One For The Books

Pennsylvania College of Technology
PennState

FALL 2003
Yet another extraordinary year at Pennsylvania College of Technology calls for celebration. Twelve months of impressive achievement and realization of Penn College’s institutional goals and student-centered mission marks 2002-03 as a red-letter year.

In fact, when I met with faculty and staff at year’s end and retraced the steps we took together, one simple word – “Wow!” – was foremost on my lips. “Wow!” for the many student accomplishments that brought honor to our campuses. “Wow!” for dedicated employees who afforded us national and regional recognition. “Wow!” for the exciting news that emerged amid the day-to-day challenges of preparing today’s students for tomorrow’s demanding jobs.

Characterizing a wonderful academic year with such a simple exclamation – a three-letter word more suitable for the cover of a paperback best-seller – might seem to trivialize those successes. There is no more fitting way to describe 2002-03, however, than to enthusiastically call it “One for the Books.”

- It was a year for the history books, for instance, with construction of the Student and Administrative Services Center and Rose Street Apartments, renovations to the former HON manufacturing facility and the Klump Academic Center, and the first-ever Middle States commendation for our comprehensive and impressive self-study.
- It was a year for the record books, as well, with enrollments reaching amazing heights … while maintaining tuition at a more down-to-earth and student-responsive level.
- And it was a year for the books, period, with the exciting announcement of the Madigan Library.

What kind of book might Penn College write for that library’s shelves? An optimistic self-help volume or a health manual immediately comes to mind. More than ever, it is clear that our organization is strong.

Our fitness can be measured by a number of characteristics: financial stability, sound planning (short- and long-term), and an adaptable faculty and staff.

The 2002-03 academic year, captured in this special Annual Report edition of One College Avenue, will be remembered as one of unprecedented growth, campus transformation and new beginnings. Actions taken during this monumental period will position us for years to come as a leader in technology education and, in particular, will position Penn College to be the nation’s premier technical college.

In the pages that follow, we hit those and other highlights, “borrowing” literary works to help share the good news. As you relive this amazing period in Penn College history – a year that built upon the proud accomplishments of our predecessor institutions, while steering ever confidently toward the future – we hope you’ll agree that 2002-03 clearly merits a rave review.

Davie Jane Gilmour, Ph.D.
OLIVE'S EMphasis was on what it takes to be a fighter pilot or astronaut, but those same qualities were evident as Pennsylvania College of Technology sailed through a rigorous two-year Middle States Commission on Higher Education self-examination and site visit.

The commission’s official report was published shortly after the dawn of the 2002-03 year. For the first time in history, the College received a COMMENDATION for its self-study and a CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH until its next review in 2011-12. “The Right Stuff,” indeed.

Among the most heartening of the team’s findings was validation of the College’s strongest suit: its student-centeredness.


Not only were the College’s mission and goals overwhelmingly approved by the Middle States team: The commission went a few steps beyond, commending the College’s progress in the past decade and applauding the depth of the self-study document.

“The self-study process affords us an excellent opportunity to take stock of our efforts and enhance our effectiveness,” said Dr. Davie Jane Gilmour, College president. “The results confirm our status as a leader in the field of technology education.”

ENROLLMENT SOARS TO RECORD HEIGHTS

It’s said that “knowledge is power,” and a glorious crowd of knowledge-seekers wisely included Penn College along its lifelong quest for learning in 2002-03.

IN A MEANINGFUL AND MEASURABLE MARK OF THE COLLEGE’S ATTRACTIVENESS TO STUDENTS SEEKING THE BEST IN JOB-PREPARATION EDUCATION, RECORD HIGH ENROLLMENT – AND THE LOWEST TUITION INCREASE IN PENNSYLVANIA – ALLOWED THE INSTITUTION TO MAINTAIN ITS STANDARD QUALITY IN A CLEARLY STUDENT-FOCUSED ENVIRONMENT.

Nearly 6,000 students enrolled for Fall 2002 – more than 7.5 percent above the previous year. Substantial enrollment gains were seen in many program areas and were repeated for the Spring 2003 semester, providing a solid foundation for continued growth.

The numbers evidenced a wider awareness of the value of a Penn College education and our success in placing graduates in high-quality positions. That good news was spread by recognition in two national publications: “THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE,” and “AMERICA’S BEST COLLEGES 2003” published by “U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT.”

