbo's mind — being a sales manager on an inexperienced staff about two years ago.

"We were all so overwhelmed and didn't know each other," Colbo said. "They have turned into some of my best friends."

In addition to her selection as business manager on March 18, Colbo just added another accolade: She was named the recipient of the 2009 Collegian AIG scholarship.

### Leslie Small

Leslie Small is without a job just a few weeks from graduation, but she's not stressing out yet.

"Good editors are going to be needed somewhere," she said.

Small, who is majoring in journalism and political science, hasn't taken a direct route to



Holly Colbo

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her position this semester as a Collegian copy editor.

She worked for a few semesters on the metro staff, where she said her interest in political science was born.

"(Gov.) Rendell and (Sen.) Casey all visited in the same week," she said.

Small's next stop was on the night desk, where she did her first stint as a copy editor.

Despite initially being "grumpy" about the assignment, she said she loved writing headlines and "found her niche."

Small said her favorite Collegian memory is the coverage of the Andrew Rogers homicide trial.

Staffers held the paper until 3:30 a.m. and were able to report a guilty verdict, which the Centre Daily Times didn't have because of an earlier deadline, she said.

Next, Small was promoted to copy desk chief and in additional semesters was metro editor, a cops reporter, a columnist, and she studied in Provence, France.

Still, she found her way back to the copy desk.

"I felt like that's where I belonged," Small said.

This summer, she'll put her night desk skills to work in an internship with The Philadelphia Inquirer, not far from her home in Downingtown, Pa.

Looking back, Small said she has no regrets about her time at the newspaper.

"The Collegian's given me a lot," she said. "It's taken over my life, but I like it that way."



Leslie Small

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## Collegian gets new leaders

Posted on **June 9, 2010** by collegianaig

By **Nathan Pipenburg**  
Collegian Staff Writer

Note: [This article](#) was originally published Friday, March 19, 2010.

The Collegian Inc. Board of Directors selected Liz Murphy as the Daily Collegian's Editor-in-Chief and Kelsey Thompson as business division manager for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Murphy, currently the paper's campus editor, ran against arts editor Alex Weisler, and Thompson ran against Andrea Crawford. Both Thompson and Crawford are currently sales managers.

Murphy will replace current Editor-in-Chief Rossilynne Skena and Thompson will take over for current business manager Holly Colbo at the end of the academic year.

Each candidate running for the top editor positions submitted a written proposal to the board and answered questions posed by board members, first in front of their peers and then behind closed doors.

Though the interviews had ended by 9 p.m., the board did not announce their decision until after 11:30 p.m.

Michael Hofherr, president of the Board of Directors, said that the decision was a very difficult one to make.

"All four candidates were extremely qualified," Hofherr said.

Hofherr said that the board based its decision by evaluating the candidates on two main skills: leadership abilities and the capacity to generate revenue.

Murphy said that becoming Editor-in-Chief had not been part of her plans when she joined the Collegian her first semester.

She said that it took a while before anyone suggested that she take on a leadership role with the paper.

"I was just excited about finding people who liked to write, and excited about meeting friends," Murphy said.

Skena was one of those friends — and also a mentor.

"I've worked with Liz since her time here as a freshman," Skena said. "I'm very excited



Liz Murphy

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to be reading the Collegian online every day next year.”

Murphy said Skena was her editor every semester since she first stepped into the Collegian office.

“She’s a remarkable young woman, and I’m inspired by the way she carries herself,” Murphy said.

Thompson said that she was inspired by business managers at the Collegian from the day she joined the staff.

“I think I was still in training,” Thompson said, “ And I was totally awed by then-manager Stef Kemmler.”

“I aspired to be just like her,” she added.

Like Skena and Murphy, Colbo and Thompson worked closely during their time together at the Collegian.

“I was Kelsey’s manager a few years ago and since then she’s really grown into a great manager as well,” Colbo said.

“She’ll do great,” Colbo said. “She’s very motivating.”



Kelsey Thompson

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## Anniversary celebration: Deadline extended

Posted on **September 4, 2012** by collegianaig

**Deadline extended! Saturday, Sept. 15** is your last chance to RSVP to The Daily Collegian's 125th anniversary celebration. We hope you're as excited as we are to join your fellow Collegian alumni Oct. 19-21 in State College for a weekend to recognize the paper's powerful legacy.



Please [RSVP online](#) by **September 15**. You may pay via [PayPal](#) or by a check made out to "Collegian AIG" and a printed copy of your registration form sent to The Daily Collegian, c/o Candy Heckard, at 123 S. Burrowes St., State College, PA, 16801.

The cost for the weekend of events is \$75/person, including dinner. Please consider giving an additional amount to fund Collegian scholarships.

A block of rooms is reserved at The Nittany Lion Inn ([814-865-8500](tel:814-865-8500)). Room rate: **\$125/night**. Reservation code: **COLJ12A**.

Normal check-in is 3 p.m.; check-out is noon.

Our schedule for the weekend:

- Friday, Oct. 19
  - 7 p.m.: Informal happy hour at Whiskers at the Nittany Lion Inn. (*All events at the Nittany Lion Inn include cash bars.*)
- Saturday, Oct. 20
  - 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Student panel reflecting on a year of coverage and navigating the Collegian through the Penn State scandal. Carnegie Cinema, Carnegie Building
  - 4-5 p.m.: Cocktail hour in the atrium of the Nittany Lion Inn.
  - 5-8 p.m.: Formal dinner in the Nittany Lion Inn ballroom.
  - 8 p.m.: TV tailgate at Whiskers at the Nittany Lion Inn.
- Sunday, Oct. 21
  - 10 a.m.: A breakfast of Ye Olde College Diner's famous grilled stickies at the James Building (123 S. Burrowes St.), followed by a reception honoring alumni authors and a tour of the Collegian offices.

We invite you to take a look at the reunion's [See You There](#) list to find others from your class attending the reunion.

**Please spread the word of this special event for the Collegian — and send your Collegian pictures and memories to [arm5077@gmail.com](mailto:arm5077@gmail.com) for a presentation at the dinner.**

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Any questions? Email Rossilynne at [rossilynne@gmail.com](mailto:rossilynne@gmail.com).

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## 5 Questions with: Laura Wexler

Posted on September 30, 2009 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Laura Wexler, '93, is getting kudos for a storytelling series she started three years ago that has taken Baltimore by storm. Her Stoop Storytelling series, co-founded with Jessica Henkin, was lauded in the Baltimore City Paper. And, for more on her series, see Laura's Web site at [www.stoopstorytelling.com](http://www.stoopstorytelling.com).

Laura also teaches writing at Johns Hopkins University and serves as a senior editor for Style magazine.

**You are getting kudos for the storytelling series you started with Jessica Henkin three years ago. Now, it seems, your Stoop Storytelling Series has taken Baltimore by storm. How did you get it started?**

It was pretty easy, actually. We approached a local community arts center, explained what we wanted to do, and they went for it. That was back in February 2006. We sold out our first show (250 people) and every show there, and in September 2007, we moved to our current theater, Center Stage, which holds 540 people. We still usually sell out!



**Storytellers get three minutes – is it true everyone has a story to tell? And is three minutes sufficient?**

Actually, we book seven storytellers who get seven minutes each to tell a tale on a shared theme. Previous themes have been love, heartbreak, failure, pets, travel, summer camp — you know, all the universals. At each show, we invite audience members to put their names in a hat, and we select three to come on stage after intermission to tell a three-minute story. They often turn out to be some of the best stories.

I do believe everyone has at least one good story in them — maybe not a book-length tale, but at least a short one. And my experience with The Stoop over the past three years bears this out. We've heard so many amazing stories from "ordinary" people.

**You wrote "Fire in a Canebrake" about the last mass lynching in America. You overcame some interesting reporting challenges in doing so. Talk a bit about that.**

Well, there were many challenges, but that must be the case with every project. In my own situation, I had never before done historical or archival research, so the learning curve there was steep. I also had never applied for information from FOIA, and what an education that was!

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Then there was the need to sort of “win over” reluctant sources. This lynching was an open secret; everyone knew about it, but no one talked publicly about it. So it was difficult to get people to open up, and some people stayed (and actually remain) closed. Last, there was the central hole at the heart of the story: what actually happened during the lynching itself? No documentation and no source existed to tell me that.

### **You teach writing at Johns Hopkins and at Goucher College in the MFA in Creative Nonfiction. What’s the take-home message you give your students that could help working journalists in their jobs?**

One of the biggest things I stress is to look at a subject through a multitude of lenses: cultural, psychological, historical, judicial, and so on. Doing that, I believe, lends a real richness to nonfiction writing.

I’m also a huge advocate of research and reporting, and I encourage even those who are writing personal narratives to research and report their stories. Last, like most advocates of literary journalism or creative nonfiction, I believe in the power of the “small story,” i.e., telling stories of individuals in order to illuminate a larger issue.

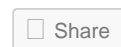
### **What was your Collegian experience? How did it help you get where you are today?**

I loved working at The Collegian. I and my cohorts took ourselves entirely too seriously, and while I laugh at us now, it was such a great experience then. Everything I did during my 3.5 years at The Collegian was useful: the candidate training from Kim Strong-Berdy; the mentorship from older editors while I was a newbie reporter; being a columnist when I was a sophomore and getting to develop a personal voice; and, above all, serving as a feature reporter for several years and working my way up to reporting and writing fairly long pieces. I remember two distinctly. One involved statistics (yikes), which I was taking a class in at the time. I designed a poll in which I and a few other draftees would randomly choose women from the PSU phone book and call them and ask: “Do you believe in social, political, and economic equality for men and women?” As you might expect, most said “yes.” Then we asked, “Do you consider yourself a feminist?” I don’t remember the exact percentage, but most said “no.” The idea was to demonstrate that the feminist label had a bad name, and that while young women agreed with the principles, they didn’t want to necessarily be in the feminist club. That story got picked up by a national paper, and it was really a thrill to do.

The second story I wrote during my senior year, and it involved a visit to death row at Huntingdon State Correctional Institute, about two hours from State College. I went there to interview Mumia Abu-Jamal ... and it was unforgettable. I still remember the first thing he said when they brought him into the visiting cubicle. “Welcome to Hell.” This was 1993, and while he was known among lefties, he wasn’t the cause celebre that he became. That was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and my position and credentials from the Collegian allowed me to have it.

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## Faces of the Daily Collegian: Liz Rogers and Andrew McGill

Posted on February 10, 2010 by collegianaig

**Liz Rogers**  
by Jill Leonard, '02

Liz Rogers isn't exactly sure where her future's going to lead, but she knows one thing: Her Collegian experience will have made a difference.

The senior marketing major from Havertown, Pa., is the customer service manager in the Business Division. Prior to holding that post, she served as a customer service representative, a senior customer service representative and assistant customer service manager. She's been with the Collegian since the fall of her freshman year. She calls the staff a "fun" and "close-knit" bunch.

Rogers couldn't pick her favorite Collegian memory, but she lauded the general business experience she's received in her time with the newspaper. She said she's enjoyed working with all kinds of customers, especially national advertisers.

"Because I have done all of that, going to internships has made me more comfortable interacting with people," Rogers said.

Rogers is targeting a position in brand management after graduating in May but envisions returning to the classroom later for her MBA.

**Andrew McGill**  
by Sandra Fischione Donovan, '72

Collegian Managing Editor Andrew McGill, 21, will graduate in May with a degree in journalism, a field that began experiencing economic catastrophes even ahead of the recession. But the resident of Wyncote, a suburb of Philadelphia, plans to be as flexible in his job search as the Collegian staff has tried to be in the face of its financial challenges.

The Collegian, he said, "is substantially smaller than even a few years ago. That's pushing us online — which is a good thing — but we're quickly finding new challenges and challengers. There are tons of new ethical questions — should reporters tweet? How should we solicit and host user content and comments — for which we don't really have a rich institutional knowledge to fall back on? We can only go by what our guts and brains say, and hopefully we're doing it right."

McGill said monetization is also big at The Collegian.

"We're at a point as an industry that I don't feel I can afford as a manager to not be a part of figuring out how we're going to make money off the excellent content we're producing," he said. "To that end, we're looking into ways to better market our multimedia on the site in hopes of opening up a new revenue source there.

"We're also looking into implementing a regular e-mail newsletter — pretty much standard at any major paper nowadays — that could double as a select direct

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advertising list for us.”

McGill began his Collegian career as a university administration reporter, “covering everyone from Graham Spanier down.” He then was a police reporter and later a Web chief before filling in for opinions editor Terry Casey after Casey was selected editor-in-chief for 2008-2009. McGill subsequently worked as an investigative reporter before moving to metro editor in spring 2009 and now managing editor.

With the energy necessary for all those Collegian jobs, McGill has cut down on a few energy-expending activities in his personal life. Unlike many Penn State upperclassmen, he has not opted for his own apartment and the freedom and accompanying responsibilities that off-campus life entails.

He wrote a September column on life as a dorm-dwelling senior for the Collegian and said it’s a logical lifestyle for a busy student journalist.

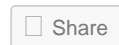
“Well, you’re pulling long days at the Collegian when you’re the managing editor,” McGill said. “Dorky as the dorm is, there is something to be said for a bathroom that cleans itself and a meal plan.”

McGill said that in his job search, “I know I’m going to have to be a lot more flexible than I may have thought starting out. And I think upcoming journalists may find more satisfaction as entrepreneurs in the long run as existing media structures falter.

“But I’m just as committed to the discipline as I’ve always been, no matter where it takes me.”

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### Faces of the Daily Collegian: Erin Prah, Dorrian Kearney

Posted on **November 6, 2008** by collegianaig

by **Renee Petrina, '04**

#### **Erin Prah**

Erin Prah finally picks up the phone and apologizes for the wait – she was in a tiny upstairs closet that *The Daily Collegian* has converted into its multimedia room, and another staffer had to track her down.

Prah is the News Division's Web chief, a role that changed only this semester to focus heavily on multimedia production, adding video and audio slide shows to the newspaper's Web site, [www.collegian.psu.edu](http://www.collegian.psu.edu).

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### Faces of the Daily Collegian

Posted on **October 9, 2008** by collegianaig

by **Renee Petrina, '04**

We all remember how many long hours we spent in the basement of Carnegie or the James Building. For many of us, it made it hard to have any other job to help pay for our Penn State education. Today's students who make *The Daily Collegian* happen are no different. [Continue reading →](#)

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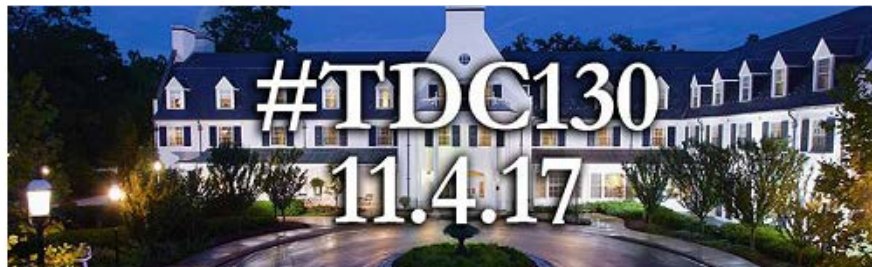
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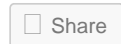


### Football ticket fundraiser a success!

Posted on **October 18, 2008** by collegianaig

As of Nov. 2, 2008, the football ticket fundraiser has concluded. Thanks to everyone who participated!!

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### One Response

Bonnie Hamorsky, on [October 21, 2008 at 6:43 pm](#) said:

How do we make the donation and are there any tickets left? Count us in if there are.

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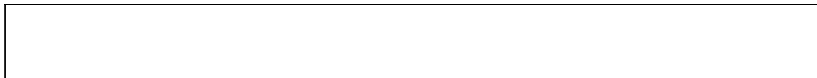
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## Amended bylaws approved

Posted on **September 2, 2011** by collegianaig

The Collegian Alumni Interest Group (AIG) Board of Directors, in conjunction with the Penn State Alumni Association, has conducted a comprehensive review of the AIG's bylaws during the past year.

These changes were presented to the membership at our annual meeting held in April, and were presented to the membership at large for voting in August.

These bylaws were approved, and can be [viewed here](#).

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**In NYC? Collegian get-together planned**

Posted on **August 22, 2008** by collegianaig

A group of Collegian alumni in New York City is planning a get-together to start at 6 p.m. on Aug. 28, 2008 at Telephone Bar.

If you know of any informal Collegian alumni get-togethers in your town, [e-mail them to us](#) and we'll post them here to help get the word out!

Filed under: [Events](#) | Tagged: [Events](#) | [Leave a comment »](#)

**AIG board discusses future plans, networking events**

Posted on **July 7, 2008** by collegianaig

by **Sandy Donovan '72**

The Penn State Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group's annual meeting June 14 at the Collegian offices in State College gave board members insight into the problems facing The Collegian and some ideas for getting alums together. [Continue reading →](#)

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**Take our survey online!**

Posted on **June 14, 2008** by collegianaig

In case you misplaced the "We Need Your Help!" survey that came with the print Collegian AIG newsletter, we've made some of the questions available for you online. If you have any questions about completing the survey, just let us know at [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com).

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### Get the word out!

Posted on **August 13, 2008** by collegianaig

If you have a Web site, blog, Facebook or Myspace page, you can help us make sure your old Collegian friends are up-to-date on the latest AIG news and events. Post a link to our Web site ( <http://www.psucollegianalumni.com>) on your page, and tell your friends to check it out!

You can also use widgets and RSS to help get the word out — and you don't even need to know what widgets and RSS are to use 'em!

For pretty much **any page but Facebook**, you can use a widget to display the latest AIG headlines. Just go to this page:

<http://www.widgetbox.com/widget/collegian-aig>

The `</>` button will bring up code you can paste onto your page, or click on the icon for myspace, blogger, etc. to automatically bring the widget onto your page. You do not need to register on the widgetbox site to get this widget!

For **Facebook**, you can use RSS to show the latest AIG headlines. To do that:

Search for rss in the applications. (We tried one called Simply RSS, which worked fine). When the application asks for a URL for your feed, add this one:

<https://collegianaig.wordpress.com/feed/>

That's also the address if you want to add AIG headlines to your RSS reader or your Web site.

The Collegian does a nice job of explaining more about RSS feeds — you can [read more here](#).

Questions? Just contact us at [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com) and we'll walk you through it. Thanks for helping us get the word out about the site!

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## Collegian grads abundant in York

Posted on **March 6, 2009** by collegianaig

By **Teresa Villa Cook, '74**

If we wanted to hold a Collegian alumni reunion, a good place to start would be the York Daily Record and Sunday News in York, Pa. Sixteen of us work here in the YDR newsroom. We make up a quarter of the staff. We could have our own little club, and, in a way, we do.

"It's very comfortable," says Mike Hoover ('86). "It's nice to be at home with a bunch of Collegian people." Wade Malcolm, who just arrived last year, said he liked seeing so many familiar faces when he came to work here.

Because, as YDR Managing Editor Randy Parker put it, "Good people know good people," Collegian grads tell their friends who are looking for work and soon there are more than a dozen alumni in the same newsroom. And when the YDR has an opening, Parker and other editors know to call John Harvey, Collegian news adviser, to get his input and recommendations on potential workers.

The Collegian alumni cover all types of newsroom jobs, from Sports Editor Chris Otto, to copy editors, page designers and reporters on beats as varied as education and entertainment.

And every single one of us knows this: Our Collegian experience was key in preparing us for real journalism. "It definitely prepares you and puts you in situations where you have to exercise judgment," Kevin Horan ('08) said.

"I never would have been ready to deal with real-world journalism deadline messes if I hadn't had experiences with the Collegian, like in Indianapolis, covering the Big 10 women's basketball tourney, I was trying to send a story and the laptop wasn't working," said Jeff Frantz ('04).

"Whenever a new Collegian alum arrives at the YDR/YSN, it makes me proud of what we accomplished when I was in school and what they're doing on campus today," said Dave Sottile. He's the veteran on the staff with 18 years at the YDR.

As we all know, it wasn't all work at the Collegian. Who can forget the fun? I, myself, remember the word games around the copy desk and the late-night runs for pizza or grilled stickies. We all have great memories of what Wade Malcolm called "the best part of my college experience."

Here is the Collegian alumni lineup at The York Daily Record/Sunday News (circ. about 43,000 daily; 90,000 Sunday):



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Teresa Villa Cook ('74) since 1993; copy editor for features and opinion pages; also wrote the 1973-74 chapter of The Collegian Chronicles.

Mike Hoover ('86) since 2003; day cops reporter. "I still have my (Collegian) press pass."

Dave Sottile ('88) at YDR since 1991; covers Hershey Bears ice hockey and works the sports copy desk. At the Collegian, he was a writer, sports editor and magazine editor.

Chris Otto ('93) since 2000; sports editor. At the Collegian he was sports editor and news editor. He also wrote the 1992-93 and the 1904-1920 chapters for The Collegian Chronicles. The Collegian connection helped him – Kim Strong, formerly of the YDR and Collegian, recommended him to the YDR editor.

Kara McConnell Eberle ('00), since 2003; niche publications editor. She covered the Commonwealth Campuses for the Collegian. "The Collegian prepared me for my internship. It taught me to cq names with two sources. I still remember that."

