

The Swonion

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2002

Bears are huge hit at holiday gathering!

Swarthmore College distributes their annual holiday bonus to employees but controversy erupts over distribution

By Alma Jarkey

Staff Reporter

December 12 - An air of anticipation and excitement preceded the distribution of holiday bonuses to Swarthmore College staff as they waited anxiously to receive their gift at the annual holiday gathering.

Director of HR announced to the crowd that whereas staff could help themselves to the food, each staff member was limited to *either* the eight-inch bear *OR* the plastic mug.

Unfortunately, employees made a dash for the bears, and some staff members had to settle for the plastic mugs. The Staff Advisory Council immediately issued an email suggesting that perhaps some staff members took more than one bear. An immediate investigation was undertaken.

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Staff enjoys their separate but equal lounge

Staff views the separate facility as a positive step toward equality in the College Community

By Wassa Happenin

Staff Reporter

December 15 - The new staff lounge has been opened for several months, and staff employees report a new sense of equality at Swarthmore. "Before the Staff Lounge was opened, we had no space of our own," said one employee from facilities management.

The Faculty Lounge, locked with a secret code known only to faculty members, was a forbidden space to staff employees. "Now we get to carry our coffee across campus to the former map building and sit there," said one administrative assistant who works in Kohlberg. She cautioned fellow staff members to make sure they put a lid on the coffee. "I made the mistake of trying to carry an open cup while balancing an umbrella and carrying mail and packages," she said. Luckily, the burn from the hot liquid took only a few days to heal, she reported.

The Staff Advisory Council is planning to include a library in the facility. Members of the campus community have been asked to search their basements and attics for donations. No book too old or too tattered will be turned away.

During a recent interview, a member of the Staff Advisory Council reviewed the rules of using the space. "While staff members may eat lunch there, under no circumstances are meetings to be held in that space," she said. Evidently, the administration was fearful that should employees begin meeting, they may begin to discuss starting a uni. . . .

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Controversy continued to swirl around the distribution of the bears as one faculty member, who did not wish to be identified, reported that the faculty did not receive bears at *their* annual holiday gathering. "The faculty and staff should receive the same consideration—especially around the holidays," he said.

The administration was unavailable for comment.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENT: WELLNESS DISCUSSION

PLACE UPPER TABLE

TIME 12-1PM

A discussion on wellness and reducing stress on the job.

Note: Should your lunch break be between 11:30AM and 12:15PM, you may attend for 15 minutes. If your lunch ends at 12:45, you must leave at that time. If your duties are required in your workplace for any reason deemed important by your boss, you are not permitted to attend. If you exceed your lunch hour, you will be expected to make up the time at the end of the day. Also, you may risk being "written up" if you are late returning from the discussion.

Have a well day!!

SPECIAL EVENT: EARLY BREAKFAST AND DISCUSSION ON THE SMONION

PLACE STAFF LOUNGE

TIME 2:30AM

Almost everyone welcome to attend! But be prepared to show ID as Security will be monitoring students or faculty attempting to enter the staff-only lounge.

SPECIAL EVENT: LECTURE

PLACE LANG

TIME 4:30PM

A lecture and analysis on why every fourth student would not select Swarthmore College if they had to do it over again.

Careful analysis will focus around promises of "Quaker values" and how the College models respect for all who either work or study at Swarthmore.

Another rule regarding the space is that students and faculty are not permitted anywhere in the 12' by 12' building. "We want staff to feel important and excluding other community members will help to achieve a sense of prestige," she said.

One staff member, however, stated that she was not going to use the space. "They'll know where to find me," she said. "I'm not going there."

In an attempt to confirm that view with other employees, twelve visits to the Staff Lounge proved to be fruitless.

Professor undertakes study of campus lingo

Decodes meanings to common expressions such as "swarthmorized" and "headin' down 320"

By Mora Bills

Staff Reporter

December 20 - Professor Lana Langly of the Linguistics Department has spent the last six months undertaking a study of colloquial expressions used by staff at the College. It seems staff uses a variety of phrases and words not in the dictionary but in common usage at the water cooler and coffee bar.

