



THE STUDENT INFORMER



— March, 2003 —

Editorial Comment

WHAT I WOULD DO IF I WERE THE NEXT STARK STATE PRESIDENT

In the 21st century, it is no longer knowledge, but indeed information which exemplifies power. As I considered writing this column, I was surprised to find how many subjects I was discouraged from discussing.

The first thing I would do in taking office would be to change the culture that exists where questioning how specific departments operate or discussing the potential change of management of those departments is taboo. Further, I would seek to change attitudes that exist where information which should be public is held by people who distribute it on a “need to know” basis using criteria they set themselves.

I would make Student Senate a truly democratic body. Each semester, the first week of classes would provide candidates an opportunity to campaign. There would be representatives from individual divisions of the college as well as “at large” representatives. Both fresh out of high school students and as well as older, non-traditional students would have representation. Introduction to this process would be made a part of Student Orientation held prior to the beginning of classes. The second week of school, voting would take place from the opening of school in the morning to closing at night on both Monday and Tuesday. Meetings would be held on a monthly basis during the school week. The student body would be encouraged to bring their concerns and their ideas to the attention of their representatives.

Speaking of the school week, classes would be offered for more of the day on Saturday. There would also be classes offered on Sunday. To be sure enough students attended on the weekend to justify the cost of operating the physical plant, general courses required for graduation would be offered on these days. This would, then, not interfere with students who work full-time jobs. For students whose jobs require them to work on weekends, class sessions would be available during the week. There would also be student activities scheduled for the weekend so people who do not have classes would have reason to visit the college.

Another basic change in the operation of Stark State College is that the “powers that be” would not leave the college at 4:30. There would be an administrator on duty, with responsibility for this assignment rotating among Vice Presidents, Deans and Department Heads, each day of the school week until 9 p.m. They would have specific authority to address problems that may arise during their time on duty after 4:30.

To encourage a healthier student body and staff, as President I would implement a series of one, two and three mile routes winding through the halls of the campus; some would include stairs and some not. This would provide a comfortable place to exercise regardless of the weather. For stress relief, I would have an area near the snack bar constructed which would have pinball machines.

Any future president of Stark State should feel free to adopt any portion of my platform.

Anthony M. McCune

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Stark State College's Peace Pole, located in the grassy area west of the courtyard, may have more relevance now than ever before. It was planted in December, 1991.

A QUESTION OF PEACE

By Kevin O'Brien, Interfaith Campus Minister

A translation of Chapter 54 of the Tao Te Ching reads:

Cultivate Peace in your self,
And peace will be real.
Cultivate it in the family,
And peace will abound.
Cultivate it in the village,
And peace will grow.
Cultivate it in the nation,
And peace will be abundant.
Cultivate it in the universe,
And peace will be everywhere.

So to answer the question: "How do we bring peace to our world?," the Taoist response would be to cultivate peace within your own heart first. This is much more difficult that it may seem!

On February 15th, peace rallies were held all over the world to protest America's and Great Britain's threat of going to war against Iraq. Millions of people took to the streets to let their voices be heard.

I have been to these rallies before – one in Cleveland and one in Washington, D.C. within the past few months.

As I walked along and silently prayed for peace, I was constantly met with angry chants, angry speeches and angry signs.

In one of the speeches given at the February peace rally in Canton, a veteran was quoted to say that President Bush "is a toxic, nauseating weed in our garden...who belongs in the compost pile of history." When I hear such things, my mind drifts back to Chapter 54 and I question if the cause of peace is furthered under the guise of a peace rally.

So as to not appear to be holier than thou, I've become more aware of my own language when talking to people and am amazed at how easily I can slip into conversation that does not cultivate peace in my self.

I have always strived to be a man of integrity – of walking my talk – so if I believe that peace begins with me – as it says in the Tao Te Ching and what St. Francis of Assisi preached – then world peace begins with my speech and attitude towards people that would make my blood boil – be it a dictator, an administration, a co-worker or a family member.

To try and cultivate this peaceful way of being, I've begun an hour of silent prayer for peace at the Sancta Clara Monastery every Tuesday night from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm until Easter.

Please come if you can and join me in bringing about true peace. It begins with you and me.

