



The GA-ZETTE

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2022 PSUGA CAMPUS UPDATE WITH CHANCELLOR EDMONDSON

Navigating COVID Through Safety, Supporting One Another

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Anniversaries are interesting, as they can reflect on something happy or something sad. At Penn State Greater Allegheny (PSUGA), the campus has come a long way leading up to the third year anniversary since COVID-19 initially shut it down.

Fast forward to 2022. All classes are back in-person, which is a welcome relief, especially to PSUGA Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Jacqueline Edmondson, who does not anticipate the need to return online.

“I think we learned how to navigate being in-person safely so we can have face-to-face instructions and activities,” she said. Throughout the rest of the spring semester, Edmondson thinks everyone will continue to stay masked, but future semesters might be different.

“We are hoping to change this idea of being in a pandemic to an endemic. With the number of people getting vac-



Penn State Greater Allegheny's new gaming and collaborative space opened Jan. 11, located in the lower-level of the Student Community Center.

Photo courtesy Penn State Greater Allegheny on Twitter [@PennStateGA](https://twitter.com/PennStateGA)

inated and the various mutations becoming milder, we might be able to go back to no masks,” she said.

A good thing to help speed up the process of returning back to normal is to keep to the guidelines and protocols set forth by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the various health and medical experts at Penn State.

Approximately, 70% of the PSUGA campus has

been vaccinated. For now, vaccines are not mandatory as it is at hundreds of other local and national colleges and universities.

However, anyone who is not vaccinated, or is vaccinated but did not post vaccine status to the University, will still need to take a weekly, free-of-charge COVID test. This could possibly change in the future though, as the number of virus cases continues to decline. For now, the remaining 30% of the campus must under-

go the weekly testing.

Virus or no virus, the campus needs to continue to operate. Something Edmondson finds important for students to understand involves fundraising, which is a process that is ongoing every day.

“We talk with friends, alumni, former donors to the campus, and (we meet them) through special events,” she said. Most of the money raised “goes to scholarships,” she added.

“If you have a scholar-
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ship that has somebody’s name on it, that’s because there was a person that gave those funds to the campus,” Edmondson said. She also mentioned that most of the people giving these funds went to school at Greater Allegheny at some point in their schooling. They had a connection in some way to the campus.

The look of the campus is always changing and evolving. In the near future, there will be a few more renovations coming.

“We will be putting in a sport court up by the

residence hall, working on a classroom in Crawford Building, and the third-floor corridor of Frable Building should be renovated in the fall,” Edmondson said.

In the community, one of the main goals at PSUGA is to provide social equity. The Crossing Bridges Summit and related Summit Talks (which follow each of the Crossing Bridges presentations) are intended to help bridge racial division in the Mon Valley. The campus also works to accomplish this through the Mon Valley Launch Box, in collaboration with Penn State Greater Allegheny, Invent Penn State and the city of McKeesport “to engage the community, entrepreneurs and students in encouraging economic development and improving the quality



Dr. Tony Mitchell and Dr. Johnathan White lead a campus discussion on Nguzo Saba’s 7 Principles. Photo courtesy Penn State Greater Allegheny on Twitter @PennStateGA

of life in the Mon Valley.”

Additionally, Edmondson wants to incorporate The Nguzo Saba on campus. Those are African principles which include unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, co-operative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith.

As a smaller branch campus, having more students come here would

be great and Edmondson asks that students help “spread the word,” whether it be through social media or talking with their high school. “Let them know what a great experience you had here and all the opportunities there are,” she said.

One thing that Edmondson would want all students to do is to achieve and to “Earn your degree!”

Time it takes to transmit an infectious dose of Covid-19

		PERSON NOT INFECTED IS WEARING			
		Nothing	Cloth mask	Surgical mask	N95
PERSON INFECTED IS WEARING	Nothing	15 min.	20 min.	30 min.	2.5 hours
	Cloth mask	20 min.	27 min.	40 min.	3.3 hours
	Surgical mask	30 min.	40 min.	1 hour	5 hours
	N95	2.5 hours	3.3 hours	5 hours	25 hours

It will take 25 hours for an infectious dose of Covid-19 to transmit between people wearing non-fit-tested N95 respirators. If they’re using tightly sealed N95s—where only 1% of particles enter the facepiece—they will have 2,500 hours of protection.

Note: Results published in Spring 2021. The CDC expects the Omicron variant to spread more easily.
Source: ACGIH’s Pandemic Response Task Force



Panelists, clockwise from top left to right: Dr. Sandra Trappen (moderator), The Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark, Iris Richardson, David A. Harris. Photo courtesy Penn State Greater Allegheny on Twitter @PennStateGA

CROSSING BRIDGES SUMMIT EXAMINES POLICE REFORM IN MON VALLEY, PITTSBURGH

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Penn State Greater Allegheny (PSUGA) presented its third installment of its campus signature community project--the Crossing Bridges Summit's (CBS) Speaker Series, entitled, "Examining Police Reform: Conversations about the ['Pittsburgh Community Taskforce for Police Reform'](#) and its [implications for the Mon Valley.](#)"

This panel series featured "Voices from the Judicial System and Po-

lice" and included panelists: The Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark, president judge of the 5th Judicial District of Pennsylvania; David A. Harris, professor of law, University of Pittsburgh; and Iris Richardson, director of diversity, equity and inclusion for Penn State's Office of Police and Public Safety.

The Summit is part of the campus' ongoing mission to bridge the racial divide in the Mon Valley and the greater Pittsburgh region by engaging the campus with local, regional and national experts on initiatives that engage

the broader community in eliminating racism and promoting racial equity.

Following a welcome by Dr. Jaqueline Edmondson, chancellor and chief academic officer of the campus, Dr. Sandra Trappen, assistant professor of administration of justice, introduced the panel members for the hour-long presentation and audience discussion.

Trappen began the conversation with the following statement: "Angela Davis (world-renowned activist and scholar) spoke on our campus in 2018. She challenged us to reimagine what it is to do

safety in a more equitable and humane way."

Davis was the keynote speaker at the campus' second annual Crossing Bridges Summit.

"How would you create more humane and equitable public safety? Do you believe police reform is possible, given the structures and policies of the current system? What would be a key first step and what time frames might be necessary?" Trappen asked.

Harris took the lead on the discussion, saying, "What we have to do is reconceive what we consider *(Continued on next page)*

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public safety.”

Harris is one of the members of the Pittsburgh Community Taskforce on Police Reform and co-author of the taskforce’s 2020 report that made recommendations for a blueprint for real and sustained change and reform for the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police. Harris expressed how police officers are often required to fill roles that they are not qualified to do.

“Police certainly are a part of public safety, but they are not the answer to all questions of public safety, and that’s where we have our police now... pretty much answering every question in public safety,” Harris said.

The Community Based Public Safety Collective—a national organization dedicated to building neighborhood leadership to advance safety--defines community-based public safety as work led by members of the focus community as a violence intervention and prevention strategy. Community-based public safety would include enlisting mental health and trauma professionals to respond to some of the events that police officers are required to respond to now.

“Public safety must be community-based, and it must work to give safety and wellness to every



Angela Davis was the keynote speaker at Penn State Greater Allegheny's second annual Crossing Bridges Summit in the fall of 2018. Photo by Justin Varney.

member of the community,” Harris added.

Clark said that we don’t necessarily “have the right services available in every community to meet those needs...a lot of people have addiction issues and as you said would be better served by other systems such as the mental health system, the behavioral health system, and the medical system,” she added.

Trappen continued the conversation by asking Harris to define his role on the taskforce and his feelings about the roll-out of the report.

“I was the drafter for the section on racial disparity, transparency and accountability, and use of force,” Harris said.

Harris is a citizen of Pittsburgh and has spent his career researching, writing and teaching about police behavior, law enforcement and race, and search and seizure law. His most recent book, “A City Divided: Race, Fear and the Law in Police Confrontations,” provides an explanation for why confrontations with the police and Black people often are traumatic.

“Some of the folks

who had been part of the community mobilization around George Floyd’s murder demanded that the task force simply process their already existing demands,” Harris said.

He continued to express his initial frustration while working on the report and how the diverse viewpoints on the task-force clashed and discouraged important voices from contributing to the report.

