



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Pennsylvania Public Relations Society Names New President** **(Announces 2012 Slate of Officers)**

(Harrisburg) – The Pennsylvania Public Relations Society (PPRS) has selected its new slate of officers for 2012, including Mark O’Neill as its president. O’Neill, who is Media Relations Director of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, has been a PPRS member since 2004.

“I’m honored to be elected president by my fellow public relations peers and am looking forward to a great year of professional networking, along with interesting and timely programs as part of our monthly meetings. Public relations is constantly changing and evolving, and membership in PPRS is one of the best ways to stay connected with what’s happening in our industry,” O’Neill said.

Other officers elected include vice president – Kim Barger, freelance marketing and design specialist; secretary – Joan Nissley, press secretary, PA Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; and treasurer – Quinn Bryner, account supervisor, Tierney.

**Meanwhile, PPRS also announced its committee appointments for 2012, they include:**

### **Awards and Installation Committee**

Robert M. Fisher, (Co-chair), Retired  
Betty Hungerford, Director of Development, Homeland Center

### **Bylaws Committee**

Robert M. Fisher, Retired

### **Membership Committee**

Erin Kanter, Assistant Vice President, Government Relations, Pennsylvania Bankers Association

### **Nominating and Professional Standards Committee**

Stephanie Weyant (Chair), Deputy Director, New Media, Pennsylvania Lottery  
Jason S. Kirsch, APR, Vice President, Director of Marketing and Public Relations – Metro Bank  
Suzanne Graney, Director of the Four Diamonds Fund, Penn State Hershey Medical Center

### **Programming Committee**

Lynn Smolizer (Co-chair), Development & PR Coordinator, National Civil War Museum  
Kelly Hitz (Co-chair), Development Specialist, Susquehanna Service Dogs/Keystone Human Services

### **Publicity Committee**

Danielle Gross (Co-chair), Senior Account Executive & New Media Specialist, Bravo Group  
Justin Fleming (Co-chair), Director of Government Relations, National Association of Social Workers Association, PA Chapter

### **Special Events Committee**

Jamie Yates (Co-chair), Director of Communications, Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges  
Kate Bergeman, (Co-chair), Advancement Marketing & Communications Specialist, Dickinson College

### **Student Development Committee**

Crystal Hull, ABC, Corporate Director, Communications and Public Relations, Lutheran Social Services of South Central PA

### **Member Outreach and Feedback Committee**

Dan Christ (Co-chair), Director, Audience Engagement, The Patriot-News  
Heather Leach (Co-chair), Marketing and Education Director, PA Recreational Vehicle and Camping Association

PPRS was formed in 1950 to support and elevate the professional standards of public relations practitioners, facilitate professional and social relations among such practitioners and disseminate professional information of benefit to individuals and the profession. Membership candidacy is open to all persons of good standards of professional practice and ethics who, at the time of their election, earn a major portion of their livelihoods in a recognized field of public relations.

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