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SEAN RUTHERFORD Publisher
ANTHONY McCUNE Editor
JOEL ADAMSKI Web Editor

Stark State College of Technology
6200 Frank Avenue N.W.
Canton, OH 44720-7299

Telephone

330-494-6170 Ext. 4299

E Mail

studentinformer@starkstate.edu
[SUBMIT ARTICLES HERE](#)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMPUS SAFETY PROGRAM LAUNCHED



There has not been a crime wave rolling over the Canton campus of Stark State College. There is not vandalism being conducted or any incidents of personal attacks.

The Security Department is launching a new program to keep things as they are, secure and quiet.

The CAMPUS WATCH Program is designed to encourage more student involvement and awareness about crime prevention.

Becoming a member of Campus Watch will allow you to learn strategies for personal protection, teach you how to effectively report a crime should one occur, and safeguard your property against theft.

Related activities will include a Student Escort Program and Speakers discussing Crime Prevention.

To learn more about the CAMPUS WATCH Program, contact Diana Tsenekos in the Security Office located in room S-104.

Campus Security Starts with YOU.

GET INVOLVED
with Campus Watch

ENGINEERING ORGANIZATIONS SEEK MEMBERS

Anyone interested in joining Stark State College engineering organizations are encouraged to stop in the Engineering Technology Office. You can receive assistance joining organizations such as SWE (Society of Women Engineers), ASME or SME (Mechanical), IEEE (Electrical) or ASCE (Civil).

BAKESALE SCHEDULED

Phi Theta Kappa will be staging a bake March 19 and 20 in the Student Center. An even more diverse menu of items is expected to be available than was featured at last semester's very successful event. Members will be staffing the table each day from mid-morning through late afternoon.

INTERESTED IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY?

The Association of Information Technology Professionals invites students, instructors and novices to get involved in the organization's meetings. Meetings are held, beginning at 3:30, in Room S204-204. Complimentary refreshments and snacks will be provided at the meetings which are expected to end no later than 5:00. Spring, 2003 meeting dates include Thursday, March 20 and Thursday, April 17. For more details contact Steve Morosko or Larry Ray.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR EnviroFun EVENT

EnviroFun 2003 will be held on campus March 25, 2003 (during spring break)! The event will include 10 different environmental activities for 240 high school students from at least 10 local high schools. Volunteers, including college students, faculty and/or staff, are being sought by the EnviroFun planning committee to work the day of the event. Volunteers will be accepted on a first come first serve basis with environmental technology students getting preference. Volunteers will receive free continental breakfast, lunch and a certificate of appreciation for helping with the event. Contact Environmental Technology Program Coordinator Jennifer Zylko by e mail at jzylko@starkstate.edu or by calling her office at 330-494-6170 ext. 4381.

COMPLETING FAFSA ONLINE

Need help in filing your 2003-2004 FAFSA on the web? The Financial Aid Office is conducting a FAFSA FILING WORKSHOP April 1st or 2nd anytime between 10 am and 6 pm in Room S303. Students are requested to pick up a 2003-2004 Financial Aid packet in Room S304 prior to the workshop. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

PHI THETA KAPPA FORMALLY INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

About 90 new members, who have completed a minimum of 16 credits with a cumulative grade point average of 3.75, have accepted an invitation to become part of Phi Theta Kappa this year. Members, with majors from all divisions of the college, will be formally inducted at a ceremony in the college auditorium on Sunday, April 13 at 2 pm. A reception will follow.

STARK STATE PREPARED IN CASE OF TERRORIST ACTION

On February 7, 2003, the Department of Homeland Security announced an increase in the level of threat reflected by the department's Homeland Security Advisory System. The threat level, for acts of terrorism undertaken against the United States, was raised from yellow which indicated an "elevated" level to orange reflecting a "high" level. A random sampling of Stark State students and faculty exhibited a lack of knowledge regarding the institution's preparedness for such an event. In response to this situation, THE STUDENT INFORMER is providing this overview of Stark State's Security and Disaster Plan.

For more details visit Stark State Security on the web at www.starkstate.edu/security.htm. Highlights from the Fifth Edition of the security plan, last revised in June, 2002 after being initially developed in 1988, include:

AREA EVACUATION

The senior college official or the authority having jurisdiction will authorize evacuation of a particular area. If the situation is of such gravity, the security officer present at the scene may order evacuation to maintain order, save lives, and college or personal property.