“When it became clear not all members of the task force were willing to agree with many demands, the views were diverse, they would have to be worked through, and it would be a long process, folks walked away and didn’t return. I thought that was regrettable because I wanted their voices at that table,” Harris said.

When the report was released, he expressed how former Pittsburgh Mayor, Bill Peduto, stated on television he did not read it. Harris personally was apologetic as he felt the report’s roll-out was “botched.”

Members of the task-force continued to meet informally after the report was released, to hold government officials accountable and receive some insight on what was and what was not being implemented.

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“We found they were actually doing the things we recommended. Certainly not all, but many of them, but they weren’t telling anybody,” Harris said.

Clark spoke of her job as a public servant, and how it was her duty to serve everyone who has an experience in her courtroom. She primarily hears juvenile court cases in Allegheny County.

Trappen addressed Clark’s national reputation for transforming the way children and families going through the court system are treated by creating a trauma-informed courthouse which creates an environment inclusive of “not just the people that are the litigants and parties, but it could be jurors and court staff hearing the case.”

Clark said, “Where I sit, particularly in juvenile court, I do things like remove children from the care of parents, which is traumatizing to both children and parents. I terminate parental rights. I commit juveniles to placement for having committed delinquent offenses...all things which

cause a lot of anxiety and trauma.

“Poverty probably is our biggest common denominator and a huge factor in how people are feeling when they come into the courthouse,” Clark added. “A trauma-informed court really acknowledges the prevalence and impact of trauma on the people that are in the courthouse.”

Clark addressed how an assessment conducted by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges examined the policies, procedures, physical structure, space, and noise of a courtroom. The assessment found it may cause participants in a courtroom to feel a sense of losing control in certain situations.

Clark also stated that a trauma-informed courtroom has staff that are “welcoming, nonjudgmental and culturally competent.” The goal of establishing trauma informed courtrooms is to “eliminate re-traumatization while going through the legal system.”

Procedures such as cattle-call scheduling, which involved having plaintiffs all arrive for their hearings at the same

time, have been eliminated to help carry out this initiative.

“So, stopping that was a big part of it. That was one of the first things I did. It got huge results. It also gave people choices as to when they could participate in their court hearing,” Clark said.

Clark’s commentary on the panel further complemented her work style by showing her compassion for the people she serves. Harris even took a moment to thank her as a citizen of Pittsburgh. She expressed her commitment to showing empathy and kindness in every case she makes a ruling on.

Trappen turned the focus from county public safety to Penn State’s public safety and police force. Richardson was brought on to the panel to provide some insight into how the broader conversation about police reform is impacting the university.

“Do university police face similar barriers to reform as other types of law enforcement? What might police reform look like at Penn State?” Trappen asked.

Richardson said, “The university community is

obviously a microcosm of the society overall. What is impacting our nation, state, and towns generally is reflected in some way on our campus and in our campus climate.”

Richardson was hired as the Penn State University police director of diversity, equity, and inclusion officer. She spoke of the recommendations from the Penn State’s Police Reform Taskforce that are being implemented across multiple campuses.

“There are several of us across the department who pulled together our ‘Eight Can’t Wait’ information. We pulled together our budget information, the DEI training topics and initiatives, and the creation of my position in 2019 as the diversity, equity, and inclusion director,” she said.

The program “Eight Can’t Wait” is a campaign established to bring immediate change to police departments. The University also implemented a transparency and accountability initiative which involves hosting outreach and programming where conversations are held by students, faculty and staff *(Continued on next page)*

THE CROSSING BRIDGES SUMMIT

BRIDGING RACIAL DIVIDES IN THE MON VALLEY

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to facilitate conversation about these broader issues.

“I’ve worked really hard with my team to come up with monthly and weekly trainings that cover various topics for our folks to look into,” Richardson said.

“We have a designated officer on each campus that our community can reach out to and have programs, events or engage in conversations like this, if need be, across the Commonwealth,” she said.


The Crossing Bridges Summit was again livestreamed by WPSU, Penn State’s public media station.

For more information on the final Crossing Bridges Summit, “The Year in Review: What We Learned and Where We Go From Here?”-- to be moderated by Dr. Johnathan White, assistant teaching professor of history - on April 7, and to watch archived recordings of previous events, go to <https://www.watch.psu.edu/crossingbridges/>.

Tentative plans for the April 7 event are to be held on the Greater Allegheny Campus, in-person.




A CONVERSATION WITH
Dr. Bernice A. King
 Tuesday, February 22
 AT 12:30 P.M. VIA ZOOM




King is an orator, peace advocate, and the chief executive officer of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change (The King Center), which was founded by her mother, Coretta Scott King, in 1968. She was appointed CEO of The King Center in 2012 and steadfastly continues to advance her parents’ legacy of Kingian Nonviolence, which she re-branded Nonviolence365™. Through her work at The King Center, she educates youth and adults about the nonviolent principles modeled by her parents.

Register online at
<https://bit.ly/33yWiaX>



An All In event, sponsored by Penn State Altoona, Penn State Dubois, Penn State Fayette-The Eberly Campus, and Penn State Greater Allegheny.



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Monday February 21 12:15PM




PSUGA STUDENT AFFAIRS PRESENTS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

WED FEB 23 6PM

SCC OSTERMAYER ROOM

FREE EVENT FEATURING DINNER WITH VICKEY’S SOUL GRILL, AFRICAN DANCE & DRUM PERFORMANCE BY IBEJI DRUM ENSEMBLE AND KEYNOTE BY LAKEISA WOLF, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UJAMAA COLLECTIVE



VOTING RIGHTS ISSUES & MID-TERM ELECTIONS

Penn State Professor Shares History, Calls Young Adults to Action & Understanding

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This story is part one of a two-part series on voting rights and the status of voting in Pennsylvania.

As the midterm elections approach—with the Pennsylvania primary occurring on May 17-- voting rights of all Americans will be front and center in the news. In Pennsylvania, Democratic Governor, Tom Wolf—who is in the last months of his second and final term—has somewhat prevented the Republican-controlled legislature from making sweeping laws to restrict voting rights in the Commonwealth.

According to Associate Teaching Professor of African and African American Studies at Penn State Greater Allegheny (PSUGA), Dr. Anthony Mitchell, the issue of voting rights is not new, but it came front and center in the wake of the 2020 presidential election.



Mail-in ballots were used in record numbers due to the COVID-19 pandemic, overwhelmingly in favor of then-democratic candidate, Joe Biden, while then President Donald Trump claimed a “stolen election.” Marginalized groups tend to vote Democrat, which would explain why the burden of restrictions largely falls on their communities.

“Republican lawmakers in 43 states introduced 254 bills aimed at restricting access to the ballot box for millions of Americans,” Mitchell said.

“Just like the Jim Crow laws enacted in southern states following the Civil War in the 1800s, which disenfranchised African

Americans from voting,” Mitchell added that today the Republican party “has introduced similar bills to limit access to voting by restricting alternative ways to vote for working class and poorer Americans.”

Some states have changed the rules of how their residents can vote, thereby restricting access to people of color and other marginalized populations on social, political and economic lines. The restrictions range from limiting the number of polling places to changing the days and times people can vote and restricting how they get to the polls, to gerrymandering districts, to even restricting

mail-in and drop-off balloting, to name a few.

“Republicans lost the last election, therefore, the party is attempting to restrict ways that historically-marginalized citizens can mobilize, at the grassroots levels, with large turnouts in states where Democrats have majority demographics, Mitchell said. “This scenario occurred in Pennsylvania, Georgia and Arizona.”

Mitchell points to Trump’s loss as “galvanizing Republican politicians into being more severe with their voter rights restrictions...while, historically, American male politicians, elites and special

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interest groups controlled the voting system” even though voting is a right that all citizens can, and should, exercise.

“It is free,” he said. “However, since the nation’s early beginnings, Americans of European heritage have held the political power to deny and restrict African Americans, Latino Americans and other historically marginalized groups’ voting participation.

“More recently, the presidency of Barack Obama strengthened voting rights. In response, the presidency of Donald Trump utilized the slogan ‘Make America Great Again’ as an appeal to millions of white Americans to mobilize and organize to protect

their political power and interests in local, state and national elections,” Mitchell added.

