

Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania -- Accountability Summary 2010-2011

Shippensburg University maintains multiple measurements of its performance so it can remain accountable for its performance to a number of internal and external constituencies, and to make the most effective and efficient use of funds entrusted to us on behalf of the citizens of the Commonwealth. The University is also part of the accountability process conducted by the Chancellor's Office of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Based on a variety of measurements, the university had a number of successes during the 2010-2011 academic year.

Some recent University accountability successes include:

- Receipt of approval by the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education to start a new Bachelor of Science degree program in computer engineering, the first such degree program among the 14 PASSHE universities. The program is in response to a growing need in Pennsylvania for individuals who can develop software and hardware for a class of computer systems known as embedded systems which include microcontrollers, custom embedded systems and mobile computers. Graduates will have the skills to build and develop software for these complex and increasingly ubiquitous computing environments and to help meet the large and growing demand for trained engineers in Pennsylvania and the surrounding region.
- The university signed agreements with two international schools for joint programming. The pact with La Rochelle International Business School in La Rochelle, France will promote development of joint studies, research and training activities, and other educational programs of mutual interest. Under the agreement, the two institutions will cooperate in the exchange of students for either one semester or an entire academic year. The other agreement is with Wroclaw University of Economics in Poland to begin work on development of exchange programs between the universities and to promote activities of mutual interest. Shippensburg has been working with Wroclaw University for several years and the signing formalized the intent of both institutions to cooperate and expand that relationship.
- The university remains ranked among the best universities in the North and in the nation by a number of publications, including *U.S. News and World Report*. In addition, that publication recognized the John L. Grove College of Business as among the best business programs in the nation.
- The Council on Social Work Education reaffirmed the University's bachelor of social work program accreditation for eight years. Dr. Wynne Sandra Korr, chair of the Commission on Accreditation, announced reaffirmation of the program's accreditation until June, 2018.
- A dramatic increase in the number of student and faculty participants in the annual Celebration of Student Research Conference was the highlight of the annual program. A total of 471 students and their 88 faculty co-researchers and mentors displayed their research at the Conference Center at Shippensburg University in Spring Semester, a 30 percent increase over the previous year. The program highlights the joint research throughout the year and provides both students and faculty with new academic opportunities.

- Shippensburg University is one of the best colleges in the nation to work for, according to a new survey by The Chronicle of Higher Education. The results in The Chronicle's third annual report on The Academic Workplace were based on a survey of more than 42,000 employees at 277 colleges and universities. Only 97 of the 277 institutions achieved “Great College to Work For” recognition for specific best practices and policies.

In its approach to accountability and assessment, the University looks at various areas based on such areas as scholarship, leadership, partnership, stewardship and championship. Among the highlights are:

Scholarship

- A number of faculty members published books during the academic year. Dr. Matthew J.C. Cella, assistant professor of English, wrote *Bad Land Pastoralism in Great Plains Fiction*. Neil Connelly, an assistant professor of English, had his third book, *The Miracle Steale*, published. Connelly also began working on a fourth manuscript, *The Midlife Crisis of Captain Invincible*. Dr. Andrew Carey, assistant professor of counseling and college student personnel, released his debut book, *The Redeeming Power of Presence*. Howard Cosell and his impact on sports broadcasting and media culture were explored in the new book by Dr. John Bloom. The book by Bloom, associate professor of history and philosophy, is his fourth.
- Dr. Christine Anne Royce, associate professor of teacher education and chair of the department was in China as part of the National Science Teachers Association delegation to the US-Sino Forum on Science and Education. Throughout her visit, she blogged on the University’s website about the trip with insights and photos from the conference. She was also was the recipient of the Educator of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators.
- The Department of International Studies and the Office of International Programs sponsored the second annual International Education Week to raise awareness of international opportunities that exist for students. The events also highlighted achievements of Shippensburg faculty from other countries or faculty who promote the importance of cross cultural awareness and education in their classrooms and research.
- Dr. Sarah Bryant, professor of finance, traveled to South America to participate in the Faculty/Professional Development in International Business Overseas program. Bryant’s trip to Brazil, Argentina and Chile was sponsored by Florida International University and allowed her to learn culture, business practices, economic development issues and political issues. She has also traveled to Egypt during previous work as a consultant to eight countries on the African continent.
- Music aficionados had the unique opportunity to hear the world premiere of a new violin concerto at a performance by the Shippensburg University-Community Orchestra. Dr. Dennis Ritz, professor of music at the university, conducted the orchestra while Dr. Mark Hartman, assistant professor of music at Shippensburg and Shippensburg University-Community Orchestra director performed the violin solo.
- The Shippensburg University Programming Team returned from a competition in Montreal, Canada where it got a taste of a different culture and a great academic experience. Nine students traveled to Concordia University in Montreal to take part in a radically different type of competition than the ones in which they normally participate.

