

M. Abraham Harpster, partner in Evergreen Farms, Pennsylvania's largest dairy operation, located in Spruce Creek, Pa. With his brothers and nearly eighty employees, they farm 6800 acres, milk 3300 cows, operate a feed mill, property management company, logistics company and a hospitality business focused on outdoor recreation. A longtime leader in environmental stewardship, Evergreen Farms supports many charitable and youth programs.

A 1994 graduate of Penn State with a degree in Agricultural Business, Abe hosts many tours and student classes at Evergreen Farms, hires Penn State graduates and offers summer internships for students looking for hands-on agricultural experience.

Abe is a member of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, PA State Grange, Holstein Association, and has served on boards of the Beef Council, FFA Foundation, Beef Quality Assurance Commission, Pennsylvania 21st Century Environmental Commission, Northeast Agricultural Education Foundation, and the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board.

As member of the Penn State Board of Trustees, Abe is engaged in the leadership of the university. He has served on the Academic Affairs and Student Life, Legal and Compliance, Business, Finance and Capital Planning Committees, is currently serving a second year as Chairman of the Outreach Committee, and is serving a fifth term on the Trustees Executive Committee.

Abe learned his work ethic on the family farm; Penn State broadened his perspective, provided a foundation in business principles and gave him opportunities to hone his leadership skills.

He enjoys spending time with his wife and three children, enjoying the outdoors and attending Penn State sporting events.
In my life I have four great passions: my family, my farm, my country and all things Penn State.

As a seasoned business owner and a regular contributor to the agricultural education experience at Penn State, my goal is to facilitate efforts to improve our university.

- I'm committed to the value of education.
- I will strive to make Penn State affordable to all, while seeking to attract the best and brightest faculty and staff.
- I will work to make the university more responsive to the needs of all students.
- I support strengthening partnerships with corporations, industries and small business and promote the exchange of ideas. Partnering with industry ultimately helps our graduates secure the best employment opportunities and provides an exceptional pool of employees to business and industry.
- Penn State was established as a land grant university. As a farmer who makes his living in production agriculture, I will work to maintain and strengthen the agricultural roots from which our university has grown and to which we must remain committed.

- Finally, I hope to better serve the community as a whole by making the resource that is our university available to all residents and taxpayers, and support the Commonwealth campus system which can make a Penn State education accessible to everyone in Pennsylvania.

My Penn State experience provided me with the tools to become a successful businessman and leader. I would like to ensure future graduates have the skills, ability and opportunities to achieve the highest levels of success.