

State System News Highlights

Conklin, Hanna Call for Comprehensive Higher Education Study

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Rep. Mike Hanna, D-Lock Haven, and Rep. Scott Conklin, D-Rush-Township, joined several other state lawmakers this week in pushing for a comprehensive study of every public college and university in Pennsylvania.

StateCollege.com

Financial pressures on Pa.'s state university system could force an historic restructuring

Sunday, June 11, 2017

With the State System of Higher Education nearing what could be a historic restructuring, and with some of those universities flirting with financial collapse, leaders seeking solutions say they are leaving no question unanswered. This one, though, seems to have gotten less attention: How did the universities get to such an uneven place, and should the State System and the state itself have done more long ago to ease those disparities?

By Bill Schackner, The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Why does Clarion struggle while Slippery Rock soars?

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

The yearly ebb and flow of college students are the lifeblood of this river community, hope for a region that has lost too many employers, from shuttered coal mines to a glass plant up the road. But not as many students enroll at Clarion University these days, and it's changed the feel in this college town about 80 miles northeast of Pittsburgh.

By Bill Schackner, The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Firm to release review of state higher education soon

Saturday, June 10, 2017

A consulting firm hired by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education to make recommendations about how to cut costs and improve efficiency at the 100,000-student network of 14 colleges is expected to release its findings next month. The review comes as several of the universities in the system have struggled with declining enrollment at the same time that state funding has declined, driving up tuition costs.

By John Finnerty, The (Sunbury) Daily Item

In flap over free speech, Kutztown University loosens sidewalk 'chalking' rules

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Chalk it up to a lesson in free speech: Kutztown University has changed its policy on sidewalk chalk messages after an antiabortion group protested what it called "censorship by scrub brush."

By Marie McCullough, The Philadelphia Inquirer

A public university eases limits on chalk messages after complaint from anti-abortion group

Monday, June 12, 2017

A public university in Pennsylvania lifted restrictions on what students may write in chalk on campus walkways after an anti-abortion group complained some of its messages were erased by the school. In March, a chapter of Students for Life of America, an anti-abortion group based in Virginia, complained after chalk messages that read "Stop abortion" and "Life is sacred" were cleaned from sidewalks at Kutztown University in Kutztown, a school of about 9,000 roughly 75 miles northwest of Philadelphia.

By Justin Wm. Moyer, The Washington Post

Rugby Club Pokes a Hole in the N.C.A.A. Bubble

Thursday, June 8, 2017

There are only a few dozen international students at the medium-size university nestled here in the Berks County hills, where the clacking hooves of horse-drawn Mennonite buggies can be a more familiar sound than a car horn on the local streets. But on weeknights at 11, the turf field at the center of campus transforms into something like a model United Nations. There, Kutztown students from England, Scotland, South Africa, Australia and Jamaica, along with American players from 22 states, gather to take part in a common affinity: rugby.

By Zach Schonbrun, The New York Times

Survey: High school students more likely to save for college, avoid debt

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

High school students who grew up during the Great Recession and likely saw their parents ride out financial struggle are showing a greater tendency to save for college, avoid debt, and embrace attending two-year community colleges and vocational schools, according to the latest survey by the College Savings Foundation.

By Tim Grant, The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Our college students are changing. Why aren't our higher education policies?

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Think of the typical college student. For many, the thought conjures a tableau of young adults strolling a leafy quad. They bask in the freedom of student life as they ease their way into adulthood. The real world awaits them. Think again. While this picture may have been broadly representative of college students in generations past, it's badly outdated for today's students. College students are now more likely to work, have family commitments and come from low-income backgrounds than in earlier generations.

By Peter McPherson, in The Washington Post

Articles from subscription only sites

Slippery Rock University trustees approve transfer of McKeever

SLIPPERY ROCK - The Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees approved a resolution Friday authorizing the university to transfer administration of McKeever Environmental Learning Center back to the state Department of General Services or other appropriate state agency.... -

Oil City Derrick