The Times’ full-page advertisement, “Great Places to Learn in Pennsylvania + Virginia,” touted “an area with its eye on the future, a magnet for thousands of students drawn to its more than 200 colleges and universities.” In describing the diverse range of schools available to prospective students in Pennsylvania, the feature refers to “larger, technologically innovative schools such as Carnegie Mellon University and Pennsylvania College of Technology.”

The “U.S. News” publication ranked Penn College a full step higher among bachelor’s-degree-granting institutions than the previous year – one of only two public colleges listed in the second-tier rankings in its region.
FUNDING ASSURED, LIBRARY MOVES FULL-SPEED-AHEAD

“…I hadn’t dared to hope that such happiness could ever come.”

“BEYOND THE HORIZON”
- playwright Eugene O’Neill

A dream of many years came true with the Dec. 12 announcement that state funding was in place to begin construction of a new library. Making the occasion even more special was the naming of the facility to honor an esteemed state legislator and Board of Directors member, Roger A. Madigan, and his late wife, Peggy.

“The library is integral to the education mission of Penn College and it is central to the learning process for all students,” Dr. Gilmour said in announcing the exciting news to a standing-room-only meeting in the Professional Development Center. “The ability to seek information and gain knowledge will empower these men and women to continue learning throughout their lives.”

THE ROGER AND PEGGY MADIGAN LIBRARY AND LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER WILL BE BUILT SOUTH OF THE MAIN-CAMPUS ENTRANCE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES, BASED ON SPECIFICATIONS DRAFTED BY COLLEGE OFFICIALS AFTER NUMEROUS VISITS TO OTHER LIBRARIES, AS WELL AS RESEARCH AND A THOROUGH ASSESSMENT OF FUTURE LEARNING-RESOURCE NEEDS.

A key member of the advance team was Lisette N. Ormsbee, director of the Penn College Library. After a national search with the laser-sharp focus on the new building, it became clear Ormsbee – who was serving as interim director – is the ideal person to lead the library staff into the future and into the new facility.

SASC, CAL, ROSE STREET APARTMENTS AMPLIFY CAMPUS’ FUNCTIONAL BEAUTY

“…I have been bent and broken, but – I hope into a better shape.”

“GREAT EXPECTATIONS”
- author Charles Dickens

Campus construction often challenges daily operations, but always leads to great improvement of services and instructional programming.

The magnificent STUDENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CENTER, dedicated Feb. 20, has become a welcoming first point of contact. Response to the building has been extremely positive from both internal and external audiences, and its functionality has received considerable accolades. Families wishing to conduct business with the Admissions, Registrar’s, Financial Aid and Bursar’s offices find everything comfortably within reach . . . and in friendly, spacious surroundings.

First-floor facilities offer attractive, yet practical areas for presentations to prospective students and placement testing for those who enroll. And artwork by local and Williamsport-area talent, financed through the continuing “Art on Campus” initiative, adds to the structure’s appeal.

Design and construction of the COLLEGE AVENUE LABORATORIES (the former HON manufacturing facility) and the ROSE STREET APARTMENTS (new residence halls completed just in time for Fall 2003 occupancy) moved quickly through the year.

Both are a boon to a growing campus community: The former created state-of-the-art instructional space for additional students in Collision Repair, Automated Manufacturing, Civil Engineering and Surveying; the latter added 370 beds to the College’s critically needed housing pool.

Other College housing facilities are the 414-bed College West Apartments, The Village at Penn College (320 beds) and Campus View Apartments (336 beds). The College is working more closely than ever with more than 40 off-campus landlords to balance the other side of the housing equation, opening new lines of communications and adding a liaison who meets regularly to hear concerns and discuss our mutual benefit to the Greater Williamsport community.
since the very beginnings of this institution, the impressive edifice at West Third and Susquehanna streets cut an imposing figure on the Williamsport landscape.

As the College has grown to reflect the ever-changing needs of students and their eventual employers – and as buildings have been razed and raised again – the Klump Academic Center has been the consistent temple of teaching and learning.

EXTENSIVE RENOVATION OF THE ACADEMIC CENTER WAS UNDERTAKEN THIS YEAR FROM A STRATEGIC, PLANNING AND STAGING POINT OF VIEW. THE PLAN IS TO ALLOW THE BUILDING TO REMAIN IN LIMITED USE THROUGH THE TWO-YEAR PROJECT, BEGINNING IN THE SUMMER OF 2003.

In what President Gilmour has termed a “borderless puzzle,” the carefully planned renovations require the painstaking relocation of employees and offices: 55 classes, 12 full-time faculty members, Academic Support Services (including the Tutoring Center), the School of Integrated Studies, Institutional Research and Planning, and Residence Life.

