

Shippensburg University Alumni Association Annual Report 2010-11

VISION

A Message from SUAA Board of Directors President Kelly Altland '91-'00M

When I think back over the past year's work of the Shippensburg University Alumni Association (SUAA), I keep coming back to one word—vision.

In the early 1960s President John F. Kennedy had a vision for the United States in the space race. He said, "In a very real sense, it will not be one man going to the moon, it will be an entire nation. For all of us must work to put him there."

NASA invited reporters to come on site and interview everyone central to the mission—the astronauts, technicians, specialists. One reporter took another angle and stopped a janitor and asked what he did there. After a moment, the janitor put down his cleaning cloth and said, "I'm putting a man on the moon."

We know the SUAA can host many programs and events, but if we aren't doing it in concert with the University's vision, then what have we truly accomplished?

To enhance and improve our role within the university, we spent the past year finalizing a strategic plan that includes goals with measurable outcomes to guide our work over the next three years. And while our goals are not as ambitious as putting a man on the moon, we know the work we do will enhance our alma mater for today's students and those to join the Ship family in the future.

Our plan focuses on four main goals:

- Connecting alumni and friends to the university and each other,
- Engaging SU students for a lifetime relationship with our university,
- Supporting the SU Foundation and encouraging contributions, and
- Implementing an advocacy program in conjunction with the other Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Alumni Associations.

Each goal has multiple objectives and the board has developed one-year strategies and action plans, with measurable targets, to advance our work.

To be successful, we will need your help! What you do in support of Ship makes a difference, whether you volunteer for the university on campus or in your community, assist with advocacy efforts, or make a financial contribution to the SU Foundation in support of Ship.

Within this report you will read about our various programs, events, Regional Chapters, Legacy Scholarship, careers and employment services, and more.

I encourage you to stay engaged or get reconnected with Ship! Whether you can give two hours a year, two hours a week, or somewhere in between, there is a way to assist the SUAA!

Kelly Altland



Belonging to the Shippensburg University Alumni Association (SUAA)

Everyone who graduates from Shippensburg University is a member of the Alumni Association and we want you to be involved.

Your membership includes:

- Free lifelong career assistance and career workshops,
- PA State System sponsored travel opportunities at excellent prices,
- Discounts on insurance and Ship license plates, and
- An excellent network of fellow alumni and much more.

Find out ways to get involved or learn more at www.ship.edu/alumni. In addition to general membership there are several committees you can be involved with. If you are interested in assisting with one of the Alumni Association committees, please let the University Relations office know by e-mailing alumni@ship.edu. Committees include: Homecoming, Alumni Weekend, Communications, Student/Alumni Outreach, Strategic Planning, and Alumni Weekend golf. Your ideas and involvement would be very welcome!

Finding Ship Alumni Like You SHIPPENSBURG ALUMNI CHAPTERS

Alumni Chapters strive to meaningfully engage alumni, students, parents, faculty, and friends in the life of Shippensburg University. They are designed to connect those affiliated with SU back to SU through educational, social, and cultural programs and volunteer service. This year more than 1,560 alumni, friends, and faculty participated in 30 events across the country.

Established groups in Pennsylvania are South-central PA, Franklin/Adams/Shippensburg, Philadelphia, Reading, Hanover/Gettysburg, and Chambersburg. Out-of-state groups include North Carolina, California, Florida, Arizona, and Washington, D.C. Last year we held our first ever event in the state of Washington.

Get involved in your local Alumni Chapter! Find a chapter at www.ship.edu/alumni.



Jane Ebersole
Dietz '60

Major Programs ALUMNI WEEKEND JUNE 3-5, 2011

The theme for this year's Alumni Weekend 2011 was FRIENDSHIP: Old Friends and New Beginnings.

