Thanks to a generous donation from the Penn State York Alumni Society, Penn State York has acquired a new bench featuring the one and only Nittany Lion. Located outside The Bradley Building, the bench is warm and welcoming to everyone on campus with its adjacent garden and the famous lion just waiting for his picture to be taken.

Penn State York was filled with pride as William E. Englar III, president of the Penn State York Alumni Society and a Penn State York graduate, unveiled the newest addition to campus on September 23rd. Guests attending the event included the Penn State York Alumni Society and the Penn State York Blue & White Society. The society has also sponsored a contest to promote the bench. If people post pictures on Twitter and mention @BWS_york, on Instagram @bwsyork, or on Facebook at facebook.com/BWSyork, they are eligible to win a free T-shirt while supplies last. Don’t forget to hashtag #lionroarsinyork!

For more information on the Nittany Lion bench, society events, and campus activities, check out the Penn State York Alumni Society at PSYAS.org.
Hoops, Hockey, and More Fun!

Penn State York students were able to join more than 150 Penn State students (mostly Blue & White Society members) from over a dozen campuses, for a sports-filled visit to University Park on Saturday, November 14. The day began with a group photo in front of the impressive Beaver Stadium gates and a special behind the scenes tour of Beaver Stadium, hosted by “Spider” Caldwell, the former longtime equipment manager of Penn State football and current coordinator of athletic facilities. They attended a victorious men's basketball game, documented with an on-court group photo, and ended the day with an exciting win at the men's hockey game. For several York students, this trip was their first time in Beaver Stadium, Bryce Jordan Center, and the Pegula Ice Arena and most had never experienced a college basketball or hockey game prior to this!

The day's activities were coordinated by Penn State Athletics and the Penn State Alumni Association, to involve and include campus students and share game day experiences that University Park students may take for granted.

Keith Noll Inspires Spring Graduates – What it Truly Means to be Successful

At the 45th annual spring commencement, Keith Noll dazzled graduates with his humor, personality, and the inspirational truth for what it means to be successful. Noll ‘87, is the senior vice president of WellSpan Health and the president of York Hospital. Since 2011, he has had many successes within the health and administration field including the development of a $48 million project to reconstruct the emergency department for the York Hospital and York County. Well established in York, Noll volunteers his time as the chair-elect of the United Way of York County, on the collegiate council of York College, as the chair of the Quality Committee for the Children’s Home of York, but most importantly, as a member of the Penn State York Advisory Board, which he joined in 2013.

Humbled with the opportunity to speak at his alma mater, he spoke not about his own success, but the opportunities that await the graduates that are entering a professional world. “IQ and hard work alone will no longer guarantee success in your career or, more importantly, in life,” said Noll. “Now, it is time to start thinking outside of yourself and begin thinking more about what you can do for people. Change your focus and invest in others.”
Sheri Yoder Assumes Director of International Student Services Post

Sheri Yoder, former part-time International Student Services coordinator at Penn State York, has recently been promoted to the director of International Student Services. Yoder steps into the full-time position with an extensive background in working with international students. She earned her master of arts in English teaching at the University of London and proceeded to work with international cultures. Before returning to the states, Yoder taught English in Lithuania for more than ten years. Since Yoder began her career at Penn State York as a part-time English professor, she has both witnessed and assisted with the exciting growth of this student cohort at the campus that now includes representation from various countries including China, India, Kenya, Hong Kong, United Arab Emirates, Ecuador, Malaysia, and Taiwan.

In her current role, Yoder makes herself available to answer all questions prior to their arrival, to ensure they are well equipped with all the information they need. Upon the student’s arrival to Baltimore Washington Airport, buses are stationed to pick them up and transport them to York. Yoder coordinates a trip to IKEA, where they have the opportunity to purchase furniture and other necessities. With the help of the Penn State York Diversity Committee and many campus volunteers, the international students are then moved into their apartments and are ready to begin their orientation week as they prepare for classes to start. “Orientation week is a great way for the students to build relationships with each other as they are immersed into the American culture,” says Yoder. “We give them a tour of York and let them absorb the city before classes begin.”