Remaining in the building will be 30 full-time instructors who will move from one side of the building to the other during renovation, and another 50 part-time faculty “on the move” each semester.

With proper planning and coordination of the Academic Center renovation with construction of the Student and Administrative Services Center and the preparations at College Avenue Labs, officials were successful in maximizing the number of available classrooms, group-study areas, seminar and student work areas, and faculty offices.

CONCLUSION OF THE PROJECT IN FALL 2005 WILL RETURN A CAMPUS LANDMARK TO ITS REAL PURPOSE: A TRUE “ACADEMIC” CENTER.

“COLLEGE TOWN” TOUTS OBVIOUS – BUT OVERLOOKED – BENEFITS

“Life is too wonderful for us to truly appreciate it.”

“OUR TOWN”

- playwright Thornton Wilder

In Wilder’s small burg of Grovers Corners, N.H., a young woman wonders whether we take too much for granted as we blindly scurry through life. Williamsport’s “College Town” initiative, championed by the presidents of Penn College and Lycoming College, was begun to make sure that doesn’t happen in our own back yard.

WILLIAMSPORT CLEARLY IS A COLLEGE TOWN, BLESSED WITH TWO CIVIC-MINDED INSTITUTIONS THAT COOPERATE RATHER THAN COMPETE AND PROVIDE A SPECIAL “LOCAL” AUDIENCE OF COLLEGE STUDENTS THAT CAN USE SERVICES AND DO BUSINESS WITH AREA MERCHANTS.

Committees from Williamsport City Council and the Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce came together to discuss the colleges’ roles in the community, to appreciate the benefits of two such fine neighbors and to strategize enhancement of our “College Town.”

Penn College is a prominent partner in the committees’ activities. Dr. Gilmour explained the institution’s commitment: “A COLLEGE TOWN THAT REACHES OUT CAN WIN THE HEARTS, MINDS AND DOLLARS OF ITS STUDENT-RESIDENTS. I BELIEVE THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY MAY WELL DEPEND UPON HOW WELL WE ACCEPT STUDENTS FOR WHAT THEY ARE – RESIDENTS OF OUR COLLEGE TOWN.”
C.A.R.E. TAKES A COMPASSIONATE “NO-BUTTS” ATTITUDE

“Preachers has got to preach against something. It wouldn’t do them no good to preach for everything.”

“TOBACCO ROAD”
- author Erskine Caldwell

There was no preaching in the C.A.R.E. initiative, just the common-sense objective of “CREATING A RESPECTFUL ENVIRONMENT” for smokers and nonsmokers alike.

Penn College’s president and the head of the Student Government Association joined to kick off the ANTI-SMOKING CAMPAIGN, posing together for a poster that took a whimsical approach to its straightforward message: On-campus smoking would be limited to clearly delineated areas, making sure the “Tobacco Road” led away from doorways and other heavily traveled areas.

“Smoking zones” were marked in bright yellow paint and a detailed map was made available online, all to great impact. The multi-dimensional program – which combined awareness, advertisement and availability of smoking-cessation classes – was favorably received on campus and, by year’s end, a culture shift was obvious at the smoke-free building entrances.

RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

Ray Bradbury’s title refers to the temperature at which paper burns, but it is a flame of a creative kind – and “degrees” of a different sort – that kindle at Penn College. Where the firemen of the author’s bleak future incinerated books to destroy thought, the College’s design team culled its collective talents to create a new spark from vintage tinder.

A familiar phrase, “degrees that work,” was refashioned into a two-year marketing and recruitment plan by a cross-functioning team of print, Web and graphic designers from across campus, which produced award-winning work in all categories. THE CAMPAIGN MARKETS PENN COLLEGE TO A NEW GENERATION OF COMPUTER-SAVVY STUDENTS, AND HAS RECEIVED NATIONAL RECOGNITION – INCLUDING “COMMUNICATOR” AND “TELLY” AWARDS – FOR THE CD-ROM, WEB SITE AND TELEVISION COMMERCIAL DEVELOPED AS INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE CAMPAIGN.

EARLY START OFFERS TUITION DISCOUNT FOR FIRST-SEMESTER STUDENTS

“& I am slow to study.”
- playwright William Shakespeare

But certainly quick to learn, the Bard might have added. Beginning with the Summer 2003 semester, first-year students readily found the advantages of Penn College’s new “early start” tuition discount. Initiated in an attempt to introduce new entrants to College-level work in a more-relaxed atmosphere and to alleviate the large number of first-level math, English and computer courses required in the fall of each school year, the program was a dream come true for students and parents dreading a credit-heavy first semester.

