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Shawnee Statement

May 1, 1993
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From the President

Dear Colleagues,

Dick Howard, during his last few weeks as vice president of student affairs, attended a seminar on student retention at my request. It was presented in Columbus, Ohio, by Noel and Levitz, one of the nations most outstanding consulting firms on retention. Dick's briefing on this seminar contained the following relevant points, each of which has significant implications at Shawnee State University.

Universities Should Take the Initiative: Colleges and universities are often seen as non-intrusive institutions. In this view, the institution makes available courses, programs, services, and opportunities, and it is the student's responsibility to take advantage of them. In institutions with high retention, student success is not left to chance. Such institutions take a highly active role in their students' success, rather than sit by and wait for the student to take the initiative. They take steps to ensure that the student becomes bonded with the institution and the institution involved with them.

Why Students Stay: According to research, students stay at institutions for the following reasons:

- Caring attitude of the faculty and staff
- High quality teaching
- Adequate financial aid
- Student involvement in campus activities
- Excellent counseling services
- Excellent career planning seminar
- Concern regarding student/institution "fit"
- Admissions geared to graduation
- Early alert system

Most of these reasons do not involve funds, but do involve an investment in "attitude." Acceptance and encouragement of students cost very little, but are an investment in the future since they help ensure student success.

What do Institutions Need to Do? The most powerful retention strategies are based on the mobilization of existing staff and resources, not massive infusion of new staff or new resources. Examples of these types of strategies include:

- Strong emphasis on freshman success/orientation/individualized plans
- Campus-wide ownership and management of retention

●● Don't cap your expectations! What you define as impossible today is impossible only in the context of present paradigms. But maybe we should let William Wordsworth have the last word on this subject of the untapped promise that lies within us all. Speaking of his fellow humans, he said simply, 'We are greater than we know.' It's true for us as individuals, as institutions, and as a society. We can only guess at our true potential. And we can only achieve it if we get past the paradigms and unleash our imaginations. ●●

— Monte Haymon, president
Packaging Corporation
of America

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●● A liberal arts education doesn't prepare you for something, it prepares you for anything. ●●

— Frontis Johnston,
history professor
Davidson College

President (cont'd)

- Transferring admission relationships to teaching/advising relationships
- Emphasis on student-centered services

Retention can produce more students and, therefore, more funds. Universities spend funds on the front end to recruit students, an investment which can be greatly enhanced by retaining a larger number of students and moving them toward graduation. The greatest recruiter a university can have is a satisfied student, and the greatest supporter to the development fund is a successful alumnus. These are long-range results. The more immediate results are in the simple equation that a retained student is a long-term person who deserves our attention and efforts, not just for their good, but for the good of the University.

Sincerely,



Clive Veri

Distinguished Teaching

The university community and the general public are invited to attend the two-part lecture on the teaching of science, which will conclude this academic year's Distinguished Lecture Series. The two lectures, presented by George H. Stevens, are collectively titled "Aspects of Science Teaching," with part one being "Physics" and part two being "Chemistry."

George H. Stevens is a graduate of Cornell University, with a bachelor of science degree. He holds a masters degree with majors in biology and science education and minors in physics, chemistry, and earth sciences. He comes to us with years of experience, having taught at the high school and college levels since 1952. He was a Cornell University Shell Fellow and has won a number of teaching awards, including the 1987 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching, New York. Stevens retired from teaching in 1991.

Both lectures will take place in Flohr Lecture Hall. The first, on physics, will be presented Wednesday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m., and the second, on chemistry, will be presented Thursday, May 20, at 10:00 a.m.

These lectures—not only about science, but also about teaching—should prove to be enjoyable and informative for teachers and students alike. Everyone is invited to attend.

Spring Visitation a Success

The Office of Admission hosted their spring visitation program on Saturday, April 17. Over 100 visitors came to Shawnee State from various parts of Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia. These students and their parents had a chance to talk to faculty members, tour our campus, and learn more about the student support services that are available to them. The program was a huge success, and we hope to see many of these students on our campus in the fall. Thanks to all those who helped with the program.

Upward Bound to Cincinnati

All participants in Shawnee State's new Upward Bound Program earned the privilege of going on a recent overnight trip to Cincinnati, reports Barbara Bradbury, director.

The trip included tours of Xavier University and the Krohn Conservatory, visits to the Museum Center at Union Terminal Station and the Cincinnati Zoo, and an evening at Forest Fair Mall.

Students described their first Upward Bound trip as a "blast" and said they are looking forward to the six-week, residential, summer component on the Shawnee State campus. Plans are in the works to take the students to Washington, D.C. during the summer program.

FirstSearch

In the beginning, there was Beartrack—now there is FirstSearch, an electronic information system which brings together a collection of subject-specific and general databases.