A sample of activities included:

- VBP (Very Busy People) Healthy Cooking Series presented by Chartwells.
- A new silent auction
- 4th Annual ArtSHIP: Shippensburg's Arts, Wine and Microbrewery Festival
- Pubs & Grubs Tour
- SU Night Dinner
- Reunion/Awards Dinner
- A performance of The Lettermen at the Luhrs Performing Arts Center
- The 23rd Annual Alumni Golf Outing at Range End Golf Club that raised more than \$4,000 for student scholarships

We awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award to Suzanne Boyer McLaren '73-'78M, Dr. James Ptaszynski '83M, Richard Rovegno '79, and Ronald Young '69-'86M for their achievements in their careers and their contributions to the community and society. Additional awards given included:

- Exceptional Service Award..... Carol King Henicle '66 and Ed Sheaffer '73-'76M
- Lifetime Achievement Award Paul Dlugolecki '73
- Alumni Chapter Leadership Award..... Robin Kubinak Driskill '88
- Humanitarian Award..... Dr. Angelo Costanzo

Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority held a reunion during Alumni Weekend and participated in the activities of the weekend as well as hosted their own. If your group or organization is interested in hosting a reunion during Alumni Weekend, please contact the University Relations Office for assistance.

A new feature of Alumni Weekend was a silent auction, which this year included an authentic jersey of Rob Davis's retired number donated by the Football Office.



HOMEcomings 2010

This year's theme was **RaiderNation: Anchored by Tradition** and over 500 alumni and friends attended this annual event. The weather held out, and we were able to have the parade through downtown Shippensburg and ending on campus as well as the ROTC run, and home football game featuring tailgating before the game. Many alumni returned to tailgate with their past organizations and at the general alumni tent. Also, Charlie Daniels Band performed at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center.

The SUAA Board of Directors hosted our third annual Homecoming service project at a Shippensburg food bank stocking shelves and assisting where necessary. Mark your calendars now to join us for the fourth annual service project on September 30 and for the homecoming festivities on October 1.



Looking Ahead to 2011-2012

The SUAA Board of Directors recently elected their new executive board members for the 2011-2012 term beginning on July 1.

President.....Tonya Wible '97
President-Elect.....Tim Smith '91
Past PresidentKelly Altland '91-'00M
Executive Members-at-LargeDr. Ted Foor '66 and
John Muscarella '86

New board members elected include: Kristina Jacoby '99, Brittany Kellem '08, Scott Moyer '90, Kim Alvarez '06, Donetta D'Innocenzo '85, Jason Kirsch '95, George McElwee '98, Joe Peltzer '08, Robert Rutz '87, and Bucky Ward '77.

Thank you to those retiring from the SUAA Board of Directors—Chris Brommer '94, Corinna Culler '93, Derick Hammond '90, Ray Reber '55, and Wendy McCrory Rotz '81-'83M—for their service.

Alumni Career & Employment Services

During the past year, the Alumni Career and Employment Services (A.C.E.S.) program staff have been very busy assisting alumni from all class years in their job search. The A.C.E.S. program is designed to help alumni with their career development needs, whether they graduated one year or 25 years ago, link regional employers with alumni for job opportunities, and connect SU alumni employers with internships for current students. More than 200 alumni served during the past year.

- The A.C.E.S. staff also assisted with coordinating two Cumberland County job fairs with more than 2,000 job seekers attending. We also participate annually in the Cumberland Valley Consortium Virtual Job Fair.
- More than 300 alumni mentors have signed up and volunteer to speak with current students about the majors and career needs.
- Over 500 alumni have signed up to receive our monthly e-newsletter filled with job opportunities, articles written by employers, and networking events.

Uniting and Informing Alumni

ALUMNI WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

There are many ways to stay connected and find out what is happening at Shippensburg University.

- Follow the University Relations Office on Twitter.
- Like our alumni Facebook page.
- Become a member of our LinkedIn alumni groups, which provide excellent opportunities for networking.
- Send your e-mail address to alumni@ship.edu so you can be included in the Ship Alumni e-communication and sign up for our monthly alumni career e-newsletter.
- Read the Ship magazine and be sure to send in your class notes to tell other alumni of your news.
- Bookmark the Shippensburg alumni webpage at www.ship.edu/alumni. All of our upcoming activities are listed on the calendar. Be sure to check it out and join us.