By starting sooner, students save money (a 25-percent reduction in tuition costs) while avoiding the stress of tackling too large a course load. And, with a bright first semester often lighting the way to success throughout the rest of a student’s college experience, the “early start” program was a win-win offer – in every season.
2002-03 Budget

- Operating Budget: $62,283,553
- Annual Debt Service: 7,898,999
- Combined Operating and Debt Service: 70,182,552
- State Contribution: 13,675,180

In-State
  - Tuition Rate Increase: 6.9 %*
  - Tuition per Credit Hour: $242
  - Average Annual Tuition: $8,400*

Out-of-State
  - Tuition Rate Increase: 6.3 %*
  - Tuition per Credit Hour: $315
  - Average Annual Tuition: $10,590*

Auxiliary Enterprises

- College Store: $4,012,915
- Food Services: 3,330,000
- Student Housing: 3,829,864
- Student Activities: 897,159
- Technology Transfer Center: 315,000
- Children’s Learning Center: 290,693
  Total: $12,675,631

Grant Funding

- Miscellaneous Equipment and Education: $2,119,845
- Carl D. Perkins Act Local Plan: 929,664
- Weatherization and Related Training: 378,000
- School-to-Work and Tech Prep: 282,680
- Act 101: 170,794
- New Choices/New Options: 117,430
- Ben Franklin Projects: 115,295
  Total: $4,113,708

* Includes tuition and per-credit-hour fees
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

August 2002

Susan D. Roberts, Physician Assistant major

December 2002

Kristi L. Ritchey, Culinary Arts Technology major; and Dale A. Metzker, recipient of the 2002 Master Teacher Award. Metzker retired in May 2002 as an associate professor of printing and publishing.

May 2003

Danielle S. Lavinder (morning ceremony), Dental Hygiene associate-degree major; and Melissa S. Roth (afternoon), Automotive Technology Management bachelor’s degree
DISTINGUISHED STAFF
Bonnie L. Ingram, science laboratory technician; Brian D. Hopple, custodian at the Student and Administrative Services Center; and Karen I. Rishcoff, secretary to the Dental Hygiene and Radiography programs.

PART-TIME TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS
Judith W. DeGregorio, instructor of mathematics; and Jack E. Fisher, lab assistant for forest technology.

MASTER TEACHER AWARD
Richard L. Druckenmiller, instructor of Building Construction Technology.

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
Jeffrey B. Weaver, assistant professor of electronics.

COLLEGE SERVICE AWARD
Dr. Gilmour presents to state Rep. Brett O. Feese, majority whip of the House Republican Caucus and a member of the Penn College Board of Directors, in recognition of his advocacy of Penn College, including instrumental funding support for the proposed new library and for millions of dollars in instructional equipment.

ALUMNI MENTORSHIP
The first recipients join Dr. Gilmour: Kirby O. Smith, president of Susquehanna Health System, left; and Glenn A. Raup, manager of the Flight Services Division of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation’s Bureau of Aviation.

ALUMNI CITIZENSHIP
The inaugural recipients are Anita L. Wagner, a 1995 Nursing graduate and longtime civic volunteer in eastern Lycoming County; and William R. Miller, who graduated from the Williamsport Area Community College in 1970 with an associate’s degree in Forest Technology. A line clearance inspector for PPL Electric Utilities, Miller is the mayor of South Williamsport.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD
Walter D. Nyman, director of general services at Penn College and a 1967 graduate of Williamsport Area Community College.

ALUMNUS ACHIEVEMENT
Benjamin A. Hess, Structural Department CAD manager/technician at C.S. Davidson Inc., York, and a 1995 graduate of Penn College.
In the relatively short time it took for the 2002-03 academic year to elapse, Penn College truly was transformed: The dust of progress flew as new buildings rose and old ones got a fresh look. Students arrived and graduates departed, both groups enriching us with their gifts. Our campuses hummed with a common purpose, as leadership and cooperation combined to offer the best possible education and environment to those whose dreams have been entrusted to us.

