

Rock Calendar

Listings taken from the
SRU Master Calendar of Events.

Monday, June 25

Youth Adventure Camp
8 a.m., Aebersold Student Recreation Center
(Continues through Thursday)

Tuesday, June 26

Freshmen Orientation
7 a.m., University Union

Thursday, June 28

Musicians' Concert Band
8 p.m., Miller Auditorium

Friday, June 29

Session I Ends

Monday, July 2

Session II and Post-session begin

Tuesday, July 3

Session I grades due
Noon

Wednesday, July 4

Independence Day
(All University offices closed)

Thursday, July 5

Classes resume, 8 a.m.

rockpride

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A publication from the Office of the President for faculty, staff, and friends of Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania

Performing Arts Series features nationally known artists

Come! See the death-defying moves of Chinese acrobats and hear the "Stradivarius voice" of Maureen McGovern. Enjoy a Tony Award-winning musical and performances by a renowned dance company during the 2007-2008 Slippery Rock University Performing Arts Series.

Subscriptions for the four-show series are now available. The line up includes the Golden Dragon Acrobats, a holiday concert by McGovern, the musical "Five Guys Named Moe" and an appearance by Philadanco! Philadelphia's Dance Company.

An added attraction – not part of the series but offered for families – is a one-hour adaptation of the children's favorite "Charlotte's Web."

"This is an exciting, vibrant season," said Deborah Baker, manager of University events. "Every critic who has looked at the upcoming season has used words such as 'energizing,' 'invigorating,' 'best in their fields.'"

All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. in Miller Auditorium.

The series opens Sept. 14 with the Golden Dragon Acrobats.

This critically acclaimed group transforms 2,000 years of Chinese tradition into an awe-inspiring performance. Contortionists will ride a giant spinning wheel, martial artists will dazzle you with their stunning skill and dancers will balance more than 70 twirling plates.

McGovern will sing holiday songs as well as timeless classics when she performs Dec. 1. McGovern's career has encompassed recordings, concerts, Broadway, theater, films, television, radio and composing.

Recently, she was a Drama Desk nominee for her portrayal of Marmee in Broadway's "Little Women, The Musical." She made her

(See Performing arts page 4)



Golden Dragon Acrobats



Maureen McGovern



Philadanco



Five Guys Named Moe



Charlotte's Web

President tells Trustees; SRU's goals lead to rock solid 'bragging rights'

"Slippery Rock University's goals of enhancing the value of an SRU degree by providing students with unique applied learning opportunities, and serving as outstanding stewards of its financial assets are paying off in unexpected ways," Robert Smith, SRU president, told the Council of Trustees at their quarterly meeting.

"In the June 2007 issue, Consumers Digest magazine ranked Slippery Rock University as one of the 'Top 5 Best Values among Public Colleges and Universities,'" Smith said.

The magazine analyzed approximately 3,800 institutions of higher learning nationally and ranked the best based on attributes that validate or define the institutions' academic prowess factored against the annual cost of tuition and room-and-board. That "value-index" score was factored with the cost of attending each school to determine which schools offered the most academic value per dollar.



John A. Hicks



Joshua B. Young

(See Trustees page 3)

16 faculty members receive promotions

Sixteen faculty members will start the fall semester with promotions.

Promoted from associate professor to professor were:

Kimberly Forrest, health and safety
Mary Ann Holbein-Jenny, School of Physical Therapy
Thomas Percy, history

Promoted from assistant professor to associate professor were:

Patricia Campbell, geography, geology and the environment
Tamra Schiappa, geography, geology and the environment
Langdon Smith, geography, geology and the environment
Julaine Field, counseling and development
Joseph Harry, communication
Richard Marchand, mathematics
Catherine Massey, psychology
Colleen Neubert, music
Mark O'Connor, English
Frederick White, English
Sunita Peacock, English
Theresa Wajda, School of Business

Moving from instructor to assistant professor

Jessamine Montero, academic services

21 faculty members earn tenure

Twenty-one faculty members will receive tenure effective fall semester.

