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# Shawnee Statement

### A 'Ruined' Vacation in Mexico

Julia Coll's vacation is going to be in ruins this summer.
Julia will be heading a party of nine Shawnee State faculty, staff, and students as they travel to Orizaba, Veracruz, Mexico for ten days in June. While in Mexico, the group will stay with families in homes shadowed by Citlaltepetl, the highest volcano in the country, and visit ancient ruins with scriptures that speak of space visitors.

Included in the party will be: Coll, Shirley Crothers, Frank Byrne, Pete Duncan, Ginnie Ramey, Sharon Scott, and three students, Thad Blizzard, Alice Kimbler, and Valerie Nesler. Five educators from Scioto County schools and the Portsmouth City School District will

also accompany the group in Mexico June 19-29.

"We are going to visit Mexico with a broad approach first," said Coll. "We'll see the Shrine of Guadalupe, the city of Guadalajara, and the pyramids of Teotihuacan. In Orizaba each individual will be able to research parts of Mexican life in their field of expertise. We will visit local high schools, special education centers, hospitals, and the Instituto Tecnologico de Monterrey, a private institution of higher learning. From these experiences, we will gain first-hand knowledge of the cultural differences between Mexico and the United States."

The group will represent Educators for International Understanding, a project which includes educators from Shawnee State and from Portsmouth and Scioto County high schools. Goals of the project are to gather information to be used in preparing Portsmouth for the upcoming United States/Mexico International Sister City Annual Convention and to promote international understanding of the world. A long-term goal is to provide a future resource of professional community members with background knowledge of Mexico.

Pete is accompanying the group to chronicle the trip on film and produce a slide show. The slide presentation is expected to be shown to more than 25 civic organizations throughout the Portsmouth

area prior to the Sister City Convention.

An important phase of the trip will include Julia's meeting with the Rotary Club in Orizaba. Portsmouth's Rotary, along with Shawnee State, the Portsmouth City School System, and the Scioto County School System, is sponsoring the trip. Julia's speech at Rotary will focus on the need for an Orizaba group of educators to visit Portsmouth during the following year.

The Sister City Convention, awarded to Portsmouth by acclamation over San Diego at the 1988 convention in Leon, Mexico, last summer, will be held August 16-20. It is estimated that as many as 600 people from Mexico and the western United States will arrive in Portsmouth for the convention. Portsmouth, the only city east of the Mississippi River involved in the project, will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of its Sister City affiliation with Orizaba.

A. L. Addington, Gene Beckett, and Coll, serve as trustees of the Portsmouth Sister City Board of Directors and have major responsibilities in the planning of events to take place at the convention.

A. L. serves as chairman of the Entertainment Committee, and Julia is the official simultaneous interpreter and chairperson of the Pro-

gram and Host and Hostess Committees.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower initiated the Sister City program in 1956 as a new approach to securing peace around the world through the establishment of personal, people-to-people, friendships between Americans and the peoples of other nations.

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In a commencement address at Radcliffe College. Adlai Stevenson said: 'In previous appearances at women's colleges. my solemn remarks were addressed to women specifically - about the place of educated women in our society; about bringing up children in a neurotic world; about the conflict between the office desk and the kitchen sink

'After listening to my highly instructive addresses, I came to the enlightened conclusion that women would not be truly emancipated until commencement speakers ignored the fact that they were women.

> - Soundings Vol. D/No. 1A

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With each opportunity for progress, of course, there are opportunities for serious missteps. Even change that clearly leads to overell economic growth can have very uneven effects. Change can lead to wrenching dislocation and pain for workers with obsolete skills, for management unable to recognize opportunity, and for communities where traditional businesses have failed. Change can create an America in graceless decline —its living standards falling behind those of other world powers. This could mean an America less able to ensure the operation of free international markets and less able to ensure the security of the free world. Change can weaken the bargaining position of some groups while strengthening that of others. Change can result in a growing gap between those fortunate enough to have the talents, education, and connections needed to seize emerging opportunities and those forced into narrowly defined, heavily monitored, temporary positions. This latter group could be forced to bear most of the costs of uncertainty. It is now our burdenand opportunity—to address those uncertainties and propose realistic ways of dealing with them.

- President George Bush

#### Host Families Sought for International Students

This is an exciting time of year for the Office of Continuing Education as we prepare to host 34 young women from Taiwan. The students will arrive on Wednesday, June 28, and stay until early August.

The students will study English and a variety of courses while at Shawnee State. They will also take a motor coach tour to New York City and Washington, D.C., but to truly make this "international summer" an event we can all be proud of, we'll

need your help.

Please take this unique opportunity to be a host family for one or more of these students. Being a host family involves only one or two weekends (July 1 & 2 and July 8 & 9). It involves one or two of the students spending time with your family, doing things your family enjoys — picnicing, boating, shopping, sightseeing.

All host families are invited to a luncheon with us on Friday, June 30, in the cafeteria. At that time, you will have an oppor-

tunity to meet your student and have lunch together.