But if America is a democracy, doesn’t everyone have a right to vote? Was there not a Voting Rights Act passed in 1965 that gave the right to vote to all people, including people of color?

Mitchell said that the Voting Rights Act of 1965 has been amended by Congress five times since its implementation.

While the Act sought to strengthen the 14th and 15th amendments, “these reviews indicate that voting rights in the U.S. do not guarantee government protection to all citizens,” he added.

The two-party system of government that emerged in the 1700s and 1800s was a way to structure U.S. democracy and elections.

However, after the Declaration of Independence and the creation of the U.S. Constitution, Mitchell said “colonists selected

some elements of British government and politics, while territorial expansions occurring after the War of 1812 helped to advance political parties in the north and south,” thereby connecting geographic regions and divisions on issues of slavery and economics. Mitchell added that the dominant two-party system promoted what is called “centrism.”

“Centrism requires that Democratic and Republican candidates for any public office or seat represent the party’s interests, which, at times, may not be the interests of the masses of citizens who reside in their constituencies or districts,” he added.

“Moreover, new parties often form to raise awareness of important issues and problems that citizens believe neither the Democrats nor Republicans effectively lead and address.”

Some of these issues include such things as police reform, social justice and health care for all.

“Therefore, I am not opposed to a third party strengthening the current system’s ineffectiveness in serving the interests and meeting the needs of historically marginalized, working-class, younger adults in the workforce, and senior citizens,” he added. “It’s about getting involved at the grassroots level.”

Young adults and students can make a change. Mitchell says they have the power to sway the midterm elections in one way or the other, and the results could mean the “difference between a strengthened democracy or a broken one.”

“Vote...let your voices speak in all elections,” he said. “Contact local, county and state officials and vote in these elections...these elections select the individuals nearer to you and who can represent your specific issues and problems... mobilize and organize programs and activities in your community to raise awareness of the specific issues and problems you want to be addressed,” he said.

Those issues, he added, include, but are not limited to such things as workers’ rights, healthcare and student debt.

“I would encourage young people to study politics, become involved in politics, run for political offices, and become the next generation of leaders in the U.S. and the world,” Mitchell said.

“Become the change you seek in the world! In the 1960s, I was a youth activist, and this quote is my personal belief for how to create change in the world.”



MARCH 30

Advocate
PennState

ADVOCATE PENN STATE CAPITAL DAY

Details to come | Sign up for updates at advocate.psu.edu



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BE GREATER IN ITALY! LET'S GROW STATE



Assistant Professor of Administration of Justice, Sandra Trappen, and five of her students are preparing for their spring break trip to Italy, in conjunction with Professor of English, John Champagne, and his students from the Behrend campus.

In order to offset some of the travel costs for the Greater Allegheny students, Trappen is asking anyone who can, to consider a small financial gift to support PSUGA students in their efforts to become engaged global citizens. So far, nearly \$1,000 has been contributed.

You can donate through the link below:

<https://give.communityfunded.com/o/annual-giving/i/pennstate-crowd-funding/s/be-greater-in-italy>

SGA ROUNDUP FOR MARCH



Student Government Association (SGA) will hold elections in April 2022 for the Fall 2022 semester. Election packets are available from President Sidney Przybylski by emailing her at szp565@psu.edu. All executive board positions and officer positions are open. Contact Sidney for more information. Election packets are due Monday, March 14.

On Tuesday, March 15 the Student Government Association is hosting an Ice Cream Social at 12:15 p.m. on the SCC Concourse.

SGA is planning efforts for Penn State Capital Day on March 30. Capital Day is an organized day where Penn State students from across the Commonwealth come together at the Capitol Rotunda in Harrisburg and advocate for state funding for Penn State.

More information can be found at <https://www.govt.psu.edu/capital-day/>

AUSTIN NAMED VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES & EXECUTIVE CHANCELLOR

The following article was obtained via [Penn State News](#), last updated Jan. 17

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Kelly Austin has been named Penn State’s permanent vice president for Commonwealth Campuses and executive chancellor, following a national search. Austin’s appointment, which has been approved by the University’s Board of Trustees, was effective Jan. 17.

Austin has been serving in this role in an interim capacity since August 2021, following Madlyn Hanes’ retirement from Penn State.

As vice president and executive chancellor, Austin will provide administrative leadership for Penn State’s 20 Commonwealth Campuses, which enroll approximately 25,000 students in associate, bachelor’s and graduate degree programs, in addition to the 5,000 students enrolled in World Campus academic programs.

Commonwealth Campuses enroll approximately 40% of Penn State’s total residential student body and, as examples of the significant role they play in Penn State’s land-grant mission, more than 80% of Commonwealth Campus students are Pennsylvania



Kelly Austin has been named Penn State’s vice president for Commonwealth Campuses and executive chancellor. Credit: Patrick Mansell / Penn State. Creative Commons

residents and nearly 40% are the first in their family to attend college.

Among his responsibilities, Austin will continue to oversee the Commonwealth Campuses’ academic and administrative programs and operations, including strategic and facilities planning; program and curriculum development; student and faculty recruitment and retention; and the integration of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.

In addition, Austin will work in partnership with the Office of the Senior Vice President for Research to advance Invent Penn State, including the Commonwealth Campuses’ 20 innovation

hubs - including Greater Allegheny’s Mon Valley Launchbox - which are helping to drive entrepreneurship, economic development and job creation in communities across the state.

“It is a great honor to serve the Commonwealth Campuses,” Austin said. “Penn State’s Commonwealth Campuses are at the very core of fulfilling the University’s land-grant mission and exist to support Penn State’s long-standing commitment to making higher education accessible and affordable.

“The Commonwealth Campuses have a significant impact on the communities in which

they are situated. They drive economic activity throughout the state, they promote and inspire innovation, and they serve as important access points to students,” he said.

Austin earned a doctorate in social and comparative analysis in education from the University of Pittsburgh, an MBA from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and a master’s degree in student personnel administration and a bachelor of science degree in business administration/business management, both from Slippery Rock University.



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Wednesday, February 23rd 2022

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

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Resumania

10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

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Monday, February 28th 2022

12:00 PM

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Mock Interview Workshop

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

Thursday, March 3rd 2022

<https://psu.zoom.us/j/296787864>

nittanylionCAREERS

NEW FACES IN FAMILIAR PLACES

CARLIN WHALEN

News Editor

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Penn State Greater Allegheny (PSUGA) has had positions open for staff in various departments, due to retirements and job changes. Several of the new faces on campus include the Coordinator of Student Financial Aid, Estelle Belko, as well as Alisha Tarver, Shelbie Howard and Bryan McGeary, all of whom work for the Kelly Library.



Belko has been in the financial aid field for 32 years at a variety of different-sized schools, ranging from proprietary schools all the way up to small universities.

Her first day at Greater Allegheny was Dec. 1, and she is loving her job. She wants to inform students about financial awareness, have them have a clear understanding of what their job is after college (dealing with financial aid), and she wants to make a

difference in their lives.

“One of the greatest feelings I have working in this job is seeing a student graduate and go on to being successful and making a difference in the world,” she said.

Originally, Belko was an accounting major in college, but she later switched to a leadership major.

“The first week I worked in financial aid (32 years ago), I thought to myself that I am never going to get this.” A month later, something clicked and she felt that this was something “she wanted to do for the rest of her life until she retires.”

Belko tries to maintain a life outside of work. In her free time, she loves to build all different kinds of puzzles and play with her dog, Toby. “He’s a Shitzu but acts like a German Shepherd!” she exclaimed.

Belko’s office is on the first floor of Frable, Room 112, and she encourages students to visit her or contact her at gastudentaid@psu.edu.

Also, with a complete turnover of library staff due to retirements, new employees took on roles in the Kelly Library, and two of them are former students at PSUGA. Those previous students were Alisha Tarver and Shelbie Howard, both now



information and resource service specialists. The third member of the library team is Learning Design and Open Education Engagement Librarian, Bryan McGeary, who came to campus from University Park.