SUAA Supporting the University

The Alumni Association participates in many activities that support the overall mission of the university. Activities include:

- **Freshman Welcomes:** Alumni opened their homes this past summer to host a Freshman Welcome. This was an excellent opportunity for accepted freshman students to meet with classmates who live in the same geographic area and to connect with the local alumni.
- **Move-In Day:** Many alumni returned to campus in August 2010 for move-in day to help students move their belongings into their new residence hall rooms. Greeting students and families, answering questions, and moving suitcases were all part of the day. The University Relations Office and the SUAA Board of Directors hosted our first ice cream social for new students and parents on move-in day to welcome them to Ship and increase their awareness of the Alumni Association.
- **Senior Send-Off:** The SUAA also welcomed the newest members to the Alumni Association at Senior Send-off and through graduation in May. More than 1,000 new members joined the SUAA.
- **SUAA Legacy Scholarship:** The current and past SUAA board members continued to contribute financially to the Legacy Scholarship, awarding two students who have a legacy connection to a graduate of Shippensburg University. To learn more, contact the SU Foundation.





SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY

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Save these dates!
Homecoming Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2011
Alumni Weekend June 1-3, 2012

University Relations Office

A Message from the Executive Director for University Relations, Dr. Tim Ebersole

The Office of University Relations was extremely successful in 2010-2011, expanding programs and activities that emphasize the themes set forth by President Ruud. The three themes that we have been working on since Dr. Ruud's arrival almost five years ago are: 1) greater visibility/activity for alumni and community outreach, 2) working within the campus Master Plan to develop funding initiatives that assist with campus development, and 3) improving on the two major campus event weekends to make them the best for alumni and community participation.

During this past year, the office increased alumni regional activities and continued to be actively engaged in many of the local and regional chambers of commerce by serving on chamber committees including government relations, economic development, membership, and education.

These chamber relationships have helped us to coordinate funding initiatives at both the state and federal level as well as to provide a major chamber mega mixer on our campus each May. The Cinco de Mayo mixer brings 10 chambers together from Harrisburg to Hagerstown as well as the Cumberland County Economic Development Office. Over 500 chamber members participated in the event, which showcased the Conference Center at SU. Our chamber involvement also adds internship, job, and networking opportunities for Ship students and alumni.

Community members of all ages can engage in two main events of the year: Homecoming and Alumni Weekend. This year, once again members of the SUAA Board of Directors and the University Relations staff organized the third annual Homecoming Service Project to benefit King's Kettle Food Pantry. On Friday afternoon of Homecoming weekend, board members, staff, and alumni met to stock and organize the food shelves.

This year marked the fourth annual ArtSHIP, a collaborative effort of the university, the Shippensburg Chamber, and the community. The art, microbrewery, and wine festival drew a crowd of about 600 who enjoyed tasting samples from wineries, microbreweries and food



During Homecoming weekend board members, staff, and alumni met at King's Kettle Food Pantry to stock and organize the food shelves.

vendors, seeing displays of local artists' work, and hearing the sounds of musical groups. It was truly a multi-sensory festival!

In June, the Harrisburg Area Transportation (HATS) Coordinating Committee approved \$600,000 to fund the Shippensburg Connector Project submitted by the Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council (CVRTC) and the Office of University Relations. The partnership between the CVRTC and Shippensburg University will enhance the rail-trail corridor by building a bridge above Fogelsonger Road that will connect the current trail from Shippensburg Township park onto the SU campus. Constructing this bridge will complete a nine-mile stretch of trail from downtown Shippensburg to Newville and will be fully funded with federal and state dollars.

Finally, during a critical economic and financial challenge for the Shippensburg Area Chamber of Commerce, President Ruud assigned me to serve as a loaned executive at the chamber for the past two years, giving them the opportunity to solidify their financial picture before ultimately hiring a full-time executive director. This decision is one of many examples that display the level of commitment and value President Ruud has placed on university engagement within the local community.

As we continue to move forward into the future we will look for ways to provide numerous opportunities for active involvement of our alumni and local community. If you would like to receive e-mails of community and alumni activities, please contact us at alumni@ship.edu and join a growing number of alumni and university employees participating in regional community activities.