- A new facility at the Marine Science Consortium at Wallops Island, Va., offered Shippensburg University students the opportunity for study of coastal and marine environments. Shippensburg is one of 13 member institutions in the consortium. Shippensburg President Bill Ruud was one of more than 100 individuals who attended the ribbon cutting for the consortium's new 35,000 square foot silver LEED Certified environmental learning center.
- A Shippensburg University student took learning to new heights after he received a \$5,000 grant to compete in a NASA rocket competition. Lucas Kalathas, then a senior physics major and math minor, competed in the annual NASA Student Launch Projects Rocketry Challenge against more than 500 student rocketeers from 25 states in the 2010-11 launch projects.
- Dr. Sharnine Herbert, associate professor of human communications studies and director of ethnic studies, traveled to Ghana with six other educators and eight students from a number of universities including Shippensburg. The trip by the Interdisciplinary Scholars of the African Diaspora Alliance included cultural exchange, research and service.
- A group of nearly 60 Shippensburg University spent Fall Break in Mississippi aiding in the clean-up of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, and then highlighted their experience in a public presentation. As part of an alternative fall break program, the faculty members and students went to the Gulfport, Biloxi, and Ocean Springs, Miss., region. The service-learning project was a new component of the university's annual Academic Day, a program that provides first-year and transfer students new to the university with an introduction into the academic community in a way that reflects the positive values, missions and challenges associated with living and learning at Shippensburg University. Students raised the money needed to pay for the trip through various fund-raising efforts.
- Student from the university participated in the 2011 Washington Model Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, D.C. that simulated proceedings of the OAS General Assembly. The students were members of a class taught by Dr. Mark Sachleben, assistant professor of political science. Shippensburg's students represented Guatemala during the program.
- Mathematics students got the chance to present their research at the SIAM Mid-Atlantic Student Conference on Applied Mathematics. SIAM (The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics) is an international organization for applied mathematics. The April conference was at Shippensburg University and included mathematics students from throughout the region.
- Three events were scheduled as part of "Breaking the Silence: Congo Women as Weapons of War," a series designed to raise awareness of and to focus attention on human rights violations in that nation. The events were organized by students in the Sociology and Anthropology Department's Senior Seminar and the university's Women's Center, with support from a university General Education Grant.

LEADERSHIP

- Dr. Alison Dagnes, associate professor of political science, author of *Politics on Demand: The Effects of 24 Hour News on American Politics* was featured on C-SPAN 2's Book TV reading from her book that examines the effects of the 24-hour news system and illustrates how politicians and others in politics use media to their own advantage.

- Dr. Jan L. Arminio, professor and chair of the Department of Counseling and College Student Personnel, was presented with a national award for academic excellence. The Robert H. Shaffer Award for Academic Excellence as a Graduate Faculty Member was presented by NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, the foremost professional association for student affairs administrators, faculty, and graduate and undergraduate students.