Professor Langly explained that "swarthmorized" means having every ounce of one's self-respect drained away by bossy supervisors and by unfair policies and the eventual transformation into . . . well, that varies from person to person. She reported many staff members feel "swarthmorized" but some former staff members resisted by quitting or being fired. "Which brings us to our next expression, Professor Langly said happily, "headin' down 320." It seems that when someone disappears from campus, staff assumes their colleague has been sent packing down Route 320.

Professor Langly reported that faculty do not use that expression in reference to professors who do not receive tenure. She speculated, "I believe faculty just doesn't talk about it—at all."

Next issue features Part II: more unraveling of campus lingo.

The Swonion

Volume 1, Issue 2

February 2002

Bear controversy continues into February

Employees continue to stream into Human Resources Department demanding "where's my bear?"

By Alma Jarkey

Staff Reporter

February 1 - The College president, barely recovering from the football debacle a few semesters ago, has found himself playing Solomon in another heated campus debate. As reported in the January issue of *The Swonion*, bears were distributed to staff at the annual holiday gathering. Unfortunately, the bears were grabbed up in a frenzied free-for-all leaving only plastic mugs in the wake.

The Staff Advisory Council's investigation has not had any new leads in the shortage of bears. In a desperate attempt for justice, SAC has taken the case to the president, who has formed a committee to investigate whether the College purchased only a bare minimum of bears or if indeed some employees took more than their one allotted bear. "This is a serious *continued on page 2*

Administration announces salary increase for staff

Increase for 2002-03 represents a colossal sacrifice on the part of the College

By Shaf Ted Agane

Staff Reporter

February 25 - The administration announced this week that staff would receive a 2.5% increase in wages for the upcoming fiscal year. A spokesperson for the administration reported that this very generous increase in pay was a way to show appreciation for the staff's contribution to the success of the College. "In these uncertain economic times, we would not want to let down our employees," she said in a recent interview, "so we dug deep into the endowment to meet our salary targets."

Employees who are earning \$10 an hour will now be making *almost* a whopping \$2 a day more. "I'll be able to afford those hot dog rolls that I've always wanted," said one employee.

Flea market and yard sale to be held on Parrish lawn

In an unprecedented first, staff has been given permission to hold a gigantic flea market during Alumni weekend

By Shaf Ted Agane

Staff Reporter

February 25 - After the administration's announcement of the 2.5% wage increase for next year, College staff immediately formed an ad hoc fundraising committee. "We have had an overwhelming response from staff to the flea market idea. Over 400 employees have signed up for tables," reported a committee member. Employees are searching every corner of their houses for saleable items," he said, "including family heirlooms, artwork, and personal collections." Some staff reported a willingness to even sell their bears hoping that rarity and demand will bring in big profits. *continued page 2*

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issue that raises many concerns," said the president. "I have faith that the new committee, Lack of Bear Advisory Committee (acronym, L of B) will be able to resolve this issue." A temporary chair, Professor Maximum Bullé, has been named to head the committee.

However, some SAC members privately expressed their doubts as to Professor Bullé's objectivity. "We have inside information that the faculty is still reeling about not getting bears at their holiday event," said one SAC member wishing to remain anonymous.

Neither the president nor Bullé have issued any further bulletins on the bears.

Part II in a series:

Professor undertakes study of campus lingo

Decodes meanings to common expressions

By Mora Bills

February 20 - Professor Lana Langly of the Linguistics Department has spent the last six months undertaking a study of colloquial expressions used by staff at the College. Last month's *Swonion* reported on expressions such as "swarthmorized" and "headin' down 320."