Approved for tenure were:

Pam Arnhold, exercise and rehabilitative sciences
Richael Barger-Anderson, special education
Gayle Brosnan-Watters, psychology
Ana Marie Caula, modern languages and cultures
June Edwards, art
Julaine Field, counseling and development
David Glover, music
Herbert Hunt, elementary education/early childhood
Catherine Massey, psychology
Joseph Merhaut, special education
Jessamine Montero, academic services
Mark Mraz, secondary education/foundations of education
Randall Pitstick, parks and recreation/environmental ed.
Suzanne Rose, elementary education/early childhood
Tamra Schiappa, geography, geology and the environment
Langdon Smith, geography, geology and the environment
Robert Snyder, elementary education/early childhood
Theresa Wajda, School of Business
Carlis White, history
Frederick White, English
Marilyn Yensick, elementary education/early childhood



STRIKE UP THE BAND: Ten-year-old John-Paul May, the Harrisville boy who recently underwent his second heart transplant, was back at SRU last Friday to hold the baton along with Jeff Kroner, '91, director of the Musicians' Concert Band, at their opening summer concert. The youngster and his mother, Sue May (left), were attending a May 5 SRU Jazz Festival Concert when Pennsylvania State Police interrupted the music to let the Mays know a heart had become available. Police tracked the Mays using cell phone technology. Following surgery in Pittsburgh's Children's Hospital, the youngster, who loves music, continues to make remarkable progress. His mother reports he is returning to all normal activities, including concert attendance. The 90-member Musicians' Concert Band continues its summer series with 8 p.m. concerts June 28, July 12 and Aug. 9 in Miller Auditorium.

5 Rock student-athletes earn All-America honors

Five Rock student-athletes recently earned All-America honors to headline a list of recent achievements by SRU players and coaches. The list of honors includes:

Jennifer Hansen earned national runner-up and All-America honors in the women's pole vault competition at the NCAA Division II Track and Field Championships and was named as the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference's women's outdoor track and field "Field Athlete of the Year." Hansen is a two-time All-America performer.

Jeff Weiss finished fourth in the men's 10,000m run at the national championships to earn his fourth All-America citation and was also named as the PSAC men's outdoor track and field "Track Athlete of the Year."

Andi Rose earned the fifth and sixth All-America citations of her collegiate career with sixth-place finishes in both the 100m and 400m hurdles events at the national championships.

Matt Adams was named to third-team All-America honors by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association.

M.J. Parsons received honorable mention All-America honors from the NCBWA .

For the latest Rock sports news, go to www.rockathletics.com or call The Rock Sports Hotline at Ext. 2962.

Items for **rockpride** should be sent to:

rockpride@sru.edu

Deadline is 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Trustees (Continued from page 1)

“The Consumers Digest ranking is an unbiased validation of the value of an SRU degree. We are very proud of the quality academic programs, activities and services we provide and that we are an affordable institution,” Smith said.

“Being named as one of the ‘Top 5 Best Values among Public Colleges and Universities’ is just one area where the University can claim bragging rights,” Smith said.

“The University is also able to boast we are one of only a few, if not the only University in the nation, to have two professional sports teams playing home games on campus,” Smith said.

Smith credited Paul Lueken, SRU athletic director, for agreements with the New Castle Thunder, part of the North American Football League, and the Slippery Rock Sliders, part of the independent Frontier Baseball League, to play their home games at SRU.

Thunder games are played in N. Kerr Thompson Stadium, while Sliders games are played in Jack Critchfield Park.

Smith said both SRU and the community are benefiting from the exposure generated by visitors to the games, but beyond the excitement the teams bring to campus, the real payoff for the University is that both teams are giving SRU students internship opportunities in all aspects of game operations.

“The fact two pro franchises have chosen SRU as their home is a testimony to our facilities and the unique arrangements we have included to provide student learning experiences as part of the packages,” Smith said.