A series of events, including the Annual March for Humanity, highlighted Shippensburg University's celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The theme of the university's 15th celebration of Dr. King's life was "A King State of Mind." A highlight of the celebration was the 1,000 Hours of Service Pledge. Members of the university honored Dr. King's call to service by completing volunteer hours over winter break and into the first week of the spring semester.

- Dr. Karl Lorenz, professor of anthropology, appeared on Radio Smart Talk on WITF-FM in Harrisburg to discuss the political situation in Egypt. Lorenz spent a year in Cairo and traveled throughout Egypt during the 2009-2010 academic year doing work at Lower Egyptian archaeological sites thanks to a Fulbright Scholars Grant he received.

- The University's personal financial planning program earned renewal from the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards. According to Dr. Mu-Sheng Chang, associate professor of finance and supply chain management, the program is designed to prepare Shippensburg students who are on the career path to a professional financial planner. The program has received registration from the CFP since June 2005.

- A \$10,000 grant was given to two faculty members and the history department to integrate disability studies into the general education curriculum. The grant from Temple University's Institute on Disabilities was to Dr. Allison Carey, associate professor of sociology and anthropology, Dr. Christine Senecal, associate professor of history and philosophy, and the history department. It provides department members training in including the history of disabled people in its curriculum and to develop materials that can be used in future World History I and World History II courses.

- Members of the University's chapter of Kappa Delta Pi international honor society in education honor society raised enough money to honor a faculty member and her legacy to education and the university. A total of \$5,040 was donated to The Seeing Eye program to sponsor and name a puppy in honor of Dr. Kim Bright, a faculty member in special education, who died in 2010. The funds were raised through the Pennies for Puppies program. By raising sufficient funds, they were able to have a puppy named Bright.

- The human resource program was recognized as being aligned with the Society for Human Resource Management's human resource curriculum guidelines. According to Dr. Vicki Taylor, associate professor of management and faculty adviser for the university's SHRM chapter, to receive this recognition, the department submitted curriculum guidelines, information regarding the university, the John L. Grove College of Business and the human resources program, all of which were reviewed by SHRM.

- The University's conservation efforts were highlighted in the national publication *Campus Technology*. Efforts by the university's information technology division were featured in the article "Lean Green Machines: 7 Sustainability Stars in Higher Ed." The article focused on the university's campaign to raise awareness of energy usage, using the slogan "Environmental StewardSHIP," a play on the university's successful marketing and branding campaign. Among the efforts are stories in the student newspaper about ways to conserve energy and use of the Student Help Desk to help students adjust their computers to save energy.

- The University was named as a “Military Friendly School” for 2011 by *G.I. Jobs Magazine*. The magazine said that the designation places Shippensburg in the top 15 percent of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide and the university is among those featured in the “Guide to Military Friendly Schools.”
- The modern languages department received national recognition for the first time in the department’s history. The department received the recognition from the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Language and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The recognition culminates the department’s three-year efforts to provide evidence that it met six main criteria. The criteria included a demonstration of students’ abilities; integrations of standards into curriculum and instruction; assessment of languages and cultures; and professionalism.
- The University’s weather recording station received an award for decades-old diligence in its weather observations. The “50 Year Honored Institution Award” from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is “in grateful recognition of 50 years of weather observations in cooperation with the National Weather Service.” According to NOAA, an Honored Institution Award is given to an institution in which several people have taken dedicated daily weather observations over a period of years
- A record number of valedictorians and salutatorians chose Shippensburg University to continue their education in the last academic year. Five new valedictorians and seven new salutatorians accepted the Pennsylvania Board of Governors Scholarship for the year.
- Shippensburg faculty are among representatives of nine of the 14 universities in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education that founded the Keystone Journal of Undergraduate Research (KJUR). KJUR is an online, faculty-reviewed publication for undergraduate work.

