

PENN STUDENT GOVERNMENT

September 2008 |

Volume 2, Issue 1

Penn Student Government (PSG), <http://www.dolphin.upenn.edu/PSG>
Office of Student Life, Second Floor of Houston Hall, Philadelphia, PA, 19104
A publication by the Nominations and Elections Committee (NEC)

Editor's Corner

Here's to a new year at Penn! With the continuation of eastward expansion, the movement towards a cleaner and greener Penn, and national Election Day quickly arriving, we are all undoubtedly being greeted by an exciting year. As the class of 2012 steps on campus, Penn is full of new faces. With the changing student body, Penn Student Government has never been more important.

I encourage you all, freshmen and upperclassmen alike, to read through this newsletter and learn what PSG has done for you this past year. With so many accomplishments and successes from previous years and so many new hurdles this coming year, I hope that you will stay politically active and join PSG in bettering our student community.

Again: Welcome, class of 2012, to the University of Pennsylvania. With your help, this will be a great year.



-Patricia Liu, NEC, Vice Chair for Education

Undergraduate Assembly (UA)

- Established the UA Readership Program, which brings over 650 copies of free NY TIMES from Monday to Friday to 14 locations across campus
- Created the Sister Hall Pilot Program, which partners halls and increases inter-College House bonding and unity
- Established PennGreen (with Penn Environmental Group) a pre-orientation program debuting next year to provide incoming students an opportunity to learn about "green" and environmentally sustainable lifestyles
- Addressed proposals on issues including dining, campus safety, academic resources, academic grievances, and university printing

Class Board '09

- Held a "Photos from Abroad" online contest to share photos from Juniors studying abroad
- Provided free student interview guest passes at the Penn Club of NY
- Held a Junior Career Panel meet-and-greet
- Coordinated a "Junior Class does Junior High" get-together
- Successfully planned Hey Day 2008

Class Board '10

- Improved and updated website, www.penn10.org, with pictures and event details
- Successfully hosted Sophomore Skimmer, an event that attracted 600-800 sophomores with food and music in Houston Hall
- Participated in Clash of the Classes in February at the Palestra in friendly inter-class competition

Class Board '11

- Coordinated Penn's Econ Scream tradition in the Fall
- Hosted "Cram and Jam" during Fall reading days, providing free food, music, and tutoring before finals
- Organized a successful end-of-the-year Freshman Formal to unite the 2011 class
- Currently working on a new website

Upcoming Student Government Events & Initiatives

Stud Gov Info Session

Anarchist? Centrist?
Communist? Masochist?

We don't care! If you want to know how student government works at Penn and how to join
GO TO

Claudia Cohen (Logan) 17,
Wednesday, September 3
7:00 - 9:00 PM



WE ran things last year... now it's YOUR turn

Student Government Spotlight Member

Name: Preston Hershorn
Hometown: Wichita, KS
School: SAS '10
PSG Positions: SPEC Concerts co-director,
NEC general body member



As a man rocking both SPEC and NEC, Preston Hershorn personifies a PSG multitasking sensation. Or, as *The Street* put it in their Ego of the Week tribute last year, Preston is "something of a student government impresario". Kicking off last year as the SPEC Concert co-director, Preston brought innovative indie music onto Penn's campus with Ingrid Michaelson and Ben Kweller. Hershorn and SPEC followed in the spring with a diverse lineup for Fling including OK Go, Gym Class Heroes, and Ludacris.

And leave it to Hershorn to keep the PSG love raging over the summer. As many a Penn student are to be found, Preston was conveniently located in NYC these past summer months and seized the opportunity to party with fellow PSGers. Pictures of the night's adventures, sent via Hershorn's Blackberry, can only make the heart grow fonder of our lovely Spotlighted Member.

To Preston Hershorn, PSG extraordinaire: We look forward to the concerts you will plan, the NEC meetings you will fill with laughs, and anything else you have in store for the student body these upcoming months. Congrats!

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Social Planning & Events

Committee (SPEC)

- Held various Fests—from Frightfest to Beachfest, students filled up on free candy, and decorated cookies and pictures as a break from classes
- Hosted Whoopi Goldberg and Karl Rove, who packed Irvine Auditorium with students and Philly residents
- Showed movies such as Bee Movie, Knocked Up and Lions for Lambs to the student body
- Hosted a jam-packed concert by The Roots to be followed up by Medeski, Martin and Wood.
- The Spring Fling concert with OK Go, Gym Class Heroes, and Ludacris on Franklin Field was a sold-out success

Nominations & Elections

Committee (NEC)

- Publicity and educational efforts helped us reach record voter turnouts in both freshmen and general elections.
- Amended the interview process for University Council seats in order to promote transparency and accountability.
- Administered surveys to current University Council Committee representatives to gather feedback on how to improve students' experiences serving on various committees.
- For the first time, Midnight Breakfast was hosted in conjunction with Houston Hall personnel, greatly enhancing the overall experience for candidates and students.

