

State System News Highlights

University headlines

New majors approved at IUP

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education approved two new majors for Indiana University of Pennsylvania: a Bachelor of Science in environmental engineering and a Ph.D. in business. "Both of these programs address critical workforce needs for our commonwealth, our nation and our world," IUP President Dr. Michael Driscoll said. "These degrees draw on IUP's established expertise in these disciplines, which includes a cadre of faculty with both research and real-world experience. These high-quality programs offer an affordable opportunity for talented students to enter, and succeed, in these important professions."

By Elaine Haskins, The Courier Express

Cal U. introduces online nurse educator master's program

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

California University of Pennsylvania is enrolling students now for its 100 percent online program in nursing education. New this fall, the online Master of Science in Nursing: Nursing Education degree program addresses the nationwide shortage of nursing professionals who are prepared to educate the next generation of nurses.

The (Washington, Pa.) Observer-Reporter

Edinboro University forms "response team" to aid workers impacted by upcoming GE layoffs

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

Edinboro University announced Monday a "response team" offering all tools needed to help up to 575 workers affected by upcoming layoffs at GE Transportation.

By Matt Knoedler, Erie News Now

Internships help teens get sneak peek into future

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

The primary reason to get a job in high school is to make money for college or spending. Internships take that a step further by offering insight into a field of interest or, at the very least, invaluable skills that can be applied to almost any job. Deanna Lupia, a sophomore at Bloomsburg University and a former Voices Intern, loved her time as an intern. "I literally

learned so much from my internship with Voices," said Deanna, a 2016 graduate of Muhlenberg. "It gave me an excellent preview as to what I would be doing as a journalist.

By Jennifer Wagner, The Reading Eagle

[SRU developing aquaponics ecosystem with Ugandan university](#)

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Ugandan professor Joseph Ssekandi traveled to America for the first time in June to see what appears, on the surface at least, to be little more than a couple of shallow swimming pools at Slippery Rock University. However, it's what will eventually grow in those pools will benefit students, farmers, the Ugandan economy and a budding partnership between SRU and Uganda Martyrs University.

The Allied News

[Cal U teacher always willing to help students](#)

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Most people remember reluctantly sharing their grades with their parents, but very few know what it's like to be graded by their parents. Beth Luker — among the latter — said her father was no more partial toward or demanding of her than other students when he taught computer science at California University of Pennsylvania.

By Matthew Guerry, Tribune-Review

[Edinboro University ROTC program welcomes new commander](#)

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

There's a new commander of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania's Fighting Scots Battalion ROTC program. Maj. Benjamin Kavanagh received the battalion's ROTC flag from outgoing commander Lt. Col. Marc Beckage during a ceremony at the university Wednesday.

By Valerie Myers, Erie Times-News

[WCU named 'Great College To Work For'](#)

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

West Chester University (WCU) has been named one of this year's "Great Colleges to Work For" by The Chronicle of Higher Education, a prominent news source dedicated to covering national higher education issues.

By Staff Report, Daily Local News

Millersville University invites campus community to weigh in on new president search at August meetings

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

The community is invited to weigh in on Millersville University's search for a new president at a series of meetings in August. With current president John Anderson retiring March 2018, a search committee is looking for a replacement and wants input on the "leadership qualities and professional experience" the next president should have.

By Lindsey Blest, Lancaster Newspapers

High percentage of food insecurity found in Pennsylvania's wealthiest county

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Chester County is the wealthiest county among all 67 counties in Pennsylvania. The median household yearly income is more than \$85,000. It has also been ranked the #1 healthiest county in the state, boasts highly rated schools, solid corporations, thriving small businesses, and desirable neighborhoods. And yet, more than 25,000 county residents received over \$3 million in SNAP (food stamp) benefits because they do not have enough money to consistently put food – let alone healthy food – on the table each night.

News Medical Life Sciences

Michael Phelps' race with a great white in Shark Week: Does he stand a chance?

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

"Michael Phelps is going to get ripped," said Frank Fish, a fittingly named West Chester University biology professor who studies aquatic propulsion.

By Tom Avril, Philly.com

How to Stay Safe in the Heat

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Instead of trying to keep track of your liters, Sarah Fowkes Godek, Ph.D., director of the HEAT Institute at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, recommends that you rely on your sense of thirst to tell you how much water to drink.

By Catherine Roberts, Consumer Reports

[Hey, Gov. Wolf: Trust me, Cheyney needs attention now](#)

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

They were mostly older folks and showed up dressed in Cheyney University's school colors, blue and white. Some leaned heavily on canes or carried signs reading "Cheyney Alumni Pride" and "Black Minds Matter." I felt as if I knew their stories. Like my parents, they had gone to historically black schools and had become educators, lifting themselves and their families into a middle-class existence. They bought homes, went to church, raised children who probably grew up the way I did: shielded from the harsh realities of what my parents had been through in North Carolina riding in the back of buses, having to work as domestics, being denied admittance to white institutions.