Pat Abdalla ('03), since 2007; copy editor. He was a Collegian sports reporter and night sports editor. "I had a lot of fun (at the Collegian). You learn a lot."

Jeff Frantz ('04) since 2004; he's now a general assignment reporter, but has covered cops, sports and worked the copy desk. On the Collegian he was a sports reporter, football editor and enterprise reporter.

Matt Eyer ('04) since 2006; night metro editor. On the Collegian he was a reporter, copy editor and designer.

Nichole Dobo ('04) since 2007; education reporter. She was metro reporter and campus chief at the Collegian.

Susan Haller Jennings ('04), since 2004; assistant features editor. She was a Collegian science and health reporter, copy editor and page designer. "It's fun to be working with the same people now. It's like being in college again."

Brent Burkey ('05) since 2005; business reporter. At the Collegian, he was police reporter, copy editor and editor of several sections.

Wade Malcolm ('06) since 2008; food reporter, copy editor. He covered Penn State football and was sports editor for the Collegian. Of the Collegian, he said, "People generally have a great work ethic there."

Alex Muller ('07) since September 2007; copy editor. At the Collegian has was a reporter, copy editor and the editorial page editor. "I learned more (at the Collegian) than in any of my comm classes. It's a really valuable learning tool for young journalists."

Erin McCracken ('07), since May 2007; entertainment reporter. She was arts reporter and editor at the Collegian. "We have a common bond here and reminisce about the fun times" at the Collegian.

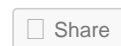
Kevin Horan ('08) since December 2008. Business reporter. "The Collegian connection definitely helped" in landing the job in York.

Josh Moyer ('08), since January 2009; copy editor. He was a sports writer and editor for the Collegian. "Kevin Horan told me there was an opening (at the YDR) soon after he got a job. The Collegian is where I received my real education."

More alumni have worked in York over the years and have now moved on. They include: Beth Baumgardner Vrabel, Lynne Funk, Mike Caggese, Jason Cox, Kim Strong, Katy Carpenter, Ted Sickler, Jennifer Nejman, Meghan Hough, Mike Abrams, Rebecca Fishkin, Scott Dodd, Julie Nash, Courtney (Cairns) Pastor.

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## 2 Responses

**Mike Abrams**, on [March 9, 2009 at 9:33 am](#) said:



Don't forget a few more names

Mike Abrams  
Rebecca Fishkin  
Scott Dodd  
Julie Nash  
Courtney (Cairns) Pastor  
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**collegianaig**, on [March 11, 2009 at 7:27 pm](#) said:



Thanks, Mike! The article has been updated.  
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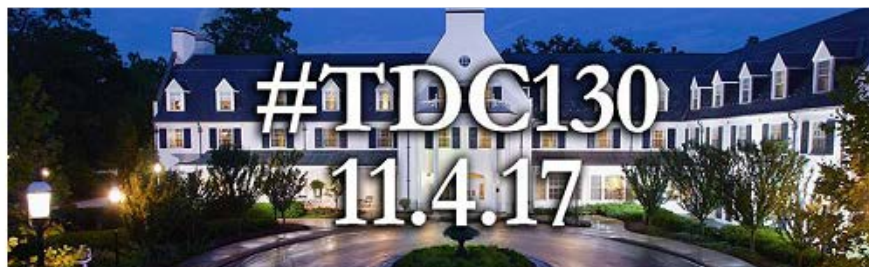
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## AIG tailgate Saturday!!

Posted on **March 6, 2009** by collegianaig

Blue/White Weekend is almost here! Join the Collegian AIG at its tailgate party, which will be held at **10 a.m. Saturday, April 25**, along the third-base wall of Medlar Field. Look for the Collegian vans!

If you're interested in attending, please RSVP to [collegianaig@yahoo.com](mailto:collegianaig@yahoo.com) so we can get an estimate of how many people to expect. See you there!

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### One Response

John Doe, on [April 21, 2009](#) at 3:04 pm said:

Is there going to be beer there???

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### Mark your calendars: Blue/White tailgate

Posted on February 16, 2010 by collegianaig

Mark your calendars now: The Collegian AIG will host its annual **Blue/White tailgate beginning at 11 a.m. April 24**. Don't miss a chance to catch up with classmates and meet Collegian staffers!

To RSVP, e-mail Collegian AIG President Jill Leonard at [jill@pennstatefan.net](mailto:jill@pennstatefan.net).

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## 5 Questions with: Allison Busacca

Posted on December 12, 2008 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

It's the new age. Journalism is in cyberspace. And at the head of the charge is Allison Busacca. She graduated from Penn State in 2007, where she worked on *The Daily Collegian*.

Ali was one of the key players as the *Collegian* moved from an exclusively print publication to a print/web partnership. Today she works at *The New York Times* as a web producer. We asked her five questions:

### As web producer at the *New York Times*, what are your job responsibilities?

I am a web producer for the Travel and Escapes section of *The New York Times*. Primarily, I produce the online content and all of the multimedia components (slide shows, audio, video) for the section, plus I manage the online Travel Guides, Interest Guides and venue reviews. It's a fantastic position because it allows me to dabble in a lot of different areas — there are opportunities to write, cut photos, edit and record audio, code and design editorial packages — and I enjoy the challenge. In addition, I get to conceive web-only projects and be a voice for what Travel does on the web, both in the day-to-day production and in the long term. We have a lot in the works that I am pretty excited about, so stay tuned!



Allison Busacca

### Did you take computer science courses at Penn State to learn technology? How tech literate are you?

I did not actually take any computer science courses at Penn State, and you don't have to if you want to be a web journalist. In fact, being a web producer (or editor, or reporter, etc.) has very little to do with computer science. It's a common misconception.

If you want to design a Web site from scratch, or build a new operating system, then you want someone with a background in computer science/programming. At the *Times*, we have a team that does just that.

Web producers, on the other hand, use what the programmers build (often called a content management system) to put the content online. It depends on how sophisticated the web newsroom is, but basically, the technical part of being a web producer is about learning to use an operating system that just happens to be on the computer. If you have a blog, or you're on Facebook, or you have a Flickr account, you can learn to use a CMS. Knowledge of HTML is a good skill to have, and it's pretty easy to learn.

The harder part (but also the best part) is thinking differently about the way we present the news. Anything is possible, and for the most part, if you can figure out how to do it, it can be done.

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To talk specifics, I like to say I am tech conversational. I am not fluent, but I know enough to understand more technical language and communicate it in more conversational speech. When I started as web editor at the *Collegian*, I didn't even know what a server was (it's what hosts a Web site). My amazing web chief, Steve Clancy, and web programmer Chris Bajgier, were incredibly patient with me as I learned. The more questions you ask, the easier it gets. My bit of advice is to take something you don't understand and break it down into an analogy that works for you.

#### **Do you share the cachet of the print *NYT*? Will web eventually replace print?**

Considering the latest news, it's easy to jump on the bandwagon and say yes. However, I am a full believer that all types of media (print, web and TV) serve different purposes and their success lies in finding a good partnership.

I think that readership has increased on the web first because of its speed and accessibility, and second, because of its ability to encompass many forms of journalism and offer readers the opportunity to interact. However, we're not at the point yet where audiences want to read a 3,000-word analytical piece on a screen or watch an hour-long investigative report on their laptops. We all just need to think about things differently.

#### **You have 24/7 deadlines. How do you create down time for yourself?**

I'm not sure that you should get into journalism if you like having downtime. But generally speaking, I pace my own work week. I work dayside, and at the *Times*, we're lucky enough to have a fantastic nightside team. And working for a Web site generally means you can log in anywhere that there's an Internet connection, so I don't always have to be at the office. Plus, I don't have a Blackberry, so that helps.

#### **What was your *Collegian* experience? How did it help?**

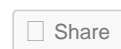
To start, I should say that I never thought I would be an online journalist. However, John Harvey, the *Collegian's* adviser, convinced me to take on the role of web editor, and I can't thank him enough because it helped me find my niche in journalism. Over the course of my senior year, I spearheaded the *Collegian's* move from a print product to a print/web partnership. Physically, we redesigned the homepage and added blogs, news updates, photo galleries and online-only content. Behind the scenes, we developed a new CMS, which is how the paper gets put online now and allowed for the further improvements that you see on the site now.

Before then, I had a varied *Collegian* background. I was a greeks reporter, campus chief, campus editor, arts editor and page designer. I think having experience with so many staffs helped me realize how every section of the paper could operate in a web newsroom, as well as a print one. I also got to know a lot of staffers, which helped when changing the newsroom's culture from a daily, 3 p.m. deadline to a 24-hour newsroom.

I remember how proud I was when, in the case of the Amish shootings in Lancaster, Pa., we were ahead of CNN in our news updates by 30 minutes at one point. It's been incredibly exciting to see how the *Collegian* Web site has continued to develop since then.

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## 5 Questions with: Tracy Saelinger

Posted on February 2, 2009 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Tracy Wilson Saelinger is features editor for Hearst's Food Network Magazine. She was on The Daily Collegian starting as a campus candidate and worked her way up through the ranks, covering student government and the university administration from 1998 to 2001. (She graduated with her degree in journalism a year early). Her husband, Dan Saelinger, now a commercial photographer, was the Collegian's photo editor at the same time.

Food Network Magazine is a start-up ... and Tracy is proud to note that the first issue sold out. Prior to Food Network Magazine, she gained a great deal of experience as lifestyle editor with Every Day with Rachael Ray magazine. We asked Tracy five questions about her magazine work:

**You are an editor with Food Network Magazine. What are your responsibilities, and how did you land the position? Was it your editorial skills or your culinary expertise?**

Prior to the Food Network Magazine, I was the lifestyle editor at Every Day with Rachael Ray magazine. When the executive editor from EDWRR was tapped to start up a new food magazine over at Hearst, she asked me if I wanted to come on board, and of course I said yes. The chance to work on the launch of a major national magazine is very rare, plus I've been hooked on Food Network since college.



Tracy Saelinger

I love to cook, but it was my editing skills and story ideas that got me the job — I work on the editorial side, so I don't develop or test recipes. I'm the features editor, so I have a fun job — I get to go on photo shoots with Food Network stars like Paula Deen, Bobby Flay and Tyler Florence, and I oversee several sections of the magazine. The first issue of Food Network Magazine came out this fall, and we had a really huge response.

**Most undergrads want to be newspaper reporters. What's the appeal of the magazine world?**

It's funny, most campuses have really strong daily papers and radio stations that allow students to get a realistic feel of what it's like to work in those types of media outlets, but in college, it's very hard to get a feel for magazines. I think that's why the option of working in magazines never even occurred to me until a couple of Collegian friends took magazine internships in New York one summer — when I visited them, their internships sounded so exciting and glamorous! The next summer, I got myself a magazine

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internship through the American Society of Magazine Editors, which runs a really fantastic and prestigious internship placement program.

For me, the appeal of magazines is all the creativity involved in packaging news in a visual way.

### **You must be bombarded by PR people trying to get ink. How do you sort winners from losers?**

Successful pitches are clear and concise, and the news should be right on top, just like a good newspaper story. Brevity is most important — I get hundreds of e-mails a day. I'm also very visual, so I like to see a photo of the product or place being pitched.

### **You met Dan at The Daily Collegian, where he was photo editor. What's the story there? What does he do today?**

We were working on a project at the paper together and he asked me out for dinner one night. I think I was impressed that he was interning at Rolling Stone that summer! We got married after graduation in Savannah, where he went to grad school for his MFA in photography. He's now a very successful commercial photographer in New York and shoots for lots of magazines. He's represented by an agent and has his own studio in Chinatown — you can check out his work at [dansaelinger.com](http://dansaelinger.com).

### **What was your Collegian experience? How does it help you today?**

Oh, I don't know what I would have done without The Daily Collegian. I draw from my experiences there every day. It made me a solid reporter and taught me to take ownership of my stories. I owe a lot to our adviser, John Harvey.

Today, I always look for college paper experience on people's resumes — I know that they, too, probably spent 60 hours a week, toiling away after class! But seriously, those people are often the hardest workers. We sure did spend a lot of time in that place, but it always went by quickly.

We cheated and asked Tracy a sixth question: We asked for a great recipe for rushed writers. Here's a favorite courtesy of Food Network Magazine.

### **Gnocchi Nicoise**

ACTIVE: 20 min

TOTAL: 40 min

SERVES: 4

- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 4 ounces bacon, diced
- 4 cloves garlic, smashed
- 1/2 pound coarsely ground beef (look for "chili grind")
- 2 tablespoons brandy or red wine
- 3 shallots, chopped
- 1 cup diced carrots
- 1 stalk celery, sliced
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1 15-ounce can plum tomatoes
- 1 cup low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 1-inch strips orange peel
- 2/3 cup nicoise olives, pitted and chopped
- 1 package (about 1 pound) vacuum-packed gnocchi

1. Heat the oil in a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add the bacon and garlic; cook until the bacon starts to brown, about 4 minutes. Add the ground beef; cook, stirring, 3 minutes. Add the brandy, shallots, carrots, celery and tomato paste; cook until the vegetables soften, about 4 minutes. Season with salt and pepper.

2. Crush the tomatoes into the pan with your hands and add any juices from the can. Stir in the broth, bay leaf, orange peel and olives. Bring to a simmer and lower the heat;

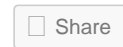
cover and cook 20 minutes. Uncover, increase the heat and bring to a boil to thicken the sauce.

3. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Just before serving, boil the gnocchi until one floats to the top, about 1 minute. Drain immediately to prevent the gnocchi from becoming mushy. Remove the orange peel and bay leaf from the sauce and season with salt and pepper. Toss the gnocchi with the sauce.

For a healthier dish, serve the sauce over whole-grain pasta. Brandy or wine makes this quick sauce taste like it has simmered for hours.

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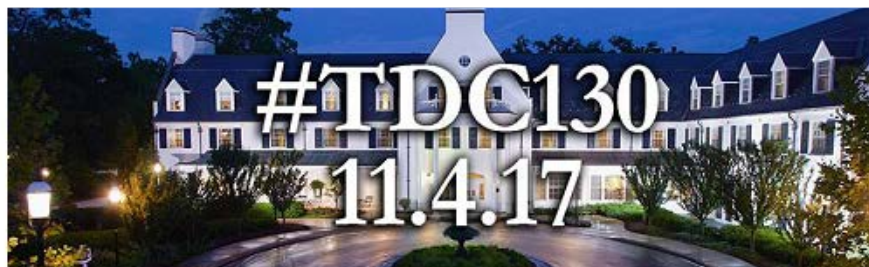
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### Ballot finalized

Posted on **May 15, 2013** by collegianaig

The following candidates will be on the ballot in the upcoming election for Collegian AIG board of directors:

- Lexi Belculfine, '12
- Phil Gutis, '84
- Andrew McGill, '10
- Susan Melle, '85
- Jennifer Miller, '04
- Michael Signora, '96

The election will open June 6 and be available for two weeks online. Alumni should watch their email for the link.

There are six seats available. Directors serve three-year terms beginning at the time of the Collegian AIG annual in-person board meeting. The 2013 meeting will be June 29 at the Collegian offices.

Here are the candidate statements:

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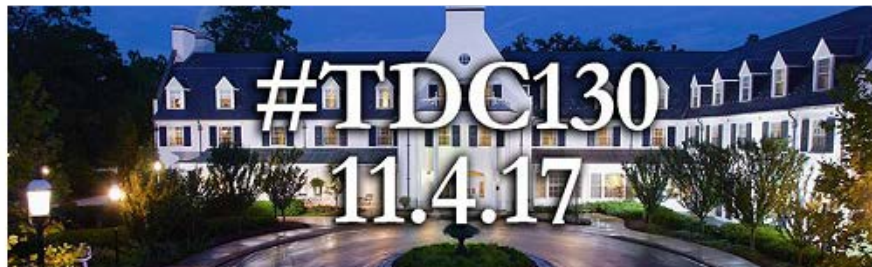
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### Ballot finalized

Posted on **May 15, 2013** by collegianaig

The following candidates will be on the ballot in the upcoming election for Collegian AIG board of directors:

- Lexi Belcuffine, '12
- Phil Gutis, '84
- Andrew McGill, '10
- Susan Melle, '85
- Jennifer Miller, '04
- Michael Signora, '96

The election will open June 6 and be available for two weeks online. Alumni should watch their email for the link.

There are six seats available. Directors serve three-year terms beginning at the time of the Collegian AIG annual in-person board meeting. The 2013 meeting will be June 29 at the Collegian offices.

Here are the candidate statements:

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### Collegian 125th anniversary reunion weekend: By the Numbers

Posted on **January 23, 2013** by collegianaig  
**\$7,150** raised to benefit Collegian student scholarships.  
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## Faces of the Daily Collegian: Rachel Freiberg, Terry Casey

Posted on February 2, 2009 by collegianaig

by Renee Petrina, '04

### Rachel Freiberg

One thing about devoted Collegian staffers – they get things done. Which means if they have to call you from a train station in Europe for an interview, they will.

Rachel Freiberg, creative manager for the Business Division, spent most of her winter semester break in and around London, visiting friends and favorite places from her semester abroad at the University of Westminster.

"I'm actually a very family-oriented person; I'm dedicated to my family, they're dedicated to me," she says. "I just have this little antsy vibe that I just want to travel around everywhere. I know I'll always come home."



Rachel Freiberg

The travel bug that took her to Ireland, Scotland, Italy, France and Egypt has Freiberg looking nationwide for jobs when she graduates in May. Her goal is a position at a major ad firm with multiple offices; she sees herself in New York, Chicago or San Francisco. A secondary love for her is the marketing of film. And of course, she's interested in returning to London to work, at least for a little while, as a long-term goal.

Freiberg is pleased at the number of Collegian skills that translate to the professional world. For example, the Business Division recently switched to Adobe products from an older program, CorelDraw, because Adobe is the industry leader. That way, members of Freiberg's creative team can build ads and promotional fliers while mastering top technology. She also values her experience working with the Collegian production staff, learning about what is and is not possible in ad design. But some of the creative aspects don't translate across the pond, she points out. "I think it has a lot to do with the audience; they have a very different sense of humor than us" and, "they're not afraid to show a little bit more risqué photos" in advertising.

As creative manager, Freiberg oversees a group of 10 to 12 staffers who make the ads that readers see in the Collegian each day. As more local advertisers realize their capabilities, requests for in-house ads grow. They also handle promotional material and, on occasion, major national accounts.

With the nature of the daily newspaper, the creative team faces a quick work

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turnaround, and the group is always looking for feedback. “No matter what, even on the small ads, we always ask each other, the entire department, for constructive criticism,” Freiberg says. One of her goals for spring semester is to open more and more lines of communication, in order to continue to improve ad design through feedback.

Of course, there is one kind of feedback that’s easy to see – your work spread across the Penn State campus. Freiberg says one of her most rewarding creations was the cover for a Dance Marathon puzzle book, a Collegian insert filled with activities that dancers can do to entertain themselves during their 48 hours awake. Of course, the puzzles are also popular with students bored during lectures: “The same year that I was on the hospitality committee for Thon, so I saw (the books) all over the place — over the desks, on the floor — so at least they’re being used, and I can see my work everywhere.”

As a graduating senior, Freiberg knows she will enter the job market at a difficult time. But she’s optimistic about the as-yet-undiscovered campaigns and techniques that ad agencies will devise as they adapt to a declining economy. “I think that it can obviously hurt in the financial realm, but then when you get into opportunities that might come out of it and groundbreaking ideas — it’s exciting.”

### **Terry Casey**

The Daily Collegian offices were empty, silent, dead. But days ahead of the spring semester’s start, with few other students even on the streets of State College, Editor in Chief Terry Casey was already in his office. Just a few semesters earlier, he’d had no idea he’d be leading the News Division. “I actually think I was probably one of the last people to accept that I was 100% going for it,” he says.

But as he moved from reporting to editing, Casey realized his passion was in management. “I discovered that I loved, more than the newspaper itself, working with people. I’d tell reporters the things that I wish someone had told me when I was a reporter.”

His goals as chief of the News Division have focused mainly on preparing his staff to become professional journalists. He heard from recent graduates that they would have liked more page design experience. So, the Collegian copy desk changed its workflow to allow night-side editors to design some inside pages. “This way at least all of them have a working knowledge of page design when they go out into the workforce,” he says.



Terry Casey

Another project improved the Board of Opinion. Rather than having opinion board members with the most experience in a topic write the staff editorials — making them essentially unsigned columns — Casey gave the responsibility to staff columnists. They “cover” the Board of Opinion meeting as reporters, asking questions, gleaning information. Then they pen the editorial based on the board’s conclusions and discussions. “It’s also good for those writers, because we had a sports reporter who had been a lifelong sports reporter and then came over to be a columnist, and he was writing editorials on the presidential election, which he never expected to do.” The Collegian gets better editorials, written from an unbiased perspective, and the writers get wider experience.

Casey wants to focus heavily on staff morale this semester, in a difficult economic time for all media. He won’t disclose all of his ideas — some could be surprises — but there is talk of staff dinners, taking in a basketball game, and more. The problem is convincing the staff to stop worrying about the paper constantly, and to think of themselves. “The one thing I do regret was last semester I came in with a lot of expectations of activities we could do, (but) there was such focus on the paper itself, we sort of brushed aside making sure that everybody stayed sane.”