Tarver started off as an intern during the spring semester of 2021. She continued working part-time at the library after she graduated with a communications degree last year. She is now full-time on the library staff. Because she enjoyed the campus and community so much, she is glad she can be here, post-graduation.

“To put it simple...I make sure that all the resources that are available to the students are ready for you guys to use,” she said. Specifically, as the

library’s tech liason, she is required to make sure that all the technology in the library is charged and available for the students.

This was not Tarver’s first job. She used to work full-time for UPMC in its call center, but it did not make her happy, unlike working at PSUGA.

Tarver feels like she can help a lot more students here and make them have a purpose. As a student, she originally wanted to be a journalist, but changed career paths multiple times. She still wants to be a journalist, but it is not her main focus.

“You are going to have to do some ‘free stuff’ to build a portfolio for your career path,” she said, and she strongly suggests that students get involved in as **(Continued on next page)**



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many clubs as possible.

While a student, Tarver was a news editor for the campus' award-winning newspaper, *The GA-Zette*, she participated in the radio station—WMKP—and she worked with “Be Greater Creative,” a campus PR/marketing services agency started by a group of communications students in Rosemary Martinelli’s PR courses. Tarver was involved in much more that related to her field of study just so she could “have experience that she could take with her.”

The other new staff member is Shelbie Howard who has been at

the Kelly Library for nearly a year. “I have always worked at a public library, so an academic library has been quite different, but I am still enjoying it,” she said.

Howard’s main responsibility is as a student outreach and engagement librarian. In this position, she plans the programs and events that take place in the library, as well as works on the displays to keep them all nice and tidy.

Not knowing what type of librarian she wanted to be, she decided to step away from the public aspect and try the academic path. Also, because she was a student, Howard was familiar with the campus and staff. She believes “This can be a nice transition and stepping stone for my career.”

Howard originally

majored in education, but eventually changed it to English, giving her more of a literature background which helps with the library’s collection development.

“I don’t necessarily do that in this position, but I may use it more in future positions,” she said, adding, “My degree here (Greater Allegheny) gave me a good foundation to pursue graduate school.”

Again, similar to Tarver, Howard was actively involved in campus. She was a Lion Ambassador, participated in many organizations, and also traveled abroad. “Having these opportunities led to more opportunities, job-wise,” she said.

McGeary was originally located at University Park, but relocated to Greater Allegheny last summer and he says he really enjoys the campus. Before getting a job at Penn State, he worked for a few different universities, including Dickenson College, Ohio University, and the University of Pittsburgh, always in the library or archives.

At PSUGA, rather than teaching students, he mostly supports faculty members about open education, copyright, open licensing, and a lot more things related to the library in the classroom. Like Tarver, McGeary started off majoring in journalism in college,

eventually heading back to school at Pitt to get a master’s degree in library and information science.

Similarly, he encourages everyone to have work experience in the field you want. “It puts you ahead as you finish your degree and start looking for a job,” he said. In fact, he was able to land a job before he finished his degree.

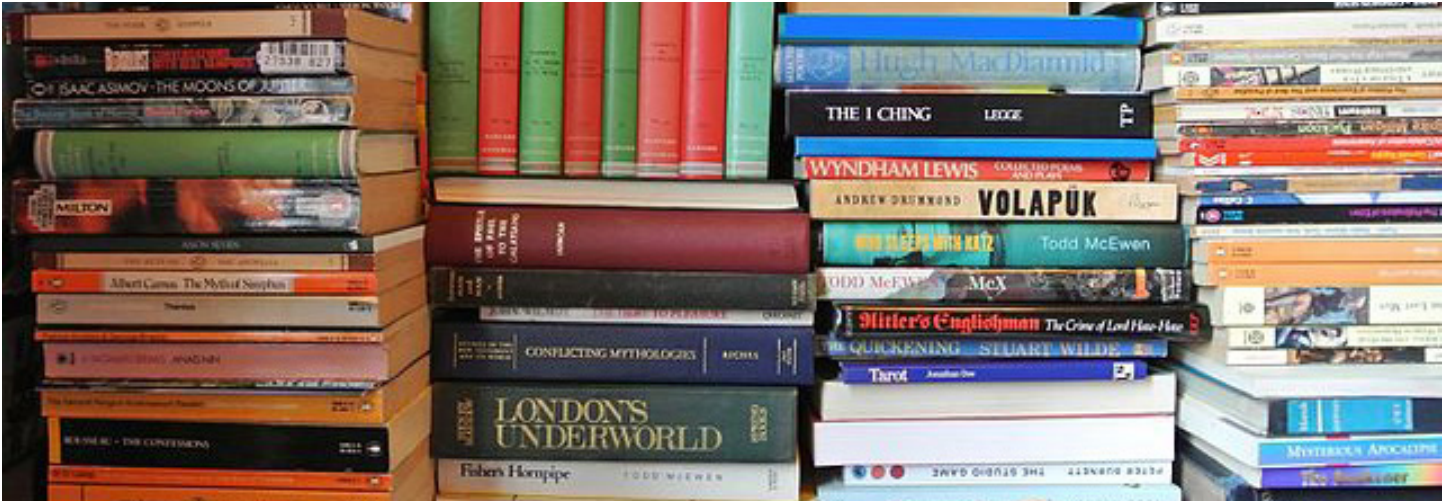
Also, he suggests talking with people in that field of study “to get a better understanding on some of the roles that you might encounter.”



Students can find Tarver (ait5274@psu.edu) and Howard (sum236@psu.edu) behind the front desks right inside the main entrance of the Kelly Library.

McGeary’s office is in 213 Main Building, (bjm6168@psu.edu).





TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY TEAM HAS THE “BOOK” ON COST SAVINGS FOR STUDENTS

Campaign Launches for Fall 2022

JEREMIAH PATRICK MILLER
Staff Writer

jpm7279@psu.edu

Students, are you wondering why your textbooks for class cost so much? Do you wish there was a more affordable way to get them? Well, a group of faculty and staff is working behind the scenes at Penn State Greater Allegheny (PSUGA) to aid all students in making textbook costs a lot cheaper and school, ultimately, less stressful.

According to a survey conducted by the College Board, in the 2020/2021 academic year, the average full-time, on-campus undergraduate at a four-year school is estimated to have spent \$1,240 on books and supplies.



Enter The Textbook Affordability Committee, led by Lecturer in Information Sciences and Technology, Lawrence Dupak. Dupak says that the group not only is seeking cost-efficient outlets for students, but it wants to spread awareness to professors and students of better textbook sources.

Plans are to launch a cost-cutting campaign in time for the start of the fall semester.

“When the fall schedule is released, the committee will develop a blog

on a webpage to push out information to faculty and the students, too,” Dupak said. The committee will ask faculty to take a pledge to find and use course materials at low or no-cost.

The committee—which also includes Assistant Professor of Information Sciences and Technology, Jennifer Breese; Associate Professor of Philosophy, Kurt Torell; Learning Design and Open Education Engagement Librarian, Bryan McGearry and; Head Librarian, Andrew Marshall-- is researching ways to make textbooks and other class materials more affordable and accessible to students.