TOTAL BUILDING OR COLLEGE EVACUATION

The senior college official or the authority having jurisdiction will authorize evacuation of a single building or the entire college. If the situation is of such gravity, the security officer at the scene may order evacuation to maintain order, save lives, college or personal property. In event an evacuation is ordered, signs have been posted in all classrooms and work areas, identifying the area you are in and showing the quickest way to proceed to exit. In any emergency self-control is extremely important. During an evacuation walking calmly is most times the quickest, surest way to your destination. Do not use elevators in any evacuation situation. After 8:00 pm dial ext. 4911 to contact Security.

FIRE EVACUATION

All buildings are equipped with audio and visual fire alarms, which would be activated.

In case of Fire follow this procedure for notifying the Fire Department. Go to the nearest Fire pull Station and activate this device. If possible follow up by calling 9-1-1 and reporting details and exact location of the fire. As soon as possible advise the Security Office Ext. 4367/4512 or the information desk by dialing "0". After the emergency is over, re-entry to the building will be approved by a school official or the authority having jurisdiction.

BOMB THREAT -PROCEDURE

1. Threat Received by Phone

When the call is received, try to keep the caller on the line by quickly asking questions such as...

- When is the bomb going to explode?
- Where is the bomb right now?
- What kind of bomb is it?
- What does it look like?
- Why did you place the bomb ?

Pay attention to details such as an accent, age, gender, and background noise!

Contact Security immediately — Ext. 4367/4512/0/4911 (Cell Phone)

2. Threat Received in Writing

Save the letter or note. Handle as little as possible, and give it to security immediately. **DO NOT ALLOW LETTER OR NOTE TO BE TOUCHED OR PASSED AROUND BY PEOPLE AT SCENE.**

3. Suspicious Package

If a suspicious package arrives, call for professional assistance. Do not disturb the item until it has been cleared by Security.

BOMB THREAT- EVACUATION

On approval of a school official, the evacuation procedure should be as follows...An announcement will be made by Security on the P.A. System and evacuation leaders will notify co-workers and clear their assigned area.

Announcement: Attention Faculty, Staff, and students, a bomb threat has been received on campus please evacuate and move away from the building immediately...evacuate and move away from the building immediately.

Security will then do a sweep of the building to make sure all areas are evacuated.

Officers, security personnel, and evacuation leaders will then be requested to stand outside of entrances to prohibit anyone from entering the building.

Security, Jackson Police, and school officials will work together to search the building and advise the staff and students when it is safe to re-enter the building.

If we have a time frame of the bomb activation and that time frame has passed, staff may be asked to check their offices for any suspicious packages or items out of place. This is on a voluntary basis. After their office is checked, they are to return outside until the building is determined secure by either Jackson Police or a school official.

After the building is secure and approval to re-enter the building is given by a school official, Security will check all entrance doors to advise students, faculty, and staff that the building has been checked and they may re-enter.

BODILY INJURY

All injury cases should be reported to the Security Office (Ext. 4367/4512) as soon as possible. When notifying anyone of an injury, identify yourself and your location; relay the location and nature of the injury; give any additional information that may be relative. Speak slowly and clearly. The fastest way to receive help is to be understood and accurate with your information.

Degree of Injury

If the injury is minor, and assistance is needed, call the Security Office Ext. 4367/4512 or the Receptionist by Dialing "0". If the injury is moderate, call the Security Office Ext. 4367/4512 or the Receptionist by Dialing "0". If the injury is severe, call an ambulance at once by dialing 9-1-1 from any phone on the campus. As soon as possible contact the Security Office Ext. 4367/4512 or the Receptionist by Dialing "0".

Circumstances Calling for the Administration of First Aid

Circumstances calling for the administration of first aid can be numerous. There are some things one can and should do when another is injured. In serious cases, the following general procedures, properly carried out, will make the injured more comfortable.

1. Keep the injured person lying down.
2. Keep the person warm and comfortable.
3. Do not allow others to crowd or excite the injured person.
4. Do not allow a person to see their injuries. Make no comments as to the extent of the injuries.
5. Avoid aggravating the injury by moving the person. Move only if necessary to avoid further injury or at the direction of a qualified medical officer.

