



President-elect Neeli Bendapudi reaching out across Penn State York



President-elect Neeli Bendapudi visits Penn State York



President-elect Neeli Bendapudi visited Penn State York on Friday, March 18, as part of her listening and learning tour to meet with students, faculty, staff, and key stakeholders and community partners across Penn State's campuses. During her tour stop, President-elect Bendapudi discussed her overall vision for the University; her commitment to the collaboration of students, faculty, and staff; as well as the importance of Commonwealth Campuses to the University's success. She also shared what she called her "ABCs of success": Ensuring **A**cademic preparedness for students, instilling a sense of **B**elonging for all members of the Penn State community, and providing access and affordability by managing the **C**ost of education.

A group of community leaders and campus advisory board members appreciated learning more about President-elect Bendapudi's academic leadership experience and her background in business. In addition to consulting for some of the world's largest companies and organizations, she was the executive vice president and chief customer service officer for Huntington National Bank.



President-elect Bendapudi shared that she was excited to visit Penn State York since the campus will be special to her as the location of her first Board of Trustees meeting as president of the University in July 2022.

After her visit, students shared they were impressed that she made an effort to connect with every student she met. Faculty and staff comments focused on how her remarks and questions made them feel she values the special role each campus plays in fulfilling the University's mission, and they found her energy and enthusiasm to be inspirational.



Student Emergency Funds Can Cause Tears of Joy and Make Dreams Come True



Brittney Hartsock and her son, Damien

Brittney Hartsock has been working on her human development and family studies (HDFS) degree part-time for eight-plus years - while working full-time, building a career, and being a mom. Daycare services was/is critical to keeping her busy life on track. She has two sons, and not just any daycare facility will work for her 9-year-old, who is autistic. Daycare costs doubled during the pandemic and COVID government assistance cushioned that budget impact, until it ended in January.

Hartsock will graduate this May and took on a full-time credit load this semester, which included a full-time tuition expense. Together, tuition and daycare almost brought her Penn State York career to a standstill. She realized she needed help and came to admissions and student affairs

to ask for that help. The financial aid office helped her receive a grant for her past due academic balance, and student affairs helped her apply for student emergency funds (SEF). Hartsock was brought to tears when she learned that SEF would cover two months of her daycare costs.

Hartsock shared, "I was terrified that I had made it to the final semester, only to not be able to graduate due to increased expenses. I was so grateful the school responded to me quickly, I cried when they called. Now, my son will watch me walk the stage for my diploma on May 6. I am forever grateful for what Penn State did for me!"

Philanthropy provides SEF dollars. Without them, Hartsock could have become a sad statistic. We ask you to consider what you could provide to help future students, who are experiencing a true hardship that could end their Penn State career, to make it to the finish line. Please reach out to Di Hershey at dkh13@psu.edu or 717-542-4476 to make a donation.

A Message from the Chancellor – May 2022

As the nation and the world emerges from the COVID pandemic, at Penn State York we look to accelerate our work implementing our Strategic Plan. While our work includes efforts to enhance student success, promote faculty research, and develop a supportive learning environment, we have been increasing our activities off-campus throughout the York community. Some of the initiatives are listed below.

- The Penn State York Advisory Board has been guiding the campus as it engages with our corporate and nonprofit partners to develop strategic partnerships to support their work.
- We provide a variety of programs to support local entrepreneurs. Our York LaunchBox sponsors a series of talks, workshops, and competitions to assist community members as they develop their ideas for new products and services.
- The Graham Center for Innovation and Collaboration (The Graham Center) was dedicated in September 2021.



Dr. David Christiansen

The opening of The Graham Center was a transformational moment for Penn State York. It allows our students to collaborate with one another, with faculty members, and with our external partners. It will become the front door to the campus, where members of the York community may engage with our students and faculty members. Of course, there is much more that I could say about the Penn State York extensive role in the community in terms of cultural programming (e.g., Pullo Family Performing Arts Center), intellectual engagement (e.g., the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute), and educational outreach (e.g., the STEAM Academy in the City of York School District). The campus continues to support the community of York and I believe that the best is yet to come!

Chambliss Speaks at Fall 2021 Commencement

Penn State York celebrated its fall commencement on Friday, Dec. 17, in the Pullo Family Performing Arts Center (The Pullo Center), in person. Ophelia M. Chambliss, artist, activist, educator, designer, lecturer, and muralist was the commencement speaker. Chambliss is both a Penn State York graduate and an adjunct faculty member. She holds a bachelor of arts in communication arts and sciences from Penn State York, and a master of arts in communications from Penn State Harrisburg. She combines visual communication with verbal and written communication to tell the story behind her work, in lectures and presentations that build an appreciation for cultural understanding. She uses her work to support messages in public speaking engagements that advocate for equity, the arts, community activism, and professional development.