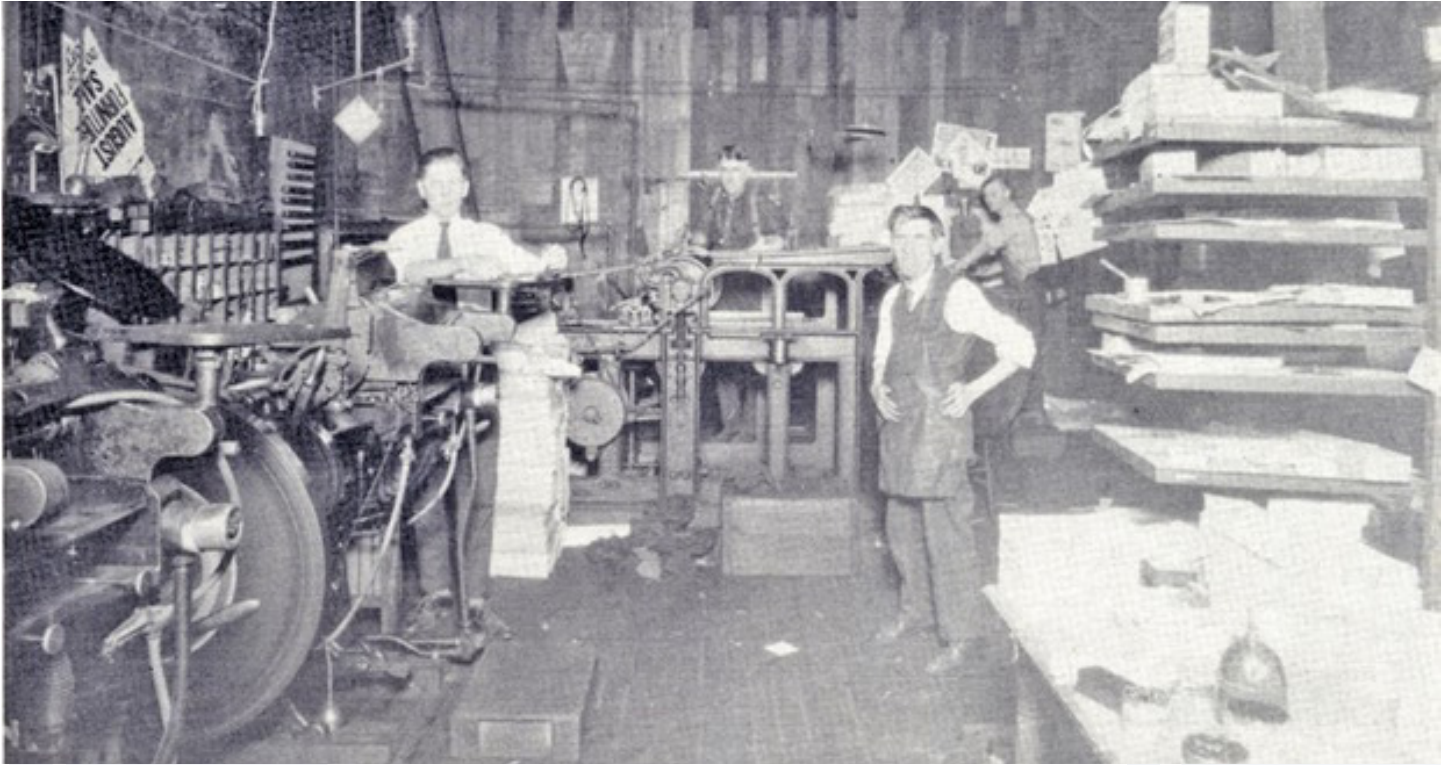
“We’re trying to provide some kind of guidance on what’s available as far as resources, and



also provide workshops for instructors to come to and learn about free resources that they can use,” Marshall said.

The goal is not to put bookstores out of business, but the committee is trying to help curb the costs of higher education in places that it can control, and course materials are one such place. Other options for faculty include finding no-cost books online and finding additional course resources

MADE IN MCKEESPORT



KEEPING THE PRESSES ROLLING FOR 130 YEARS

South Printing's Tradition of History, Service, Quality

This is the second installment in an ongoing series of news features about businesses and the people behind them who have been a legacy to the economic landscape of McKeesport and the Mon Valley.

Imagine...you are a business in the McKeesport or White Oak area. Outside of social media, perhaps, how would you communicate? You cannot have a business without any brochures, business cards, pamphlets,

and greeting cards.

Fortunately, one print shop that can help business is right at 428 Eden Park Boulevard and has been a tradition there and in the downtown McKeesport area for more than 130 years.

H. B. South Printing—now branded as South Printing—is a family-owned and operated, commercial printer, helping area businesses since 1892, thanks to the ingenuity and vision of Henry B. South who, along with three of his

business partners, saw a need in the community.

The late 1800s was a time of industrial and population growth, especially in Pittsburgh and the Mon Valley. Services were needed to support burgeoning industrial towns at a time of manufacturing and business development.

Marlin South, the fourth generation owner, says it is not easy to transfer a long-held company from one generation to another. It may seem easy on the surface and like most family businesses,

many are thrilled to take over.

“We have been at our current location for about 50 years. I feel being in one location for a long time shows the community that there is stability and longevity in a business,” Marlin South stated, “This goes a long way to help build good relationships.”

According to its history and the South Printing website, in 1892, Henry B. (Benton, or “Ben”) South, along with *(Continued on next page)*



(Continued from page 15)

three partners, started the Tube City Printing Company. "Ben" had been foreman at the McKeesport Sunday Herald newspaper when he went into business for himself.

South and his partners not only printed materials but they used their business success to train dozens of young aspiring printers of the time to learn the trade.

After Ben South's colleagues decided to retire and move on, he remained as sole proprietor and renamed the business "H. B. South Printers," where he spent his life's work until his passing in 1937. His sons, Harry, Arthur and William took over the business until the 1960s when Arthur died.

Harry and William ran the operation until the early 1980s when Harry's son, Jim, bought it. Jim South remained the sole proprietor until the 1990s,

when his sons, Mark and Marlin, took over the reins and the two remain in charge today.

"In 1986, I started working full time at the printing shop and my brother, Mark, started a year earlier. A few years after this, our father started grooming us to take over the business as he neared retirement. This all takes years if done properly," he added.

The company has been in a few locations in its history, Marlin South said, with the first location on Sixth Street in downtown McKeesport, near the current location of Tube City Appliances and close by the McKeesport Palisades. The company currently sits on Eden Park Boulevard between Renzie Auto Center and Miller's Gym Stars Gymnastics.

While South Printing may have changed its

name, logo and physical location a few times in its history, the actual printing process has undergone change, as well. In his 35+ years in the business, Marlin South said the main changes have been in job layout, printing and the finishing of the printed projects.

"We have seen the industry switch from traditional offset printing to digital laser presses and currently changing to high speed inkjet presses," he said. "Each of these changes enables a print shop to produce printing faster, with quicker set up and less waste. These changes also transition printing shops into new markets and products."

Job layout (such as this newspaper) has seen tremendous change, as well.

For South Printing, original typesetting computers required a job

to be "pasted up to create artwork that needed to be photographed to produce a negative and then a plate," Marlin South noted.

"With the modern Macintosh and PC computers, we have page layout programs so all the artwork is done on the computer. No need to photograph artwork. This enables us to have direct printing to digital presses which has eliminated the need for conventional negatives and plates," he added.

What does South Printing see for the future of the industry?

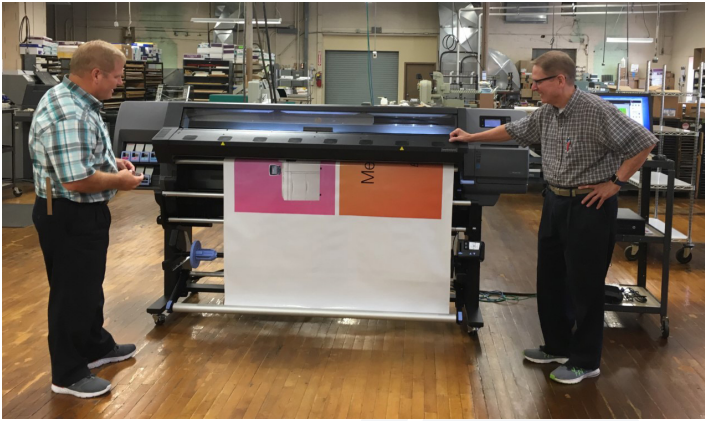
"As we continue to move forward, I suspect we will continue to see changes and advancements. One thing is certain...the changes seem to be happening at a much quicker pace," Marlin South said.

With many small businesses coming and going, you can usually expect some making their way to H. B. South to ask for assistance in print communications.

Somewhere, in those 130+ years, from downtown McKeesport to the Olympia Shopping Center nearby, or out through Route 48 and Lincoln Way, there is likely to be a sign or something from the South family that indicates the printing company has done its job.

"I guess going back to *(Continued on next page)*





(Left to right) Marlin and Mark South in their studio today

(Continued from page 16)

when I was just coming into the business, I appreciated the longevity of the business and the fact that it has been around for four generations,” Marlin South said.” Children may not want to go into the family business. I suppose I always thought that someday I would run the business,” he added.