The Shawnee State Library has one FirstSearch station, and it can be used by inquiring at the Reference/Information Counter. FirstSearch is designed to satisfy faculty and student computer search needs. No specific training in computers or online searching is required, and librarian mediation is not necessary.

Thirty-two indexes—ranging from the MLA Bibliography, BIOSIS, Engineering Index/FS, Disclosure, and PAIS Decade to WorldCat and the OCLC Union Catalog, with more than 28 million bibliographic records—are currently available. Upcoming additions include MEDLINE, Biological and Agricultural Index, Index to Legal Periodicals, and Microcomputer Index.

Some of the above indexes will include the Shawnee State symbol in the citation if the title is included in the library collection.

For more information about FirstSearch, stop by the Reference/Information Counter or call the Library at extension 321.

Peer Tutoring Activity

"An afternoon visit to the Learning Center proves the popularity of the peer tutoring program among Shawnee State's students," says Gene Beckett, who explains that there is seldom an empty seat when tutoring activity is at its height.

To document and evaluate tutoring activity, Marian Fischels, who oversees the tutoring program, compiles quarterly data. During the most recent report period, 180 individual students received tutoring in the Learning Center from 44 paid peer tutors. Most of these 180 students were tutored in one subject, but some were tutored in more than one. All totaled, the Learning Center logged 1,439 hours of tutoring during winter quarter.

A misconception about the Learning Center is that it serves primarily developmental students. In reality, a small proportion of the students who were tutored during winter quarter (32) were developmental students. Tutees represent students at all levels, freshmen through seniors. . .and across the curriculum. The greatest concentration of students sought help in mathematics (Math 099 through Math 250), with Math 101 taking the prize for the most students tutored (41). Among the many subjects tutored, biology and chemistry ranked second and third, behind mathematics.

Gene Beckett is pleased at the amount of tutoring happening on campus, because students who seek learning assistance outside the

●● Struggle
always comes
before success. For
most artists, when
they have arrived
at what the public
and critics term
success. . .all the
pain and struggle
—all the strife and
anxiety that pre-
ceded—is
forgotten. ●●

— Jascha Heifetz
violinist



The 1993 President's Ball, planned for May 29, 6:30 p.m., in the Activities Center, will honor Portsmouth resident and Shawnee State friend Harold S. Micklethwaite. Proceeds from the gala will be used to fund a scholarship in his name.

This year, the committee planning the event is trying something new. Rather than using part of the proceeds to flood the area with invitations, the committee has chosen to issue this special appeal to all Shawnee State faculty and staff. If you're interested in attending the ball—and the committee hopes you are—please call the development office at ext. 284 and a printed invitation will be sent to you. It is hoped that a large Shawnee State contingent will be on hand to honor the man who has done so much for the University, and by issuing invitations in this manner, more of the actual proceeds can be earmarked for the scholarship in Harold's name.

●● Both tears and sweat are salty, but they render a different result. Tears will get you sympathy, sweat will get you change. ●●

— Jesse Jackson

Tutoring (cont'd.)

classroom are displaying proactive, mature behavior that is conducive to their academic success. By referring students to the Learning Center, faculty are also showing their confidence in the tutoring program. As plans develop for the department's expansion in the vacated library space of Massie Hall, the Learning Center will be able to respond to the rising demands for learning assistance from Shawnee State's students.

AIDS Awareness at Shawnee State

May is AIDS Awareness Month, and a panel discussion, "Southern Ohio: Are We at Risk," will be held Wednesday, May 12, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Flohr Lecture Hall.

Coordinated by the AIDS Education Committee, the panel will be moderated by John Valentine and comprised of area physicians, health professionals, educators, and persons living with AIDS. The format is informal and open for questions, allowing for an educational discussion and audience participation. Students, faculty, staff, and the general public are invited to attend.

Spring Bear Care Health Fair

Spring, that annual time of renewal, is here again. Wouldn't it be nice, following the example of the season, to renew attention to your own health care during these radiantly sunny days?

Shawnee State University will host the Bear Care Health Fair on both floors of the University Center, Wednesday, May 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and all faculty and staff are encouraged to attend.

Sponsored by the Southern Ohio Council on Health Services, activities include cholesterol and blood sugar screenings; informational booths on emotional health, women's health, HIV-AIDS education, organ procurement, and heart health assessment; a two-mile walk; sand volleyball games; and an obstacle course.

The Bear Care Health Fair is sure to be enjoyable and beneficial to all participants. For more information, please call ext. 257.

Free Trees

Through the efforts of Stylianos Hadjiyannis, Orin Campbell, and a number of generous donors, the Scioto Free Tree Project is well on its way to meeting its goal of distributing 23,000 trees this year.