“That is a big focus of mine for the upcoming semester: Making sure that the product

stays strong because we have people who care about it," he adds. "I think we're set up for a good start."

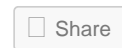
Many Collegian staff members find themselves scaling back other activities or unable to have work-study jobs in order to fulfill a commitment to the paper. As the leader of the News Division, Casey is no exception. He took a reduced credit load during his editor-in-chief year, which means graduating a semester late. "I'm thrilled that my parents have been very supportive about it — there's no way I could be here an extra semester on my own."

But he's looking at the bright side. By waiting until December, Casey won't have to compete with spring and summer graduates — a strategic decision in a tough job market. In the meantime, he's seeking summer work. Having spent every summer in State College since joining the Collegian freshman year, he's hoping to find something in the Philadelphia area, closer to his hometown. He's checked out Teach for America's summer program, and he says he's "trying not to limit myself to just newspapers for the summer."

Of course, he still had work to do on the job search, because, as with so many staffers, the personal is taking a backseat to Collegian responsibilities. "This place pretty much has my heart, my soul, my blood," Casey says. "Any free time that is found is extra sleeping time. So that's pretty much what it all comes down to. Not the most glamorous life, but I enjoy it."

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## The Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group Board 2012 Election Ballot

Posted on April 2, 2012 by collegianaig

The Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group provides opportunities for alumni and friends of the Daily Collegian to come together for professional and personal interests. AIG's events and activities include: alumni weekend, scholarship, mentoring, newsletter and alumni of distinction awards. The Penn State Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group is an affiliate group of the Penn State Alumni Association, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit association.

The AIG has three expiring terms on its Board of Directors for which four candidates are vying. Terms are three years. Members may select up to three candidates. Voting will close at 12:01 a.m. April 22.

To review candidate statements and cast your vote, go to:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22FACXGTNU3>

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## Spring 2011 election ballot

Posted on **March 18, 2011** by collegianaig

Vote today in the Collegian AIG Spring 2011 elections. You can vote one time for up to 3 candidates, and voting ends at 5 p.m. EST on April 11, 2011. Results will be collected and tabulated by an independent party. [Click here to begin](#)

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### [Less than a week away! Use hashtag #TDCmeetup](#)

Posted on **February 1, 2014** by [collegianaig](#)

As you may have read in our last newsletter, the Collegian alumni are hosting a [meetup fundraiser on Feb. 8](#) — that's this coming Saturday!

If you are in any of four major east coast cities, please join friends of the Collegian for a local celebration. We're donating the proceeds from these meetups to help buy a car so Collegian students can use to travel to news assignments or to meet with business clients.

The events will be simultaneous in [Philadelphia](#), [Pittsburgh](#), [New York City](#) and [Washington, D.C.](#) (Click a city to buy tickets there.)

But for those of us who live and work elsewhere, there are still lots of ways to be involved. This whole week we're asking Collegian alumni to "toast" the Collegian — in word or in image — on social media using the hashtag #TDCmeetup.



Teresa ('74) demonstrates how to toast the Collegian with her reunion mug. Share your photos with us!

Hopefully you'll virtually "meet" some new Collegian friends.

So share your tweets, Instagrams, Facebook photos and more — and share your love for the Collegian!

If you aren't a social media user, you can still participate. Email [CollegianAIG@gmail.com](mailto:CollegianAIG@gmail.com) with your supportive message. Even better — send us a picture of yourself "toasting" the Collegian, and we'll share it with other alumni on our website. You might even make the next newsletter!

Click here to donate to the Collegian Alumni Interest Group's car fundraiser:

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### [Less than a week away! Use hashtag #TDCmeetup](#)

Posted on February 1, 2014 by collegianaig

As you may have read in our last newsletter, the Collegian alumni are hosting a [meetup fundraiser on Feb. 8](#) — that's this coming Saturday!

If you are in any of four major east coast cities, please join friends of the Collegian for a local celebration. We're donating the proceeds from these meetups to help buy a car so Collegian students can use to travel to news assignments or to meet with business clients.

The events will be simultaneous in [Philadelphia](#), [Pittsburgh](#), [New York City](#) and [Washington, D.C.](#) (Click a city to buy tickets there.)

But for those of us who live and work elsewhere, there are still lots of ways to be involved. This whole week we're asking Collegian alumni to "toast" the Collegian — in word or in image — on social media using the hashtag #TDCmeetup.



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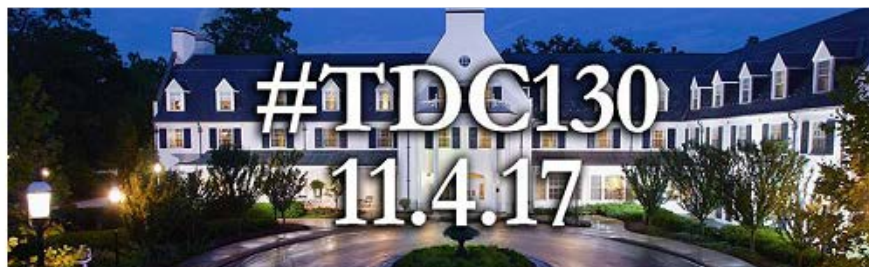
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### Annual meeting set for April 17

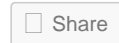
Posted on March 11, 2011 by collegianaig

The Collegian AIG will host its annual State College meeting at 11 a.m. Sunday, April 17 followed by a 12:30 p.m. luncheon with students at the Collegian offices, 123 S. Burrowes St.

The meeting is in conjunction with Penn State's Blue/White weekend. All members, current students, Collegian Inc. board members and interested members of the public are welcome. Included in discussion will be proposed changes to the group's bylaws, which will be sent to the membership for a vote this spring.

For more information, contact group President Alison Kepner at [alisonkepner@gmail.com](mailto:alisonkepner@gmail.com).

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## Six board seats open

Posted on [April 26, 2013](#) by [collegianaig](#)

Six seats are open for three-year terms on the Board of Directors of the Collegian Alumni Interest Group.

Candidates must be eligible for membership in the Collegian AIG — meaning anyone who once worked for The Daily Collegian — and must be members of the Penn State Alumni Association.

Members participate by telephone in periodic, hour-long sessions scheduled during work hours on weekdays, and in an annual general meeting held in State College in the spring. In addition, they are expected to serve on committees that further the work of the board.

The board has approved this slate of candidates for the upcoming election:

- Lexi Belcuffine, '12
- Phil Gutis, '84
- Andrew McGill, '10
- Susan Melle, '85
- Jennifer Miller, '04
- Michael Signora, '96

In addition, candidates can join the ballot by self-nominating. Anyone interested must provide the nominating committee with a statement describing his or her interest, a resume, and the signatures of 20 Collegian AIG members who are supporters. These applications must be sent by May 6 to [jschwartz@ap.org](mailto:jschwartz@ap.org), or 420 E. Dudley Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.

The final ballot will be announced May 16. The election will be held June 6-20.

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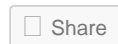


### Collegian AIG annual meeting April 22

Posted on March 31, 2012 by collegianaig

The Collegian AIG's annual meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. April 22 at the Collegian offices, 123 S. Burrowes St., in State College.

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## 5 questions with: Ramit Plushnick-Masti

Posted on September 29, 2010 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler

Ramit Plushnick-Masti, who graduated in 1995 with a history degree, works for The Associated Press in Pittsburgh. She formerly worked for the York Dispatch and lived in Israel for 10 years before moving back to the USA and getting her current job. We asked Ramit five questions:

### Wire service jobs have a reputation for being hectic. True? How do you keep it under control?

The wire service can be hectic, though lots of fun. We are on a constant deadline, though that is now the way of the world in newspapers today as well since nearly all have websites that are constantly updated with breaking news.

Organization is key – keeping a good list of sources, keeping in touch with them as often as possible, keeping the schedule under control and prioritizing. It becomes routine once it's done for long enough and you quickly become adept to putting everything else aside for breaking news. Of course, being a good multitasker helps – though I believe most journalists are!



Ramit

### Your trail to the AP came through the York Dispatch, right? Where else has your career path led?

My first job out of college was with the York Dispatch, where I was for just about a year. Then I took the \$700 I had saved up to that point and headed to Jerusalem to follow my dream – being a journalist in the Middle East.

My first foot in the door there was replacing someone who was on maternity leave at the LA Times where I covered my first suicide bombing in an open-air market in Jerusalem. I did a good enough job there that they recommended me to fill an opening at the Washington Post where I spent two years as a researcher/translator/reporter, a post that helped me hone my Hebrew and get a few bylines in one of the most prestigious newspapers in the United States. Then I got a job with Reuters, where I spent 2 1/2 years before moving on to the AP in 2002 and where I remain today.

### You lived for almost a decade in Israel. What does that experience give to your current job? Would you go back to Israel as a reporter?

I spent 10 years in Jerusalem – from 1996 until 2006. The experience has been

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priceless both in teaching me how to cover breaking news — some of it quite disturbing on a very human level —while keeping calm, cool and collected. It also broadened my horizons extensively, allowing me to come back to the US and find enterprise stories where others might possibly think there is nothing there.

Of course, I also got to cover big events — such as peace talks — and travel with the prime minister as part of his entourage, lending me experience that has helped me know how to cover different large events in the United States, including the upcoming G-20 summit to be held in Pittsburgh this September. Today I am based in Pittsburgh and have been and will be heavily involved in covering that event.

**Your position with AP offers the opportunity to cover a great variety of topics. With that comes the challenge of background for articles. Where, other than the obvious web searches, do you go to get up to speed on new subject areas?**

Background is key to every story. As an AP reporter I have access to our archives which have a wealth of information. Often, when I am working on stories that require a little extra knowledge on my part, I will interview one or two people who may not be quoted in the final story but help me brush up on my expertise and provide me with the information I need to get good, relevant background into a story.

**What was your Collegian experience? How did it help you get where you are today?**

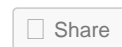
I began as a reporter at the Daily Collegian in my first semester as a freshman at Penn State. My first beat was lesbians and gays, then I went on to be the university beat reporter, assistant campus editor, a copy editor for one semester and, finally, two semesters as Managing Editor. My last semester, I freelanced for the Centre Daily Times.

My experience at the Collegian gave me the clips and experience I needed to get a job out of college and one at a larger daily. It also gave me an idea of what it's like to work at a newspaper, honed my interviewing and writing skills and put me on a path to being the reporter I am today.

I am not only grateful for the experience I had at the newspaper, it is something I am proud of and keep on my resume to this day.

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**Cynthia Ashear Barr**, on [October 1, 2010 at 10:43 am](#) said:

The link to Collegian Chronicles from the AIG newsletter is not working.

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Melanie McCluskey, on [October 2, 2010 at 3:52 pm](#) said:

Thanks for sharing your experiences with us Ramit!

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**5 Questions with: Allison Busacca**

Posted on **December 12, 2008** by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

It's the new age. Journalism is in cyberspace. And at the head of the charge is Allison Busacca. She graduated from Penn State in 2007, where she worked on *The Daily Collegian*.

Ali was one of the key players as the *Collegian* moved from an exclusively print publication to a print/web partnership. Today she works at *The New York Times* as a web producer. [Continue reading →](#)

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**Five questions with: Jayne Jamison**

Posted on **November 6, 2008** by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Former Collegianaire Jayne Jamison, '78, is vice president and publisher of *Seventeen* magazine. For 60 years, *Seventeen* has been a voice for young women ages 12-24. Each month it reaches 13 million readers, thrilling them with articles on topics ranging from Ashley Tisdale to fashion tips. We asked her five questions:

**What was your career path to your current position?**

I began my career as a media buyer at an advertising agency. I switched to the other side of the desk, becoming a seller, after figuring out what made a really impactful sales person and presentation. Of course, understanding the client, and their media needs, gave me a great foundation for a career in sales. [Continue reading →](#)

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**Five questions with: Ted Anthony**

Posted on **October 8, 2008** by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Former Collegianaire Ted Anthony works for the Associated Press. He covered both the Democratic and the Republican parties' political conventions this year and has a front-row seat to the election scene. We asked him five questions:

**We understand you covered both conventions and are involved in election coverage in an ongoing basis. How do you prepare for this?**

My role until Inauguration Day is covering the intersection of politics and culture, a fascinating but often bypassed prism into how Americans deal with the presidency and

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the elections. So I wasn't covering the race itself – we have people far more talented than I am doing that – but looking at what effectively was the story behind the story. In effect, I wanted to help people understand what makes these things tick – and offer some historical context to boot. [Continue reading →](#)

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## [Five questions with: Terry Mutchler](#)

Posted on **August 16, 2008** by collegianaig

**By Curt Harler, '71**

Former Collegianaire Terry Mutchler ('87) has been appointed to serve as the first executive director of Pennsylvania's Office of Open Records. We asked her five questions:

**What does the job of executive director of the Office of Open Records entail?**

**Whom do you report to?**

At the moment, the role of executive director includes everything from picking staff to reviewing blueprints for the office space to analyzing the new law. My role is to prepare the public and the government to usher in the most significant change to public access to records that the commonwealth has seen in half a century. Overall, the key mission of this office will be to promote open and honest government, ensuring that citizens have access to the documents of their government to which they are entitled. I am appointed by the governor for a six-year term and as such serve at his pleasure.

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### Update: tickets still available!

Posted on **September 22, 2008** by collegianaig

Didn't score tickets to a game at Beaver Stadium? Here's your chance!

The first four people to donate \$250 or more to the AIG in the next few weeks will receive a pair of tickets (valued at \$122) to the Penn State-Michigan State game on Nov. 22, where you can watch the Nittany Lions take on the Spartans for the Land Grant Trophy. Please mail checks to:

Jill Leonard  
140 Apollo Road  
Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666.

There is a limit of one set of tickets per donor. **Four sets of tickets remain, so don't delay!** All of the home games are sold out! For more details, or if you have any questions, please e-mail Jill Leonard at [jill@pennstatefan.net](mailto:jill@pennstatefan.net).

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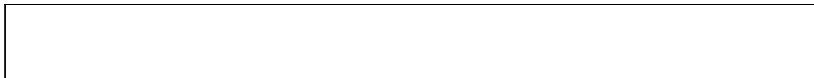
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## Board vacancy filled

Posted on **September 26, 2011** by collegianaig

The AIG is excited to welcome Rossilynne Skena, Class of 2010, to the board to fill the remaining term of a vacant seat.

Recommended by the board's Nominating Committee, President Alison Kepner appointed Rossilynne to fill the term, which runs through 2012.

Rossilynne, 09-10 EIC, already is co-chairing the the board's 125th Anniversary Celebration Planning Committee.

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## Students bolster resumes with internships

Posted on **June 11, 2010** by collegianaig

By **Andrew Staub, '09**

During a recent job interview with a Pennsylvania newspaper, Adam Clark noticed his prospective employers stumbled on a specific portion of his resume.

"They seemed really turned off by the fact that I hadn't had any internships," said Clark, who graduated from Penn State in May after spending the year as The Daily Collegian's sports editor.

This summer, though, Clark will hone his journalism skills as a general assignment intern at The Allentown Morning Call, Pennsylvania's third-largest newspaper. Clark joins a number of Collegian students — both from the news and business divisions — hoping to bolster their resumes with strong summer internships, as many from the James Building basement turn their focus to jobs with Major League Baseball, Rachael Ray and other big-name companies and publications.

For students, summer internships offer professional clips, valuable selling experience and, most importantly, a chance to impress a future employer.

"From what I've seen," Clark said, "the people who are actually get jobs in reporting, they are getting hired at newspapers where they had been interns."

The road to an internship often starts at the Collegian. Young ad executives and reporters learn their craft from the students who came before them, their respective advisers and helpful alumni, three sets of people who often open doors for Collegian students later in life.

Those connections helped Christiana Cacciapuoti find her way to Manhattan-based NewBay Media, where she works as an advertising sales intern.

Collegian business adviser Candy Heckard sent the staff an e-mail letting students know a former business staffer wanted a summer intern at NewBay Media — and she only wanted a Collegian student. With ambitions to work in New York City, Cacciapuoti applied. And just like that, the rising sophomore snared a job in the city, an experience that far outweighs the lengthy commute from Staten Island to Manhattan.

"It was all the Collegian," Cacciapuoti said. "It really just kind of fell into my lap."

Sometimes, though, the decision to accept an internship provides a challenge. Former Collegian Managing Editor Andrew McGill earned an offer to intern this summer for The Boston Globe, one of the country's oldest and most prestigious papers. He also received an offer from The Allentown Morning Call, where he interned last summer.

This time, though, The Morning Call wanted to hire him for a full-time reporting position. The editors there were impressed with the work he had done as an intern, reporting that included a first-place Hearst Journalism Award for McGill's coverage of a slain state trooper's funeral.

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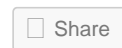
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So McGill evaluated the situation. After a weekend of “psyching” himself up, McGill called The Globe. He told editors there he was taking a job with Allentown, the fruits of his internship there.

“I actually would be able to start building a life in journalism instead of kind of hopping around like a college student still,” McGill said. “I was at the point where, you know, what’s really holding me to The Globe is the big name and connections I’d be making, where really more personal growth is waiting for me at The Morning Call.”

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## Minnesota game tickets...

Posted on August 23, 2009 by collegianaig

Haven't got your tickets to see the 2009 Nittany Lions yet? Here's your chance!

For a \$500 donation to the AIG, you'll get four tickets and a parking pass to the Oct. 17 game against Minnesota. It's Homecoming Weekend, so festivities will abound! Don't miss a great opportunity to head to Happy Valley and help us continue to serve alumni.

E-mail Collegian AIG President Jill Leonard at [jill@pennstatefan.net](mailto:jill@pennstatefan.net) for more details.

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## AIG scholarship winners named

Posted on **March 25, 2009** by collegianaig

By **Curt Harler, '71**

The Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group chose two hardworking students as its scholarship winners for 2009. They are Holly Colbo of Coto de Caza, Calif., for the business scholarship and Lauren McCormack of State College for the editorial scholarship.

Each student will receive a \$1,027 scholarship. The odd amount is based on the endowed scholarship fund's return during the past year.

Student interest in the scholarship was high, and the committee faced an impressive range of candidates for both scholarships. Committee Chairman Curt Harler called this year's crop "scary good."

Colbo is in her third-year on The Daily Collegian and has earned a 3.79 GPA. She will be the business manager for 2009-2010.

"I find myself here more than my scheduled hours because I am concerned, I love working for The Daily Collegian and want to preserve it as a place where students, years to come, can continue to learn," she said.

McCormack also is in her third year with the Collegian. She is the paper's multimedia editor – the first person to hold that position.

"The Daily Collegian has really been the driving force behind my love of journalism," she said. "Nary a day goes by (even Fridays and Saturdays) that I don't make an appearance in the James Building."



Colbo



McCormack

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## 5 Questions with: Mary Murray Roda

Posted on April 29, 2009 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Mary Murray Roda ('71), worked for newspapers for five years after graduating from Penn State and then joined Orange Coast College's public information office, where she has worked for 30 years. She did not start her education at Penn State but ended up there – earning her degree and working on The Daily Collegian in an era when the campus was rocked by student movements and demonstrations for peace, civil rights and protecting the environment.

"I spent all of my time at the Collegian," Roda recalls. "I was a copy editor and had to go to the print shop during production ... old fashioned letterpress ... hot type." She is referring to the Centre Daily Times building in Calder Alley, before it was gentrified into Calder Way. She says: "We had real leading then. It was the last year for letterpress. They went offset when I graduated."

Mary Murray married Rich Roda, her Penn State boyfriend. He was assigned to San Diego in the Navy. They have three grown children — Kelly, Kate and Dan — and two grandchildren.

We asked Mary five questions:

### How did you get your first job out of college?

One week after graduating from Penn State, I married Rich Roda, another PSU student who was in ROTC and beginning four years in the Navy as a junior officer. We headed to California, where he was assigned to a unit in Coronado (near San Diego). I quickly found a position as a staff writer for the Chula Vista Star-News, a liberal biweekly with an editor who loved to dig up controversial news. Even though I was a new graduate, I had a substantial portfolio from my summer internship with The Philadelphia Inquirer, where I wrote feature articles that appeared on the front page of the metro section. Although the Star-News had photographers, reporters were encouraged to carry a camera and take their own photos. I took a community college course in photography that came in handy throughout my career.



Mary Murray Roda

While I was at the Chula Vista Star-News, I won an a first place Community Service Award from the Calif. Association of Newspaper Publishers for investigative reporting for a series that attracted the attention of Newsweek magazine and became the basis of one of its cover stories about unregulated suburban growth in San Diego. When my husband was reassigned to Virginia Beach, Va., I began reporting for the Virginia Beach Sun. Again my photography skills also came into play, and I frequently shot my own

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photos, developed the film and printed the photos, too!

#### **Why the move to university publications?**

Just after my first child was born, we relocated to Irvine, Calif., where my husband was enrolled in the business school at UC Irvine. I went to work immediately for the Saddleback Valley News. My husband was actually looking for a position for himself when he came across an employment announcement for a public information assistant at Orange Coast College, a large community college in Costa Mesa, Calif. It was an opportunity to have a “regular” schedule, less stress, and it paid \$800 a month! (Back in 1976, I was making \$700 at the newspaper.)