We would need bookshelf upon bookshelf to fully document our wide-ranging accomplishments – from once-in-a-lifetime miracles to the everyday successes of our faculty, staff and students. But we proudly offer these highlights of the year just past – a representative list confirming that, as much as it might change with the times, Penn College never strays from its course … its purpose … its single-minded, student-centered mission.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Penn College Foundation received donations to establish 16 new scholarships, and held a dinner auction that raised more than $40,000 in unrestricted funds. The in-house Annual Fund Campaign raised $50,922 from 252 participating employees, an increase of $9,670 (or 23.4 percent) over the previous year.

The School of Business & Computer Technologies submitted a self-study report to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, and hosted a successful site visit in spring.

The American Landscape Contractors Association accredited the Landscape/Nursery Technology program.

The Physician Assistant program earned a four-year accreditation following a site visit in July.

Le Jeune Chef Restaurant became the first establishment in Northeastern Pennsylvania to be certified by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board’s “Responsible Alcohol Management Program.”

As part of the Partnership for Air Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration Accreditation, all heating/ventilation/air-conditioning faculty passed the Industry Competency Exam for HVAC professionals.

The American Occupational Therapy Association approved the School of Health Sciences as a provider of continuing-education credits.

The Tutoring Center received a second level of certification from the College Reading and Learning Association (an international organization of learning-assistance professionals), requiring additional minimum training and experience for tutors.

The Children’s Learning Center was designated a four-star center (the highest rating) under the new Keystone Stars initiative. The award was accompanied by a $16,000 cash grant, which will be used to provide computers, classroom lofts and other new furnishings for the children’s rooms.

Pennsylvania designated the Technology Transfer Center as an agent for online courses through the Workforce and Economic Development Network.

“Looking Backward”
- author Edward Bellamy

How strange and wellnigh incredible does it seem that so prodigious a … transformation … could have been accomplished in so brief an interval!”

Twelve teammates brought home first-place medals at the SkillsUSA-VICA Conference in Lancaster, making them eligible for national competition in Kansas City, Mo. Joshua W. Hunsberger and James N. Colton took home second-place medals at nationals.
STUDENTS

The School of Business & Computer Technologies received approval for a College chapter of Sigma Beta Delta (the International Honor Society for Business, Management, and Administration) and inducted its first members in May.

A student chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors was formed, as was the Wildcat Amateur Radio Club. The American Society of Civil Engineers Club filed an application to become recognized by the national organization after serving a full year under the guidance of the Central Pennsylvania Section of the ASCE.

William Brownlee and Phillip Wiegand were among only 14 students nationwide to be awarded 2003-04 scholarships through the American Welding Society.

Fifty-two Penn College students were inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society that recognizes and encourages scholarship among associate-degree students.

The Pennsylvania Society of Land and Mapping Services presented a scholarship to Joel Morningstar, its first-ever award to a Penn College student.

A team of student competitors from the School of Natural Resources Management placed third overall in the Mid-Atlantic Woodsman Meet held in Cumberland, Md. Penn College students took two first-place medals, 12 second-place medals in eight individual and team events, and a third-place medal in an individual event.

After winning regional competition, a team of Construction Management students placed fourth in the Associated Schools of Construction-Associated General Contractors of America National Student Competition in Dallas, Texas.

Penn College’s Students in Free Enterprise team was chosen as a first runner-up in its division at the 2003 SIFE Regional Competition and Career Opportunity Fair in Reston, Va.

Four students in Plastics and Polymer Engineering Technology received scholarships from the Plastics Pioneers Association, a society of industry leaders.

Nathan N. Hoy competed on a team that finished second in the “All-Star Bowl” competition at the 2002 Instrumentation, Systems and Automation Society’s International Student Games in Chicago.

Marie Szabo, secretary/treasurer of Penn College’s Alpha Chi national honor society for four-year students, was an alternate in a national scholarship contest.

Brandon Lebo won the first-ever $3,000 Construction Management Association of America national scholarship.

A group of Penn College Construction Association students took second place in a national competition sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders in Las Vegas. At the same show, the PCCA won third place in the Outstanding Student Chapter award, winning a $750 prize for the club.

The Construction Management Association won the 2002-03 Student Government Association award for Outstanding Student Organization of the Year. Other award-winners includedBi, Gay, Lesbian, & Allies in Dialogue (Most Improved Student Organization), Dr. William Urosevich of the Wildcat Power Team (Advisor of the Year) and Kevin Imes (Student Leader of the Year).

ATHLETICS

The Women’s Compound Archery Team and the Mixed Compound Archery Team each placed third in the 2003 National Archery Association national competition; Ryan Romberger was named a 2003 All-American in archery.
Seventeen Penn College student-athletes were named to All-State Teams in their respective sports; 21 were chosen for All-Conference honors.