Enrollment on target

The president also noted fall enrollment forecasts are “on target with the University plan. We expect to see a generally stable enrollment and the quality of the class will remain consistent with the high quality of the last several years in terms of students in the top 10 and 25 percent of their high school class, SAT scores and grade-point averages,” Smith said.

Trustees welcomed two new members to the council. New members are John A. Hicks, SRU professor-emeritus of elementary education and early childhood, and Joshua B. Young, a 2004 SRU political science graduate from Coatesville.

Young is a third-generation employee in his family’s hometown business and in 2005 was elected a Caln Township supervisor, making him the youngest elected commissioner in the township’s history. As commissioner, he serves on the parks and recreation committee, the King’s Highway Park master plan committee and the Caln Community Day committee, among others. As a student, he served as a senator to the Student Government Association, speaker of the senate and as student representative to the Council of Trustees.

Hicks, a 1962 SRU graduate, retired from the University in 2002 after 29 years service as professor and assistant to the dean of SRU’s College of Education. He twice served as interim dean. As assistant to the dean, he was certification officer, responsible for the placements of more than 400 student teachers per year and liaison to regional school districts. His other interim appointments included associate dean, director of continuing education, school improvement coordinator and department of administra-

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CAMPUS VISIT: Barbara Ender, SRU’s new vice president for University advancement, was at SRU last weekend to visit with trustees, staff, alumni and others, including Regis Schiebel, chair of the Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc. Ender officially joins the staff July 1. She most recently served as vice president for development and chief executive officer of the Morehead State University Foundation. Joining in was her daughter, Joanna (left).

tion and supervision chair. He has been a member of the SRU Sports Hall of Fame board of directors since 1985.

As part of council’s annual business, trustees voted to accept the nominating committee’s report recommending re-election of the current slate of officers. Suzanne Vessella, of New Castle, remains as chair; Robert Taylor, of Solebury, as vice-chair; and Grace Hawkins, of Cranberry Township, secretary. Vessella was named to the council in 2003 and was elected chair in 2006 after serving as vice chair.

In routine action, council voted to accept the minutes of the March 9 meeting as well as reports on contracts, fixed assets and service and supply purchase orders. Council also accepted the prepared Annual Inspecting of Facilities report.

A resolution seeking demolition of a University storage facility at 125 Kiester Road, deemed to have passed its life cycle and no longer needed, was approved. A report on the 1,713-square-foot, wood frame facility, once a private residence, documented it would require substantial investment in order to be usable. In addition to the trustee’s demolition request, action by the Pennsylvania Department of General Services and the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education board of governors will be required before demolition can take place.

Council was told of the creation of the new professional studies department and the renaming of the department of sociology, anthropology and social work to the department of social work, criminology and criminal justice to better reflect its academic focus. The professional studies department’s mission is to support the University and community through innovative courses and programs, scholarly growth and service contributions. Study within the department will deliver an alternative, flexible, outcomes based and high-quality degree program in professional studies.

University showers stars on 12 SRU student leaders

Check out the evening sky. A dozen stars now have new names, courtesy of the Slippery Rock University Alumni Association and AVI Food Systems, Inc., the campus contract food vendor. The stars were purchased by AVI and the association to honor the dedication and service of 12 student leaders.

The stars were presented at the Rising Star Recognition Reception. Recipients are nominated by fellow students, faculty and staff.

The awards program, begun in 2004, includes presentation of a rising-star paperweight and a CD computer program that allows the recipient to find the exact star registered in their name. Ten awards are sponsored by AVI FoodSystems and were presented by John Vag, resident director for AVI. Two awards are sponsored by the association and were presented by Michael Saraka, alumni relations director.

Recipients, their academic majors and hometowns, are: Gregory Acre, a secondary education, social studies and history major from Cabot; Ashley Borchilo, a communication major from Saegertown; Rashad Brown, an exercise science major from Aliquippa; Ashley Contee, a communication major from District Heights, Md.; Nikki Gwin, a special education major from Bessemer;

Jason McGinnis, a health and physical education major from Altoona; Chelsea Neil, an elementary education major from Irwin; Jessica Peconi, a health and physical education major from Jefferson Hills; Katherine Piscopo, a psychology major from Beaver; Morgan Rizzardi, a psychology major from Warren; Kellen Cassidy, a therapeutic recreation major from Erie; and Scott McCaskey, a special education major from New Castle.