#### **Talk about your stint doing publication design.**

Much of my responsibilities included writing copy for brochures. I was working with a graphic artist who couldn't manage deadlines, so I started designing my own projects, using the skills I learned designing newspaper pages. Eventually I took over all marketing responsibilities for the college's extensive community education program. I wrote and designed catalogs describing our classes. I managed a budget of more than \$200,000 and oversaw all marketing efforts for our department, including press releases, brochure design, mailing and advertising.

When community class offerings were cut about five years ago, I moved into the community relations department. Now I cover all college activities and write most of the press releases that are sent to the media. I also am the editor of the college's weekly online newsletter, Coast to Coast.

#### **You bicycle 22 miles a day to work. Is that a “green” statement? Or do you just wish you'd taken more phys ed credits?**

I have always been active. As a “soccer mom,” I began refereeing soccer games. I did that for 12 years, including officiating a scrimmage for the women's national team.

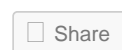
Once my three children were off to college, I needed another outlet for exercise. My employer promotes alternative transportation, including bicycling to work, so I tried it. Most of my 11-mile ride to work is along a bike path that runs through a bird sanctuary. It's a wonderful way to relax and get some exercise at the same time. I save money on gas and car expenses and collect \$4 a day as part of the college's efforts to promote alternative transportation. It is part of the Air Quality Management District efforts to clean up California's air, and it's working. The air here is actually less polluted now than it was when I moved here in 1971. During the past six years, I have logged more than 30,000 miles commuting to work.

#### **What was your Collegian experience? How did it help you get where you are today?**

I transferred to Penn State from Marquette University during my junior year. It was the best move I ever made. The Daily Collegian was a real, working newspaper experience. The journalism classes at Penn State were also excellent. Together, they helped me win the internship at The Philadelphia Inquirer. As a Navy wife, I moved around a lot, and I was never unemployed. We had a fantastic group of writers on The Daily Collegian. It was an exciting time to be a reporter. There were anti-war rallies on campus, and there was a lot of hard news to cover. Many Collegian staff members from that era have had successful careers. Doug Struck was a bureau chief for The Washington Post and now teaches at Boston University. Rod Nordland works for The New York Times and shared a Pulitzer Prize for reporting on Three Mile Island crisis for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

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## 2 Responses

**Marge Ball**, on [April 30, 2009 at 1:23 pm](#) said:



Great article! Mary has always been a hard worker and dedicated to her colleagues in any job she has held. The Daily Collegian should work with Newsweek to follow up on the story Mary worked on in San Diego! It is a great example of the educational background Mary received at Penn State!

[Reply](#)

**Kathy Erikson**, on [April 30, 2009 at 1:59 pm](#) said:



I am Mary's big sister and remember Mary's first controversial article when she was probably ten years old...might have been younger! It was artfully designed with a cardboard cover and a crayon colored picture on the front. The topic was our family's annual vacation at our grandfather's cottage overlooking Lake Erie. Full of many human interest items...very descriptive and colorful and sized from a child's prospective, it was full of delightful content...some of which very much embarrassed our mother. She lamented that the nuns at the school, St. Philip's Grade School in Crafton, Pa., might get the wrong impression of our family. The rest of us thought it was delightfully funny! I still think it was!

Guess what—it was a hit at school! I seem to recall that the nun gave her an excellent grade on it!

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## One cool atmosphere

Posted on March 31, 2009 by collegianaig

### AccuWeather founder helps Collegianaires toward bright future

By Sandra Fischione Donovan '72

When Joel N. Myers, '61, '63g, '71 Ph.D., was a sophomore meteorology major at Penn State in 1958, he offered to write a daily weather forecast for The Daily Collegian. He could do that, said the paper's editorial adviser – as long as he also agreed to write police news.

Back then, female students had an 8 p.m. curfew and the Collegian didn't have any spare male staffers to visit the State College police station at 9:30 p.m.

Myers agreed. He wrote the weather and police news – and found he enjoyed both. During graduate school, he wrote other kinds of news, including coverage of student government meetings, and edited, too.

"Journalism professors started critiquing my stories," said Myers, 69, of State College. Eventually he went on to become Collegian makeup editor and to write a column, "Snowed," which included commentary on not only the weather, but also "all kinds of things."

After graduation, Myers continued his meteorological education, eventually earning both a master's degree and a Ph.D. in meteorology at Penn State. But he never forgot the journalism lessons learned at the Collegian.

Myers managed to combine his scientific education and journalistic avocation to make weather useful and appealing to the general public at his company, State College-based AccuWeather. The firm employs more than 300 people and does weather reports 24/7 for media outlets, private companies and other customers around the world. And what's more, says Henry Margusity, 48, of State College, AccuWeather.com Information Manager and Sr. Meteorologist, Myers has taught his employees many of the same lessons he learned during his Collegian years.

When U.S. pilot Francis Gary Powers' U-2 airplane was shot down in 1960 over Russia, Myers wrote a column containing the opinion that Powers could not have flown a weather plane. Myers knew weather planes.

"Two or three days later, Eisenhower went on television and said it was not a weather plane," Myers said. Myers remembers the Centre Daily Times commended him for his correct analysis of the Powers situation.

"It was a big help, getting a journalism education," Myers said of his Collegian experience. "I got a lot of insight into how the media works. It was a big help selling my

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services and making weather more of a journalistic product. We (at AccuWeather) really revolutionized (weather reporting) by using the King's English in a meaningful way."

From its 1962 roots, when Myers started the company as a graduate student, AccuWeather has gone on to become a business that serves thousands of clients and thereby millions of people around the world. Some are television and radio stations and newspapers; others are private companies dependent on the weather.



Dr. Joel N. Myers

In the case of many newspaper clients, AccuWeather provides the entire editorial product that goes straight from the State College-based company into print. The newspapers trust AccuWeather that much.

"We do 800 newspapers a day," Myers said, "The Washington Post, the Dallas Morning News, the Wall Street Journal ... the pages are done completely here. We're producing the finished product. It saves them money." When AccuWeather also sells weather-related advertising for those pages, the newspapers receive a cut.

The company produces weather forecasting for foreign-language newspapers in about nine or 10 languages. It's not that difficult, Myers said: "You only need about 500 words to cover all the weather. We've boiled it down."

Soon after AccuWeather began providing weather forecast services for La Nacion in Buenos Aires, Myers said, the newspaper publisher ran into the head of the Argentine meteorological services. The meteorology official asked how the newspaper could rely on the weather forecasting of "gringos" instead of the homegrown service.

"About 60 days later, we received a letter from the La Nacion publisher saying, 'We checked the forecasts for accuracy. AccuWeather was right 78 percent of the time and the Argentine meteorological service 49 percent of the time. AccuWeather stays.'"

"People told me I was nuts; that I'd be competing with free" services from the National Weather Service, Myers said. But he believes he was able to make his company successful because it is "more accurate, and it saves labor. We provide content in a usable format. And we offer things that aren't available elsewhere, such as whether snow is accumulating on roads, if there's black ice," and other kinds of necessary information for people seeking to function in all kinds of weather.

AccuWeather also provides localized weather and "a million different ways we can add value to a business," Myers said. The company has developed iPhone weather communications and has a relationship with technology companies such as Apple and Samsung so it can formulate ways to use new technology to communicate the weather before the advances are even unveiled. AccuWeather is the industry leader in wireless and Internet weather.

"I think newspapers have got to find the right balance between print, online and wireless," Myers said.

"We've tried to persuade them to have a model that makes sense."

AccuWeather continues its relationship with the Collegian. In its hiring of interns to write the news, AccuWeather has employed some with Collegian experience that has proven useful to both intern and AccuWeather.

One of the interns this semester is Gina Cherundolo, 21, a Penn State senior majoring in public relations



Cherundolo & Margusity

and minoring in anthropology. A Collegian staffer for all but two semesters at Penn State, Cherundolo, of Montrose, says her journalism courses and Collegian experience have helped her write stories quickly that within an hour or two are posted on the Internet.

Margusity said one of Cherundolo's recent weather stories was picked up by the Associated Press. That story included research on the type of airplane used in the March 21 plane crash in Montana that killed 14. Cherundolo's story compared the Montana airplane and the icy weather in which it took off with a similar airplane and weather situation March 26, 2005, in State College, which killed six.

A few days later, the National Transportation Safety Board commented on the similarities between the two crashes, "so we led the charge on that one," Margusity said. The story was picked up by a variety of news agencies, including the Chicago Tribune, MSNBC and Fox News.

Her Collegian experience and courses in journalism have taught Cherundolo that "any mistakes I have with my writing are inexcusable," she said. At the Collegian, she was called upon to write stories for the next day. "At AccuWeather, I write and it's on the site in an hour, an hour and a half." AccuWeather has helped her ability to "translate (jargon) into something the average Joe can understand."

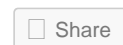
Cherundolo said she wants to find a career that will combine all her strengths, including that anthropology minor that "helps me understand human interactions... I have used it I can't tell you how many times."

But it's the Collegian interactions that have made a huge difference at AccuWeather.

"Joel was able to teach us way, way back how to write weather stories based on his Collegian experience," Margusity says. "With his Collegian experience, he has taught us how to communicate (the weather) effectively – and now we communicate to millions of people in an effective manner."

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## One Response

**Dennis Malick '60**, on [April 1, 2009 at 7:48 pm](#) said:



I was Daily Collegian editor during those Joel Myers early PSU days. Check these excerpts from my take on those years recounted in "The Collegian Chronicles":  
"... an ominous 'Gracie Heads Toward State' story marked a significant weather stepping stone for the byliner of the piece, Joel Myers. Little noticed as a skinny freshman in the back of the Collegian newsroom writing brief Page One weather reports, accompanied by Nancy Wigfield's Lion caricatures, Joel went on to found Accuweather ..."

"'Actually weather forecasting is not as easy as some people think,' Joel Myers wrote in a mid-April (1960) column after getting drenched by a storm on a day he predicted sunshine."

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## Harvey reinstated; Hamilton announces retirement

Posted on August 23, 2009 by collegianaig

Popular news adviser John Harvey was reinstated by the Collegian's Board of Directors on July 1.

And, in a related decision, General Manager Gerry Hamilton has announced his retirement.

Harvey's return to the James Building came 6 1/2 weeks after he was fired by Hamilton, who alleged unspecified "insubordination." Harvey had worked at the paper for 11 years.

The firing prompted an outcry by students, alumni and other supporters and a pledge by the Collegian Alumni Interest Group to halt fundraising until the matter was resolved.

Supporters lobbied the board to consider Harvey's appeal of the firing, citing Harvey's mentorship as key to their development as journalists and noting the pivotal role he plays at the paper.

Many also raised questions about the Collegian's fiscal management and urged the board to review how the organization is run and its money is spent.

Board members, who said they were not influenced by Harvey's supporters, said they reversed Hamilton's decision because he failed to provide evidence of insubordination.

Hamilton, a 32-year Collegian veteran, announced his retirement in an e-mail to board members on Aug. 13. He said his last work day will be Sept. 18, and he will take accrued paid time off through Jan. 18.

In a [Collegian interview](#), Hamilton said had been planning to retire but Harvey's reinstatement affected his decision to do so now.

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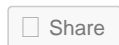
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Posted on May 21, 2009 by collegianaig

"The Daily Collegian AIG strongly protests the dismissal of Mr. John Harvey. The AIG board asks that the board of directors reverse John Harvey's dismissal and, further, that the board of directors takes a more active role in overseeing the Collegian's operations so that it can resume its proper role of educating and training student journalists. The AIG board further asks that the board take a close look at the way the Collegian has been managed. The Daily Collegian AIG will place a moratorium on its fundraising efforts in support of the Collegian until the AIG board is satisfied that Collegian Inc. is moving in a direction the AIG can support."

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Chris Korman, on [May 21, 2009 at 12:43 pm](#) said:  
Bravo, and thanks.



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**Nichole Dobo**, on [May 21, 2009 at 1:03 pm](#) said:



Amen.

[Reply](#)

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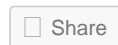
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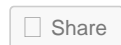
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## The one, the only 'Sharkey'

Posted on April 29, 2009 by collegianaig

### Beloved Systems Division specialist to retire

By Alison Kepner, '03

When Dave Bell joined the Collegian's Professional Staff in September 1987, he pasted up the paper on layout sheets.

Photos had to be shot on the horizontal camera to make halftones; the pasted-up pages were shot with the same camera to make negatives.

When the Systems Division specialist retires in the fall, his last night will be spent like every other these days: behind a computer.

"There is nothing quite like having an X-ACTO knife in your hand doing it all manually," Bell, 62, said. "I do miss those days."

Many students and Collegian alumni may not recognize Bell's name. To most in the James Building, he's better – make that only – known as Sharkey.

Sharkey himself doesn't quite understand where the nickname came from.

"Amanda Thompson, a reporter, started the whole thing," he said. "I asked her many times, 'Why?' All she would say was, 'because you are sharkey.'"

"Personally I think it was because I am the antithesis of what a shark(ey) is," he said.

Systems Division Night Supervisor Tom Owens may describe his longtime co-worker and friend best: "Sharkey is just a friendly cuss with no pretenses."

That a student would develop a pet name for him isn't surprising considering the bonds many students have formed with him over the years.

"He always seemed to hit on me by calling me 'sweetie' or whatever," remembers Travis Larchuk, '07.

Former sports copy editor Gretchen Gailey, '02, said her favorite memory of Sharkey is "how no matter what came out of my mouth, no matter what I wanted to do for a page design, he would just look at me and shake his head 'no.' He hated every idea that came out of my mouth."

Sharkey has some favorite student memories, too, like the time he wrestled 2001-02 Editor in Chief Jill Leonard, "taking her down in a nifty wrestling move."



Sharkey

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Or when former Night Supervisor Joseph Shimkus threw Angela Gates, '01, out of the back shop for being rowdy.

And then there were Gailey's shrieks from the sports department – "all the goofy, entertaining stuff that comes with working with kids night after night," he said.

Collegian General Manager Gerry Hamilton, who started at Penn State's Altoona campus with Sharkey in 1965, remembers how before Sharkey started at the Collegian, he didn't think he would like the students.

"He thought maybe they would be kind of unfriendly or stuck up or something. Early on his opinion changed," Hamilton said. "He found most of the students were friendly and fun to be around, and he truly admired the students. He saw how talented the students are and how hard they work.

"That plus his approachable, unassuming personality just fit right in here," he said. "He's also the fatherly type – today that would be the grandfatherly type."

Sharkey expects what he will miss most are the interactions with the students: "They are a dedicated group of kids that I have had the pleasure to work with."

Of course, the papers he and those kids put out together stand out as well.

There was 9-11. And coming in on a Friday night to put out the special edition when George W. Bush declared war on Iraq. Crunch time during elections, football, JoePa.

His students and co-workers will miss him, too.

They'll miss hearing him utter "Widow!" and his sneeze, described by Owens as the loudest on the Eastern Seaboard.

"I'll miss walking into the shop and making some smart remark about whether he's napping or actually working (it's real hard to tell sometimes)," Hamilton said. "As his friend, I really hope he'll spend some time learning how to play double deck pinochle better than he does now. Our wives would appreciate that, too."

Sharkey will spend his retirement with his wife, Ruth, whom he met at Penn State Altoona.

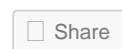
"We have worked different shifts for most of our married life, so we will have to learn to get along together!"

With his many hobbies and interests – Arm & Hammer, genealogy, old movies, photography, nature — he doesn't expect he'll have time to get bored. But that doesn't mean he won't miss it.

"I will take a lot of good memories from the Collegian," he said.

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## 9 Responses

**Kelly aka Wendy aka Diva**, on [April 29, 2009 at 8:16 pm](#) said:



Sharkey is the best!!

Enjoy your retirement!

[Reply](#)

**Gerry**, on [April 30, 2009 at 12:52 am](#) said:



Actually, Dave is the best double deck pinochle player I know, but don't tell him I said so.

[Reply](#)

**Darren Robertson, '00**, on [April 30, 2009 at 1:31 pm](#) said:



I do remember the "Nos". When Jason Fagone and I were doing atrocious things with the design of the weekly Collegian around 1999 or so, every time we went back there and started to present him with another idea, he just cut us off and said no. Every time, every idea.

And then he let us do it anyway.

Great guy. Nice to read this and remember that. Best to Sharkey in retirement!

[Reply](#)

**Angela Gates**, on [April 30, 2009 at 6:16 pm](#) said:



I can't believe I made Sharkey's favorite memories! He is definitely one of mine from the good ol' Collegian days. Wishing you all the best in your retirement, Sharkey!

[Reply](#)

**Jill Leonard**, on [April 30, 2009 at 9:16 pm](#) said:



I still miss Sharkey! 😊 What a good guy. Except that time he took me down in that wrestling move. I thought he was kidding.

[Reply](#)

**Audrey**, on [April 30, 2009 at 10:28 pm](#) said:



Sharkey: Who will ever help my husband with his grammar when you're not around? We've made such progress, don't quit now!

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**Amy Zurzola Quinn**, on [May 1, 2009 at 9:16 pm](#) said:



(Phone rings)

"Yessss, Sharkey?"

"Ahh, Zuzu, your story needs cut."

Sharkey Forever!

Collegian '94

[Reply](#)

**Karen Guth**, on [May 1, 2009 at 10:08 pm](#) said:



Sharkey is still one of my favorite memories from my days at the Collegian.



Enjoy your retirement!

Karen  
Collegian '93

[Reply](#)

Ramit Plushnick-Masti, on [May 3, 2009 at 8:25 am](#) said:



The nights standing over the paste-up board in the back checking which word to cut!  
Oh Sharkey where have those days gone!!! Enjoy your retirement and don't work too hard!

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## Interview with Patti Hartranft

Posted on September 29, 2010 by collegianaig

By Teresa Cook

Patti Hartranft, who has worked at the Daily Collegian for 34 years, became general manager Sept. 1, replacing Gerry Hamilton who retired last year.

Originally from the Wilkes Barre area, Hartranft is a 1976 graduate of Penn State in Secondary Education — English/Journalism. She did not work on the Collegian as a student, but after her marriage, she returned to State College and began working as a typesetter for the Collegian in late 1976.

Since then she has been a production manager, assistant general manager and operations manager.

She has served as interim general manager for the past year.

The AIG talked with Hartranft in a telephone interview on Sept. 10 and asked about her plans for the paper.

### What are your duties?

I oversee the day-to-day operations of the paper and work on longer term agreements with printers and any other obligations. I am liaison to our national advertising representative firm. I'm right now the head human resources person dealing with health insurance, parking, other duties. I'm a member of local and national human resource associations. I also have been training the editor and business manager in management and personnel issues; I oversee their boot camp where they go to every department to learn; I supervise circulation and billing. I represent Collegian on the student readership program. That program includes the New York Times, The Centre Daily Times, USA Today and the Collegian.



Patti Hartranft

### How much contact do you have with students?

A lot of contact, I'm a resource person, we talk about strategic things, legal issues. I am in charge of the management team – Mteam, really makes all the crucial operating decisions. Mteam is the group that decided to start running front page ads – or for example if we're going to undertake a new publication. Members are the editor, business manager, advisers, managing editor, advertising manager and systems manager.

### What changes do you plan?

As interim GM, I was charged to submit a balanced budget and I made some changes

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to do that — cutbacks in scholarships, cutbacks in staff. We can't be staffed as we were in 2000 with 18-20 pages a day. Now we run closer to 14 pages per day. The best ideas come from the students — we have started some partnerships with other organizations (some still under negotiation) with the Dining Guide, we're looking at using the Penn State Marketing Association to do some research for us. We do some work with a local radio station — they read our headlines in the morning.

The Collegian to me is always changing — I don't think I've been here through a static time — it's going to continue to change.

**How many students on the staff?**

It varies – between 150-200 in news, 50-100 in business.

**How many get stipends?**

We give out 132 scholarships.

**Have you cut number or amount?**

That's a choice students make – they preferred to cut numbers, not amounts. For the summer we cut amounts, but for fall and spring we cut numbers.

**How many?**

Off the top of my head I don't know, certainly less than 10 percent.

**The average stipend?**

There are three different levels – \$600 to \$2,000 per semester.

**Have you made professional staff cuts?**

We cut one person completely, and will cut another person at the end of this semester. We cut hours back for all full-time employees. I am anticipating not hiring an operations manager (Hartranft's previous position), will delegate to other members, have them take on more duties.

**The news adviser and business adviser have been cut to part-time?**

I don't consider them part-time, they get 32 hours plus full benefits. That changed from 40 to 32 in June. Some staff went from 40 to 35 or 40 to 37 1/2 hours.

**Do you anticipate more staff cutbacks?**

I don't.

We had a good deal of success — last year – established a hard-selling atmosphere, that continues. We saw improvements in ad sales in spring and that has continued under Kelsey Thompson, with small staff, but really aggressive selling.

**Will you look at changing the business model? Do more with the web?**

The problem with the web and the problem we're seeing on a national basis, is we've given away content for so long, people don't want to pay. We could sell our whole ad space, and not make enough.