Throughout the year, there are many events on campus for the students to get involved and grow as individuals. The diversity committee sponsors a weekly campus Coffee Hour. Diana Qiao and Clover Li, two sophomores from China, help to set up the event each week with food, drinks, and games where students can feel welcome and socialize with one another. “Learning about different cultures while having fun at different activities on campus, such as a Drive-In Movie Night, is a great way to make friends,” say Qiao and Li.

Yoder expects the international population will continue to grow and have a positive impact on the Penn State York community. “Each year seems to increase by roughly twenty students,” says Yoder. “We never know the exact number until they arrive, so we try to be as prepared as possible to make sure their transition is smooth and positive so they can focus on their education.”

Mike Allen Named Executive-In-Residence for The Graham Center

The Graham Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership Studies (The Graham Center) has come a long way since 2013. Most recently, Michael F. Allen has assumed the role as executive-in-residence and is responsible for meeting with students and faculty, business leaders, and corporate partners already involved in the program. The Graham Center is designed as a training program to better prepare students as they graduate and enter the workforce. There are many opportunities for students to craft their skills including mock interviews, workshops, networking with local businesses, and sometimes internships. With many ideas on how to take The Graham Center to the next level, Allen has been busy building on the foundation that has already been set. A primary goal he would like to accomplish is to focus on not just entrepreneurship, but also what it means to be a leader. “Every person has an obligation of taking the program and moving it forward,” says Allen. “Providing students with knowledge of the difference between leadership and management will give them an additional edge after graduation.”

For more information on The Graham Center, visit the website at york.psu.edu/grahamcenter or contact Allen at 717-771-8408 or mfa14@psu.edu.
Peg Chown Named New Director of York OLLI Program

Peggy L. Chown became the new director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Penn State York in July 2015. OLLI is a program that provides education to adults with a desire to always learn and experience life. With its relaxed and accepting environment, the organization has gained more than 700 members on campus since 2007.

A lifelong learner herself, Chown brings years of leadership and administrative experience to the program from her involvement in various community organizations and adult learning centers. Prior to OLLI, she was the executive director of the Center for Distance Education (CDE) at Upper-Iowa University, where she directed highly successful online and independent study programs in support of more than 3,000 students. With a vast knowledge of higher education, she has worked in numerous universities across the country and also served as a special assistant attorney general in the Office of the Attorney General, State of Minnesota, in St. Paul, Minnesota. Still, Chown is no stranger to York County. She serves on multiple boards including York County Literacy Council, the York Symphony, and the Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania.

With a passion for community and education in mature adults, she took on her role as director with many goals in mind, including to expand the program and continue to build on the success it has had in the past eight years. Her first step is to spread the word about OLLI and begin to make it a known commodity in the local area. Looking ahead, she would eventually like to see OLLI programs branch out and expand to different community venues as another option for members to attend classes. “With numbers growing, we want to utilize technology and develop programming that can be web-based or recorded to provide to those who can’t make it to class,” says Chown. “If members have a computer available, they could eventually watch presentations from different OLLI programs as well as other educational resources.”

For more information on registration, visit olli.york.psu.edu. OLLI extends an invitation to Penn State York alumni to join and become part of one of the better kept secrets on campus and to never stop learning.
Penn State York makes history with first Women’s Philanthropic Network

Di Hershey, director of campus development at Penn State York, had a vision: to inspire women in the community to become philanthropic leaders by engaging in learning, networking, and mentoring activities through the resources available at Penn State York. Her new initiative, the Women's Philanthropic Network (WPN), is the first of its kind at the University. The WPN’s inaugural event, a discovery luncheon to review initiatives for the upcoming year, took place on Monday, Nov. 16, on the stage of the Pullo Family Performing Arts Center (The Pullo Center) at the campus.

Special guests for the meeting included Molly Barron, wife of Penn State President Eric Barron, and Madlyn Hanes, vice president of the Commonwealth campuses, who joined Peg Chown, director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Penn State York, and David W. Chown, chancellor of Penn State York, in a panel discussion about philanthropy. Each member of the panel shared his or her philanthropic passions through a casual conversation and question and answer session with those in attendance.