Professor Langly found a fascinating distinction in the pronunciation of another word used on campus, *sheeple*. "The meaning of the word is fairly straight forward, she reported. "*Sheeple* refers to people who begin responding as sheep—following the path of least resistance while trying to hide in the herd. One staff member reported to Langly that despite attempts to remain a sheeple, one always gets fleeced. What Professor Langly found so interesting about this word is the inflection. "The intonation can be *shee-ple* or expressed as *sheeeeeee-ple* with a raised intonation as the voice resonates with the long e sound for several seconds, not unlike "goat boy" of *Saturday Night Live*.

Professor Langly and her student researchers practiced the intonation exercise for several weeks in order to master the exact replication of the sound. The professor further reported that the more they practiced the word, the less inclined they were to follow edicts from above.

The Campus Lingo Project has now been cancelled.

The administration praised the ad hoc committee for undertaking this fiscal adventure as a step in the right direction. "Staff has shown incredible resilience and self-sufficiency, said VP for fiscal responsibility. "With the large number of alums on campus that weekend, the flea market should bring in significant revenue for the staff." The administration announced that they would charge a space fee of only \$25 per table.

The VP of fundraising brought up the only objection to this event. "The College will now be competing for alumni dollars, after all. Perhaps after alums have bought small appliances, bric-a-brac, and used clothing, they won't be interested in dipping into their pockets for the College," he cautioned.

The ad hoc committee discussed future fundraiser ideas including a bake sale where there will be plenty of humble pie.

Employee becomes ill on the job

HR reports new career paths open up for others when a colleague falls ill

By Sacra Terry

Staff Reporter

February 3 - Mia Sakt was suddenly taken ill at work last Thursday. A call to 911 immediately followed a call to Human Resources. Paramedics were able to resuscitate Sakt and take her to the hospital. Her boss was able to reach HR and have the department reorganized in the face of Sakt's future absence from her position. As Sakt was being carried out on a stretcher to the ambulance, her boss was at her side offering expressions of sympathy. He reassured her not to be concerned about her job—others will perform her work. "Don't worry about being missed," he reassured her.

A spokesperson for HR reported that in order for departments to operate flawlessly and without interruption, fellow employees would absorb additional workloads of staff taking family leave. Of course, since it is impossible to figure out the additional compensation of those employees taking on work of staff with higher-paid positions, employees will continue to receive their same pay. However, HR reported it was not so complicated to figure salaries when the opposite was true. Since the workload is spread around, employees only need to work at a slightly more furious pace to get everything done. "The College prides itself in keeping costs down during times of adversity," said the HR spokesperson.

The Swonion

Volume 1, Issue 3

March 2002

Career paths prove lucrative for upper management

Rank-and-file staff also rewarded—with employee of the month certificates

By Bo Rocrazy
Staff Reporter

March 22 - The College has announced the creation of a new associate vice president position in charge of maintenance. This brings a total of ten top executive positions to the College including:

President, VP Facilities, VP Associate Human Resources, VP College Relations, VP Financial Aid, VP Dean, VP Provost, VP Public Relations, VP Finance and Planning.

"The complexity of the College has grown over the years necessitating the creation of these positions," said a spokesperson for the president. She explained that these new positions will lead to further efficiency by streamlining responsibilities, resulting in lowering costs—with the exception of the enormous increase in *continued on page 2*

Dining hall employee declares he works at Swarthmore for the view!

Beautiful campus is better than benefits

By Bill N. Endow
Staff Reporter

March 15 - A new dining hall employee, Noah Cash, has admitted that he works at Swarthmore to absorb the view. In a recent interview Cash stated that the sight of the beautiful campus enlightens his spirit as well as his wallet. "No need for the heavy burden of carrying currency or fears of my money being stolen cause there isn't any," he said happily.

"The campus is especially beautiful in the winter," said Cash. "The only problem is that as I walk up from the bus stop, the wind rips through my coat, and I wind up running to Sharples and missing most of view." (Cash said he is saving for a new coat, which will probably take half a week's pay—if he buys hat and gloves also.) Regardless of the temperature, Cash believes that by using public transportation, like so many other employees in the dining hall and environmental services, that he is helping to save the campus environment from air pollution while holding down costs of building expensive parking lots.