The only new business model would mean the Collegian wouldn't be a newspaper.

**News advisor John Harvey is [leaving Oct. 1](#). How do you plan to address the status of news adviser? Any leads yet?**

I wasn't empowered to do this until a week ago. A committee internally will make recommendations. John Harvey has set up the semester for candidate school. As of today a new class is starting. Liz Murphy and the managing editor will teach candidate classes as long as needed.

**Will you be updating Collegian computer equipment and systems?**

We just installed 20 new computers in the newsroom, for editing, all news functions. Next year, we'll work on servers and keeping those updated and will probably update more computers. Our systems manager buys components and builds our computers.

**What percentage of the budget is allocated to students?**

10-12 percent.

**Will student scholarships continue to be cut, how much?**

No

**Will you try to restore them?**

I would like to. Employees here have not gotten a raise in 5 years, I would like to do that too.

**What are the biggest financial reductions you anticipate?**

I'm not expecting any.

**On the distribution contract with the university, which comes up for renewal this year, how do you plan to deal with the University?**

I plan to keep kind of mum about my plans, but I'll try to get the best deal we possibly can get. Negotiations start in two weeks.

**Do you have long-range plans for the Collegian?**

I don't have a lot of faith in long-range plans when it comes to media. Ten years ago we couldn't have foreseen the downturn in the economy and changes in the industry. We do what we can with knowledge we have now. We're going to be the best information provider for Penn State, and the best training ground for students.

**What is the Collegian's competition?**

We have considerable competition – a startup paper for Greeks, the Onward State website. The Centre Daily Times is always looking over our shoulders. There is competition.

**Any new ventures with the web and social media?**

We're doing what's popular right now. We have people tweeting, we have a facebook group, the website. I'm not sure what's coming down the pike, but I'm sure we're going to be doing it.

**How do you plan to deal with public relations — any plans to change relations with alumni, with the College of Communications and with Penn State?**

I'd sure like to hit the re-set button on everything.

Frankly, my challenge right now is, internally, I'm still doing two jobs.

I need to get my own house straightened out. Next is the Penn State contract, really an all-consuming process, I've been in the background before during negotiations. The work is extensive. That is really going to occupy my time.

I'd like to reach out to the dean of the College (of Communications), to see if we can establish a better relationship.

**How do you plan on working with the Collegian AIG?**

I'm not sure what's going to happen with the AIG. It was a peaceable kingdom up until a year ago. I'm not sure how we're going to change that.

**What can alumni do to help the Collegian?**

I think the inherent role in the AIG is we need the mentorship of alumni to our students. A member of the staff has a facebook page; students rely on that for job postings. Alumni could take over that role, that's suitable to the role of the AIG.

It would be wonderful to have an endowed scholarship for the editor and business manager and as many others as we could have, to save money from the operating budget.

We gave thought this year to the Penn State class gift – we talked about some year that the Collegian could be the class gift.

**On the Collegian board of directors, do you think the board needs more professional input, more people with past Collegian experience?**

Not really. The board president right now (Ty Strohl) is a former Collegian member.

Last year we had three board members from Collegian alumni. I think the Collegian board does a good job overseeing the company. They don't do day-to-day and I don't think they want to, they're a volunteer board.

**The makeup of the board is satisfactory?**

Yes. Last year the board had a bylaws review, the changes came from within. We talked about the makeup of the board and we decided we like it the way it is.

**Do you recognize that your selection process is questionable?**

I do know that.

**What do you have to say to that?**

Nothing, unless you have a specific question.

**The selection process was changed, there were candidates and then the process was interrupted.**

The (selection) process was flawed in that those (selection) committees leaked a lot of information — the first one. And the second one leaked some things too.

**Do you see a conflict in that you have a close relationship with Ty (Collegian board president)? Does that undermine credibility?**

I have a good relationship with a lot of former students, especially business managers. It's not something that I have ever tried to hide. I am as close to others — it was not a big factor. I've always been pretty up front about disclosing it. These kinds of things, there are special relationships between professional staff and students here and I really do value those. We like to keep in touch with alumni.

Yes I kept in touch with Ty, he worked in town. He did that with a couple people here. He also recused himself from my interviews. He did not participate in the final interview with me.

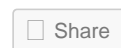
As for the AIG — I think that last year, when the AIG started taking positions and questioning things the board did, that was a breaking point and I don't know how we can go back.

**Would you like to add anything?**

No one wants the Collegian to succeed more than I do. I really want this organization to thrive and go forward and I want someone to be sitting here 50 years from how to say we did things right. I have the company's best interests at heart.

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« [5 questions with: Ramit Plushnick-Masti AIG seeks new member](#) »

### One Response

**Scott Sesler**, on [October 1, 2010 at 11:28 am](#) said:



This was a good interview with Patti. She was very open and candid in her answers. It's clear that the best interests of the Collegian are foremost in her plans. I applaud her selection as General Manager by the Board as wish her the very best in these trying times. Now, hopefully, the AIG can work at resolving their earlier issues and move forward in their support of Patti and the Collegian.

—Scott Sesler, '78 – former Collegian Business Manager and Past AIG President

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## Five questions with: Jayne Jamison

Posted on November 6, 2008 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Former Collegianaire Jayne Jamison, '78, is vice president and publisher of *Seventeen* magazine. For 60 years, *Seventeen* has been a voice for young women ages 12-24. Each month it reaches 13 million readers, thrilling them with articles on topics ranging from Ashley Tisdale to fashion tips. We asked her five questions:

### What was your career path to your current position?

I began my career as a media buyer at an advertising agency. I switched to the other side of the desk, becoming a seller, after figuring out what made a really impactful sales person and presentation. Of course, understanding the client, and their media needs, gave me a great foundation for a career in sales.

### Most college journalism students anticipate careers in newspapers. What's the lure of magazine work?

While there may be a day when we are delivered a custom newspaper based on our interests, there is nothing like writing or selling for a publication that matches your life stage or personal passions. There is so much opportunity to provide our advertising clients with a predisposed audience and great synergy for their advertising message. Magazines offer incredible reader engagement.

### Is "publisher" essentially the chief advertising sales person?

As the publisher, I am responsible for both the advertising sales and marketing of the magazine. I sell my heart out every day: to my clients, my subordinates and superiors. Keeping my hand on the business, and our key clients, is the key to my success.



Jayne Jamison

### The magazine claims 1 in 5 young American women as readers. As your staff grows older but the audience remains in essentially the same age group, how do you stay in touch?

For me, it's easy to stay in touch with the *Seventeen* audience as I have my own personal focus group at home — two teenaged children. Staying on top of popular culture and trends is something everyone on my staff is expected to do. We can find out a lot just by going into a local mall on a Saturday afternoon and talking to or watching our target consumers as they shop.

### What was your Collegian experience? How did it help?

I sold classified ads at *The Daily Collegian*. The highlight of my experience was when the Nittany Lion placed a personal ad. I wanted to ask him out on a date myself, but I was too shy. Every job requires some form of selling, whether it's an ad or an idea. Learning through my time at the *Collegian* gave me an edge over other candidates with no sales experience, and it also led me into a very fulfilling and rewarding career in

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« [Football ticket fundraiser a success! Faces of the Daily Collegian: Erin Prah, Dorrian Kearney](#) »

### One Response

[jenny gardiner](#), on [November 9, 2008 at 3:02 pm](#) said:



Pretty cool we have a fellow Collegian among our ranks as publisher of Seventeen. Love to see our alum at the pinnacle of their careers in such high-profile places. Congratulations!

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## A new direction: Alumna goes from NYT to China

Posted on **June 11, 2010** by collegianaig

By **Teresa Villa Cook, '74**

If you're going to leave the newspaper business and start a second career, you might as well go all the way to China to do it.

That is what Diane Nottle has done. She is teaching English at Hunan University of Science and Technology in Xiangtan for this spring semester.

After she had spent 20 years in the features department of The New York Times, the great newspaper meltdown of 2008 hit and she was offered lesser duties or a buyout. She decided to leave.

Her newspaper career began at The Daily Collegian. Nottle had just become Collegian editor in 1974 when Richard Nixon resigned the presidency. She still considers that one of the highlights of her newspaper years, along with being at the Times on 9/11. Her job at the Times was editing cultural and arts news, handling coverage of the Tonys and Oscars, and editing Times arts critics. She also did a lot of writing.

Now in her second career she is writing again, as a freelancer for newspapers, such as The National, the English-language paper of Abu Dhabi, but also on her [blog about her experiences in China](#).

You'll get hungry reading her descriptions of the food, cringe at her restroom report and marvel that she held the paw of a giant panda. Her students will likely make you laugh, and you'll notice that they are really not too different from American students.



Diane Nottle holds the paw of a giant panda at a preserve in Sichuan province.

After a rough start, she's doing fine. "The culture shock was enormous the first few weeks...the part of China where I am is still very much a developing country," she said, describing Xiangtan as "muddy streets, old buses spewing pollution, live animals being sold on the streets (and in the grocery stores)."

How did she end up in China?

Nottle said when she started wondering what she would do if she left her newspaper job, she thought about her love of travel, a love she acquired in the Manchester study abroad program at Penn State. And then she thought maybe she could teach English as a second language.

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So while she was still employed at the Times, she enrolled in the New School University certificate program in English language teaching. For her practicum, she taught in Poland and has returned there twice. When she received an e-mail from the New School about an opening in China, she decided to apply.

The job has its challenges, which she describes in her blog:

"Hunan University of Science and Technology strikes me as the Penn State of Xiangtan, minus the football. The Penn, the higher-ranked and better-funded Xiangtan University (alma mater of Chairman Mao, which may explain a lot), is in another part of the city that I haven't seen yet. It's the story of my life: once again I've landed on an enormous, sprawling campus some distance from civilization with a big emphasis on technical subjects."

She writes that, being just one of eight foreign teachers on a campus of 35,000, she stands out in the crowd, so she is often approached by students who want to practice their English. The Chinese, Nottle writes, do not allow for privacy and quiet time.

She said she'd be willing to return to China on future assignments, but preferably to a more modern city. And she wouldn't mind trying a different country someday, too.

"I have no intention of giving up my New York life ...one semester abroad a year, is I think, ideal for me ...while still keeping up my freelance career."



Shortly after arriving in China in February, Diane Nottle visited the Pudong section of Shanghai on the Huangpu River, now lined with skyscrapers of every shape and size. She said that when she visited the same spot 25 years ago, there was nothing on the shoreline.

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### One Response

[Karen Carnabucci](#), on [June 16, 2010 at 12:21 pm](#) said:



Thanks for this update! I have good memories of our days at The Collegian.

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## Faces of the Daily Collegian: Erin Prah, Dorrian Kearney

Posted on November 6, 2008 by collegianaig

by Renee Petrina, '04

Erin Prah

Erin Prah finally picks up the phone and apologizes for the wait – she was in a tiny upstairs closet that *The Daily Collegian* has converted into its multimedia room, and another staffer had to track her down.

Prah is the News Division's Web chief, a role that changed only this semester to focus heavily on multimedia production, adding video and audio slide shows to the newspaper's Web site, [www.collegian.psu.edu](http://www.collegian.psu.edu).

While reporters and photographers are on deadline for print, Prah is the one compiling their audio and images into presentable format for Web users.

Prah arrived at Penn State from Uniontown, Pa., expecting to be a print journalist. But that changed after she took Curt Chandler's multimedia class, a course she registered for on a bit of a whim after friends told her it was good.



Erin Prah

"It turned out to be probably one of the best classes I've ever taken and probably one of the better scheduling decisions I have made in my collegiate career."

Suddenly, her perspective changed. She lobbied to be Web chief. The *Collegian* purchased a digital video camera and editing software. She's pretty much skipped over print when applying for jobs — she'll finish coursework in December.

But Prah points out that the same journalistic skills honed for the print product apply.

"You're telling the same story, but you get to show people who this character is and what the environment is. Not everything lends itself to that, granted, but when it does, it really adds a lot."

The *Collegian* experienced a whirlwind video week in late October. After Penn State beat Ohio State in a grueling gridiron contest, students streamed into the street and began pulling down streetlights — and *Collegian* staffers ran out with cameras in hand.

They'd borrowed a video camera from the College of Communications, but it used tape, which limited them to the editing equipment in the Carnegie Building. Prah had gone to Philadelphia for the weekend — "literally the first weekend I get out of State College," she said — when the big news broke.

Staff members stayed at Carnegie editing to produce a very raw version to post online, making it home around sunrise. When Prah returned, she was asked to make cleaner versions.

For the month of October, the first (riot) video had 27,771 hits, the second video had

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44,108 hits, for a combined 71,879 hits.

Since the *Collegian* got the camera, "It's really kind of catapulted from using it maybe once or twice a week," Prah said.

As the staff was recovering from coverage of the disturbance, they got the call that vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin would hold a rally at University Park. Then former President Bill Clinton came. Then the Phillies won the World Series -- all things the *Collegian* covered digitally in addition to in print.

"It's got a lot of reporters thinking visually and how their stories are going to lend themselves" to multimedia coverage," she said.

### Dorrian Kearney

The camouflage shirt doesn't help Dorrian Kearney hide — to the contrary, it gets her noticed. But that's exactly what *The Daily Collegian's* promotions manager wants. Kearney, a senior from Reading, Pa., leads a group of three Business Division students who prowls the HUB-Robeson Center with prizes for students who they catch reading the *Collegian*.

"Our pickup rate is really great, but we are looking to make it better," she says.

It's just one of the many things Kearney does to help boost circulation and brand recognition. Part of the branding is the promotions "uniform" of sorts — camo shirts with the *Collegian* logo on the front and "Don't get caught without one" on the back.



Dorrian  
Kearney

They pass out papers, but they're most popular when giving away White-Out T-shirts as prizes. (The *Collegian* helps run the annual contest to determine what design will grace the shirt that covers Beaver Stadium's student section.)

Sports connections put Kearney and other Business Division staffers in sometimes enviable positions, such as working with football stars. The *Collegian* sponsors a rap contest with Penn State Athletics. Students submit videos of themselves rapping about all things Blue and White, and online voting pares them down. Finalists compete in person in the HUB, with guest judges that are usually popular football alumni. (Former QB Michael Robinson came back for the contest last year.) Rather than being starstruck, Kearney puts on her management hat and tells the player-judges what to do, formalizing logistics, including how they will rate the competitors. Then she watches as the HUB fills up with fans. "It kind of takes over the whole HUB for the half-hour it goes on," she says. "Up on the second floor, I remember people had their chests painted with their friends' name on it."

Kearney wasn't sure what she was getting into when she walked into *The Daily Collegian* offices with a friend her freshman year. "We had no idea what it was," she explains, recalling their decision to try out. "We know it's a newspaper, but we know it's not writing. ... It's something about advertising and that's our major, so let's go." She stayed on ever since, even staying in town for a summer to learn ad layout when they needed a manager.

Just as uncertainty brought her into the *Collegian*, it also hangs over her plans for after May's graduation. She's not sure what she wants to do with her life just yet, but Teach for America has had an allure for her since her freshman year. "I've always kind of thought about being a teacher but never wanted to major in it." Also, she is concerned that jumping into full-time work in public relations wouldn't allow her to give back through volunteerism as much as she'd like to.

But before she can graduate, she has to make it through the spring semester, when she'll be the only returning member of the promotions team. Oh, and she just came off being a homecoming captain, is a THON entertainment captain, and she works at Qdoba. She says staying busy is her way to stay organized and on task.

"Come the spring, we have the White Out contest going, and the rappers going, and we're trying to do (advertiser) testimonials, it gets a little hectic in here."

And then there's THON.

"That will keep me on my toes at least."

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## 5 Questions with: Valerie Plame Wilson

Posted on February 10, 2010 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Valerie Plame Wilson is probably the best known, most publicized secret agent in the world. After being outed as a CIA operative by senior officials of her own government — as punishment for statements made by her husband about the unlikelihood of the African nation of Niger having available 500 tons of uranium to sell to Iraq — she wrote a book. Upon publication of “Fair Game: My Life as a Spy, My Betrayal by the White House,” she found herself on a round of TV shows from “60 Minutes” to CNN. The public life was quite a contrast to her clandestine career with CIA, which involved covert counter-proliferation operations. Next comes the movie. Really. “Fair Game” will be released soon, with Naomi Watts playing the role of Plame.

However, many Penn State alums remember her as Valerie Plame of The Daily Collegian business staff. She has turned up several times recently in Happy Valley — appearing last year on the cover of The Penn Stater and as the grand marshal of the 2009 homecoming parade. Plame has come a long way since her birth in Anchorage, Alaska, to her education at Penn State to her career with CIA in the Eastern Mediterranean. She is the mother of 10-year old twins and now lives far from Washington, D.C., in Santa Fe.

### 1. Tell us about the movie – what’s the approach, who is writing it, and who plays you?

The movie is based on the books my husband and I wrote (“The Politics of Truth” and “Fair Game”) as well as the extensive public record on the leak of my CIA identity. The director is Doug Liman (“The Bourne Identity” and “Mr. and Mrs. Smith”). Liman wants to show the serious consequences of removing a CIA operations officer working on counterproliferation issues from the game board. The writers are brothers Jez and John-Henry Butterworth, and they did a brilliant job of illuminating all aspects of this story — from the personal, to the espionage angle, to the political.

Sean Penn plays Joe, and Naomi Watts plays me. They both turned in powerful, graceful performances. The film is now in post-production, and we expect it to come out in the next few months.

### 2. While much of your book was redacted/censored, you came up with an interesting work-around by having another author add a biography (which resolved many of the censored areas) at the end. How did that come about?

My publisher, Simon & Schuster, came up with the idea of asking a respected investigative journalist, Laura Rozen, to add a 50-page afterword, which helped to fill in some of the redacted areas for the reader. Laura and I never met or spoke prior to the book’s publication, and I had no idea what she would find and write about. I think that, overall, she did a good job. She was not under the same secrecy agreement as I and was therefore free to conduct interviews and sift through the considerable public record

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to create her afterword.

### 3. What message should the working press take from “Plamegate,” reporting leaked information, and the aftermath?

The working press is an absolutely critical component of a functioning democracy. It helps to keep our elected leaders in line and watch to ensure that their deeds match their words.

I believe that the American public was let down by the media in the run-up to the war with Iraq because with few exceptions, they were not aggressive enough with their questions, and, instead, took much of what the previous administration said as absolute truth. They were lazy.

### 4. At points in your book, you seemed almost apologetic that your degree is from Penn State and not Yale or Harvard. Why? Do you still feel that way?

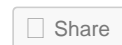
I’m sorry if that’s the impression you gathered — I am very proud of my Penn State degree! I was simply trying to make the point that historically, the CIA has recruited from the “Ivies” and has slowly begun to expand its potential applicant pool with diverse backgrounds, cultures and ethnicities. The national security threats our country faces today demand that our operations officers come from a variety of backgrounds with strong language skills.

### 5. What was your Collegian experience? How did your time on the business staff help you get where you are today?

I loved my time working at the Collegian (1982-1985). I started selling advertising space to make extra money and got to know many of the stores and restaurants in town. I then moved into management of the paper itself and enjoyed the challenge of making so many moving parts work together.

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### Love stories

Posted on **September 30, 2009** by collegianaig

We know you're out there. We're looking for couples who met at the Collegian and are still together for a story for our February newsletter.

If you're interested in participating, e-mail Alison Kepner at [alisonkepner@gmail.com](mailto:alisonkepner@gmail.com).

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### Love your Joe

Posted on **September 30, 2009** by collegianaig

Everyone loves joe — joe the coffee and Joe the coach.

The coffee is Dunkin Donuts' freshly brewed. The coach is Joe Paterno, the winningest coach in major college football. [Continue reading →](#)

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### Minnesota game tickets...

Posted on **August 23, 2009** by collegianaig

Haven't got your tickets to see the 2009 Nittany Lions yet? Here's your chance!

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### Football ticket fundraiser a success!

Posted on **October 18, 2008** by collegianaig

As of Nov. 2, 2008, the football ticket fundraiser has concluded. Thanks to everyone who participated!!

Filed under: [AIG News](#), [Events](#) | Tagged: [football](#) | [1 Comment »](#)

### Update: tickets still available!

Posted on **September 22, 2008** by collegianaig

Didn't score tickets to a game at Beaver Stadium? Here's your chance!

The first four people to donate \$250 or more to the AIG in the next few weeks will receive a pair of tickets (valued at \$122) to the Penn State-Michigan State game on Nov. 22, where you can watch the Nittany Lions take on the Spartans for the Land Grant Trophy. Please mail checks to:

Jill Leonard  
140 Apollo Road  
Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666.

There is a limit of one set of tickets per donor. **Four sets of tickets remain, so don't delay!** All of the home games are sold out! For more details, or if you have any questions, please e-mail Jill Leonard at [jill@pennstatefan.net](mailto:jill@pennstatefan.net).

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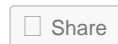


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Bonnie Hamorsky, on [October 21, 2008 at 6:43 pm](#) said:

How do we make the donation and are there any tickets left? Count us in if there are.