(Cassidy and McCaskey received their awards from the alumni association.)

The nominations cited the students for their ability to lead by example, engage in campus activities, display strong observation talents and make use of strong organization skills. The "Rising Stars" were repeatedly praised for their involvement in student life and campus activities as well as their volunteer efforts and determination.



Performing Art (Continued from page 1)

mark in films such as "The Towering Inferno" and "Airplane." Her recording career includes such chart toppers as "The Morning After" and "We May Never Love Like This Again."

Philadanco performs Feb. 8. This dazzling group emphasizes innovative works by American choreographers in dramatic programs that not only have great audience appeal, but have won unanimous critical praise. Philadanco has appeared in Europe, Asia, the United Kingdom, the Caribbean and in such prestigious locations in the U.S. as the Lincoln Center, Joyce Theater and the Kimmel Center.

"Five Guys Named Moe," the two-time Tony Award winning musical, is March 29. An international sensation, this exhilarating tribute to composer Louis Jordan will keep toes tapping to songs such as "Let the Good Times Roll," "Don't Let the Sun Catch You Crying," "Caldonia," "Choo Choo Ch'Boogie" and many more.

TheatreWorks USA's production of "Charlotte's Web" is May 23. Based on E.B. White's story of a friendship between a pig named Wilbur and a little spider named Charlotte, the tale features farm animals exploring bravery, selfless love and the true meaning of friends. The show is one hour. Tickets are \$8 for all ages.

Subscriptions are \$70 for adults, \$60 for those ages 62 and older and 17 and under, and \$26 for SRU students. Subscriptions tickets, on sale now, will be mailed in July. Orders are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Individual tickets for Golden Dragon Acrobats go on sale Aug. 15. All other tickets go on sale Sept. 19. To order tickets call 724.738.2091.

Trustees (Continued from page 3)

Trustees were informed of two strategic leadership appointments: Barbara Ender, vice president for University advancement, and Susan Hannam, dean of the College of Health, Environment and Science, and two tactical leadership/senior professional appointments: Scott Albert, director of facilities, and W. C. Vance, director of undergraduate admissions. Jodiann Solito was named director of the SRU Women's Center. Twenty-six instructional appointments and 25 support staff appointments were announced.

Council was also told of six faculty retirements and eight support staff retirements.

Retiring faculty include:

- Victor Campagna, assistant professor of physical education with 25 years;
- Robert Fidoten, associate professor of communication, 17 years;
- Anita Gorman, professor of English, 17 years;
- Dale Stewart, associate professor of parks and recreation/environmental education, 29 years;
- Michael Stowe, associate professor of sociology, anthropology and social work, 25 years, and
- Donald Thompkins, associate professor in the School of Business, 25 years.

Staff retirements include:

- Terri Glavan, clerk typist 2 in the Admissions Office, 9 years;
- Karla Markl, clerk typist 3 at the McKeever Environmental Education Center, 22 years;
- Debra Moors, clerk typist 2 in sociology, anthropology and social work department, 35 years;
- Barbara Porter, administrative assistant 1, College of Business, Information and Social Sciences, 32 years;
- Leona Porter, forms layout specialist 2 in Printing Services, 32 years;
- Craig Snyder, maintenance repairman 2 in facilities and planning, 25 years;
- Joseph Stahlman, maintenance repairman 2 in facilities and planning, 35 years; and
- Bonita Vinton, clerk typist 2 in geology, geography and the environment, 38 years.

Professor emeritus status was granted Charles Shultz, professor of geography, geology and the environment, who retired in 2003 with 33 years of service, and Esther Skirboll, professor of sociology, anthropology and social work, who retired earlier this year with 19 years of service. Twenty-one faculty members were granted tenure.

Council's next quarterly session is noon Sept. 14.

SlipperyRock
University

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