Partnership

- Junior Neely Spence goes the distance in everything she does, and now she is imparting her experience as a consummate student-athlete to elementary school children as the leader of the RUN Club. The RUN Club, which stands for “Running Under Neely”, at Grace B. Luhrs Elementary School was a 12-week track and field after school program that Neely developed and coordinates with the goal of teaching children about the sport, and instilling healthy habits they will use in life. The life lessons and athletic training Spence has to offer has been gleaned from a career that has collected a total of four NCAA titles in cross country, indoor and outdoor track, and garnered the 2010 NCAA Student-Athlete Sportsmanship Award. With the guidance of her academic advisor Dr. Kara Laskowski, Spence began researching putting her plan into action at the lab school on Shippensburg’s campus.
- Dr. Sharon Harrow spent many years teaching students and making presentations at professional conferences, but she faced a new type of audience in a new venue — on Broadway. Harrow, a professor of English, gave a “talk-back” at the end of the sold-out performance of “The Punishing Blow” at the Clurman Theatre in New York City. The invitation was the result of her expertise in 18th-century literature and sports, and her interest in the character in the play by Randy Cohen, a writer for the *New York Times* and an Emmy award winner.
- In the aftermath of the tragic devastation in Japan, the Asian American Organization and the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs sponsored “Stand for Japan: A Benefit of Love.” All proceeds went toward relief efforts for Japan through the American Red Cross.

- With more than 6,500 American flags flying at in the quad, hundreds of members of the campus community and off-campus visitors honored the men and women who gave their lives in defense of the U.S. and freedom during the war on terror. The 2010 September 11th Memorial Event was sponsored by the university's just-formed chapter of Student Veterans of America. The university has between 300 and 400 students who are veterans.
- The Cumberland County District Attorney's Office offers internships in its forensics laboratory to students majoring in biology, chemistry or criminal justice. Student interns get the opportunity to work in various parts of the lab, experiencing being a chemist, toxicologist, crime scene investigator and a fingerprint analyst. Duties include processing physical evidence, processing blood and urine samples, collecting evidence and analyzing fingerprints.
- The University hosted 25 Iraqi and 25 Pakistani college students as part of a U.S. State Department-sponsored educational and cultural exchange. The students are part of the Iraqi Young Leaders Educational Exchange and the Pakistani Young Leaders Educational Exchange. The two programs brought students from their respective countries to the United States for six weeks where they spent intensive time both in the classroom as well as visiting significant cultural and historical sites across the eastern seaboard.
- Ezra Lehman Memorial Library celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps with an exhibit and a presentation with former members. The exhibit consisted of various photos, artifacts and memorabilia provided by Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who are members of the University as well as those from the local community.
- The University hosted an episode of Humanities on the Road, an arts and culture-themed television show presented by Pennsylvania Humanities Council and broadcast on Pennsylvania Cable Network. The program will be on one-room schoolhouses and was taped in and featured the Little Red Schoolhouse on campus. The episode will be broadcast in November 2011 by PCN-TV to 3.3 million households.
- As part of the Trojan-Raiders Partnership, secondary and elementary pre-student teaching students traveled to Chambersburg schools once a week to tutor students in areas ranging from English to science and math. In return, Shippensburg students expanded their classroom knowledge by working with the Chambersburg students.
- The nationally-accredited MBA program will be available in Fall 2011 in Harrisburg to both full-time and part-time students. The new MBA–Emerging Leaders cohort is a one-year, full-time program designed for recent college graduates with limited or no work experience, who want to gain professional experience while completing an MBA in one year, who desire flexible daytime classes in Harrisburg and seek an affordable, accredited MBA program.
- The University hosted three representatives from East China Normal University to help facilitate an exchange partnership. The visit was part of their tour of universities in the United States at which they have existing partnerships or prospective partnerships. Although Shippensburg does not have a formal agreement with the Shanghai University, there is a casual relationship.
- The University, an academic supporter of the South Mountain Partnership, has taken on a very visible role with the group this year, with faculty members assisting the coalition's work on a number of fronts. The South Mountain Partnership is a coalition of citizens, businesses, nonprofit groups and governmental agencies working to protect an area of central Pennsylvania that includes Adams, Cumberland and Franklin counties and part of York County. Dr. Allen Dieterich-Ward, assistant professor of history/philosophy, helped organize the program.