Cash admitted, however, that he has to be careful not to catch pneumonia. "Because my benefits don't start until I've been at the College for three months, I can't afford to get sick," he joked.

Cash said his main job in the dining hall is scrubbing pots and pans, but he reported that he's been promised that he will be able to move up to a cooking position "reeeeeeaaaaaall soon" according to his boss. With this new possibility and the great view, Cash said he couldn't be happier.

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executive salary expenses for the College. "No matter," the spokesperson announced, "we can cut four positions in the library and three at the health center."

The administration, in an effort to show appreciation to those employees not on the VP-career track, announced the resurrection of the awarding of employee-of-the-month certificates, suitable for framing. A limited number of 50-cent coupons for a donut at the Kohlberg Coffee Bar will also be awarded.

Provost to hold meeting for adjuncts, assistants, and other assorted part-time profs on April 1

Discussion will center on making ends meet on part-time wages

By Shaf Ted Agane

Staff Reporter

March 25 - The provost announced a special lunchtime meeting for 35 part-time professors to discuss ways to form an association so that their voices may be heard. "In the past there has been no venue for these professors to express their concerns or to come together to discuss possible resolutions to problems such as no benefits and low salaries, said the provost. "Varying hours and the pressure of holding two or three jobs at the same time has kept this group from coming together."

One professor, overcome with emotion, said, "this is a dream come true! Finally, I will be able to join with others in my situation. I can envision real improvements in pay and benefits for us part-timers."

In keeping with Quaker tradition of consensus, the provost has arranged a meeting with the Board of Directors with this group of professors. "I have no doubt that they will be able to reach mutually-agreed upon solutions," said the provost.

Submissions to *The Swonion*

If you would like to submit an article for publication, place in an interoffice envelope and deposit in the garden map holder at the entrance to the path that leads down the back of McCabe. Place envelope behind the third pamphlet in the holder. *Recommended:* deposit envelope under cover of darkness moving quickly from the area.

New opening for Environmental Service employees

HR encourages ES staff to apply for crew leader

By Ima Spyn

Staff Reporter

March 8 - Human Resources announced the creation of a new position, crew leader, in the Environmental Service Department.

According to a recent *Employee Opportunities Bulletin* the crew leader will be "providing feedback on employee performance." Duties were further elaborated as:

1. Keeping scrupulous records on sick days used by employees including verifying doctor's notes and requesting second medical opinions
2. Recording exact times employees leave and return on lunch break
3. Enforcing strict adherence to the rule of not using computers
4. Noting if and when employees leave their buildings (while being able to conceal observation location)
5. Applying the "white glove" check to all surfaces

A spokesperson for HR said that they were very excited to offer this career path, including an hourly wage of \$10.64! This is an additional 86 cents an hour as compared with the starting wage of \$9.78.

As of yet no one has applied for this new position. In a recent interview, one employee said, "After being at the College for 25 years, I'm already making \$10.64."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENT: EARLY BREAKFAST AND DISCUSSION OF THE SWONION

PLACE STAFF LOUNGE

TIME 2:30AM

Note: Security apprehended three professors using fake staff ID cards attempting to enter the Staff-Only Lounge. The professors offered no resistance but have not been seen or heard from since. Please, staff only in the staff-only lounge. Your cooperation is appreciated.

The Swonion

Volume 1, Issue 4

April 2002

Lack of Bear Advisory Committee continues investigation

Appears inquiry will take until the year 2010

By Bo Rocrazy
Staff Reporter

April 22 - Professor Bullé, temporary chair of the Lack of Bear Advisory Council, reported that the investigation into the shortage of bears at the holiday gathering would require years of continued research, according to the committee's initial findings. A new chair selected by the president sometime over the summer will replace Professor Bullé, who will be on leave next year. In the beginning of the fall semester new members of the committee will be chosen from a pool of staff and faculty, who will begin the investigation all over again. The committee will then continue to meet on a monthly basis starting in October after Break and continue until the end of the semester, when a new chair and members will be selected. "The discussions will continue to be extremely sensitive so we will keep the news blackout until our final report is written, which we project will occur by 2010," said Professor Bullé. At that time the report will be submitted to the president, who will then report his reaction—should anyone ask.