IMPROVEMENTS

In addition to very visible projects by professional contractors, many campus improvements were undertaken by students in the School of Construction & Design Technologies, including a building extension for the masonry program, decorative wooden end panels for library collection stacks, various electrical and plumbing work, new countertops for the “You’re the Chef” set, a storage shed at the Earth Science Center and a prototype podium for use in the Student and Administrative Services Center.

RECOGNITION

“You’re the Chef” completed its fifth season on PBS, receiving a 2002 Mid-Atlantic Emmy nomination and winning a 2002 Admissions Advertising Silver Award for its “Wine Country Brunch” episode.

One College Avenue won a Gold Medal in a national competition sponsored by Admissions Marketing Report. The College was honored three times in another nationwide contest – sponsored by The National Council for Marketing and Public Relations – which bestowed a gold award on “You’re the Chef,” and bronze awards to “Penn College and You” and One College Avenue.

The “Children and Play” episode of “Penn College and You,” including video segments of youngsters enrolled at the Children’s Learning Center, won a Telly Award. The show featured Karen Woland Payne, Center director, and host Tom Speicher, broadcast media specialist.

NEW VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Jill Landesberg-Boyle was named vice president for student affairs, bringing to Penn College more than 10 years’ experience in higher-education leadership. Dr. Landesberg-Boyle oversees the integration of student affairs with academic affairs, ensuring a positive educational and cocurricular experience for all students.

ADDITIONS TO CURRICULUM PORTFOLIO

School of Business & Computer Technologies
• Office Information Technology: Web Design Emphasis
• Office Information Technology: Medical Office Information Emphasis
• Office Information Technology: Specialized Office Information Emphasis

School of Construction & Design Technologies
• A bachelor’s degree completion program was developed for distance delivery in Residential Construction Technology and Management.

School of Integrated Studies
• Mass Media Communication – associate’s degree

School of Natural Resources Management
• Environmental Technology Management – bachelor’s degree
• Heavy Construction Equipment: Operator Emphasis
• Heavy Construction Equipment: Technician Emphasis

School of Transportation Technology
• Ford Maintenance and Light Repair coursework and credit were incorporated into the Automotive Technology and Collision Repair Technology majors
• The Automotive Service Sales and Marketing major began accepting students

INTERNATIONAL

The International Programs Office created five study-abroad programs, including two student exchanges:
Wuerzburg, Germany: A semester-long exchange drew six student participants during 2002–03, with nine more accepted for study in Germany for 2003–04.

Toluca, Mexico: A one-week exchange began in Spring 2003. Ten Penn College students and two professors traveled to Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey for the first half of the exchange. Engineering students from Mexico, motivated by Penn College’s hands-on instruction, are to study here for a week in Fall 2003.

Other programs included a one-week Art History tour of Italy in January, a semester-long Australian program in Fall 2002 and a potential exchange with students and staff of Tsuyama (Japan) National College of Technology in Fall 2002. For the third year, students in the ARAMCO/Saudi Arabia program were enrolled in Paramedic Technology.

INITIATIVES

A Parents Committee met during Parents and Family Weekend to provide feedback on a variety of topics, including new-student matriculation. Parents will be added to the committee in each academic year.

Institutional Advancement initiated a charitable gift annuity program, with its first contributor identified in December. Penn College was admitted into the SAP University Alliance, which allows it to obtain software, training and advice necessary to integrate world-leading business application modules into the School of Business & Computer Technologies’ accounting and business curriculums as early as Spring 2004.

TRIO Student Support Services/Academic Support Services hosted the first “Summer Plus” program to assist eligible students with remediation and orientation prior to the start of fall classes. A local observance of National TRIO Day recognized graduating students. Radio personality and national storyteller Nelson Lauver, an individual with learning disabilities, was the keynote speaker.

To increase awareness of the Alumni Association among students, Institutional Advancement provided small gifts at student orientations in August and January, and sponsored a “Senior Send-Off” luncheon in May. A program designed to foster the importance of giving back to the College was introduced to graduating seniors in Spring 2003, accepting donations that will help fund future scholarships.

With 31 projects approved for over $4 million, the Grants and Contracts Office realized a 25-percent increase in approvals over the previous year. Among the approved projects were a $300,000 Workforce Leadership 2+2+2 Skills Greenhouses grant to support secondary curriculum development; $500,000 in federal Digital Divide funds to deliver introductory computer training to 900 low-income residents of the Central and Northern Tier regions, and funding for train-the-trainer programs for community-based organizations.