The quilting theme included throughout the event was in recognition of Molly Barron’s passion for quilting. As part of the meeting, attendees were invited to write their philanthropic passions on quilt patches. Thanks to Ann Fetterman, instructor in English and a WPN member, for her donation of time and artistry to create the quilt’s design. Once constructed, by Fetterman, the WPN Passion Quilt will proudly hang in the lobby of The Bradley Building.

“We are pleased that Penn State York is the first Penn State entity to have such an initiative,” said Chown. “I look forward to the WPN doing great things for the campus.”

The WPN was started when a group of women, who shared a passion for community philanthropy and support of the Penn State York community, were invited to be charter members of this new and innovative network. Hershey worked with this initial group, members of the campus community, and development officials at the University, to start the initiative.

“I have enjoyed being a member of a giving circle where our gifts combined have a significantly greater impact than what we could accomplish as individuals,” said Hershey. “I wanted to create that same experience at Penn State York. By pioneering this idea through the establishment of the Women's Philanthropic Network at the campus, WE ARE inspiring the next generation of giving,” said Hershey. “I am excited for the future to see how WPN members become more engaged with the campus community and each other, and to see how the WPN can become incorporated into the fabric of life at Penn State York.”

Each year, WPN members will gather to consider projects to be funded based on recommendations from the campus community. At the WPN’s annual discovery meetings, which members can attend in-person or remotely, participants will have the opportunity to offer recommendations for funding. Funding initiatives can include a broad range of ideas, from scholarships for students and support for academic programs to student life activities and community outreach endeavors. (continued on back)
A Spirited Night for Penn State York

A Spirited Night provided a new twist for the annual fall event to celebrate the successes and fundraise for The Graham Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership Studies (The Graham Center). The evening began with a “spirits taste and learn” reception showcasing two entrepreneurial distilleries: Philadelphia Distilling and Big Springs Spirits (Kevin Lloyd, the proprietor, is a Penn State alumnus) and ended with a dessert concert from the Hi Lo’s (small ensemble of the Penn State Glee Club). Dinner included a glimpse of The Graham Center’s successes with video clips showcasing internships and spotlighting the path that led one of our first Graham Fellows, Eduardo Rayner, to transition from intern to employee.

Michael DelGrosso, vice president of Global Sales and Marketing and a third-generation member of the DelGrosso family, shared his family’s story with pictures and comments that focused on the topic of Family Business: Food, Tradition, and the Ride of a Lifetime. The Country Club of York joined in the festivities by creating a special menu using DelGrosso sauces and incorporating Peachy Paterno ice cream into the dessert. If you would like to be part of 2016’s Spirited Night event, contact Di Hershey at dkh13@psu.edu for sponsorship opportunities.

WPN members are encouraged to interact with fellow members, personally and professionally, and take part in mentoring activities and other events throughout the year. Members can determine their level of participation based on their interest and availability. A directory of members and a LinkedIn group for members only will be available for participants in the WPN.

WPN members are required to make annual gifts, with membership levels of giving from junior membership at $100, for young alumni within one to 10 years of their graduation date; sapphire membership, from $500-$2,499; and diamond membership, for gifts of $2,500 or more. Contributions are accepted throughout the year.

To learn more about becoming a member of the WPN at Penn State York, please visit york.psu.edu/wpn or contact Hershey at 717-771-4127 or dkh13@psu.edu.

Funding initiatives recommended for the first year of the WPN include scholarships for student leaders; support for the 20th anniversary celebration keynote speaker for Pathways to Your Future, a program for seventh grade girls that encourages careers in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM); support for the Nittany Success Center at Penn State York, which provides professional and peer tutoring, study groups, testing and academic coaching for students; and Teaching International, a program designed to internationalize the campus experience for students.

From left: Don Graham, Thaddeus Lekawa, MD, and Henry Taylor


From left: Tonja Wheeler, Nittany Lion, and Joyce Broadbent

Molly Barron with WPN scholarship recipients

The Hi Lo’s from the Penn State Glee Club perform

Michael DelGrosso shares the history of DelGrosso sauces and their rise to one of the market leaders of gourmet specialty sauces.