If you wish to meet your student before that time, please come to the airport with us. We hope to take a large group of people from Shawnee State and the Portsmouth area to greet the students at the Columbus International Airport on June 28. You could then drive one or two of the students back to Portsmouth and help them settle in at Celeron Square.

On Wednesday, July 12, we'd like you to treat the students to lunch at the Ramada Inn. We'll meet in the lobby at 12:15. After lunch, invite the student to spend the afternoon with you in your classroom, office, or at the library, museum, or other places of

interest.

For more information, call Ginnie Ramey at extension 281.

#### Personnel Notes

by Linda Plummer

June has brought flowers, rain, warm weather, rain, graduation plans, rain, and some exciting new employees to the Shawnee State campus. The new employees are . . .

• Thomas Wesolowski — Tom became our Director of Public Relations, a full-time administrative position, on May 22.

• Timothy Thoroughman — Tim began working June 1 as a full-time administrator in the capacity of Construction Manager.

We proudly present these people to you, staff, and en-

courage you to welcome them to our midst.

This is the month that we bid farewell to many of our faculty members who will get a little break in the action. We wish you a pleasant and safe summer and look forward to seeing you in September, fresh and rested for the new year!

#### An Insurance Note to Remember

For those of you insured with Community Mutual . . . It is very much understood that when you are told that you or one of your family must be admitted to the hospital, you are upset. However, the Cost Management Program was put into

place in an effort to better control the cost of health care which is reflected in our health insurance premiums. We have talked with numerous persons from other businesses and have found that most of them have or are in the process of implementing such a program. It is simply one of the solutions to the rising cost of health care and, as a result, health insurance.

As part of that program, it is essential that when the doctor schedules hospitalization for you or your family member, you immediately call the Cost Management Center at this number:

1-800-235-5582

At that time, they will tell you if you need a second opinion for surgery (second opinion can be waived if the surgery is an emergency situation) and how long you can stay. Do not be alarmed. If your doctor feels you need, medically, to stay longer, this time allotment can be lengthened. But . . . they need to be notified. Make a note of the above number. Put it in your wallet or purse, and inform your spouse of the necessity of making this phone call. If you should be hospitalized during a time outside of regular working hours, call the number anyway. They have a recording and consider your message as official notification. In this case, you would want to call again the next working day to discuss the details.

We cannot stress strongly enough the importance of calling Cost Management when a hospitalization is imminent. Community Mutual will not pay for the hospitalization without this

notification.

### From the Learning Center

by Gene Beckett

#### An Update on the Assessment Program at SSU

Are we doing the right thing? That's the question we faculty and administrators asked ourselves a year ago when we decided to initiate mandatory assessment and placement of incoming students. Unfortunately, conclusive answers to this question are hard to come by, and it's a question we continue to ask ourselves.

In addition to talking with several people to find out the story numbers don't tell, Dale Taylor, Ginny Hamilton, and I have spent the last three quarters looking at mountains of data on the students we have assessed and placed during this period. The results of this preliminary data lead me and a growing number of individuals on campus to believe we made the right choice. Mandatory assessment and placement are working at Shawnee State.

They are having a positive effect on retention. Mandatory assessment and placement are ensuring that entering students receive mathematics, English, and reading instruction at their level of academic ability, thereby reducing attrition due to failure.

In my quest to find support and justification for assessment and placement, I recently ran across an article based on a study conducted by a group of development educators in Colorado. Collecting data statewide, the researchers came up with some very interesting findings. In fact, they are so interesting that I couldn't resist sharing three of them with you.

Management often puzzles over how difficult it is to communicate information to the troops. Yet, when the message is appreciated, there is no communications problem. In a company building with 3,000 employees, the executive in charge noticed that one winter day when an announcement was made that because of blizzard warnings employees could leave early, the entire building cleared out within ten minutes. 55

> Michael Macoby in "Why Work"

# Attention Readers of The Portsmouth Daily Times

Once again it is time for golfers to take to the greens in The Portsmouth Daily Times Golf Classic. This year, in a break from tradition, readers are being asked to nominate worthy charities by filling out ballots that are appearing in the *Times*.

There are numerous worthy charities deserving your nomination, but we would suggest that you consider nominating Shawnee State. What could be more fitting—especially now, as we head into Crossing the Threshold, The Campaign for Shawnee State University.

Success is not a pie, with only so many slices to go around. The success of others has nothing to do with your success.

Nor is your success measured by what others say or what others accomplish. We all have the tendency to compare ourselves with others. But the happy people in this life know it's not against others that we compete.

The late Henry
Fonda once said that
a thoroughbred
horse never looks at
the other racehorses.
It just concentrates
on running the
fastest race it can.

On our track to success, we have to fight the tendency to look at others and see how far they've come. The only thing that counts is how we use the potential we possess and that we run our race to the best of our abilities.