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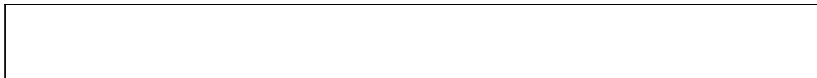
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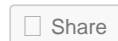


### Seat open on AIG Board

Posted on September 18, 2011 by collegianaig

Interested in serving on the AIG Board? We're currently seeking someone to fill a vacant seat. Contact Nominating Committee Chair Jerry Schwartz at [JSchwartz@ap.org](mailto:JSchwartz@ap.org) for more info.

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### In NYC? Collegian get-together planned

Posted on **August 22, 2008** by collegianaig

A group of Collegian alumni in New York City is planning a get-together to start at 6 p.m. on Aug. 28, 2008 at Telephone Bar.

If you know of any informal Collegian alumni get-togethers in your town, [e-mail them to us](#) and we'll post them here to help get the word out!

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### Get the word out!

Posted on **August 13, 2008** by collegianaig

If you have a Web site, blog, Facebook or Myspace page, you can help us make sure your old Collegian friends are up-to-date on the latest AIG news and events. Post a link to our Web site ( <http://www.psucollegianalumni.com>) on your page, and tell your friends to check it out! [Continue reading →](#)

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## Five questions with: Terry Mutchler

Posted on August 16, 2008 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Former Collegianaire Terry Mutchler ('87) has been appointed to serve as the first executive director of Pennsylvania's Office of Open Records. We asked her five questions:

### What does the job of executive director of the Office of Open Records entail? Whom do you report to?

At the moment, the role of executive director includes everything from picking staff to reviewing blueprints for the office space to analyzing the new law. My role is to prepare the public and the government to usher in the most significant change to public access to records that the commonwealth has seen in half a century. Overall, the key mission of this office will be to promote open and honest government, ensuring that citizens have access to the documents of their government to which they are entitled. I am appointed by the governor for a six-year term and as such serve at his pleasure.

### How much authority will the position have?

The new law provides a great deal of authority to establish rules and regulations and issue opinions on open-government issues that come before us. While our decisions will be given deference by the courts, our opinions are advisory. A public body, or a citizen, would have the option to go to court to appeal our rulings.



Terry Mutchler

### Can reporters contact you with open records or Sunshine requests?

Anyone, including reporters, can contact our office with questions related to open records issues ([tmutchler@state.pa.us](mailto:tmutchler@state.pa.us)).

### You are in a precedent-setting situation. What do you hope to accomplish?

I hope that the Open Records Team that I put in place in the coming months will be able to look back at the end of the six years and say we helped citizens obtain information about their government while providing local governments a great resource to help them as they serve the public.

### What was your Collegian experience?

My *Collegian* experience is both indescribable and irreplaceable. I loved the time I spent there. The edited version is that I learned about the news business and how to write on deadline, a skill I use every day. But more importantly than learning the nuts-and-bolts of reporting, I learned about people. I made lifelong friends during those late-night experiences of getting out a daily newspaper. And, perhaps most importantly, I came to understand that secrecy cannot co-exist with democracy – I started to learn that lesson at *The Daily Collegian*.

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## Collegian grads abundant in York

Posted on March 6, 2009 by collegianaig

By Teresa Villa Cook, '74

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Don't forget a few more names

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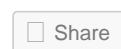
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**Collegian love stories**

Posted on **February 10, 2010** by collegianaig

By **Alison Kepner, '03**

They come to the Collegian with a love for journalism, but some leave with the love of their lives, too.

That shouldn't be a surprise considering that many staff members spend most of their waking (and many non-waking) hours in the Collegian offices.

No one has kept an official count of how many couples the Collegian has produced, but every class seems to have at least one.

Former copy desk chief Hannah (Aboul-Hosn) Prince, Class of 2006, met her husband, Greg, her senior year when he landed as a copy editor on her desk.

"At a school as big as Penn State, it can be really hard to find people with whom you connect. You don't necessarily have anything in common with the guy who sits next to you in English class or who approached you at the bar," she said. "But at the Collegian, we all had things in common from the get-go.



Greg & Hannah

"Plus, Collegian staff members spend so much time in the office. They meet so many people there and have so little time for anything else that it's inevitable for couples to form."

That is what happened with Tracy (Wilson) Saelinger, Class of 2001, and her husband, Dan. They knew each other for a while but didn't start dating until the end of her sophomore year – 10 years ago this spring.

The Collegian played a big role in their relationship.

"We would never have met" without the Collegian, she said. "I also probably wouldn't have gone into magazines otherwise. The summer we started dating, Dan was interning at Rolling Stone, and I just thought that was so cool."

Today they both work in New York City, Tracy as a magazine editor and Dan as a commercial photographer.

"We still keep in touch with lots of

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Tracy &amp; Dan

Collegian friends, and both still work in media," Tracy Saelinger said. "Working in the same industry has its pros and cons, but I think it's mostly a good thing – we work the same worlds, have the same interests."

Sandra (Fischione) Donovan, Class of 1972, met husband Dan on her first day as a Collegian staffer in the spring of 1969. She had finished candidate school and was called into the office to start work.

"I was given a tour of the newspaper offices in the basement of Sackett Building, where The Collegian was then housed. Whoever gave the tour introduced me to all the Collegian staffers there, and Dan was one of them," she said.

The Collegian provided their introduction, but they only went out once – for hamburgers at the then-New College Diner — while on staff together.

"I re-met Dan in 1972 in Pittsburgh after graduation, when I was job-hunting. Call it Collegian kismet," Donovan said. "Dan suggested bringing over some of my Collegian clips to aid in my job search. We began dating regularly after that, and the rest is history: three children, one grandson, and a granddaughter on the way!"

Of course, some couples try to keep their relationships a secret while on staff, which can be a challenge when working with reporters.



Sandy &amp; Dan

Hannah and Greg Prince succeeded though. They had been dating for a couple months before their co-workers found out.

"Near the end of our senior year, I was throwing a pre-formal party at my apartment," Greg Prince recalls. "Almost everyone from the copy desk that semester was there. Hannah (who was returning from an out-of-town conference) showed up late.

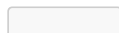
"I was in the kitchen talking with Kelsey Collins when Hannah arrived. Hannah rushed past Kelsey and gave me a kiss. After a few seconds, I looked over Hannah's shoulder and saw Kelsey standing there with her mouth hanging wide open," he said.

The couple, now living in Fairfax, Va., married in May 2008.

"The Collegian gave us both the experience we needed to get jobs at newspapers," Hannah Prince said. "It also created a lasting, mutual hatred of bad grammar. To this day, we commiserate with each other about the spelling and punctuation mistakes we encounter at work and elsewhere. We copy edit song lyrics, street signs, magazines, everything together."

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### One Response

**Bill Guthlein**, on [February 16, 2010 at 5:21 pm](#) said:



Collegian ties are forever too. Bob Buday (sports) and Cathy Cipolla (news), both 1976 grads or thereabouts went their own way, married and had children (not to each other) and in their 40s found each other and had a baby.

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## 5 Questions with: Lori Shontz

Posted on August 23, 2009 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Lori Shontz, a 1991 graduate of Penn State in English writing with a minor in sport history, was The Daily Collegian's sports editor during her time in Happy Valley.

She worked for the St. Louis Post Dispatch and the Miami Herald before returning to Happy Valley to assume the enviable position of senior editor at The Penn Stater.

We asked her five questions:

### You're back in Happy Valley. What are you doing on The Penn Stater?

I returned to State College in February after spending 10 months at The Miami Herald as the Sunday sports editor. During those 10 months, the paper endured three rounds of "voluntary buyouts," the first announced literally 15 minutes after I started. Honestly, my job didn't feel stable, and neither my husband nor I have roots in Miami. (Although we did enjoy the beach. A lot.) So when The Penn Stater magazine had an opening for a senior editor, I jumped at it.

The job gives me a chance to continue writing and editing without worrying that my job is in danger. It gives me a chance to grow, too — I'm doing longer-form journalism after nearly 18 years in newspapers. And I'm back on a college campus, which has such a great energy. I'm going teach journalism as an adjunct in the fall, and I'm really excited about that.



Lori Shontz

Specifically, I coordinate four sections of the magazine — Alumni Association News, Obituaries, Penn State Pulse (on-campus happenings, for all of the campuses) and My Thoughts Exactly, a personal essay. (We're always looking for interesting essays, so anyone reading should feel free to pitch me!) I write some of those shorter pieces, and I write longer pieces for the feature well, too.

### What courses do you wish you'd taken (or taken more of) at Penn State?

I cannot believe I attended one of the top meteorology schools in the country and never took a METEO class. Instead, I filled science credits with GEOSCI20 (yes, Rocks for Jocks) and Astronomy for Non-Science Majors. Dumb.

### Talk a bit about your time on the St. Louis Post Dispatch and Miami Herald.

When I went to St. Louis in 2004, I was strictly a writer. I left there in 2008 as an editor.

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When I got to the Post-Dispatch, I couldn't go to the Athens Olympics because we didn't have enough credentials. I had covered the Olympics four times for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and no one wanted to waste my expertise. So I spent a month moonlighting as the Olympics editor. I expected to feel cranky because I was stuck in the office, but that couldn't have been farther from the case. I had a great Olympics copy desk, two professional and energetic reporters on the ground — and control over what we covered and how we played it. I loved it.

At one point, I was talking to my dad on the phone, and he said, "Geez, Lor, you sound great. I haven't heard you this happy in a while. What are you doing?" And I realized that editing might be my calling. A total shock.

I continued to write for another year and a half or so, covering the Final Four when it was in St. Louis and writing sports-themed takeouts for 1A. (I spent two days with John Wooden for a story, one of the highlights of my career.) But I took temporary editing assignments where I could find them, eventually spending four months as the acting health and fitness editor when the real one was on maternity leave. Then my boss asked what I wanted to do, and I said I wanted to edit. So in 2007, I became an assistant sports editor, responsible for high schools and overall enterprise.

A little over a year later, I went to the Herald and took responsibility for the Sunday sports section. It was an unbelievable learning experience — you can't put out a double Sunday section (college football and "regular" sports, for a total of 24 to 32 pages) for a couple of months and not become a better journalist. I got to coordinate coverage of the 2008 Olympics and the 2009 BCS championship game, too.

I certainly expected to stay longer, but with the state of the industry, I couldn't. There was another round of layoffs announced three weeks after I left, so I definitely made the right call.

#### **What was your Collegian experience? How did it help?**

I owe my entire career to the Collegian — and my favorite English professor, Bernie Asbell. I actually was featured in a house ad for the Collegian in the mid-1990s, when I was covering Penn State for the Post-Gazette, and I said something like, "I've never encountered anything in my journalism career that I didn't first encounter at the Collegian." That's as true today as it was then.

I hope to be more involved with the Collegian now that I'm on campus; I've done some mentoring over the years, but that's been off and on. I can never repay the Collegian entirely, but I'd like to give more back.

Plus, I deeply believe the Collegian needs the support, the brains and the perspective of its alumni during this troubling time.

#### **As a former Daily Collegian sports editor, do you feel still write a lead in your head as you watch a football game or a gym meet?**

Absolutely! I doubt I'll ever lose that.

Also, it is impossible for me to cheer when I'm watching a game from the stands. My brother took me to a Steelers game once, and he was appalled by my calm demeanor. I've not been invited back!

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## 4 Responses

**Ken Franklin**, on [August 25, 2009 at 1:52 pm](#) said:



Lori-

I hope you get a chance to meet one of the great Collegian sports stars from the past, Ira Miller. Ira and I worked on Collegian back in the early 1960s (I was photo editor), and I feel exactly the same as you about the value of that experience to my career. I retired a couple of years ago as a writer at Consumer Reports. That was a terrific experience, too. Good luck at Penn Stater. I may take you up on the offer to pitch something.

[Reply](#)

**David Pellnitz**, on [August 25, 2009 at 3:42 pm](#) said:



Lori: Great article about you. Here's a suggestion for a future Penn Stater article. A class mate of mine, John Hoerr '53, has just had his fourth book (first novel) published by Autumn House in Pittsburgh. "Manongahela Dust" takes place in McKeesport, Pa. and deals with the steel industry, unionization, and the Red scare of the early '40s. John was editor of Inkling and the Student Handbook while at Penn State. He worked for UPI and Business Week among other places. His first three books were published by the University of Pittsburgh Press. Other writers have been mentioned in the Penn Stater, but John has never gotten a plug. You can reach him at [jphoerr3@verizon.net](mailto:jphoerr3@verizon.net) or phone 201-692-1237.

Dave Pellnitz, Collegian Editor-in-chief — 19542-53

[Reply](#)

**Gene Bromberg**, on [August 25, 2009 at 11:55 pm](#) said:



Let me tell you something, my METEO classes were (deleted) tough! Still have nightmares about vorticity, and I still have no clue what it actually is. Plus Walker Building was a hike from Porter Hall (or Atherton, for you).

Still gotta make a pilgrimage back to Carnegie Building. Because that's the Collegian's true home, so far as I'm concerned.

[Reply](#)

**lauren**, on [August 27, 2009 at 1:39 pm](#) said:



Great interview, Lori! I remember our class with Asbell. He was such a character, and I loved my project. Hope you and Matt are enjoying SC.

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## 5 questions with: Ramit Plushnick-Masti

Posted on September 29, 2010 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler

Ramit Plushnick-Masti, who graduated in 1995 with a history degree, works for The Associated Press in Pittsburgh. She formerly worked for the York Dispatch and lived in Israel for 10 years before moving back to the USA and getting her current job. We asked Ramit five questions:

### Wire service jobs have a reputation for being hectic. True? How do you keep it under control?

The wire service can be hectic, though lots of fun. We are on a constant deadline, though that is now the way of the world in newspapers today as well since nearly all have websites that are constantly updated with breaking news.

Organization is key – keeping a good list of sources, keeping in touch with them as often as possible, keeping the schedule under control and prioritizing. It becomes routine once it's done for long enough and you quickly become adept to putting everything else aside for breaking news. Of course, being a good multitasker helps – though I believe most journalists are!



Ramit

### Your trail to the AP came through the York Dispatch, right? Where else has your career path led?

My first job out of college was with the York Dispatch, where I was for just about a year. Then I took the \$700 I had saved up to that point and headed to Jerusalem to follow my dream – being a journalist in the Middle East.

My first foot in the door there was replacing someone who was on maternity leave at the LA Times where I covered my first suicide bombing in an open-air market in Jerusalem. I did a good enough job there that they recommended me to fill an opening at the Washington Post where I spent two years as a researcher/translator/reporter, a post that helped me hone my Hebrew and get a few bylines in one of the most prestigious newspapers in the United States. Then I got a job with Reuters, where I spent 2 1/2 years before moving on to the AP in 2002 and where I remain today.

### You lived for almost a decade in Israel. What does that experience give to your current job? Would you go back to Israel as a reporter?

I spent 10 years in Jerusalem – from 1996 until 2006. The experience has been

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priceless both in teaching me how to cover breaking news — some of it quite disturbing on a very human level —while keeping calm, cool and collected. It also broadened my horizons extensively, allowing me to come back to the US and find enterprise stories where others might possibly think there is nothing there.

Of course, I also got to cover big events — such as peace talks — and travel with the prime minister as part of his entourage, lending me experience that has helped me know how to cover different large events in the United States, including the upcoming G-20 summit to be held in Pittsburgh this September. Today I am based in Pittsburgh and have been and will be heavily involved in covering that event.

**Your position with AP offers the opportunity to cover a great variety of topics. With that comes the challenge of background for articles. Where, other than the obvious web searches, do you go to get up to speed on new subject areas?**

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**What was your Collegian experience? How did it help you get where you are today?**

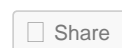
I began as a reporter at the Daily Collegian in my first semester as a freshman at Penn State. My first beat was lesbians and gays, then I went on to be the university beat reporter, assistant campus editor, a copy editor for one semester and, finally, two semesters as Managing Editor. My last semester, I freelanced for the Centre Daily Times.

My experience at the Collegian gave me the clips and experience I needed to get a job out of college and one at a larger daily. It also gave me an idea of what it's like to work at a newspaper, honed my interviewing and writing skills and put me on a path to being the reporter I am today.

I am not only grateful for the experience I had at the newspaper, it is something I am proud of and keep on my resume to this day.

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## 2 Responses

Cynthia Ashear Barr, on [October 1, 2010 at 10:43 am](#) said:

The link to Collegian Chronicles from the AIG newsletter is not working.

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Melanie McCluskey, on [October 2, 2010 at 3:52 pm](#) said:

Thanks for sharing your experiences with us Ramit!

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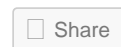
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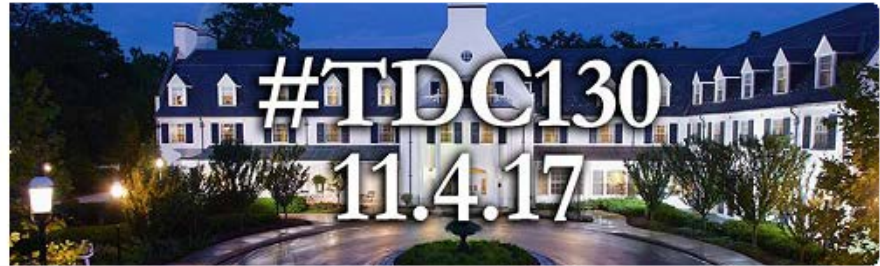
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**Spiritual journey**

Posted on August 23, 2009 by collegianaig

**Alumnus's book teaches lessons about faith, family**

By Sandra Fischione Donovan, '72

Call it luck, or call it a blessing, but Collegian alumnus Justin Catanoso ('82) was handed the subject of his first book by his own family: Gaetano Catanoso, a member of his extended family in Italy, who at the time was poised to be canonized a Roman Catholic saint.

Catanoso's mother, Connie, sent her youngest son, 49, now of Greensboro, N.C., a two-page translation about Gaetano, a deceased Italian priest from the region of Calabria. Gaetano Catanoso had been beatified by the Catholic Church, with beatification the penultimate step in the process of becoming a Catholic saint.

"I couldn't wrap my head around it, the idea that someone who had the same last name as I did was about to become a saint," says Catanoso, editor of The Business Journal of Greensboro.

Several months later, he discovered that the connection between himself and Blessed Gaetano was even closer. A woman named Giovanna Catanoso of Italy e-mailed Justin, asking if the two were related and mentioning Gaetano was part of her family. The two Catanosos, separated by an ocean, found not only that they were they were related, but also that Gaetano Catanoso was the first cousin of the Justin Catanoso's grandfather, Carmelo. That made Justin Catanoso and the Blessed Gaetano first cousins twice removed.

"I said, 'Oh my God, I'm part of the family, and the saint (in the making) is part of that,' he says.

Catanoso details what it means to have a saint in the family in his book, My Cousin the Saint, published in 2008. Subtitled A Story of Live, Miracles and an Italian Family Reunited, the book came out in paperback June 16 of this year. The book also includes the story of his family, including his grandfather, who emigrated from the town of Chorio in Calabria, the region that forms the "toe" of the Italian boot.

"It was the hardest thing I've ever done in my life," says Catanoso of writing a book centered on spirituality. "I realized I was a secular, skeptical, doubting Catholic journalist who needed to go down this path."

Catanoso's path from his childhood in North Wildwood, N.J., to writer began at age 13, when he decided he wanted to be a reporter. He started writing for the Wildwood (N.J.) Leader in high school and then was accepted by Penn State, where his father, Leonard Sr. ('43), had been a varsity gymnast, and where his brothers, Lenny Jr. ('73) and Alan ('77), had preceded him.

By the time he arrived on campus as a freshman, Catanoso joined The Collegian,

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starting as a sportswriter but later switching to writing about “national issues I knew nothing about. I had a great time learning journalism.” By his senior year, he wrote a weekly Collegian column on campus and other issues.

“That was a star-studded cast of students,” Catanoso now says, including Sports Illustrated baseball writer Tom Verducci ('82 ) and Penn State senior lecturer and College of Communications alumni relations director Mike Poorman ('82). The staff won “best college newspaper” from Sigma Delta Chi during Catanoso’s tenure.

Catanoso now says the skills he learned at The Collegian were valuable in his writing the book, including researching, reporting, interviewing, organizing and writing on deadline. He remembers interviewing people who were “older than me, smarter than me” and doing it with confidence, including his interview of then-President John Oswald.

“My interest in religion during my Collegian days was nonexistent,” Catanoso says. Inspired by a mentor, he took a couple of religious studies courses but was not inspired spiritually. But after he and his wife, Laurelyn Dossett, ('84), took their three daughters to Italy in 2003, Catanoso wrote several magazine pieces about this saintly relative, including a story for The Penn Stater.

Then Catanoso's brother Alan fell ill with brain cancer.

“We needed a miracle,” Catanoso says. “My mother prayed every day.” But the miracle the Catanoso family had hoped for did not come. Alan died in 2005.

Catanoso believes Gaetano granted the family a different sort of gift: a woman in Italy had a miraculous recovery the church documented as the second miracle needed for his canonization. The American Catanosos joined their Italian relatives in Rome for the canonization ceremony and found their mourning hearts rebounding.

“You stay in a period of mourning for months,” Catanoso says. “Then suddenly this amazing thing happens. We all really grasped onto that and cast our hearts and minds forward.”