Chambliss's address to the graduates included messages about how they will have to change the questions and work with new and creative economies. She shared this advice: "A person who uses yesterday's methods in today's world will not be in business tomorrow." Her final comments mirrored her favorite poem – Come to the Edge. Her message was: "Come to the edge even though you are afraid. Come to the edge even when you think you cannot, and you are afraid you might fall. Come to the edge and when you do, we will push you and you will fly."

Connecting Students to Alumni is Both Collaborative and a Year-Round Priority

Iona Conlon, alumni development specialist, and LeighAnn Fry, career services coordinator and academic adviser, work together to create programming to connect students with alumni. Career Week is celebrating its tenth year and networking activities have expanded to include a new virtual program.



Career Week is an annual week-long series of programs in March, to help students connect with alumni and learn more about careers," said Fry. "Our goal is for students to explore how many majors can lead to a variety of career paths. In turn, our industry professionals and alumni offer practical strategies and advice from their own experiences. We hope for a great week of engaging,

networking, and helping our students explore many opportunities! This year one of the key networking events went center stage at The Pullo Center.



"The pandemic taught us to be more flexible and made it especially important to remain connected - to keep in touch with technology," said Iona Conlon. She and Fry collaborated to create monthly themed virtual events and Third Thursdays were launched. One popular theme, for Halloween – Creepin' it Real – featured an alumni panel who shared job "haunting" tips. A later start time was popular, to include those who were a time-zone, or more away. 7:00 p.m. in York translated to 4:30 a.m. in India. Alumni joined from Hallam to Hong Kong; Lancaster to L.A.; and Manchester to Mumbai.



Newsletter Staff:

Di Hershey

Director of Development
717-771-4127 | dkh13@psu.edu

Iona M. Conlon

Alumni and Development Specialist
717-718-6781 | iona@psu.edu

Barbara H. Dennis

Director of Strategic Communications
717-771-4128 | bhd5@psu.edu

This publication is available in alternative media on request. Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. U.Ed. YKO 22-129
The Pennsylvania State University encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please call 717-718-6781 in advance of your participation or visit.

Penn State York Men's Basketball Team Celebrates Post Season Success



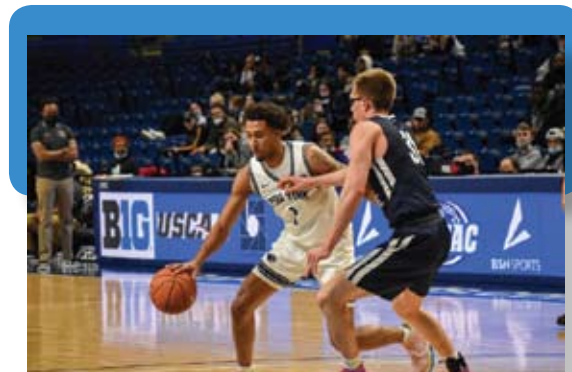
Penn State York captured the 2021-22 Penn State University Athletic Conference (PSUAC) Men's Basketball title on Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Bryce Jordan Center on Penn State's University Park campus. This is York's fifth PSUAC title over the past nine years. They then entered post season play seeking a national championship title at the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA) National Tournament. They were seeded number three and advanced to the semi-final round.

Deriq Brown, a sophomore majoring in biology, was named the PSUAC East Player of the

Year. Michael Coleman, a senior majoring in business, was named the PSUAC East Defensive Player of the Year and was also an honorable mention as a PSUAC East All Star.



Deriq Brown goes for a 3-point shot.



Michael Coleman brings the ball down the court.

Penn State York Students Recognized in National Competitions and with University Awards



Showing off their medals, from left to right are Justin Lin, Cameron Wheeler, Megan Lorenz, and Kaitlin Lin

Phi Beta Lambda's The Stock Market Game

Justin Lin, Kaitlin Lin, and Cameron Wheeler, members in the Penn State York Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) Chapter, took first-place in a national challenge called The Stock Market Game. Megan Lorenz, PBL adviser and lecturer in business administration at Penn State York, also received an award.