Did he know that it would last more than 130 years? “Probably not,” he said.

As many businesses tend to do, they always have some sort of celebration to honor their anniversaries. However, there seems to be no party for Marlin South as he believes there is no need to set up a party to celebrate. He is content supplying businesses and nonprofit organizations with printed materials and visuals.

And he and the busi-

ness show no signs of slowing down.

“There are not many businesses that survive that length of time,” Marlin South said. “It gives me a feeling of pride to be able to say we have serviced the community for that long.”

H.B. South Printing is located at 428 Eden Park Boulevard, McKeesport, 15132.

*Business hours:
M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.
Phone: 412-751-1300,
Fax: 412-751-4730,
E-mail:
southprinting@comcast.net*

Historic details and photos for this story provided by South Printing.

Riley Perciavalle (rup70@psu.edu) also contributed to this story.

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CULTURE, ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

PSU LAUREATE CROSSES FAMILY, HISTORY, POETRY ON YEAR-LONG PENNSYLVANIA TRAVELS

“Life can change who you are as a consequence of larger forces of politics.”

So says Shara McCallum, the 2021-2022 Penn State Poet Laureate. Late last year, McCallum—a professor of English in the College of Liberal Arts at University Park—visited the Greater Allegheny campus as part of her year-long tour throughout Pennsylvania.

Originally from Jamaica and born to an Afro-Jamaican father and Venezuelan mother, McCallum said she is proud to be the first woman of color to serve as Penn State Laureate — an accomplishment that she believes can be especially inspiring to students.

“Often, students’ conceptions of who a poet is, is of a man who died a few hundred years ago and who was probably British,” she joked. “It’s refreshing and encouraging to them when they meet me, someone who is clearly alive and far more like them in some ways. It helps them to see that this ‘thing’ — poetry — which they may have



thought wasn’t accessible or an option for them, really is an open door.”

During her visit to the Greater Allegheny campus, McCallum read from her sixth book of poetry entitled, “No Ruined Stone,” she spoke of her past and upbringing, the process of writing her book, and she took questions from students, faculty and staff.

“No Ruined Stone,” is a verse sequence based on an alternate account of history and of Scottish poet Robert Burns’ near-migration to

Jamaica to work on a slave plantation.

She learned that Burns held beliefs about the rights of man and that this “struck such a chord for her” that she began writing this book in order to “answer her own dissatisfaction with history.” McCallum found herself navigating the world in ways similar to Burns’ characters.

During her visit, she spoke a lot about him not only as the subject of her book, but also as a poet whose work she loves. She felt she was on a

collision course with this book her entire life because of how she grew up.

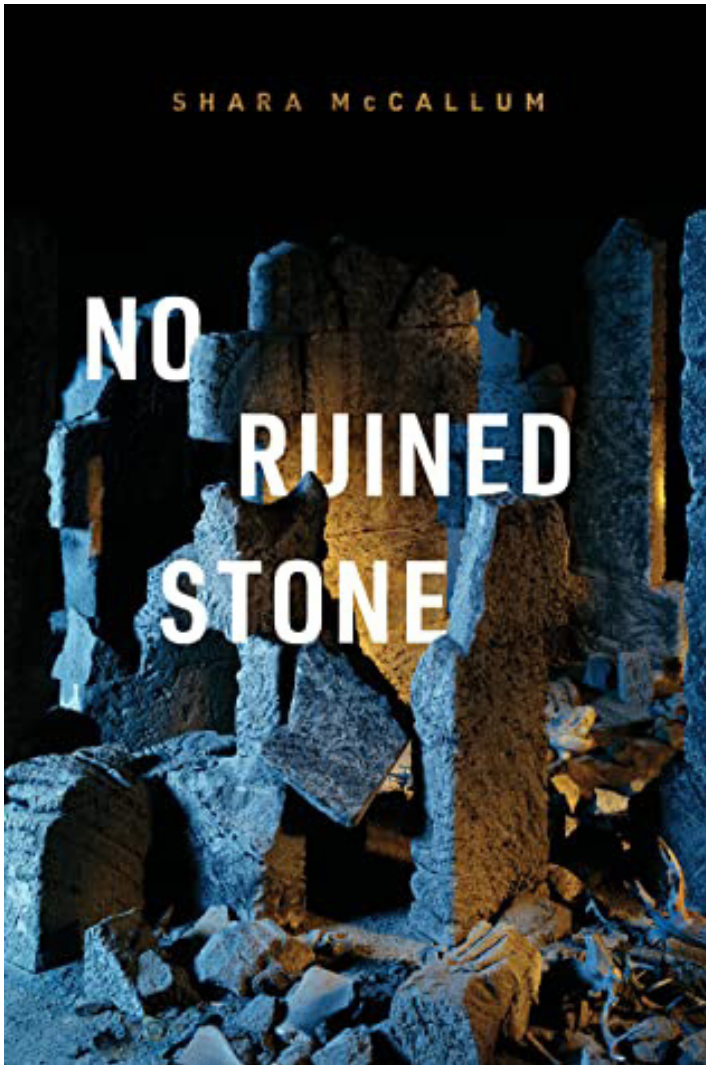
“I’ve lived in this body my whole life trying to navigate a series of histories that have made me, that are sometimes very untellable,” she said.

McCallum spoke briefly about America’s “founding fathers,” using Thomas Jefferson as an example, a man who is greatly celebrated for his contributions to this country, but also the same man “who owned slaves and had children with Sally Hemings, an enslaved woman,” she said.

“How we live with this incomplete vision of democracy is something that I have been pursuing as a question my entire life,” McCallum said.

She started writing “No Ruined Stone” about six years ago, doing three years of research, two years of writing, and then waiting for it to get published. It offered her a way to use her talents in order to “investigate the threads of family and history.” As a lot of this book has to do with her past and history, in general.

“I think I was thrown
(Continued on next page)



(Continued from page 18)

into understanding that life can change who you are as a consequence of larger forces of politics,” she said. McCallum also stated that after moving to Miami when she was nine, and getting questions about her accent and who she was, led her to try to forge a sense of identity. She believes a big part

of that identity involves history of not only her family, but also of Jamaica and America.

McCallum said that sharing her poems throughout the Commonwealth during her year as laureate shows the importance of poetry not just as an art form, but in capturing and shaping history, as well.

“Poetry is a living art

that brings forth the human voice, both in written and oral fashion. This is something I hope to bring attention to,” McCallum said.

“It’s also important to me that the inflection of history — which is a force in my own writing — become part of what people understand poetry to be engaged by. Not just history broadly understood — the history of place, the history of people that have come through those places, and the history of the natural world and the environment — but also the histories we each carry within us,” she added.

Besides “No Ruined Stone,” McCallum has authored six books and has had poems and essays published in journals, anthologies and textbooks throughout the United States, the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe and Israel. Her work has also been translated into six languages and has also been set to music by composers Marta Gentilucci and Gity Razaz.

Awards for McCallum’s work include the OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature; a Witter Bynner Fellowship

from the Library of Congress; a Poetry Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts; the Oran Robert Perry Burke Award for Nonfiction; and the Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize for her first book, “The Water Between Us.”

“No Ruined Stone” is available at most book stores and through the Penn State Greater Allegheny Kelly Library.

An annual faculty honor established in 2008, the Penn State Laureate is a full-time faculty member in the arts or humanities who is assigned half time for one academic year, to bring greater visibility to the arts, humanities and the University, as well as to their own work. In this role, the laureate is a highly visible representative of the University, appearing at events and speaking engagements throughout the commonwealth.

This story was derived from Penn State News reports and other promotional materials.

Natalie Smail (nrs5480@psu.edu) also contributed to this story.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The staff and management of *The GA-ZETTE* welcome Letters to the Editor by writing to rum31@psu.edu.

Please include your full name, PSU email, address and phone number to verify.

Missing contact information will result in non-consideration of your article.