In Rome, huge posters of Gaetano struck a chord with Catanoso, who found St. Gaetano “looked exactly like my dad. I felt, ‘He’s one of us.’ It was very uplifting.”

Catanoso created a piece on the saint for National Public Radio’s Morning Edition that a book editor happened to hear. Randi Murray told Catanoso and said she was willing to shop to publishers a book proposal she persuaded Catanoso to write. Catanoso eventually signed with Harper Collins.

“She negotiated a really nice advance, which was working capital I needed to find the story,” Catanoso says. He used the advance to take a leave of absence from his job in 2006, fly to Italy and spend a month researching Gaetano’s story both in Rome and in Reggio Calabria to try and understand the life of Gaetano. Part of the advance also went to hire Italian-English translators – not only when he interviewed people, but also for translating church documents.

“They all wanted to share their stories,” Catanoso says of the Italians he interviewed. “They wanted to convey their tangible love and connection to this departed relative ... Some were so moving, I was in tears. Others were funny,” such as that of a woman whose post-surgical drugs had her convinced Gaetano had healed her broken ribs one by one.

He also took time to interview his own family members for the portion of the book on Alan’s illness and death. Catanoso took another two months’ leave from his job to write the book full time before returning to his job as executive editor of The Business Journal. A freelance editor he hired helped polish the draft, which he finished in 10 weeks.

Catanoso will speak about his book March 15, 2010, at the Penn State Conference Center. The speech is part of the Penn State Forum speaker series.

He plans to write another book that will diverge from religious subjects. Catanoso is researching two different book proposals, both related to health care. Harper-Collins has the right of first refusal.

"If you believe, you can accept that prayers are answered in lots of different ways," says Catanoso, who today considers himself "a mediocre Catholic." "Perhaps (they are answered) not in the way you want, but in the way you need. I don't know that a miracle could have saved Alan, he was so sick. But a 2,000-year-old ritual and how that lifted our spirits and helped us get through our grief.

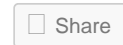
"I think you can argue as my mother did that it was an answered prayer."

For more on Justin Catanoso, visit [www.justincatanoso.com](http://www.justincatanoso.com).

*My Cousin the Saint; A Story of Love, Miracles and an Italian Family Reunited* by Justin Catanoso. Harper Perennial paperback, 2009. 337 pp. \$14.99. ([Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com))

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**One Response**

Lynne Margolis, on [August 25, 2009 at 11:20 am](#) said:

Great story by a great writer (and former colleague!). it inspired me to get busy on the book proposal I've been sitting on for far too long!

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## 5 Questions with: Mary Murray Roda

Posted on April 29, 2009 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Mary Murray Roda ('71), worked for newspapers for five years after graduating from Penn State and then joined Orange Coast College's public information office, where she has worked for 30 years. She did not start her education at Penn State but ended up there – earning her degree and working on The Daily Collegian in an era when the campus was rocked by student movements and demonstrations for peace, civil rights and protecting the environment.

"I spent all of my time at the Collegian," Roda recalls. "I was a copy editor and had to go to the print shop during production ... old fashioned letterpress ... hot type." She is referring to the Centre Daily Times building in Calder Alley, before it was gentrified into Calder Way. She says: "We had real leading then. It was the last year for letterpress. They went offset when I graduated."

Mary Murray married Rich Roda, her Penn State boyfriend. He was assigned to San Diego in the Navy. They have three grown children — Kelly, Kate and Dan — and two grandchildren.

We asked Mary five questions:

### How did you get your first job out of college?

One week after graduating from Penn State, I married Rich Roda, another PSU student who was in ROTC and beginning four years in the Navy as a junior officer. We headed to California, where he was assigned to a unit in Coronado (near San Diego). I quickly found a position as a staff writer for the Chula Vista Star-News, a liberal biweekly with an editor who loved to dig up controversial news. Even though I was a new graduate, I had a substantial portfolio from my summer internship with The Philadelphia Inquirer, where I wrote feature articles that appeared on the front page of the metro section. Although the Star-News had photographers, reporters were encouraged to carry a camera and take their own photos. I took a community college course in photography that came in handy throughout my career.



Mary Murray Roda

While I was at the Chula Vista Star-News, I won an a first place Community Service Award from the Calif. Association of Newspaper Publishers for investigative reporting for a series that attracted the attention of Newsweek magazine and became the basis of one of its cover stories about unregulated suburban growth in San Diego. When my husband was reassigned to Virginia Beach, Va., I began reporting for the Virginia Beach Sun. Again my photography skills also came into play, and I frequently shot my own

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photos, developed the film and printed the photos, too!

#### **Why the move to university publications?**

Just after my first child was born, we relocated to Irvine, Calif., where my husband was enrolled in the business school at UC Irvine. I went to work immediately for the Saddleback Valley News. My husband was actually looking for a position for himself when he came across an employment announcement for a public information assistant at Orange Coast College, a large community college in Costa Mesa, Calif. It was an opportunity to have a “regular” schedule, less stress, and it paid \$800 a month! (Back in 1976, I was making \$700 at the newspaper.)

#### **Talk about your stint doing publication design.**

Much of my responsibilities included writing copy for brochures. I was working with a graphic artist who couldn't manage deadlines, so I started designing my own projects, using the skills I learned designing newspaper pages. Eventually I took over all marketing responsibilities for the college's extensive community education program. I wrote and designed catalogs describing our classes. I managed a budget of more than \$200,000 and oversaw all marketing efforts for our department, including press releases, brochure design, mailing and advertising.

When community class offerings were cut about five years ago, I moved into the community relations department. Now I cover all college activities and write most of the press releases that are sent to the media. I also am the editor of the college's weekly online newsletter, Coast to Coast.

#### **You bicycle 22 miles a day to work. Is that a “green” statement? Or do you just wish you'd taken more phys ed credits?**

I have always been active. As a “soccer mom,” I began refereeing soccer games. I did that for 12 years, including officiating a scrimmage for the women's national team.

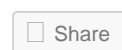
Once my three children were off to college, I needed another outlet for exercise. My employer promotes alternative transportation, including bicycling to work, so I tried it. Most of my 11-mile ride to work is along a bike path that runs through a bird sanctuary. It's a wonderful way to relax and get some exercise at the same time. I save money on gas and car expenses and collect \$4 a day as part of the college's efforts to promote alternative transportation. It is part of the Air Quality Management District efforts to clean up California's air, and it's working. The air here is actually less polluted now than it was when I moved here in 1971. During the past six years, I have logged more than 30,000 miles commuting to work.

#### **What was your Collegian experience? How did it help you get where you are today?**

I transferred to Penn State from Marquette University during my junior year. It was the best move I ever made. The Daily Collegian was a real, working newspaper experience. The journalism classes at Penn State were also excellent. Together, they helped me win the internship at The Philadelphia Inquirer. As a Navy wife, I moved around a lot, and I was never unemployed. We had a fantastic group of writers on The Daily Collegian. It was an exciting time to be a reporter. There were anti-war rallies on campus, and there was a lot of hard news to cover. Many Collegian staff members from that era have had successful careers. Doug Struck was a bureau chief for The Washington Post and now teaches at Boston University. Rod Nordland works for The New York Times and shared a Pulitzer Prize for reporting on Three Mile Island crisis for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

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## 2 Responses

**Marge Ball**, on [April 30, 2009 at 1:23 pm](#) said:



Great article! Mary has always been a hard worker and dedicated to her colleagues in any job she has held. The Daily Collegian should work with Newsweek to follow up on the story Mary worked on in San Diego! It is a great example of the educational background Mary received at Penn State!

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**Kathy Erikson**, on [April 30, 2009 at 1:59 pm](#) said:



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## 5 Questions with: Mary Murray Roda

Posted on April 29, 2009 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Mary Murray Roda ('71), worked for newspapers for five years after graduating from Penn State and then joined Orange Coast College's public information office, where she has worked for 30 years. She did not start her education at Penn State but ended up there – earning her degree and working on The Daily Collegian in an era when the campus was rocked by student movements and demonstrations for peace, civil rights and protecting the environment.

"I spent all of my time at the Collegian," Roda recalls. "I was a copy editor and had to go to the print shop during production ... old fashioned letterpress ... hot type." She is referring to the Centre Daily Times building in Calder Alley, before it was gentrified into Calder Way. She says: "We had real leading then. It was the last year for letterpress. They went offset when I graduated."

Mary Murray married Rich Roda, her Penn State boyfriend. He was assigned to San Diego in the Navy. They have three grown children — Kelly, Kate and Dan — and two grandchildren.

We asked Mary five questions:

### How did you get your first job out of college?

One week after graduating from Penn State, I married Rich Roda, another PSU student who was in ROTC and beginning four years in the Navy as a junior officer. We headed to California, where he was assigned to a unit in Coronado (near San Diego). I quickly found a position as a staff writer for the Chula Vista Star-News, a liberal biweekly with an editor who loved to dig up controversial news. Even though I was a new graduate, I had a substantial portfolio from my summer internship with The Philadelphia Inquirer, where I wrote feature articles that appeared on the front page of the metro section. Although the Star-News had photographers, reporters were encouraged to carry a camera and take their own photos. I took a community college course in photography that came in handy throughout my career.



Mary Murray Roda

While I was at the Chula Vista Star-News, I won an a first place Community Service Award from the Calif. Association of Newspaper Publishers for investigative reporting for a series that attracted the attention of Newsweek magazine and became the basis of one of its cover stories about unregulated suburban growth in San Diego. When my husband was reassigned to Virginia Beach, Va., I began reporting for the Virginia Beach Sun. Again my photography skills also came into play, and I frequently shot my own

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photos, developed the film and printed the photos, too!

#### **Why the move to university publications?**

Just after my first child was born, we relocated to Irvine, Calif., where my husband was enrolled in the business school at UC Irvine. I went to work immediately for the Saddleback Valley News. My husband was actually looking for a position for himself when he came across an employment announcement for a public information assistant at Orange Coast College, a large community college in Costa Mesa, Calif. It was an opportunity to have a “regular” schedule, less stress, and it paid \$800 a month! (Back in 1976, I was making \$700 at the newspaper.)

#### **Talk about your stint doing publication design.**

Much of my responsibilities included writing copy for brochures. I was working with a graphic artist who couldn't manage deadlines, so I started designing my own projects, using the skills I learned designing newspaper pages. Eventually I took over all marketing responsibilities for the college's extensive community education program. I wrote and designed catalogs describing our classes. I managed a budget of more than \$200,000 and oversaw all marketing efforts for our department, including press releases, brochure design, mailing and advertising.

When community class offerings were cut about five years ago, I moved into the community relations department. Now I cover all college activities and write most of the press releases that are sent to the media. I also am the editor of the college's weekly online newsletter, Coast to Coast.

#### **You bicycle 22 miles a day to work. Is that a “green” statement? Or do you just wish you'd taken more phys ed credits?**

I have always been active. As a “soccer mom,” I began refereeing soccer games. I did that for 12 years, including officiating a scrimmage for the women's national team.

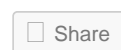
Once my three children were off to college, I needed another outlet for exercise. My employer promotes alternative transportation, including bicycling to work, so I tried it. Most of my 11-mile ride to work is along a bike path that runs through a bird sanctuary. It's a wonderful way to relax and get some exercise at the same time. I save money on gas and car expenses and collect \$4 a day as part of the college's efforts to promote alternative transportation. It is part of the Air Quality Management District efforts to clean up California's air, and it's working. The air here is actually less polluted now than it was when I moved here in 1971. During the past six years, I have logged more than 30,000 miles commuting to work.

#### **What was your Collegian experience? How did it help you get where you are today?**

I transferred to Penn State from Marquette University during my junior year. It was the best move I ever made. The Daily Collegian was a real, working newspaper experience. The journalism classes at Penn State were also excellent. Together, they helped me win the internship at The Philadelphia Inquirer. As a Navy wife, I moved around a lot, and I was never unemployed. We had a fantastic group of writers on The Daily Collegian. It was an exciting time to be a reporter. There were anti-war rallies on campus, and there was a lot of hard news to cover. Many Collegian staff members from that era have had successful careers. Doug Struck was a bureau chief for The Washington Post and now teaches at Boston University. Rod Nordland works for The New York Times and shared a Pulitzer Prize for reporting on Three Mile Island crisis for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

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## 2 Responses

**Marge Ball**, on [April 30, 2009 at 1:23 pm](#) said:



Great article! Mary has always been a hard worker and dedicated to her colleagues in any job she has held. The Daily Collegian should work with Newsweek to follow up on the story Mary worked on in San Diego! It is a great example of the educational background Mary received at Penn State!

[Reply](#)

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Posted on April 29, 2009 by collegianaig

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When the Systems Division specialist retires in the fall, his last night will be spent like every other these days: behind a computer.

"There is nothing quite like having an X-ACTO knife in your hand doing it all manually," Bell, 62, said. "I do miss those days."

Many students and Collegian alumni may not recognize Bell's name. To most in the James Building, he's better – make that only – known as Sharkey.

Sharkey himself doesn't quite understand where the nickname came from.

"Amanda Thompson, a reporter, started the whole thing," he said. "I asked her many times, 'Why?' All she would say was, 'because you are sharkey.'

"Personally I think it was because I am the antithesis of what a shark(ey) is," he said.

Systems Division Night Supervisor Tom Owens may describe his longtime co-worker and friend best: "Sharkey is just a friendly cuss with no pretenses."

That a student would develop a pet name for him isn't surprising considering the bonds many students have formed with him over the years.

"He always seemed to hit on me by calling me 'sweetie' or whatever," remembers Travis Larchuk, '07.

Former sports copy editor Gretchen Gailey, '02, said her favorite memory of Sharkey is "how no matter what came out of my mouth, no matter what I wanted to do for a page design, he would just look at me and shake his head 'no.' He hated every idea that came out of my mouth."

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And then there were Gailey's shrieks from the sports department – "all the goofy, entertaining stuff that comes with working with kids night after night," he said.

Collegian General Manager Gerry Hamilton, who started at Penn State's Altoona campus with Sharkey in 1965, remembers how before Sharkey started at the Collegian, he didn't think he would like the students.

"He thought maybe they would be kind of unfriendly or stuck up or something. Early on his opinion changed," Hamilton said. "He found most of the students were friendly and fun to be around, and he truly admired the students. He saw how talented the students are and how hard they work.

"That plus his approachable, unassuming personality just fit right in here," he said. "He's also the fatherly type – today that would be the grandfatherly type."

Sharkey expects what he will miss most are the interactions with the students: "They are a dedicated group of kids that I have had the pleasure to work with."

Of course, the papers he and those kids put out together stand out as well.

There was 9-11. And coming in on a Friday night to put out the special edition when George W. Bush declared war on Iraq. Crunch time during elections, football, JoePa.

His students and co-workers will miss him, too.

They'll miss hearing him utter "Widow!" and his sneeze, described by Owens as the loudest on the Eastern Seaboard.

"I'll miss walking into the shop and making some smart remark about whether he's napping or actually working (it's real hard to tell sometimes)," Hamilton said. "As his friend, I really hope he'll spend some time learning how to play double deck pinochle better than he does now. Our wives would appreciate that, too."

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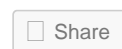
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With his many hobbies and interests – Arm & Hammer, genealogy, old movies, photography, nature — he doesn't expect he'll have time to get bored. But that doesn't mean he won't miss it.

"I will take a lot of good memories from the Collegian," he said.

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"Yessss, Sharkey?"

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Collegian '94

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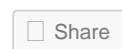
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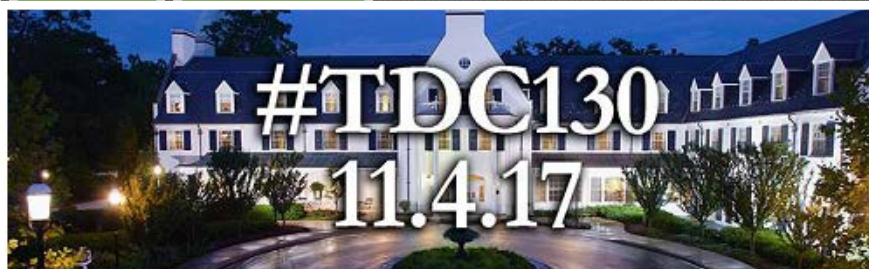
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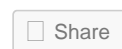
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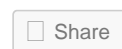
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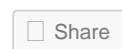
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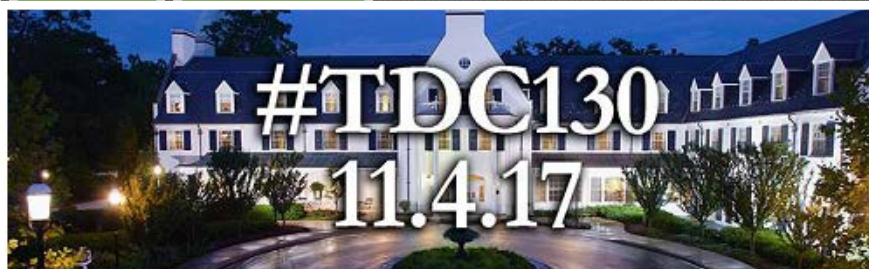
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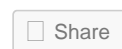
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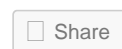
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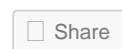
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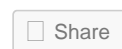
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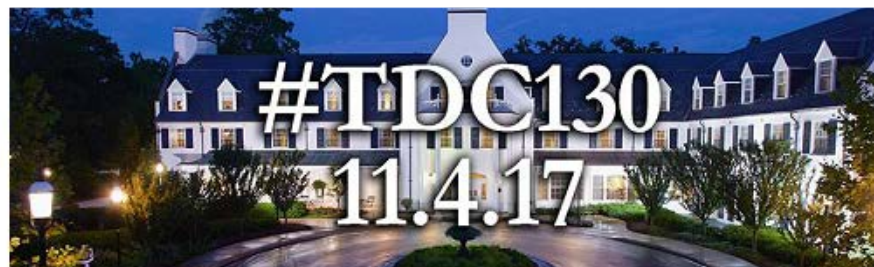
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## Five questions with: Jayne Jamison

Posted on **November 6, 2008** by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Former Collegianaire Jayne Jamison, '78, is vice president and publisher of *Seventeen* magazine. For 60 years, *Seventeen* has been a voice for young women ages 12-24. Each month it reaches 13 million readers, thrilling them with articles on topics ranging from Ashley Tisdale to fashion tips. We asked her five questions:

### What was your career path to your current position?

I began my career as a media buyer at an advertising agency. I switched to the other side of the desk, becoming a seller, after figuring out what made a really impactful sales person and presentation. Of course, understanding the client, and their media needs, gave me a great foundation for a career in sales.

### Most college journalism students anticipate careers in newspapers. What's the lure of magazine work?

While there may be a day when we are delivered a custom newspaper based on our interests, there is nothing like writing or selling for a publication that matches your life stage or personal passions. There is so much opportunity to provide our advertising clients with a predisposed audience and great synergy for their advertising message. Magazines offer incredible reader engagement.

### Is "publisher" essentially the chief advertising sales person?

As the publisher, I am responsible for both the advertising sales and marketing of the magazine. I sell my heart out every day: to my clients, my subordinates and superiors. Keeping my hand on the business, and our key clients, is the key to my success.



Jayne Jamison

### The magazine claims 1 in 5 young American women as readers. As your staff grows older but the audience remains in essentially the same age group, how do you stay in touch?

For me, it's easy to stay in touch with the *Seventeen* audience as I have my own personal focus group at home — two teenaged children. Staying on top of popular culture and trends is something everyone on my staff is expected to do. We can find out a lot just by going into a local mall on a Saturday afternoon and talking to or watching our target consumers as they shop.

### What was your Collegian experience? How did it help?

I sold classified ads at *The Daily Collegian*. The highlight of my experience was when the Nittany Lion placed a personal ad. I wanted to ask him out on a date myself, but I was too shy. Every job requires some form of selling, whether it's an ad or an idea. Learning through my time at the *Collegian* gave me an edge over other candidates with no sales experience, and it also led me into a very fulfilling and rewarding career in

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### One Response

[jenny gardiner](#), on [November 9, 2008 at 3:02 pm](#) said:



Pretty cool we have a fellow Collegian among our ranks as publisher of Seventeen. Love to see our alum at the pinnacle of their careers in such high-profile places. Congratulations!

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## A new direction: Alumna goes from NYT to China

Posted on **June 11, 2010** by collegianaig

By **Teresa Villa Cook, '74**

If you're going to leave the newspaper business and start a second career, you might as well go all the way to China to do it.

That is what Diane Nottle has done. She is teaching English at Hunan University of Science and Technology in Xiangtan for this spring semester.

After she had spent 20 years in the features department of The New York Times, the great newspaper meltdown of 2008 hit and she was offered lesser duties or a buyout. She decided to leave.

Her newspaper career began at The Daily Collegian. Nottle had just become Collegian editor in 1974 when Richard Nixon resigned the presidency. She still considers that one of the highlights of her newspaper years, along with being at the Times on 9/11. Her job at the Times was editing cultural and arts news, handling coverage of the Tonys and Oscars, and editing Times arts critics. She also did a lot of writing.

Now in her second career she is writing again, as a freelancer for newspapers, such as The National, the English-language paper of Abu Dhabi, but also on her [blog about her experiences in China](#).

