



## Sue Paterno offers her take on Penn State's debate over honoring JoePa

Sue Paterno speaks at Dixon University Center

Sue Paterno gets a standing ovation from son, Scott Paterno and others prior to speaking to the media about Circles of Safety for Higher Education, a program she funded that was piloted at the State System of Higher Education campuses over the last two years to help prevent child sexual victimization on college campuses on Thursday. Sean Simmers, PennLive.com. April 9, 2015. *(SEAN SIMMERS)*

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**Return the statue?** Build a new statue? Come up with another way to recognize **Joe Paterno's** place in Penn State history? Do nothing at all?

Penn Staters can debate all they wants about if and how to honor the school's legendary football coach but his widow says those who knew him know what his contributions to the university are and what he stood for regardless of what happens.

"Always remember this, nobody can take away who he was," Sue Paterno said. "We all know that."

She was in Harrisburg on Thursday to hear a presentation on a child sexual abuse prevention program called **Circles of Safety for Higher Education** she funded that the 14 State System of Higher Education universities piloted over the last two years. The first-of-its-kind program trains people in a university setting about how to prevent and be aware of child sexual victimization.

Because that was the reason for their visit, her son Scott declined to comment when asked if Penn State officials have made any overtures to the Paterno family about honoring the family's patriarch.

"This is not the day for that," he said. "I think it's important to keep focused on this program."

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