By Jenice Armstrong, The Philadelphia Inquirer

[State Rep. Jordan Harris talks severity of Cheyney University's problems](#)

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

State Rep. Jordan Harris wants to spread the message about the seriousness regarding the future of Cheyney University. "The problem with Cheyney is it reminds me of the story of the boy who cried wolf," Harris told the Tribune Editorial Board recently. "For years people have talked about Cheyney being in trouble and we've talked about it so much that to some people it's a common theme."

By Ryanne Persinger, The Philadelphia Tribune

[Cal U. lifts layoff notice to union faculty](#)

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

California University of Pennsylvania lifted a layoff notice to its union faculty, stating it's optimistic the enrollment decline trend will be reversed in the fall.

By Scott Beveridge, Observer-Reporter

Strategic review

[Report offers a path forward for State System's schools](#)

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

If you're a booster of Pennsylvania's 14 state-owned universities, there's a decent chance you had a knot in your stomach earlier this month before a consultant unveiled a report on how the system that operates the schools should be fixed.

By The Almanac

State system may end single tuition rate

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

The board governing Pennsylvania's 14 state-owned universities should end a decades-long practice of setting a single yearly tuition rate and instead approve a range, within which campuses could set prices based on individual needs and varied missions.

By Bill Schackner, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pennsylvania's State System faculty takes issue with consultant's report

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

The union representing faculty at the 14 state-owned universities took issue Monday with a consultant's final report on the State System of Higher Education and accompanying recommendations for change. But the union also called work by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems "a useful starting point for dialogue."

By Bill Schackner, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Incomplete grade: Report on ailing State System schools falls short

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

A consultant's report may have some reasonable ideas, but it would appear to fall far short of what is needed to revive the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Battling enrollment declines and revenue problems, the system was supposed to undergo a stem-to-stern evaluation by the Colorado-based National Center for Higher Education Management Systems. However, the study left open the thorniest questions about campus restructuring, focusing more on problems with the system's governance structure.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (editorial)

Letter: Column misses mark on state system issues

Sunday, July 30, 2017

Ron Southwick's July 24 column ("Reset due for State System of Higher Education") misses the mark about the report commissioned by the Board of Governors. The report explicitly noted that it is not a criticism of the chancellor, board or any individual; rather, it questions an outdated structure that has hindered the system for decades and has prevented it from being a true "system" benefiting students.

By Ron Henry (in The Reading Eagle)

Chancellor's retirement

[A well-timed retirement for State System Chancellor](#)

Sunday, July 30, 2017

Frank Brogan can hardly shoulder the blame for all the problems bedeviling the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. The chancellor of the system that oversees 14 state-owned universities across the commonwealth can't hammer together a time machine, go back to the 1990s and urge Pennsylvanians to have more babies, and make sure they stay in the area, so that campuses in the 2010s will not suffer from dipping enrollment.

By Jim McNutt, Observer-Reporter

State Budget

[Budget standoff puts state-related universities in a bind](#)

Saturday, July 29, 2017

The Legislature's lingering deadlock over how to balance the state budget is leaving the almost 180,000 students at the four state-related universities in the lurch. Because the state's \$32 billion budget wasn't fully funded, the state House didn't approve the legislation to release \$562 million in state funding to Penn State, Pitt, Temple and Lincoln universities.

By John Finnerty, CNHI Capital Bureau

Other Higher Ed News

[More Students File Federal Aid Form Under New Rules](#)

Friday, July 28, 2017

The number of students filing a crucial financial aid form has risen, suggesting that recent changes that have made it easier to file are working, a new analysis finds. The Fafsa, short for Free Application for Federal Student Aid, is the gateway for most financial help for college students, including federal grants and subsidized student loans. Many states and colleges also use Fafsa data to determine eligibility for aid they distribute.

By Ann Carrns, The New York Times

[Colleges say they could lower tuition — if only they could talk to each other about it](#)

Friday, July 28, 2017

Pssst: America's private colleges have an idea to stop, and even reverse, their big annual increases in tuition. They say it would help ensure financial aid goes to the students who need it most. All they want is for you to trust them. And an exemption from federal antitrust laws that ban consultation about prices and discounts among competitors in any industry.

By Jon Marcus, The Washington Post

Justice Dept. to Take On Affirmative Action in College Admissions

Friday, July 28, 2017

The Trump administration is preparing to redirect resources of the Justice Department's civil rights division toward investigating and suing universities over affirmative action admissions policies deemed to discriminate against white applicants, according to a document obtained by The New York Times.

By Charles Savage, The New York Times