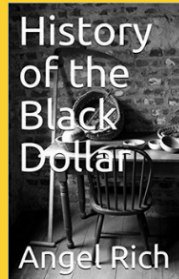
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BOOKS TO READ DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH & EVERY MONTH AFTER

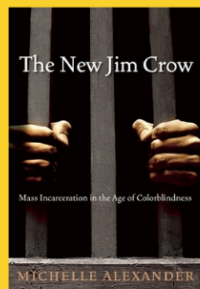


"ANGEL RICH, FOUNDER OF THE WEALTH FACTORY, REVEALS SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC MOMENTS IN HISTORY THAT HAVE HELPED SHAPE AMERICA - SLAVERY, SHARECROPPING, CONVICT LEASING, LITTLE ROCK NINE, BLACK WALL STREET, CIVIL RIGHTS, THE GREAT RECESSION, BLACK LIVES MATTER AND OTHER IMPORTANT MILESTONES - ALONG WITH HIGHLIGHTING IMPORTANT FIGURES, SOME LESSER KNOWN, THAT HAVE MADE THESE BLACK, FINANCIALLY HISTORICAL MOMENTS POSSIBLE THROUGH THEIR PERSONAL DILIGENT EFFORTS."

SUMMARY FROM GOODREADS.COM

"THE 1619 PROJECT: A NEW ORIGIN STORY BUILDS ON THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE'S AWARD-WINNING "1619 PROJECT," WHICH REFRAMED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICAN HISTORY BY PLACING SLAVERY AND ITS CONTINUING LEGACY AT THE CENTER OF OUR NATIONAL NARRATIVE. THIS BOOK SUBSTANTIALLY EXPANDS ON THE ORIGINAL "1619 PROJECT," WEAVING TOGETHER EIGHTEEN ESSAYS THAT EXPLORE THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY IN PRESENT-DAY AMERICA WITH THIRTY-SIX POEMS AND WORKS OF FICTION THAT ILLUMINATE KEY MOMENTS OF OPPRESSION, STRUGGLE, AND RESISTANCE."

SUMMARY FROM GOODREADS.COM



"IN THIS INCISIVE CRITIQUE, FORMER LITIGATOR-TURNED-LEGAL-SCHOLAR MICHELLE ALEXANDER PROVOCATIVELY ARGUES THAT WE HAVE NOT ENDED RACIAL CASTE IN AMERICA: WE HAVE SIMPLY REDESIGNED IT. ALEXANDER SHOWS THAT, BY TARGETING BLACK MEN AND DECIMATING COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, THE U.S. CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM FUNCTIONS AS A CONTEMPORARY SYSTEM OF RACIAL CONTROL, EVEN AS IT FORMALLY ADHERES TO THE PRINCIPLE OF COLOR BLINDNESS."

SUMMARY FROM GOODREADS.COM

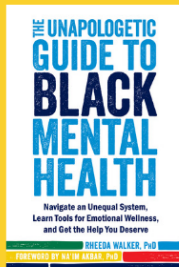
"AS KENDI ILLUSTRATES, RACIST THINKING DID NOT ARISE FROM IGNORANCE OR HATRED. RACIST IDEAS WERE CREATED AND POPULARIZED IN AN EFFORT TO DEFEND DEEPLY ENTRENCHED DISCRIMINATORY POLICIES AND TO RATIONALIZE THE NATION'S RACIAL INEQUITIES IN EVERYTHING FROM WEALTH TO HEALTH. WHILE RACIST IDEAS ARE EASILY PRODUCED AND EASILY CONSUMED, THEY CAN ALSO BE DISCREDITED. IN SHEDDING MUCH-NEEDED LIGHT ON THE MURKY HISTORY OF RACIST IDEAS, STAMPED FROM THE BEGINNING OFFERS TOOLS TO EXPOSE THEM—AND IN THE PROCESS, REASON TO HOPE."

SUMMARY FROM GOODREADS.COM



SUMMARIES AND PHOTOS FROM GOODREADS.COM

BOOKS TO READ DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH & EVERY MONTH AFTER

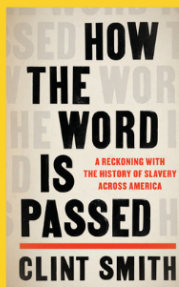
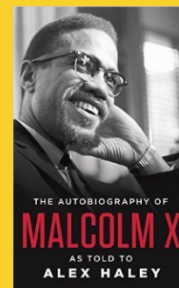


"IN THE UNAPOLOGETIC GUIDE TO BLACK MENTAL HEALTH, PSYCHOLOGIST AND AFRICAN AMERICAN MENTAL HEALTH EXPERT RHEEDA WALKER OFFERS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY, HOW TO COMBAT STIGMA, SPOT POTENTIAL MENTAL ILLNESS, HOW TO PRACTICE EMOTIONAL WELLNESS, AND HOW TO GET THE BEST CARE POSSIBLE IN SYSTEM STEEPED IN RACIAL BIAS."

SUMMARY FROM GOODREADS.COM

"AN ESTABLISHED CLASSIC OF MODERN AMERICA, 'THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X' WAS HAILED BY THE NEW YORK TIMES AS 'EXTRAORDINARY. A BRILLIANT, PAINFUL, IMPORTANT BOOK.' STILL EXTRAORDINARY, STILL IMPORTANT, THIS ELECTRIFYING STORY HAS TRANSFORMED MALCOM X'S LIFE INTO HIS LEGACY. THE STRENGTH OF HIS WORDS, THE POWER OF HIS IDEAS CONTINUE TO RESONATE MORE THAN A GENERATION AFTER THEY FIRST APPEARED."

SUMMARY FROM GOODREADS.COM

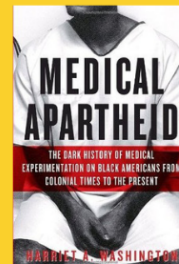


"IN A DEEPLY RESEARCHED AND TRANSPORTING EXPLORATION OF THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY AND ITS IMPRINT ON CENTURIES OF AMERICAN HISTORY, HOW THE WORD IS PASSED ILLUSTRATES HOW SOME OF OUR COUNTRY'S MOST ESSENTIAL STORIES ARE HIDDEN IN PLAIN VIEW—WHETHER IN PLACES WE MIGHT DRIVE BY ON OUR WAY TO WORK, HOLIDAYS SUCH AS JUNETEENTH, OR ENTIRE NEIGHBORHOODS—LIKE DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN—ON WHICH THE BRUTAL HISTORY OF THE TRADE IN ENSLAVED MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN HAS BEEN DEEPLY IMPRINTED."

SUMMARY FROM GOODREADS.COM

"MEDICAL APARTHEID IS THE FIRST AND ONLY COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY OF MEDICAL EXPERIMENTATION ON AFRICAN AMERICANS. STARTING WITH THE EARLIEST ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN BLACK AMERICANS AND WESTERN MEDICAL RESEARCHERS AND THE RACIST PSEUDOSCIENCE THAT RESULTED, IT DETAILS THE WAYS BOTH SLAVES AND FREEDMEN WERE USED IN HOSPITALS FOR EXPERIMENTS CONDUCTED WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE—A TRADITION THAT CONTINUES TODAY WITHIN SOME BLACK POPULATIONS. IT REVEALS HOW BLACKS HAVE HISTORICALLY BEEN PREY TO GRAVE-ROBBING AS WELL AS UNAUTHORIZED AUTOPSIES AND DISSECTIONS."

SUMMARY FROM GOODREADS.COM



SUMMARIES AND PHOTOS FROM GOODREADS.COM

INSIDE JOB: NETFLIX SECRET SHOW PROJECT

RILEY PERCIAVALLE
Contributing Writer
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Conspiracies of UFOs and other supernatural sightings seem to be everywhere. Where do these stories begin? Is there a certain agency hiding more than just secrets up its sleeves?

Among the group is a man dolphin subject and a psychic mushroom who reads your mind.

“Inside Job” is an animated Netflix series, which premiered last October. It was created by Shion Takeuchi, known for her past work in “Gravity Falls,” “Disenchantment” and “Regular Show.” It falls under the category of TV comedy with a hint of fantasy.