 Dennis Waitley and Reni L. Witt in The Joy of Working 1. More than 80% of the new students who follow assessment-related advice succeed academically and are more likely to persist at least one additional term than those who do not follow such advice.

2. Students who follow advice for English courses are almost four times as likely to succeed than those who

disregard such advice.

3. In reading and mathematics, new students are more than twice as likely to succeed if they follow assessment-related advice.

One additional finding, which does not relate to assessment and placement, but does relate to the Shawnee State student body, was interesting and merits mentioning. The Colorado study found that "women with more than one dependent, who work outside of school, and who carry more than six credit hours are more likely to succeed than any other subgroup in the study." Based on my working experiences with non-traditional students at Shawnee State, I am not the least bit surprised at this finding. Working mothers represent a large portion of our student population, and their efforts and successes inspire us all.

The jury is still out in the case of mandatory assessment and placement at Shawnee State, and I'm not sure whether a verdict that all members of the university community can live with will ever be forthcoming. Nevertheless, I'm encouraged with the evidence I've seen, heard, and read since we started this endeavor. For the record, I think we are doing the right thing for Shawnee State students.

#### Library/Media Services

by Connie Salyers

#### **New Library Acquisitions**

New government titles are now on our library shelves and ready for your use. We've acquired more than 200 titles that you may be interested in seeing. They include: The Federal Register, Annual Climatological Data, Business Conditions Digest, LC Science Tracer Bulletin: Soil Erosion, and Nuclear Safety.

We also have on order more than 100 additional titles that will continue to be checked in and catalogued when received. They include: County Business Patterns (Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia), Diplomatic List, Factfinder for the Nation, Subject Bibliography: Grants and Awards, and World Military Expenditures.

#### **Editorial Correction:**

"Why We're Not Keeping the Entire Miami Collection," an article which appeared in the last Statement, was written by Tess Midkiff and not by Connie Salyers as reported. Sorry for the mix-upl

#### **Newsworthy Briefs**

#### Professional Activities in the Community . .

• Betty Hodgden has been named "Outstanding Educator of the Year" by the local chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, an international fraternity of teachers/educators. Bob Wilson is currently the president of Phi Delta Kappa.

#### ... and Beyond

• David Todt presided over the Natural Resources section of the Annual Ohio Academy of Science Conference in Cleveland. He also presented an invited paper on the Shawnee Energy Education

Project (SEEP).

• Cay Horr has been selected 1989-90 chairperson of the Ohio Arts Council/Ohio Humanities Council Joint Program in the Arts and Humanities. Cay has represented southern Ohio on the Humanities Council since 1985, serving on the Joint Program board for two vears.

 Gene Beckett has been selected to serve as an external reviewer for the University of Dayton Learning Assistance Center. Gene was cited as being a leader in the field of developmental

education.

• Hagop Pambookian has been notified by Dr. Patricia W. Cautley, Secretary-General of the International Council of Psychologists (ICP), that he has been elected a new member of the Board of Directors. Pambookian will serve a three-year term. The ICP Board of Directors is the governing body for the international association whose membership includes psychologists from more than 80 countries.

 Anita Gilmer, Mike Gampp, and Charles Walker attended "Soaring into the '90's," an annual regional conference sponsored by the Data Processing Management Association (DPMA) in Dayton, Ohio. The conference featured a keynote address by the editor-inchief of Computerworld Magazine. Anita, president of the local chapter of DPMA, participated in five sessions, providing information on the future of the personal computer, risk analysis, CD-ROM, practical artificial intelligence systems, and the future office.

#### Personals

• Jonathan and Rebecca (Call) James, owners of Crispie Creme Donuts, have opened a new coffee shop at the intersection of Routes 22 and 3 West in Sabina, Ohio. The former Shawnee State students opened Crispie Creme Donuts in Wilmington, Ohio, in October, 1987, and now supervise a payroll of 11. Jonathan is the son of Jack James of our social science division.

We wish Eric Hilton a speedy recovery following his recent foot

· Also, "get well soon" wishes go to Dick Howard who hasn't

been feeling up-to-par lately.

· Congratulations to new parents Jim and Mary Arnzen on the recent birth of their "Baby Bear" Jill. She weighed seven pounds, five ounces, and we understand all three are doing fine.

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing in the right place, but to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

- Dorothy Neville

#### An Opportunity for SSU Shutterbugs

Have you been thinking about your calendar for 1989-90? Pat and Kenny, those Print Shop magicians, have been.

.In preparation for the annual edition of the Shawnee State wall calendar, we are looking for photos that address the theme, "The Faces of Shawnee State." The deadline, like most printing dates, was yesterday, so we hope you can help.

The pictures, black and white or color. should feature students, faculty, staff, or administrators in an informal setting. We aren't searching for professional photographers, but the pictures should be of good quality.

Deliver whatever you can come up with to Pat Carson on the lower level of the Business Annex (across from the Student Union). All entries will be most appreciated and will be returned unharmed.

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