In its entirety, the Scioto Free Tree Project will give away thousands of trees each year, reaching a total of 500,000 by the year 2001. The bulk of the trees are being donated to Scioto County students, but a large part is available to churches, community groups, and neighborhood organizations upon request. Interested groups should call 354-7541 or 355-2445. Plans are also being made to give a tree to every Project Playground volunteer, every visitor to this year's Appalachian Spring Festival, and every student and employee of the University.

Hadjiyannis feels that planting trees creates aesthetic, environmental, and educational improvements and sends out the message to all onlookers, including our future generations, that we in Scioto County really do care about the environment and the residents—present and future—of the area.

Calendar

Saturday, May 1	Appalachian Spring Festival Bears Softball Invitational Dr. Singleton Park, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, May 2	Appalachian Spring Festival
Wednesday, May 5	Bear Care Health Fair University Center, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 9	Tour of Scioto River Valley Happy Mother's Day!!
Tuesday, May 11	Community Concert: Ohio State University Men's Glee Club Activities Center, 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 12	Advance registration for summer quarter closes "Southern Ohio: Are We at Risk?" (a panel discussion on AIDS) Flohr Lecture Hall, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Friday, May 14	Placement Test Learning Center, 10:30 a.m.
Saturday, May 15	Armed Forces Day
Wednesday, May 19	Last day to apply for non-credit Distinguished Lecture Series "Aspects of Science Teaching: Physics" by George H. Stevens Flohr Lecture Hall, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 20	Last day to drop a class Distinguished Lecture Series "Aspects of Science Teaching: Chemistry" by George H. Stevens Flohr Lecture Hall, 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, May 22	Dental Hygiene Capping Ceremony Micklethwaite Banquet Hall, noon
Wednesday, May 26	Early registration for summer quarter Activities Center Placement Test Learning Center, 10:30 a.m. & 2:45 p.m.
Saturday, May 29	President's Ball Activities Center, 6:30 p.m.
Monday, May 31	Memorial Day—University Closed

“The art and science of asking questions is the source of all knowledge.”

— Dr. Adolf Berle

●● Many a man's profanity has saved him from a nervous breakdown. ●●

— Henry S. Haskins

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Sharps Containers Distributed

A number of individuals at Shawnee State use needles, regularly, to treat diabetes and allergies, and in the past, these spent needles have been discarded in garbage cans throughout campus.

In response to a concern for the safety of this practice, Dan Young, director of facilities, looked for an alternative means of disposal. As a result, two Sharps Containers have been placed in each building on campus—one in a women's rest room and the other in a men's rest room.

While no accidents had been reported as a result of the previous disposal practice, such potential injury is now eliminated thanks to the new risk reduction program. Please take notice of the containers, and use them properly.

Noteworthy Briefs

• **Professor Hagop S. Pambookian** gave a slide presentation at the February 23rd meeting of the South Central Ohio Phi Delta Kappa Chapter on campus. His talk was about "Shawnee State and Nizhny Novgorod State Universities: Agreement of Cooperation and Exchange." This sister-institution linkage was finalized a year ago when President Veri and Dr. Pambookian spent a week in Nizhny Novgorod. Pambookian also presented "Russian People, Church and Youth" to the children of Berean Baptist Church in Sciotoville. In March, he gave several talks on "Russian Life and Culture," showing slides at the Portsmouth Senior Center and to the sixth graders of Minford Middle School. He also gave two workshops on "Russian Teenagers in a Changing Society" to area high-schoolers during the 14th Annual Family Living Seminar, held on campus.

• **Robert A. Lawson** has been selected for the 1993 Salvatori Fellowships Program by The Salvatori Center for Academic Leadership and The Heritage Foundation. The program includes a ten-day faculty colloquium in June on the theme "Foundations of American Liberty" and participation in the 1994 Leadership Conference for Academic Excellence.

• On April 2, 1993, the following members of the Shawnee State community attended the Ohio Campus Compact Symposium on integrating service and academic study at Ohio University: **A. L. Addington, Robbie Burke, Carl Hilgarth, Matt Matthews, Scott Oliver, John Valentine, and Carlson Yost.** Hilgarth and Valentine were presenters at a workshop entitled "Service Learning and our Academic Mission," and Valentine served as a member of the Symposium Planning Committee.

• The Kellogg Foundation in Washington, D.C., through Sister City International, has offered a grant of \$5,000 for the exchange of ten students between Portsmouth and Orizaba, Veracruz, Mexico. Shawnee State's students, who will be teaching English at the Orphanage St. Nicholas in Orizaba, are **Maja Harris, Angela Linder, Cristie Weber, Marilyn Li, and Emily Horsley.** Five Mexican students will spend three weeks here in Portsmouth. Shawnee State's members on the local Sister City Committee are **Gene Beckett, Adora Campis, and Gloria Horsley.**

Special Note: The *Shawnee Statement* is published for the university community around the 1st of each month. Please send your news to the Office of Development and Community Relations by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the next month's edition.