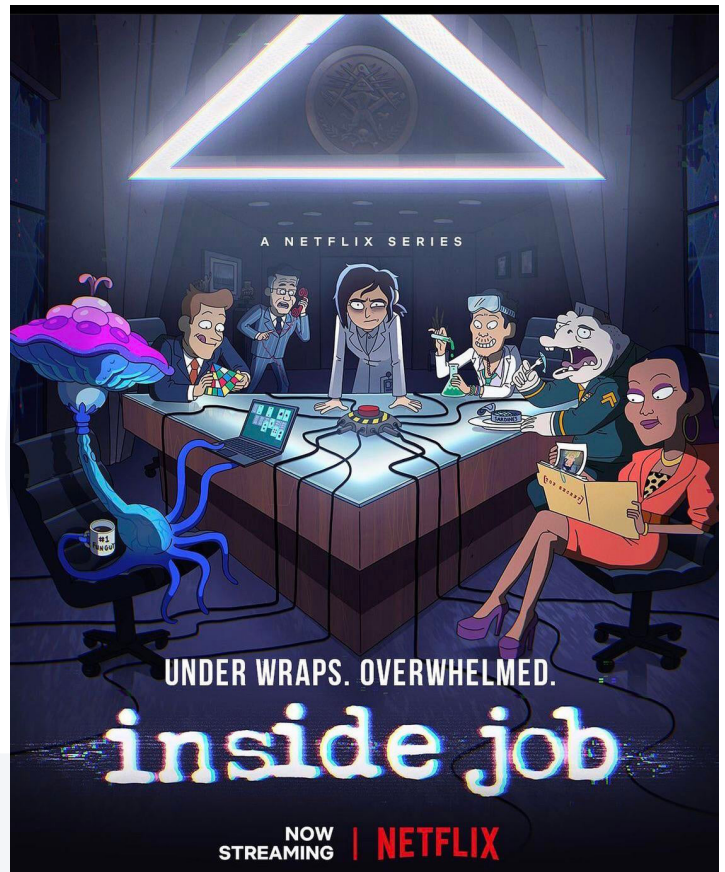
The series stars the voice of Lizzy Caplan of “Freaks and Geeks” fame, this time playing antisocial scientist, Regan Ridley, who works her way to the top managing the conspiracy agency, Cognito Inc., and her dysfunctional co-workers. Her father, voiced by award-winning actor, Christian Slater, who lives with her drinking and asking for favors, was fired from his job at the agency.

Ridley soon meets Brett Hand, voiced by

Clark Duke of “The Office,” who is the polar opposite of her. He is rather extroverted than the main female lead, as she hides in the lab, creating more inventions and conspiracies, while Duke’s character interacts with others in the agency.

Along the way, they have their other co-workers voiced by Brett Gelman, John DiMaggio, Bobby Lee and Tisha Campbell, who also are the exact same form of misfits.

Their jobs usually have them saving the world, while creating chaos in the world from their own antics that would have them fired. Under the guidelines of J.R. Schemm, voiced by actor-comedian, Andy Daly, he too provides the same antics as the others at Cognito Inc., telling them where the crop circles and conspiracy theories should be located.



The show does not hold back on any conspiracies, taking jabs at all past and current theories about flat earthers and the Apollo 11 moon landing. As for the characters, the main leads do hold up against each other.

Caplan and Duke really learn from each other. Caplan gives the perspective of all things antisocial people can be with their past affecting them, and with Duke, he shows the optimism in being the intern set to save the world in an agency with many dark connections.

One character that really shines is Slater’s character, Rand Ridley,

father to Regan Ridley. He portrays the bitter drunk conspirator and absent father, making it more reasonable to understand the way Reagan Ridley was brought up to begin with.

If you are looking for a show to either have a laugh or mock conspiracy theories, then this is a show for you.

Two thumbs up for the first season, waiting anxiously for more to come in season two.

NETFLIX

SPORTS & ATHLETICS



SUPER SUNDAY HOLLYWOOD EXTRAVAGANZA FITTING FOR NFL, HIP-HOP FANS; Penn Hills Native Gets His First Super Bowl Ring

CARLIN WHALEN
News Editor

cjw6426@psu.edu

It was a night that started with many questions but ended with answers that made for memorable television.

After a long football season, two teams battled all the way to Super Bowl LVI. Some may say these two teams were underdogs, since they were both seeded fourth in the overall NFL standings at the conclusion of the regular season.

The Los Angeles Rams and Cincinnati Bengals, beat out all the other teams to make it to SoFi Stadium. Which team

would come out on top and lift the Vince Lombardi trophy?

And for halftime... how would the collective talents of five hip-hop and rap performers, who have amassed 44 total awards for their lifetimes of music and performances, be showcased?

Expectations...on a Sunday night in February. First...the game.

The Rams last appeared in the Super Bowl in 2019 and went looking for their second Super Bowl ring. The Bengals hadn't been to one in 33 years and went looking for their first ever ring since their last appearance in 1989.

Add the stage--SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, CA--and football fans found a hard-fought game, with the Rams emerging victorious in a 23 – 20 nail-biting victory and receiving their much-anticipated second Super Bowl victory in franchise history...all amid a Hollywood-like story.

In the first quarter, not much happened until halfway through. Matthew Stafford, Rams quarterback, led the team down the field and eventually found Odell Beckham Jr., Rams wide receiver, in the end zone, to score the first points of the game. Not long after, the Bengals had great positioning in

the red zone, but could only convert for a field goal. This resulted in a 7 – 3 score going into the second quarter.

A few minutes into the second quarter, Stafford found Cooper Kupp, Rams wide receiver and eventual game MVP, for another touchdown. Unfortunately, a miss-snap happened and forced them to try for a 2-point conversion which didn't happen. This lengthened their lead to 13 – 3.

The Bengals responded quickly with a touchdown of their own, shortening their deficit to only a one-score game going into the half. Joe Mixon, Bengals
(Continued on next page)

(Continued from page 23)

running back, found Tee Higgins, Bengals wide receiver, for a short TD pass, score 13-10.

The first play back from the half, Bengals quarterback, Joe Burrow, lobbed a 75-yard pass to Higgins for a touchdown taking the lead 17-13. Moments later, they intercepted the ball and put up a field goal, increasing their lead to 20-17.

Eventually, the Rams shortened their deficit to four points after they kicked a field goal. This made the score 20-16, leading into the final quarter.

The fourth quarter involved great defense by both teams. Possession went back and forth, but neither was able to get anything going. No points were scored for the majority of the quarter until the Rams scored a touchdown with just under two minutes left in the game. This TD gave the Rams a 3-point lead, making the score 23 – 20, which end-

ed up being the final.

In the post-game interview, QB Stafford exclaimed, “I’m so proud of this team. There are so many players on this team that deserved this moment.” Sean McVay—Rams head coach and, at 36 years of age, the youngest coach ever to win a Super Bowl—echoed those sentiments.



“It feels outstanding. You talk about a resilient team - coaches, players, I’m just so proud of this group,” McVay told the national press. “For the offense to find a way, and then Aaron (Donald) to be able to finish it off, it’s poetic.”

Donald is a Penn Hills

native, Pitt graduate and Rams All-Pro defensive tackle. He had two sacks and three quarterback hits—including a game-ending play on 4th-and-1, that resulted in the win.

But no Super Bowl would be complete without field performances of a non-football nature. The biggest names in rap and hip-hop proclaimed as “the greatest halftime show of all time:” Eminem, Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, Kendrick Lamar, and Mary J. Blige.

A set, depicting a house and recording studio, showcased each artist positioned in separate sections of the set as the camera panned between each of them, flanked by low-rider vehicles.

Starting off the show, Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg sang “The Next Episode,” which was shortly followed by “California Love,” an homage to the hometown team, fans and birthplace of their music.

Then, 50 Cent made a

surprise appearance, upside down on the set, and performed his hit, “In Da Club.” He was followed by Mary J. Blige, on the rooftop of the set, performing her hits, “Family Affair” and “No More Drama.”

Kendrick Lamar performed “M.A.A.D City,” as well as “Alright,” and this transitioned into Eminem singing “Lose Yourself.” At the conclusion, he took a knee, a symbolic action that reflected on the message of social inequity and racial injustice, made famous on the football first by San Francisco 49ers QB, Colin Kaepernick.



The show ended with every artist coming together and singing “Still D.R.E.,” while dozens of dancers accompanied them.

A night to remember.