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NEWS FLASH!

Swarthmore College on the verge of financial collapse

\$9 minimum brings College to the brink of ruin

By Shaf Ted Agane
Staff Reporter

April 9 - The Board of Directors announced that the College's financial woes, as well as other misfortunes, are attributed to the recently enacted \$9 minimum wage. In a string of memos and press releases the College has continued to identify the expense of the \$9 wage benchmark as being responsible for tuition increases, freezing of academic budgets; the 5% reduction in other departmental budgets, and cuts to dormitory improvements, just to name a few. Although the administration joked that even pizza funding might be in danger, the mere hint that pizza expenses were being targeted for cutbacks made some students uneasy. One student commented sadly, "It's come down to our pizza funding. How could this happen?"

The College president made an astoundingly creative mathematical attribution of equality of the cost of the new wage (approximately \$30,000) to the decrease in the endowment (approximately \$50,000,000) in the following quote in the April 11 issue of the *Phoenix*: "The new staff wage, combined with the endowment's decline has exhausted most of the new funds that would have been available for the next year's budget."

Senior staff appeared to be already exhausted coming out of their meeting last month. After much weeping and gnashing of teeth over the budget, they decided to downplay their personal salary increases and merit bonuses, faculty benchmarks, increases in housing allocations, expense accounts and travel allowances and instead agreed to focus the community's attention on the increase that will allow a few employees to earn a wage slightly below the poverty level.

According to a spokesperson for the administration, the burden of the \$9 minimum had repercussions that went beyond financial concerns. He elaborated that the administration considered the minimum wage responsible for a whitefly breakout in the greenhouses, flooding of the Crum, construction delays, a stomach virus in Willets, and a supervisor tripping down the steps at Sharples.

First article in a series on the new employee handbook:

Employees celebrate revised policy on funeral leave

New policy reduces leave from five to three days and "everyone benefits"

By Noah Cyn Pathi

Staff Reporter

April 25 - Swarthmore employees responded to one of the major changes in College policy with regard to funeral leave with celebration and words of gratitude toward the institution. "While in the past our department had flexibility to extend funeral leave to five days for the death of a husband, wife, child, mother or father, now the policy specifically states: three-day maximum leave, no exceptions. This provides a clarification on the number of days for funerals eliminating all confusion and uncertainty," said one of the managers.

A spokesperson for HR said that in the past employees could take five-day leaves for a close relative who passed away, but HR found that this only prolonged employee grieving. "Hey, now it's all over in three days and the employee can be back to work taking their mind off their loss. Everyone benefits," the HR rep explained.

The spokesperson admitted HR wanted to keep the gesture low-key, hoping no one would really compare the previous policy with the current. "Well, we tried to play it down, but, of course, the magnanimous gesture was not long to remain unnoticed," she said hanging her head humbly. "Making funeral plans over a couple of days will also keep us busy and preoccupied. The College thought of every angle in making trying times more tolerable," said one of the librarians.

HR clarifies office support job categories

Clear descriptions of each classification will clear up any misunderstandings

By Sacra Terry

Staff Reporter

April 30 - Director of Human Resources announced last week specific descriptions for the various job classifications for office support. Because of the increase in applications for upgrading office jobs

and the subsequent number of rejections of those upgrades followed by rancor and ill will created by such rejections, HR is publishing new job descriptions for the following:

Secretary: same as Executive Coordinator except you work in the basement of Parrish

Administrative Assistant I: same as Executive Coordinator except you work in the basement of McCabe

Administrative Assistant II: same as Executive Coordinator except your work for a small academic department

Administrative Coordinator: same as Executive Coordinator except you work for a large academic department or on second floor Parrish

Executive Coordinator: you work for the President

More position clarifications in upcoming issues of The Swonion.