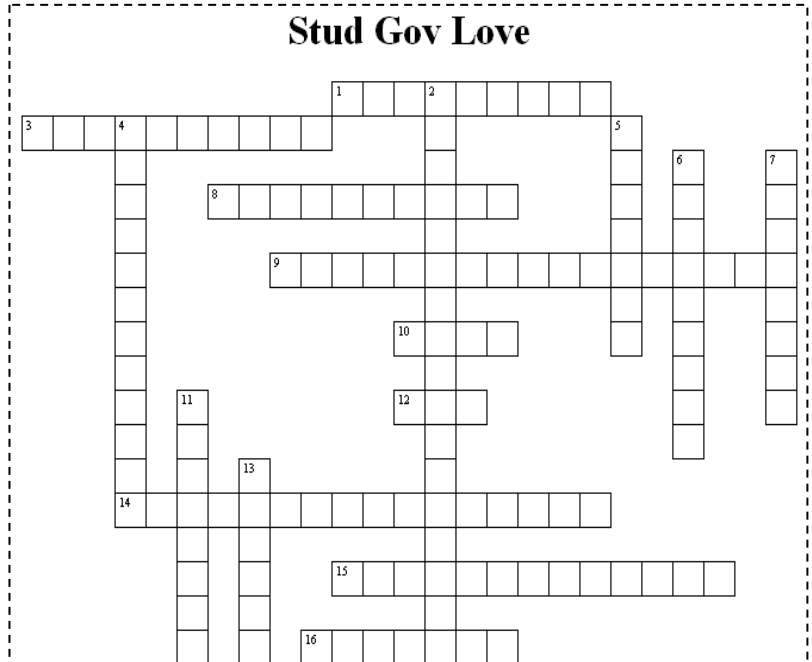
Student Committee on Undergraduate Education (SCUE)

- Successfully concluded a 2-year negotiation with the College to post all course syllabi online
- Worked with undergraduate researchers and faculty at CURF by proposing changes and facilitating the search for a new CURF director
- Promoted problem-solving learning (PSL) by authoring a proposal, facilitating student-faculty partnerships, co-sponsoring a summit, and hosting a "Teach-In"
- Coordinated a weeklong series to encourage students to take charge of their education, and published an updated edition of SCUE's *The Practical Scholar: A Roadmap to Penn*
- Launched an international development studies program across departments
- Advised the Offices of the Provost, President, and Deans on a variety of academic policy issues

Student Activities Council (SAC)

- Revamped funding policies to increase funding for Penn student groups
- Sponsored and planned the Spring Activities Fair, a new forum for group recruitment and event-planning
- Launched the SAC Debt Reduction Initiative to ease student group debts
- Currently working with administrators and umbrella groups to provide funding for religious and political discourse
- Working with groups to promote continued open access to all student groups at Penn

Stud Gov Love



ACROSS

- 1 Bi-annual event held by PSG to raise money for pre-freshman trips
- 3 Event thrown by the Freshman Class Board in the Quad prior to the first Micro exam
- 8 Number of groups that make up SAC
- 9 In the spring, the NEC selects students and groups for the ____ and for University Committees
- 10 The oldest existing branch of student government at Penn
- 12 Total number of branches in PSG
- 14 PSG Education event hosted by the NEC in December
- 15 NEC's spring event to kick off elections
- 16 A weeklong SCUE event held in the spring to challenge students to voice their academic opinions

DOWN

- 2 The ____ is the document that outlines how elections are to be run
- 4 The UA provided free copies of the ____ as part of the UA Readership Program
- 5 The UA provides free transportation to the ____ during breaks
- 6 Groups of students organized by SPEC to monitor undergraduates during Spring Fling
- 7 SPEC Connaissance brought this former adviser to President Bush who came to Penn in 2008
- 11 Performer who headlined SPEC's Spring Fling Concert
- 13 Spring event organized by Class Boards when Penn's juniors become seniors

Answers: Across: 1. PSG Formal, Econ Scream, Two-hundred, University Council, SCUE, Six, State of the School, Get out the Vote, EduWeek. Down: 2. Constitution, 3. Freshman Fling, 4. UA Readership Program, 5. Spring Fling, 6. Spring Fling, 7. Karl Rove, 8. 16, 9. Spring Fling, 10. Freshman Class Board, 11. Karl Rove, 12. 16, 13. Spring Fling, 14. Freshman Fling, 15. Spring Fling, 16. Spring Fling.

Penn Student Government FUN FACT

Houston Hall, where PSG is centrally located, is America's first Student Union.

WE ARE WORKING FOR YOU ~ Contact us with any questions!

UA Chair: Wilson Tong | wtong@sas.upenn.edu
Pres Class Board '09: Brett Perlmutter, bperl@sas.upenn.edu
Pres Class Board '10: Arthur Smith, smithag@wharton.upenn.edu
Pres Class Board '11: Adam Behrens, adamjb@sas.upenn.edu
SPEC Pres: Michelle Jacobson, michelle@specevents.net
NEC Chair: Brittany Stark, bsbritten@sas.upenn.edu
SCUE Chair: Zach Fuchs, zachf@wharton.upenn.edu
SAC Chair: Eric Van Nostrand, vanea@wharton.upenn.edu

Email Patricia Liu - pliu2@wharton.upenn.edu - to learn more about Penn Student Government (PSG)