STEWARDSHIP

- Work was completed in the spring on Huber Art Center's renovation and expansion at a cost of about \$6.8 million. The work included a three-story addition, an increase to the sizes of the existing art laboratories and added student gallery and locker space. The building was built in 1931 and served as the library for 37 years. It was last renovated in 1970.
- Work is progressing on the renovation of the Ceddia Union Building. The university re-occupied some parts of the CUB with the work expected to be complete later in 2011.
- Planning for building the new residence halls was finalized with the project expected to start in late-summer. The project, under the direction of Shippensburg University Student Services Inc., is expected to cost approximately \$200 million for new apartment style, on-campus housing. This project is being paid for by student fees. The first phase of the project is expected to open in Spring 2013.
- A new synthetic turf was installed on SU Student Association Field at Seth Grove Stadium and paid for by the Student Association. The natural grass surface at Seth Grove Stadium had been in existence since the stadium's construction in 1972. The crown on the field was removed and a continuous drain is in place around the inside perimeter of the track.
- Various of other projects were completed or started in the last year, including planning for construction of a new \$38 million central chilled water plant and distribution system and a new central heating plant and distribution system that is projected to save the university \$300,000 in energy management; replacing the running track at Seth Grove Stadium, site of the PIAA state high school track and field championship; rebuilding the fountain in front of Old Main, and painting the water tower.
- Implementation of the Banner student information system was completed and is expected to save the University more than \$1.5 million through the 2014-15 academic year and more than \$350,000 each year thereafter. Working on the project were members of offices of information technology, admissions, registrar, financial aid, and academic affairs. The system handles student admissions, financial aid, registration, billing, degree audit to track student degree progress, document management to eliminate unnecessary paper copies, workflow to automate approval processes through university offices, and enrollment management to better recruit and attract students. Included is the myShip web portal to provide students, faculty and staff with easy access to their information.
- The university ranks among the most energy efficient universities in PASSHE. According to a 2009-2010 energy report by PASSHE, Shippensburg's energy consumption dropped 9.2 percent from the 2008-2009 academic year, and the cost of energy dropped 14.6 percent due to the numerous conservation measures. In addition coal consumption dropped 11.8 percent, gas consumption dropped 6.7 percent and electric consumption went down 3.5 percent. Shippensburg was one of the first universities in PASSHE to adopt a guaranteed energy savings program.
- After a lengthy review process, the Student Association awarded a contract with Follett to manage the university bookstore beginning with the 2011-12 academic year.

Championship

- Shippensburg University was chosen by the NCAA as the PSAC's top community engagement activity during the 2010-11 academic calendar. SU's MentorSHIP program and Kid's Night Out event were among 17 initiatives considered for national recognition. Shippensburg's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) developed the MentorSHIP Program to create a positive relationship with the youth of the Shippensburg community. The NCAA's Community Engagement Award of Excellence recognizes Division II institutions that successfully "build bridges" with the communities in which they are located. It is the third straight year that Shippensburg has been rewarded for its community engagement.
- The Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter was one of 121 Premier Chapters, according to the Board of Governors of Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS). Beta Gamma Sigma is the international honor society serving business programs accredited by AACSB International.
- Students in the John L. Grove College of Business continued to successfully represent the university in various regional and national competitions. Shippensburg's Supply Chain Management Team competed at the 2011 Council of Supply Chain Management Annual (National) Conference Pittsburgh College Challenge and took first place. The Shippensburg Human Resource Management Club (SHRM) placed second in the 2011 SHRM Northeast Regional HR Case Competition in Rochester, N.Y. The Students in Free Enterprise team competed in the SIFE regional competition in Philadelphia where they were first runner-up. The Investment Management Program team competed and placed third in the R.I.S.E. XI conference.