You'll get hungry reading her descriptions of the food, cringe at her restroom report and marvel that she held the paw of a giant panda. Her students will likely make you laugh, and you'll notice that they are really not too different from American students.



Diane Nottle holds the paw of a giant panda at a preserve in Sichuan province.

After a rough start, she's doing fine. "The culture shock was enormous the first few weeks...the part of China where I am is still very much a developing country," she said, describing Xiangtan as "muddy streets, old buses spewing pollution, live animals being sold on the streets (and in the grocery stores)."

How did she end up in China?

Nottle said when she started wondering what she would do if she left her newspaper job, she thought about her love of travel, a love she acquired in the Manchester study abroad program at Penn State. And then she thought maybe she could teach English as a second language.

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So while she was still employed at the Times, she enrolled in the New School University certificate program in English language teaching. For her practicum, she taught in Poland and has returned there twice. When she received an e-mail from the New School about an opening in China, she decided to apply.

The job has its challenges, which she describes in her blog:

"Hunan University of Science and Technology strikes me as the Penn State of Xiangtan, minus the football. The Penn, the higher-ranked and better-funded Xiangtan University (alma mater of Chairman Mao, which may explain a lot), is in another part of the city that I haven't seen yet. It's the story of my life: once again I've landed on an enormous, sprawling campus some distance from civilization with a big emphasis on technical subjects."

She writes that, being just one of eight foreign teachers on a campus of 35,000, she stands out in the crowd, so she is often approached by students who want to practice their English. The Chinese, Nottle writes, do not allow for privacy and quiet time.

She said she'd be willing to return to China on future assignments, but preferably to a more modern city. And she wouldn't mind trying a different country someday, too.

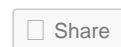
"I have no intention of giving up my New York life ...one semester abroad a year, is I think, ideal for me ...while still keeping up my freelance career."



Shortly after arriving in China in February, Diane Nottle visited the Pudong section of Shanghai on the Huangpu River, now lined with skyscrapers of every shape and size. She said that when she visited the same spot 25 years ago, there was nothing on the shoreline.

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### One Response

[Karen Carnabucci](#), on [June 16, 2010 at 12:21 pm](#) said:



Thanks for this update! I have good memories of our days at The Collegian.

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## Love your Joe

Posted on September 30, 2009 by collegianaig

Everyone loves joe — joe the coffee and Joe the coach.

The coffee is Dunkin Donuts' freshly brewed. The coach is Joe Paterno, the winningest coach in major college football.

Both joes have teamed up to raise funds for Special Olympics Pennsylvania. The promotion, called "We Love Our Joe," runs to January 31. Organized by Wildcat LLC, a Dunkin Donuts franchise in Central Pennsylvania, the promotion will appear in four locations — State College, Clearfield, Johnstown and Chambersburg.

The central aspect of the promotion is the sale of "We Love Our Joe" mugs, which will retail for less than six dollars. Customers will get free coffee with the purchase of either a Tumbler Mug featuring a profile photo of Joe Paterno or a Handled Mug featuring a caricature of "JoePa."



A portion of proceeds from the sale of the mugs support Special Olympics. During the promotional period, Wildcat Dunkin Donuts franchise also will donate a portion of proceeds from every cup of coffee sold (hot or iced) to Special Olympics.

Special Olympics Pennsylvania is one of the Paterno family's favorite charities. Sue and Joe Paterno have been Special Olympics advocates for more than two decades. Sue Paterno has served on the board of directors for more than 15 years. She heads the Ceremonies Committee for the annual state-level Summer Games competition hosted by Penn State. More than 2,000 athletes participate in the State Games. Joe and Sue were inducted into the SOPA Hall of Fame in 2008.

In addition to the "We Love Our Joe" mugs, the promotion also features "We Love Our Joe" eye black stickers — the black tape football players wear to prevent sun glare. Fans can show their love for both joes by wearing the eye black stickers on their cheeks. Proceeds from the sale of the stickers also benefit SOPA.

For more information about the promotion or to purchase "We Love Our Joe" mugs and eye black stickers on-line, visit [www.weloveourjoe.com](http://www.weloveourjoe.com).

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**Collegian love stories**

Posted on **February 10, 2010** by collegianaig

By **Alison Kepner, '03**

They come to the Collegian with a love for journalism, but some leave with the love of their lives, too.

That shouldn't be a surprise considering that many staff members spend most of their waking (and many non-waking) hours in the Collegian offices.

No one has kept an official count of how many couples the Collegian has produced, but every class seems to have at least one.

Former copy desk chief Hannah (Aboul-Hosn) Prince, Class of 2006, met her husband, Greg, her senior year when he landed as a copy editor on her desk.

"At a school as big as Penn State, it can be really hard to find people with whom you connect. You don't necessarily have anything in common with the guy who sits next to you in English class or who approached you at the bar," she said. "But at the Collegian, we all had things in common from the get-go.



Greg & Hannah

"Plus, Collegian staff members spend so much time in the office. They meet so many people there and have so little time for anything else that it's inevitable for couples to form."

That is what happened with Tracy (Wilson) Saelinger, Class of 2001, and her husband, Dan. They knew each other for a while but didn't start dating until the end of her sophomore year – 10 years ago this spring.

The Collegian played a big role in their relationship.

"We would never have met" without the Collegian, she said. "I also probably wouldn't have gone into magazines otherwise. The summer we started dating, Dan was interning at Rolling Stone, and I just thought that was so cool."

Today they both work in New York City, Tracy as a magazine editor and Dan as a commercial photographer.

"We still keep in touch with lots of

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Tracy &amp; Dan

Collegian friends, and both still work in media," Tracy Saelinger said. "Working in the same industry has its pros and cons, but I think it's mostly a good thing – we work the same worlds, have the same interests."

Sandra (Fischione) Donovan, Class of 1972, met husband Dan on her first day as a Collegian staffer in the spring of 1969. She had finished candidate school and was called into the office to start work.

"I was given a tour of the newspaper offices in the basement of Sackett Building, where The Collegian was then housed. Whoever gave the tour introduced me to all the Collegian staffers there, and Dan was one of them," she said.

The Collegian provided their introduction, but they only went out once – for hamburgers at the then-New College Diner — while on staff together.

"I re-met Dan in 1972 in Pittsburgh after graduation, when I was job-hunting. Call it Collegian kismet," Donovan said. "Dan suggested bringing over some of my Collegian clips to aid in my job search. We began dating regularly after that, and the rest is history: three children, one grandson, and a granddaughter on the way!"

Of course, some couples try to keep their relationships a secret while on staff, which can be a challenge when working with reporters.



Sandy &amp; Dan

Hannah and Greg Prince succeeded though. They had been dating for a couple months before their co-workers found out.

"Near the end of our senior year, I was throwing a pre-formal party at my apartment," Greg Prince recalls. "Almost everyone from the copy desk that semester was there. Hannah (who was returning from an out-of-town conference) showed up late.

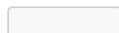
"I was in the kitchen talking with Kelsey Collins when Hannah arrived. Hannah rushed past Kelsey and gave me a kiss. After a few seconds, I looked over Hannah's shoulder and saw Kelsey standing there with her mouth hanging wide open," he said.

The couple, now living in Fairfax, Va., married in May 2008.

"The Collegian gave us both the experience we needed to get jobs at newspapers," Hannah Prince said. "It also created a lasting, mutual hatred of bad grammar. To this day, we commiserate with each other about the spelling and punctuation mistakes we encounter at work and elsewhere. We copy edit song lyrics, street signs, magazines, everything together."

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### One Response

**Bill Guthlein**, on [February 16, 2010 at 5:21 pm](#) said:



Collegian ties are forever too. Bob Buday (sports) and Cathy Cipolla (news), both 1976 grads or thereabouts went their own way, married and had children (not to each other) and in their 40s found each other and had a baby.

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## 5 Questions with: Lori Shontz

Posted on August 23, 2009 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

Lori Shontz, a 1991 graduate of Penn State in English writing with a minor in sport history, was The Daily Collegian's sports editor during her time in Happy Valley.

She worked for the St. Louis Post Dispatch and the Miami Herald before returning to Happy Valley to assume the enviable position of senior editor at The Penn Stater.

We asked her five questions:

### You're back in Happy Valley. What are you doing on The Penn Stater?

I returned to State College in February after spending 10 months at The Miami Herald as the Sunday sports editor. During those 10 months, the paper endured three rounds of "voluntary buyouts," the first announced literally 15 minutes after I started. Honestly, my job didn't feel stable, and neither my husband nor I have roots in Miami. (Although we did enjoy the beach. A lot.) So when The Penn Stater magazine had an opening for a senior editor, I jumped at it.

The job gives me a chance to continue writing and editing without worrying that my job is in danger. It gives me a chance to grow, too — I'm doing longer-form journalism after nearly 18 years in newspapers. And I'm back on a college campus, which has such a great energy. I'm going teach journalism as an adjunct in the fall, and I'm really excited about that.



Lori Shontz

Specifically, I coordinate four sections of the magazine — Alumni Association News, Obituaries, Penn State Pulse (on-campus happenings, for all of the campuses) and My Thoughts Exactly, a personal essay. (We're always looking for interesting essays, so anyone reading should feel free to pitch me!) I write some of those shorter pieces, and I write longer pieces for the feature well, too.

### What courses do you wish you'd taken (or taken more of) at Penn State?

I cannot believe I attended one of the top meteorology schools in the country and never took a METEO class. Instead, I filled science credits with GEOSCI20 (yes, Rocks for Jocks) and Astronomy for Non-Science Majors. Dumb.

### Talk a bit about your time on the St. Louis Post Dispatch and Miami Herald.

When I went to St. Louis in 2004, I was strictly a writer. I left there in 2008 as an editor.

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At one point, I was talking to my dad on the phone, and he said, "Geez, Lor, you sound great. I haven't heard you this happy in a while. What are you doing?" And I realized that editing might be my calling. A total shock.

I continued to write for another year and a half or so, covering the Final Four when it was in St. Louis and writing sports-themed takeouts for 1A. (I spent two days with John Wooden for a story, one of the highlights of my career.) But I took temporary editing assignments where I could find them, eventually spending four months as the acting health and fitness editor when the real one was on maternity leave. Then my boss asked what I wanted to do, and I said I wanted to edit. So in 2007, I became an assistant sports editor, responsible for high schools and overall enterprise.

A little over a year later, I went to the Herald and took responsibility for the Sunday sports section. It was an unbelievable learning experience — you can't put out a double Sunday section (college football and "regular" sports, for a total of 24 to 32 pages) for a couple of months and not become a better journalist. I got to coordinate coverage of the 2008 Olympics and the 2009 BCS championship game, too.

I certainly expected to stay longer, but with the state of the industry, I couldn't. There was another round of layoffs announced three weeks after I left, so I definitely made the right call.

#### **What was your Collegian experience? How did it help?**

I owe my entire career to the Collegian — and my favorite English professor, Bernie Asbell. I actually was featured in a house ad for the Collegian in the mid-1990s, when I was covering Penn State for the Post-Gazette, and I said something like, "I've never encountered anything in my journalism career that I didn't first encounter at the Collegian." That's as true today as it was then.

I hope to be more involved with the Collegian now that I'm on campus; I've done some mentoring over the years, but that's been off and on. I can never repay the Collegian entirely, but I'd like to give more back.

Plus, I deeply believe the Collegian needs the support, the brains and the perspective of its alumni during this troubling time.

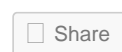
#### **As a former Daily Collegian sports editor, do you feel still write a lead in your head as you watch a football game or a gym meet?**

Absolutely! I doubt I'll ever lose that.

Also, it is impossible for me to cheer when I'm watching a game from the stands. My brother took me to a Steelers game once, and he was appalled by my calm demeanor. I've not been invited back!

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## 4 Responses

**Ken Franklin**, on [August 25, 2009 at 1:52 pm](#) said:



Lori-

I hope you get a chance to meet one of the great Collegian sports stars from the past, Ira Miller. Ira and I worked on Collegian back in the early 1960s (I was photo editor), and I feel exactly the same as you about the value of that experience to my career. I retired a couple of years ago as a writer at Consumer Reports. That was a terrific experience, too. Good luck at Penn Stater. I may take you up on the offer to pitch something.

[Reply](#)

**David Pellnitz**, on [August 25, 2009 at 3:42 pm](#) said:



Lori: Great article about you. Here's a suggestion for a future Penn Stater article. A class mate of mine, John Hoerr '53, has just had his fourth book (first novel) published by Autumn House in Pittsburgh. "Manongahela Dust" takes place in McKeesport, Pa. and deals with the steel industry, unionization, and the Red scare of the early '40s. John was editor of Inkling and the Student Handbook while at Penn State. He worked for UPI and Business Week among other places. His first three books were published by the University of Pittsburgh Press. Other writers have been mentioned in the Penn Stater, but John has never gotten a plug. You can reach him at [jphoerr3@verizon.net](mailto:jphoerr3@verizon.net) or phone 201-692-1237.

Dave Pellnitz, Collegian Editor-in-chief — 19542-53

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**Gene Bromberg**, on [August 25, 2009 at 11:55 pm](#) said:



Let me tell you something, my METEO classes were (deleted) tough! Still have nightmares about vorticity, and I still have no clue what it actually is. Plus Walker Building was a hike from Porter Hall (or Atherton, for you).

Still gotta make a pilgrimage back to Carnegie Building. Because that's the Collegian's true home, so far as I'm concerned.

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**lauren**, on [August 27, 2009 at 1:39 pm](#) said:



Great interview, Lori! I remember our class with Asbell. He was such a character, and I loved my project. Hope you and Matt are enjoying SC.

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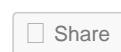
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## 5 Questions with: Lori Shontz

Posted on August 23, 2009 by collegianaig

By Curt Harler, '71

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She worked for the St. Louis Post Dispatch and the Miami Herald before returning to Happy Valley to assume the enviable position of senior editor at The Penn Stater.

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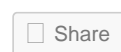
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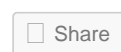
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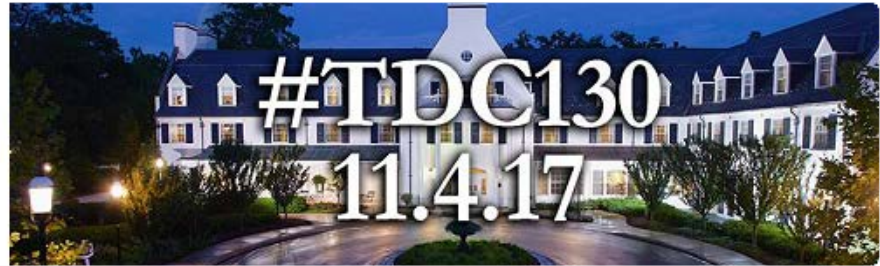
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**Spiritual journey**

Posted on August 23, 2009 by collegianaig

**Alumnus's book teaches lessons about faith, family**

By Sandra Fischione Donovan, '72

Call it luck, or call it a blessing, but Collegian alumnus Justin Catanoso ('82) was handed the subject of his first book by his own family: Gaetano Catanoso, a member of his extended family in Italy, who at the time was poised to be canonized a Roman Catholic saint.

Catanoso's mother, Connie, sent her youngest son, 49, now of Greensboro, N.C., a two-page translation about Gaetano, a deceased Italian priest from the region of Calabria. Gaetano Catanoso had been beatified by the Catholic Church, with beatification the penultimate step in the process of becoming a Catholic saint.

"I couldn't wrap my head around it, the idea that someone who had the same last name as I did was about to become a saint," says Catanoso, editor of The Business Journal of Greensboro.

Several months later, he discovered that the connection between himself and Blessed Gaetano was even closer. A woman named Giovanna Catanoso of Italy e-mailed Justin, asking if the two were related and mentioning Gaetano was part of her family. The two Catanosos, separated by an ocean, found not only that they were they were related, but also that Gaetano Catanoso was the first cousin of the Justin Catanoso's grandfather, Carmelo. That made Justin Catanoso and the Blessed Gaetano first cousins twice removed.

"I said, 'Oh my God, I'm part of the family, and the saint (in the making) is part of that,' he says.

Catanoso details what it means to have a saint in the family in his book, My Cousin the Saint, published in 2008. Subtitled A Story of Live, Miracles and an Italian Family Reunited, the book came out in paperback June 16 of this year. The book also includes the story of his family, including his grandfather, who emigrated from the town of Chorio in Calabria, the region that forms the "toe" of the Italian boot.

"It was the hardest thing I've ever done in my life," says Catanoso of writing a book centered on spirituality. "I realized I was a secular, skeptical, doubting Catholic journalist who needed to go down this path."

Catanoso's path from his childhood in North Wildwood, N.J., to writer began at age 13, when he decided he wanted to be a reporter. He started writing for the Wildwood (N.J.) Leader in high school and then was accepted by Penn State, where his father, Leonard Sr. ('43), had been a varsity gymnast, and where his brothers, Lenny Jr. ('73) and Alan ('77), had preceded him.

By the time he arrived on campus as a freshman, Catanoso joined The Collegian,

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starting as a sportswriter but later switching to writing about “national issues I knew nothing about. I had a great time learning journalism.” By his senior year, he wrote a weekly Collegian column on campus and other issues.

“That was a star-studded cast of students,” Catanoso now says, including Sports Illustrated baseball writer Tom Verducci ('82 ) and Penn State senior lecturer and College of Communications alumni relations director Mike Poorman ('82). The staff won “best college newspaper” from Sigma Delta Chi during Catanoso’s tenure.

Catanoso now says the skills he learned at The Collegian were valuable in his writing the book, including researching, reporting, interviewing, organizing and writing on deadline. He remembers interviewing people who were “older than me, smarter than me” and doing it with confidence, including his interview of then-President John Oswald.

“My interest in religion during my Collegian days was nonexistent,” Catanoso says. Inspired by a mentor, he took a couple of religious studies courses but was not inspired spiritually. But after he and his wife, Laurelyn Dossett, ('84), took their three daughters to Italy in 2003, Catanoso wrote several magazine pieces about this saintly relative, including a story for The Penn Stater.

Then Catanoso's brother Alan fell ill with brain cancer.

“We needed a miracle,” Catanoso says. “My mother prayed every day.” But the miracle the Catanoso family had hoped for did not come. Alan died in 2005.

Catanoso believes Gaetano granted the family a different sort of gift: a woman in Italy had a miraculous recovery the church documented as the second miracle needed for his canonization. The American Catanosos joined their Italian relatives in Rome for the canonization ceremony and found their mourning hearts rebounding.

“You stay in a period of mourning for months,” Catanoso says. “Then suddenly this amazing thing happens. We all really grasped onto that and cast our hearts and minds forward.”

In Rome, huge posters of Gaetano struck a chord with Catanoso, who found St. Gaetano “looked exactly like my dad. I felt, ‘He’s one of us.’ It was very uplifting.”

Catanoso created a piece on the saint for National Public Radio’s Morning Edition that a book editor happened to hear. Randi Murray told Catanoso and said she was willing to shop to publishers a book proposal she persuaded Catanoso to write. Catanoso eventually signed with Harper Collins.

“She negotiated a really nice advance, which was working capital I needed to find the story,” Catanoso says. He used the advance to take a leave of absence from his job in 2006, fly to Italy and spend a month researching Gaetano’s story both in Rome and in Reggio Calabria to try and understand the life of Gaetano. Part of the advance also went to hire Italian-English translators – not only when he interviewed people, but also for translating church documents.

“They all wanted to share their stories,” Catanoso says of the Italians he interviewed. “They wanted to convey their tangible love and connection to this departed relative ... Some were so moving, I was in tears. Others were funny,” such as that of a woman whose post-surgical drugs had her convinced Gaetano had healed her broken ribs one by one.

He also took time to interview his own family members for the portion of the book on Alan’s illness and death. Catanoso took another two months’ leave from his job to write the book full time before returning to his job as executive editor of The Business Journal. A freelance editor he hired helped polish the draft, which he finished in 10 weeks.

Catanoso will speak about his book March 15, 2010, at the Penn State Conference Center. The speech is part of the Penn State Forum speaker series.

He plans to write another book that will diverge from religious subjects. Catanoso is researching two different book proposals, both related to health care. Harper-Collins has the right of first refusal.

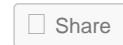
"If you believe, you can accept that prayers are answered in lots of different ways," says Catanoso, who today considers himself "a mediocre Catholic." "Perhaps (they are answered) not in the way you want, but in the way you need. I don't know that a miracle could have saved Alan, he was so sick. But a 2,000-year-old ritual and how that lifted our spirits and helped us get through our grief.

"I think you can argue as my mother did that it was an answered prayer."

For more on Justin Catanoso, visit [www.justincatanoso.com](http://www.justincatanoso.com).

*My Cousin the Saint; A Story of Love, Miracles and an Italian Family Reunited* by Justin Catanoso. Harper Perennial paperback, 2009. 337 pp. \$14.99. ([Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com))

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**One Response**

**Lynne Margolis**, on [August 25, 2009 at 11:20 am](#) said:



Great story by a great writer (and former colleague!). it inspired me to get busy on the book proposal I've been sitting on for far too long!

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