Information Technology Services implemented “Wildcat Wireless Zones” for student access, converted 95 percent of academic computer labs to Windows XP, installed auto-updating anti-virus software on all College PCs and implemented anti-SPAM filters that block 20,000-50,000 e-mail messages a day. ITS also developed new technology classrooms and updated data-projection capability in 16 classrooms and three large-venue areas, and enhanced technology in the Thompson Professional Development Center’s Tiadaghton Room.

THE 17TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC, FEATURING GOLF PROFESSIONAL JACK NICKLAUS II, RAISED MORE THAN $30,000 FOR THE ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND.
Server System with accompanying software and maintenance service (valued at nearly $236,000) to accommodate student training in programming, database, networking and WebSphere.

Construction & Design Technologies
The school replaced all equipment in the commercial refrigeration lab: a walk-in cooler, two “coffin” coolers, two rack coolers and two case coolers; and acquired an inline rip saw for Carpentry and Cabinetmaking majors, and five new motor-control workstations for the Electrical Technology labs.

Integrated Studies
A platesetter and processor costing $122,000, which reflect the industry trend of computer-to-plate technology, were installed to support the newly revised Graphic Communication majors. Also, a joint effort between Texas Instruments and the mathematics department resulted in the upgrade of TI graphics-presentation software and hardware.

Industrial & Engineering Technologies
Institutional Advancement obtained business and private financial support for matching funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to purchase instructional equipment for Plastics and Civil Engineering Technology programs under the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. Acquisition of the equipment was made possible by PPL Electric Utilities, West Pharmaceutical Services, Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products and Alcan Cable.

A Nissei Injection Molder (consigned via the Plastics Manufacturing Center) was donated to the Plastics program, as were a Gala Micropelletizer (purchased through the PMC), a Macguire Low-Pressure Dryer and a TMI Instrumented Apparatus. The Electronics communications lab received a major equipment upgrade due to a Perkins grant and donations from Corning; Automated Manufacturing was the beneficiary of a closed-loop servo, a Universal Testing Machine and an Arc-Spark Spectrophotometer for metal chemical analysis; and an Orbital Pipe/Tube Welding Machine was donated to the Welding program.

Natural Resources Management
Among valuable donations were a Global Positioning Grade-Control System from Keystone Precision Instruments, Allan A. Myers Inc. (a company of American Infrastructure) and Flora Surveying Associates; a CTC refrigeration unit, a Shimadzu gas chromatograph and three commercial trucks.

The school also entered into a curricular arrangement involving the world-renowned Longwood Gardens horticultural display, allowing participants in the facility’s Professional Gardener Training Program to receive credits toward an associate’s degree at Penn College; and involved students in a number of projects at PPL’s Montour Preserve.

Transportation Technology
PPG Industries provided paint, training and equipment to Collision Repair.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
The School of Transportation Technology donated used vehicles from the Automotive and Collision Repair programs to the Jersey Shore School District, Loyalsock Township High School and Brook (W. Va.) High School, and repaired two Toyota vehicles for Brookdale (N.J.) Community College.

Industrial & Engineering students built framework for a 16-foot by 24-foot stage for the City of Williamsport.

Construction & Design Technologies students completed interior refinishing, painting and suspended-ceiling...
installation for the Newberry Lions Club, poured six concrete pads for benches in Ways Garden; replaced a portion of the roof and installed ceramic tile at Bowman Field; poured concrete slabs and laid masonry for two baseball dugouts at Jersey Shore High School; performed interior framing and drywall, poured a concrete pad and erected masonry walls for a West End Babe Ruth Baseball service building; and completed extensive work for the Montgomery and Louisa Street “Habitat for Humanity” programs.

The College and Community Coalition, facilitated through Counseling and Career Services for alcohol education, partnered with AAA Travel Agency to offer a “Mix Off, Kick Off, Send Off” event. Designed to promote responsible behavior, the program reviewed alcohol-related laws in different areas of the country – and outside the United States – prior to students departing for Spring Break. Hospitality students created non-alcoholic drinks that were judged by a panel of College/community members. Music, food and the Wildcat Dance Team created an island atmosphere, while affirming a message of responsibility.