Tri-College News:

Bryn Mawr employees accept cutback to annual event

Employees express understanding for cancellation of company picnic

By Natta Evenlunch

Staff Reporter

April 8 - In a joint communiqué spokespersons for the staff and faculty at Bryn Mawr College responded to their administration's canceling of the faculty/staff end-of-year picnic. The presidents of the staff and of the faculty associations stated, "In these difficult economic times we are willing to sacrifice our annual employee picnic for the greater good of Bryn Mawr College. Despite the fellowship and good will created by the annual get-together, the staff and faculty most willingly agree with the college president that the monstrous expense for cold cuts, rolls and sheet cake should go back into the Bryn Mawr College coffers. Everyone must do their part to keep the \$450,000,000 endowment intact and to support the current building campaigns."

Staff association president of Haverford, said that their college solved the problem years ago by charging \$15 per person for their picnic. Unfortunately, they only sold eight tickets last year.

At the present time, Swarthmore administration has not included the Spring Fling among their cuts in the budget, "although the \$15 admission fee sounds mighty tempting," said VP of fiscal responsibility. "Maybe we could make the event into a potluck dinner," he said. "I'm sure the women on the faculty and staff would enjoy making elaborate casseroles the night before our annual gathering."

The Mascot Wars!

Feel you have no power?
Have no say in the community?
Now you *can* vote for the Swat mascot!
Pick the ruminant of your choice:

Candidate 1



Sheeple

Candidate 2



\$9 Scapegoat

Combo of
sheep+people,
who always
get fleeced
despite trying
to hide in the herd

Convenient
blame for everything
wrong at Swat
while diverting
attention from
real issues

Send your ballot to the *Phoenix* editors,
who will be astounded, and somewhat
confused, when swamped with ballots.

Statistics released on employees/students gone from campus for S02

By Missy Ewe

Staff Reporter

May 1 - Human Resources released statistics on the number of employees let go for the Spring semester. "We keep accurate records and wanted to share this information with community members," said a spokesperson for HR. The final headcount was:

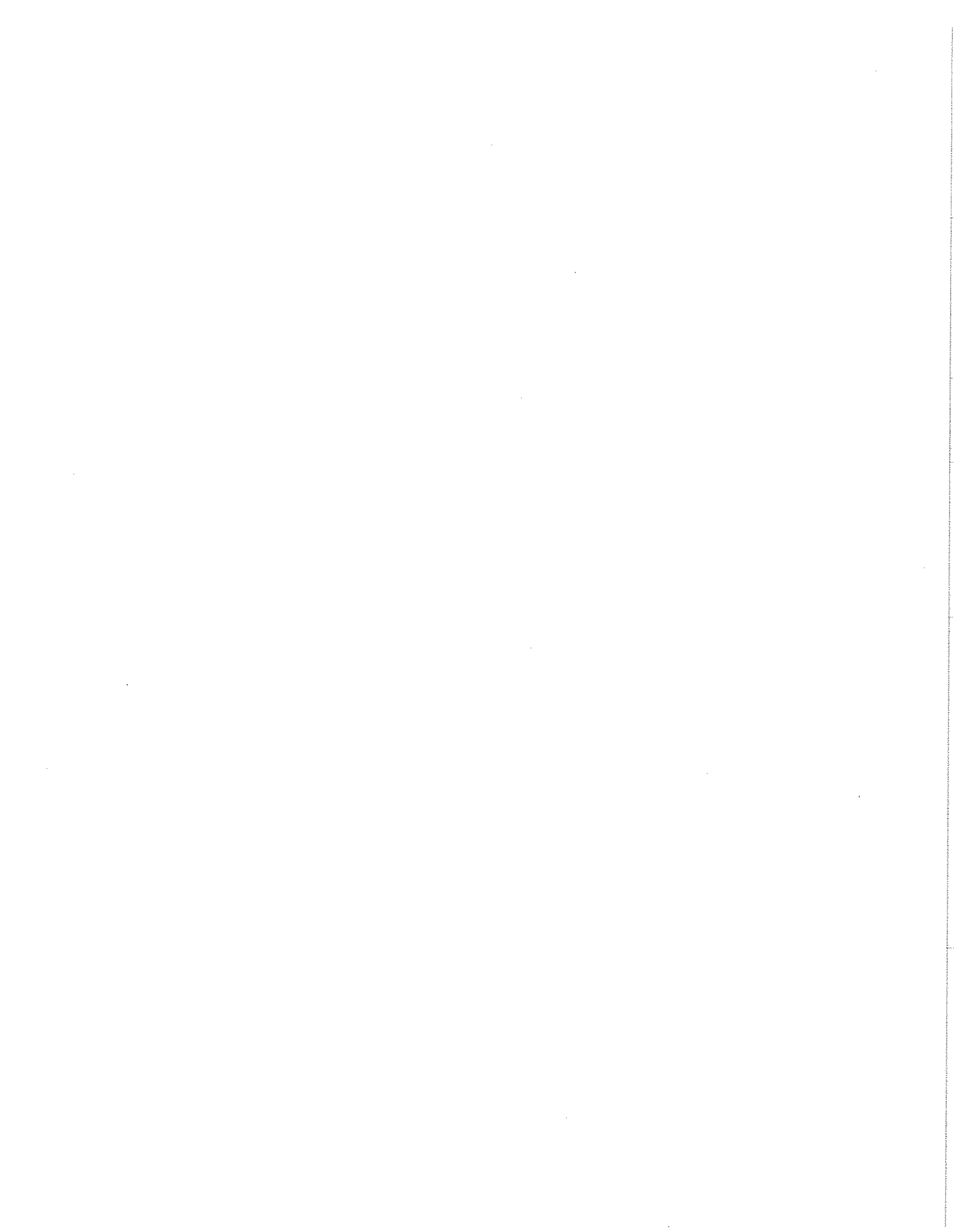
- 6 faculty who did not receive tenure
- 5 temp faculty
- 4 staff

The Deans Office felt that they should add to that list the number of students who withdrew from the college because of financial, academic or other reasons. Their total came to 9 students who left the College.

Professor Po Ett from the English Department offered this poem as a farewell to these 24 people:

You're headin' down 320
We didn't say "bye-bye"
You didn't have a farewell party
You didn't know we'd sigh.

You're gone from Swat, that's sure
Your email wiped from sight
But *some* of us will think about
Was it really right?



The Swonion

Volume 1, Issue 5

October 2002

Halloween Special Edition! Or nightmare on Elm Street for, well, you know . . .



TRICK OR TREAT?

Newly renovated and freshly painted Paces?
After-party smokey room and broken lights?

Beloved professor & caring mentor?
Tenure denied for lack of publications?

Student alcohol awareness workshops?
Downplaying "less serious problems like
vomiting in the hallways"?

Faculty luncheons?
No money for something to eat?

Minimum wage at \$9?
Still no money for something to eat?

Learning/working in an institution offering highest
intellectual challenges and scientific discovery?
Learning/working in an institution fueled and
driven by judgment and evaluation?

Community invited to forum on College expenses that no one talks about

*In an unprecedented first the president will lead a talk to
bring openness to the discussion of College expenses*

By Sacra Terry
Staff Reporter

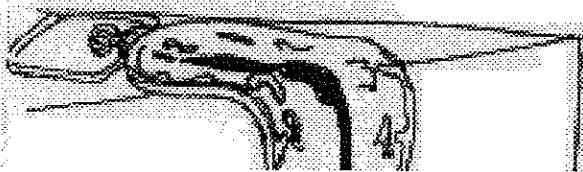
October 15 - In a recent memo to all students, faculty and staff the president has invited everyone to speak at an open mike next Tuesday in the Scheuer Room to declare expenses they know about but that have never become public because of their sensitive nature. The president, in an effort to demystify College expenditures has declared an all-out effort to make expenses at the College transparent and then see what can be done to reduce those expenses. The president sent out an initial survey to a sample group. Some of the individual responses identified the following expenses:

- VP Investments: astrological star-aligner to figure "best buys" on stocks
- Student: millions for alcohol purchased for parties passed off as cheese curl expense
- Management: all expense-paid travel junkets to Motel 8 in Springfield
- Student: 50,000 paper printouts never picked up and subsequently turned into paper airplanes
- Scott Arboretum: millions for pesticides to control the merganser duck louse
- Faculty: beer, pretzels and live heavy-metal bands for end-of-year departmental parties
- Dean: replacement expense of 50 water coolers gone missing from campus
- AA: designer furniture and vibrating office chairs with attached foot massagers for administrative offices
- Staff: renovation of map room into separate staff lounge that no one uses
- Faculty: upkeep on separate faculty lounge that no one uses
- VP HR: half the endowment for consultation fees for prevention of employee unionization
- Office services: re-duplikation 300 copies of a 500-page report because of one typo
- Facilities management: repairs and cleanup after mysterious vandalism episodes during Senior Week, blamed on extraterrestrials

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"Do you ever get the sense that time is slightly warped at Swat?" *Daily Gazette*, 10/10/02

- Librarian: cleaning expense for lounge furniture with fur-lined backrests spray-painted by animal rights group
- VP: installation of water park in president's basement and a slip 'n slid for backyard
- Environmental Services: removal expense of unexplained trash but closely resembling item give-aways posted on campus emails

In a strange anomaly one employee reported the expense for College paper recycling at \$1.55.

It seems by the initial survey that every community member has some knowledge of a college expense no one talks about.

Once the open-mike responses have been evaluated, the College will publish new guidelines for expenditures, which should result in efficiencies that will bring on a significant decrease in tuition for Fall 2003.



Whoooo or what are the real hobgoblins, specters and gremlins that lurk about in the dark recesses of Swarthmore? Supply your own answers.

Important Notice to Readers:

The Swonion is a satire!

It has come to the attention of the editors that some community members believe The Swonion is a mainstream campus news source

By Connie Fused
Staff Reporter

October 19 - No matter how art may imitate life, readers are reminded that *The Swonion*, radical little newsletter left behind counters, water coolers and in the campus wash rooms, is indeed a satirical publication.

Some members of the community have approached editors quoting, "according to a recent Swonion . . ." only to have to be gently informed that *The Swonion* is a satire on campus life, leaving editors in a vulnerable place of possibly revealing their secret identities.

The editors realize that *The Swonion* practically writes itself, with reporters having to approach subjects only slightly askew from the already absurd reality of the foibles and follies of campus life. Editors recommend that community members remain alert to campus events that are ironic, irritating or otherwise irrational. . . then no reader will be left behind.

Really.

President declares another, almost identical, Lack of Bear Advisory Committee, Number 2

After a surprise move, some faculty find themselves sitting on another committee

By Bo Rocrazy
Staff Reporter

October 22 – In a frantic reshuffling, the president quickly reorganized faculty members into a new parallel committee, Lack of Bear Advisory Committee Number 2. It seems that faculty, unhappy that teddy bears were not available at their annual holiday gathering held a coup d'etat during their final meeting in May. They issued a proclamation that they would not tolerate this difference in treatment. They began securing signatures and shoring up support when the president, shocked by this rebellion and new initiative, attempted to placate the faculty with his new second committee.

Unfortunately for the president, the faculty saw through his attempt to stack the committee with his own supporters, and declared an outright rebellion against arbitrary authority. Harsh words were spoken and (subsequently censored so as not to upset students so unused to vulgar language).

The president quietly pulled faculty aside promised special mortgage rates, increased travel allowances and less time between sabbaticals. With one collective sigh, faculty resigned themselves to the inevitable . . .



All content of *The Swonion* is intended solely as satire and social commentary protected under the First Amendment. Quotes attributed to campus personalities are fictional and strictly for laughs.