President’s Message

As is usual this time of year, it’s a constant battle of finding the next priority. No matter how prepped for apple harvest I think I am, it always seems like everything changes to chaos by the end of Honeycrisp picking; bins start to run short, and the coolers keep getting fuller and fuller by day. That most important commodity of time seems to disappear at an alarming rate, and once it’s gone there is very little to be done to catch up. It also doesn’t help when a tropical storm decides to park itself off the coast for the weekend, but that’s part of what makes this job interesting.

As of the time I sit down to write this, Dean Richard Roush has stepped down from his position as Dean of the College of Agriculture at Penn State. He has served as Dean since 2014, and has been a big proponent of Pennsylvania’s agricultural sector. SHAP has had a very positive working relationship with him over the last 9 years. With yearly meetings at the Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention to discuss our concerns and needs for the PA fruit industry, to discussions at FREC Field Days and Apple Grower Receptions, Dean Roush has always been willing to have these conversations and provide us with information on Penn States activities. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors, and look forward to working with the interim Dean and the future permanent Dean.

Happy Harvesting!

Andrew Schwalm
SHAP President