EVENTS

The School of Transportation Technology sponsored two cars and assisted in repairs to other vehicles in the Red Cross Mini-Indy race. The school also hosted 150 high school participants in the Mousetrap Racer contest during Fall Career Day, and the Williamsport Regional Airport “Airport Regional Chat” sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Three culinary artists came to campus as part of the Distinguished Visiting Chef series: Chef Todd Downs, Park Avenue Café, Doubletree Hotel, Chicago, in October; and Chef Jeff Vosburgh and Tim Eldridge, Georgian Terrace Hotel; and Chef David Robins, Corner Café and Buckhead Bread Co., Atlanta, in March. In addition, world-renowned “sugar artist” Ewald Notter from the International School of Confectionary Arts, Gaithersburg, Md., offered a chocolate showcase and demonstration in November.

The Physician Assistant Club contributed $5,000 to the Russell Trapp Scholarship Fund, money raised through the annual Russell Trapp Memorial Golf Tournament in June.

Penn College was the site of the April 2003 annual conference of the Central Susquehanna Association for the Education of Young Children. Attracting child-care providers, Head Start staff and early-childhood teachers and administrators from a 10-county area, the conference featured over 20 workshops, exhibits and a keynote address. Karen Woland Payne, Children’s Learning Center director; and Gail Landers, Preschool Group Leader, served on the conference planning committee.

More than 100 participants attended The Governor’s Institute for Mathematics Instructors program run by K–12 Outreach, which aimed to instruct teachers on how to integrate the State’s educational standards into their classrooms.

The Student Government Association hosted a debate at which Williamsport’s three mayoral candidates unveiled plans to better the Greater Williamsport area, specifically in relation to Penn College.

The second annual Williamsport Technical Institute reunion in June brought together alumni and retirees for lunch, reminiscing and touring campus facilities and enjoying a luncheon. Other school/alumni partnership events included a holiday floral demonstration, an identity-theft symposium, a West Branch Builders Association display, and visits with alumni and vendors at the Pennsylvania Farm Show and Pennsylvania Home Builders Show.
Pennsylvania College of Technology and Penn College Foundation extend sincere appreciation to the following individuals, businesses and organizations for their generous contributions. Large or small, all gifts make a significant impact in promoting the vision of Penn College. Thanks to the generosity and support of these donors, qualified students receive scholarships, educational equipment is purchased and instructional delivery is enhanced—all for the benefit of our students and the community.

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1969 $1,150 (8)
1968 $150 (1)
1969 $95 (5)
1970 $515 (9)
1971 $906 (6)
1972 $1,218 (12)
1973 $1,557 (10)
1974 $2,325 (11)
1975 $420 (5)
1976 $155 (6)
1977 $752 (6)
1978 $970 (9)
1979 $1,072 (10)
1980 $525 (3)
1981 $372 (7)
1982 $275 (6)
1983 $802 (12)
1984 $1,088 (13)
1985 $955 (12)
1986 $473 (7)
1987 $387 (7)
1988 $290 (5)
1989 $249 (6)
1990 $2,230 (7)
1991 $462 (13)
1992 $383 (10)
1993 $2,475 (12)
1994 $331 (7)
1995 $3,268 (10)
1996 $1,091 (8)
1997 $646 (13)
1998 $3,042 (6)
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2001 $557 (8)
2002 $745 (5)
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Mr. James C. Whitehead
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To all those who have shared their knowledge . . . we will be forever grateful.

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Pennsylvania College of Technology congratulates these recipients of 2003 Presidential and Penn College Scholarships. As recent high school graduates, recognized for their classroom achievement and community service, and as accomplished adults who have returned to the classroom, these students symbolize Penn College’s commitment to excellence and lifelong learning and serve as Student Ambassadors.

**Fall 2003 Scholars**

JASON S. DIBLER  
Electrical Technology

LESLEI A. FREY  
Hospitality Management

ANDREW J. HAMELLEY  
Building Construction Technology

SARA E. JINAR  
Physician Assistant

ELIZABETH Z. MAST  
Accounting

BRANDON J. MCDOWELL  
Civil Engineering Technology

JESSICA D. QUINN  
Electronics Technology

BRIAN D. RICE  
Electronics Engineering Technology

DEREK J. RINALDO  
Civil Engineering Technology

TRACEY L. SEYLAR  
Physician Assistant

KARA J. SPANGLER  
Graphic Communications Management

BRIAN D. TRETTER  
Building Construction Technology

APRIL J. BEVANS  
Landscape/Nursery Technology

SARA A. STREET  
Landscape/Nursery Technology

MELISSA A. STYER  
Paramedic Technology