MASS BODILY INJURIES

If this type of situation is evident, notify: Jackson Township Fire Department at 9-1-1; Security Office Ext. 4367/4512; School Officials. To the best of your ability report the exact location, number of persons involved, what caused the incident and type of help needed.

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

American Society of Mechanical Engineers — Student Section

President Peter Ishimaru

Secretary Eric Loew

Treasurer Dana Wilson

Advisor Chandra Jain

Sponsored by the ASME CAM (Canton, Alliance, Massillon) section

Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) Student Section

President Karl Frye

V.P. Peter Ishimaru

Secretary Karl Frye

Treasurer Peter Ishimaru

Advisor Chandra Jain

Sponsored by the SME Greater Canton Chapter #110

These student organizations have had joint meetings to promote and educate students on the benefits of student engineering organizations (at a cost of about one dollar a month for each organization) which include: scholarships, loans, leadership opportunities, resume posting, job listings, a monthly magazine, competitions, newsletters, networking opportunities, discounts on medical and dental services, seminars, and publications.

ASME and SME have promoted and educated students on engineering in a variety of ways such as: displays on school monitors, participating in open houses at SSCT, sales of t-shirts and sweat shirts that promote engineering (t-shirts @ \$12 sweat shirts @ \$20 and hooded sweat shirts @ \$25), setting up tours to area companies, setting up informational tables in student center, promoting an engineering study group to help students to better understand concepts and assignments, participating in Engineers Week Feb 16-22 by setting up table cards, purchasing and displaying posters featuring women and african-american engineers, staffing a booth to promote SME involvement of Engineers Week, giving out free engineering related bookmarkers, donating engineering related childrens storybooks and activity kits to the Campus Daycare at John Knox Church with a sing-a-long video for children.

ASME and SME reminds everyone that "Engineering is Everyday". From the time you wake up with the alarm clock, transporting yourself around, eating and even sleeping in your bedrooms, engineering is a facet of everyday life that impacts us all. ASME and SME student sections at SSCT are here to help and provide for needs of the engineering students. Join and participate in these organizations they are engineered for you. All you have to do is keep up with current events to know engineering is not only a field for men but also for women.

The ASME and SME engineering student organizations would like to give special thanks to Chandra Jain, Karen Hardesty, KC Gutheridge, Dorey Diab, Janet Miller, Dr. Peter Kropp, and the rest of the Stark State staff for all their support and help this past year in promoting engineering.

Submitted by Peter Ishimaru

B.L.A.S.T., The Business Leaders at Stark State College of Technology, is a student organization open to all Business, Marketing, and Operations Management Majors.

Our goals are to:

Provide means for students to interact with fellow colleagues and business faculty members through meetings and social field trips.

Provide means for students to gain business contacts within the Northeast Ohio business community through professional field trips and guest speakers.

Encourage students to utilize organizational and leadership skills within the organization.

Enhance awareness of Stark State College's Business programs and capabilities within the Northeast Ohio business community by forming allegiances and being involved in the community.

B.L.A.S.T.'s officers are: Brian Aleman-President; Rebecca Oney-Vice President; Traci Fletcher-Secretary; and Dina Harrison-Treasurer. Our organizational chairpersons are: Jennifer Smith-Membership; Stephanie McKnight and Nikko Kay-Fundraising; Traci Fletcher and Kassandra Long-Professional Development; Brian Aleman-By Laws; Christina McNutt-Social.

We are very excited about this semester!! We are planning lots of exciting speakers, a golf tournament, and much more! Anyone interested in joining, please contact Cheri Rice, Faculty Advisor, in Room B215-Q.

Submitted by Traci Fletcher

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

InterClub Council and Student Senate

At the time of selection and during their term of office, requirements for members of the InterClub Council include being a student at Stark State College of Technology and being in good academic standing.

InterClub Council has members from all club/organizations represented at the college. There are nine Student Senate Officers and Division Representatives.

The Stark State College of Technology InterClub Council is established with the following purposes:

Promoting college activities and coordinating these with the college policy; Recommending activities and expenditures for student activities; Representing the view and opinions of Stark State College of Technology students to the administration.

Student Senate officers meet on the third Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. and InterClub Council meets once a semester for updates.

Organizational activities have included a Halloween Costume Contest, St. Patrick's Day Party, Tailgate "Welcome Back" Party, Raffle of Fitness Quest equipment and Student Senate Awareness Day.