The Stock Market Game, hosted by the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), provides an opportunity for students to manage a financial portfolio that mimics the real-time volatility of the actual stock market. The challenge was to grow a financial portfolio more than the other teams in the competition. Cameron Wheeler, a finance major, shared, "The positions we took were reflective of the NASDAQ and the NYSE, in real time. Sitting down with my team members and looking over real companies and valuations was memorable."

Throughout the semester-long competition, all three students followed the stock market and did research to gain a better understanding of how it operates. "I now understand more about the stock market and how it works and am more comfortable investing real money," said Justin Lin. His most memorable moment of the competition was when York was announced as a first-place winner.

The Science Coalition's Fund It Forward Student Video Challenge

A Penn State York student research team, led by Logan Coomes, competed in the Fund It Forward Student Video Challenge, a national video competition sponsored by The Science Coalition. The Science Coalition hosts this undergraduate competition for students to describe research going on at their university and to show Congress why it is important. Coomes was assisted by Hunter Haggett, another York student, and their research and video earned a third-place finish and the People's Choice Award, given to the video receiving the most votes. The research focused on studying the circadian rhythm — or 24-hour internal clock — of spiders. "The purpose of the video was to examine the interactions of proteins involved in the regulation of the circadian rhythm in spiders," said Coomes, a junior majoring in biology. "This will allow insight and understanding on how spiders can adjust their day length, without experiencing the side effects of this jet lag." The team's winning video can be viewed at https://youtu.be/5h-X0wz_apM.



Logan Coomes



The Nittany Lion, Sweeta Rasiyan and Scott Simonds at the awards program.

The Eric A. and Josephine S. Walker Award

The Walker Award is the most prestigious student award at each Penn State campus. This award is given annually to a full-time student who exhibits outstanding qualities of character, scholarship, leadership, and citizenship. Sweeta Rasiyan, a junior majoring in psychology with a minor in human development and family studies (HDFS), is the 2021-22 recipient at Penn State York. Rasiyan serves as a Lion Ambassador, and is a member of the Multicultural Club, the Student Government Association, and the chancellor's Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. She is an orientation leader and the co-chair for the University Programming Board on campus. She is a Graham Candidate and was selected by the Penn State York Women's Philanthropic Network (WPN) to attend the 2021 Pennsylvania Women's Conference. Rasiyan also works in the admissions office and is the student affairs marketing specialist. Scott Simonds, director of student affairs, nominated Rasiyan and shared, "Sweeta is the complete package – a strong student leader, respected by her peers and the campus, and an effective programmer. Her actions touch the lives of many of her classmates across campus and impact the student experience. Her commitment is unwavering."

The Center for Inclusive Leadership (CIL) Focuses on Women With a Voice for Its Spring Panel Event



From left: Carrie Nace, Carol Hill Evans, Victoria Huyna, Holly Kelly, Julie Wheeler, Delma Rivera-Lytle, and Jonathan Price

The CIL, on April 5, welcomed to campus a panel of five distinguished women who have followed their passions and built diverse career paths showcasing their unique voices and backgrounds to campaign and serve in state, county, and local political arenas.

State Representative Carol Hill-Evans was elected to the state legislature on Nov. 8, 2016, to represent the 95th Legislative District in York County. She is a native of York City and was educated in the York City School District prior to earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Penn State.

Holly Kelley, a fourth-generation resident of Dillsburg, Pennsylvania, is active in her community, serving in many capacities from a business owner, local government official, and a political leader. She is one of only two female presidents of the Dillsburg Borough Council to date.

Carrie Nace's diverse background, including working for the British Embassy and serving as House Speaker Sam Smith's Constituent Affairs/Outreach Director, prepared her for her current position as a lobbyist with Novak Strategic Advisors.

Delma Rivera-Lytle was the 2018 Democratic candidate for the state legislature - 93rd District - the only Latina candidate running for either party. She currently serves on the Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs.

Julie Wheeler is the current president commissioner of York County. She is a seasoned Fortune 100 business leader with more than thirty years of leadership experience. She is passionate about the grassroots efforts she is involved with to engage women in politics.

"It was a privilege and an honor to engage with our future leaders at Penn State York. Life throws you curve balls. It's inevitable. Take the strike, learn, and adapt. The more you get comfortable dealing with the curve balls, the quicker you will bounce back and hit the next ball out of the ballpark", said Wheeler about leadership, adaptability, and success.

Victoria Huynh, the student co-moderator for the event, shares the message she heard: "Their stories really showed me that life is not one straight path to take. Rather than avoiding life's curves and bumps, just for the sake of staying on track, we should face them head on and take whatever opportunities come our way. All in all, life is too short to set yourself on only one, definite vision for your future."