There will be a Club Fair staged in the fall as part of the Orientation process.

Submitted by Cherie Barth

The Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) is open to all accounting and finance majors. The fee to join is 5.00 for the year. We are looking for board members for next year. Our advisor is Mr. Mitchell.

February's meeting had representatives from Malone, Akron and Franklin Universities talking about transferring credits and earning a Bachelors Degree.

Our march meeting is the 18th and it will be held at the Canton chapter meeting. Cost is 10.00 and reservations need to go through Mr. Mitchell. Pre-session is at 5pm and it is student night. Our April meeting is on the 8th and we will have someone there to talk about resume and interview skills. The April session will be at 7pm in S204-205. This is our last meeting of the year.

Submitted by Kristi Laumann

The **Center for Accelerated Learning (CAL LAB)** is located in room G200. Tutors are available in the lab from Monday through Saturday.

Areas of Study for which tutoring is available include Math, Anatomy and Physiology, Grammar/Writing, Chemistry, Accounting, Business Math, Calculus and Trigonometry, Physics I and Medical Terminology.

See a schedule in the CAL LAB for days and times tutors are available for specific subject areas.

Stark State College's chapter of **Phi Theta Kappa** International Honor Society of the Two Year College released a special edition of it's newsletter The Beta Gamma Epsilon BUGLE for the school's general population in February.

Membership in Phi Theta Kappa is based on academic excellence and community service is a main focus of group activities. There is a one-time fee of \$50 for lifetime membership.

Of the 5,000+ student enrolled at Stark State, 169 are members of Phi Theta Kappa.

The marquee service program Phi Theta Kappa currently features is the Students vs. Faculty/Staff competition to benefit Aultman Blood Center. Details regarding the April donation event will be posted throughout campus soon.

The Ohio Region's Awards Convention, to be held in Dayton on March 15, will see Beta Gamma Epsilon considered for Most Improved Chapter; Dr. John McGrath has been nominated as Most Distinguished College President, Cherie Barth is being considered for Most Distinguished Advisor and Anthony McCune is under consideration for Most Distinguished Chapter Officer. Recording Secretary Julie Sproul will be a candidate for the Regional position of Akron District Representative.

For the first time, Stark State's chapter will be attending the International Convention which will be held this year in Anaheim, California. Cherie Barth and Anthony McCune will present a program on chapter newsletters.

BACK PAGE FEATURE

JOB SEARCH TIPS FOR STARK STATE COLLEGE GRADUATES

By Rita Ridenbaugh, Director of Career Services

Looking for a position is a full-time job in itself. The key to a successful job search is organization and preparation. Let's get started. Your career is on the move!

Step 1

Organize your job search. This is the time to do some self assessment. What kind of position do you want and in what kind of organization? Where do you want to live? Identify your strengths, weaknesses, skills, interests, values and short and long term goals. Who will be your references? What is your anticipated salary range?

Step 2

The RESUME, the 30-second advertisement of your skills that, if written well, may lead to job interviews, which may, in turn, lead to job offers. Remember your resume is the employer's first impression of you and what kind of work he or she can expect from you.

Step 3

Where are the jobs? There are numerous resources to use in identifying prospective employers. Use every resource possible.

- Respond to job advertisements in the newspapers and to on-line job sites on the Internet.
- Post your resume on-line.
- Visit individual employer web sites. Employment opportunities are often listed with specific application instructions.
- Participate in on-campus recruiting at Stark State College.
- Participate in job fairs.
- Participate in career center's resume referral program.
- Register with third-party employment firms.
- Mass mailing of your resume.
- Targeted mailing of your resume.
- Networking. Let everyone know you are looking for a job.
- Peers.
- Faculty.
- Government Employment Services.
- Trade Journals.
- SSCT Career Services Web Page – employment and job search links.

Step 4

Job Search Letters. Do not mail a resume without a cover letter. A search letter or letter of inquiry may result in discovering job openings. A thank you letter is a good business courtesy.

Step 5

The Interview. Your preparation for the interview, handshake, appearance, and way of answering and asking questions all determine whether you will be hired for the job. Brush up on your interviewing skills. Sign up for a mock interview in Career Services. Research the company.

Step 6

The Follow-up. After the interview, write down highlights/specifics discussed, the interviewer's name and