

Faculty Profile of the Week

Curtain call

by Jen Colvin
Collegian Staff

Even though many people believe the studio theater is small, Kathleen Campbell thinks it is a wonderful area to work with.

"It's wonderful because you get to work on real acting, relationships (with the audience), and communication. It really gets to the nuts and bolts of acting," said Campbell.

According to Campbell, the studio theater on campus teaches process. The process of putting on a production.

Though many people may find it hard to work in the theater, to Campbell that is the true challenge.

"If you can work here, you can work anywhere," she said.

Campbell said she tries to make her students understand theater and build a relationship with the audience and this is possible by working in a small theater.

For example, if a student takes Campbell's art of theater class, they would get a close look at how a production operates. Campbell also said she tries to impress an appreciation of the theater on students.

The class spends much time exploring how actors actually put together a production. Breaking up into small groups, they put on their own production for the class.

Campbell also teaches an acting class that is more in-depth.

In the acting class, the students spend time doing improvisatory skits. But Campbell does not

give her class scripts because according to her, acting is not just reading the lines.

"They need to explore the base of acting. They think that if they can read the lines that they can act, but that's not it," said Campbell.

Campbell also works on relaxation with all of her classes. By relaxing, Campbell said that the students get down to the core of themselves and then can begin to act.

"You can't build a character upon yourself. You have to find a central instrument to work with," she said.

Campbell's relaxation techniques have been used campus wide for things other than just acting. Some RAs in the dorms and suites have even invited Campbell to teach relaxation techniques to students for test anxiety and stress.

To Campbell, all people play roles. "We all have certain behaviors for situations; variations of ourselves for different situations," she said.

But she said that acting is different. "Acting is like stepping into another life; you experience another part of life," she said.

By acting, Campbell said that a person can act only by using bits and pieces of his/her own experience.

For example, Romeo is not only Romeo, but part of the actor who plays Romeo also. Campbell attributes such a "two-sided actor" as the reason some actors do not get the part they try out for.



Jen Colvin/Photo Coordinator

Faculty Profile of the Week: Kathleen Campbell prepares the studio theater for one of its last performances under Campbell's direction. She will move on to Austin College next.

"When you are rejected at an audition, it's you they don't like. It's not the work you did, but by seeing you act they know what they have to work with," Campbell explained.

Not only do you have to develop good acting skills, but Campbell said that you have to want to truly be an actor.

"If someone comes to me and says 'I want to be an actor,' I ask if there is anything else they would like to do. If they say yes, I tell them to go do that. Acting is very hard and to truly make it, acting must be the only thing you can do," said Campbell.

According to Campbell, acting as a profession is almost a "calling."

"You have to love it. Theater is too hard and it must be absolutely the only thing you can do," added Campbell.

And according to her, Campbell said acting is the only thing she can do. Campbell said that theater is a way for her to speak about the things she thinks are important.

"Theater gets to the things I think are important and it gets to those (things) very quickly and dynamically," she said.

But it is not necessarily the acting that attracts Campbell. According to her, directing is what she really likes to do.

"I love directing. I watch the play from the outside, yet know every bit of it," she said.

Campbell said she teaches theater because she loves going to school.

She graduated from Northwestern University with her bachelor's in theater. She also has an master's in theater and her doctorate in literature.

Because Behrend does not offer a theater major and is not concentrated in theater, Campbell is moving on to teach at Austin College in Texas, near where she grew up. There, Campbell said she looks forward to teaching theater majors.

Austin College, a small, liberal arts school offers a theater major and according to Campbell is a good opportunity to do things that interest her.

In the pink

by Hal D. Coffey
News Editor

The eyes have it, and a pretty bad case of it.

Two weeks ago, students began coming into the Health and Wellness Center with irritated, red, puffed eyes. What they had was pink eye, Patty Pasky McMahon, director of Health Services said.

One of the first students to come to the center with pink eye was sophomore Matt Baker, a resident of third floor Lawrence. Baker said he walked in behind someone who complained of the same symptoms.

"My eyes got all puffed up and red," Baker said. "About five people on the floor have gotten it since."

Another resident of third floor Lawrence, Matt Smith, contracted the virus after Baker.

"Some of the guys looked at me and thought I had it," Smith

said. "The next morning, it puffed up and almost closed. Soon after, the other eye was infected as well."

McMahon said the cases peaked last week and that the virus has been contracted by at least 15-20 patients.

Symptoms include itchy, watery eyes, redness, and then dry sticky eyes.

Depending on allergies, Health and Wellness prescribes and dispenses eye medication.

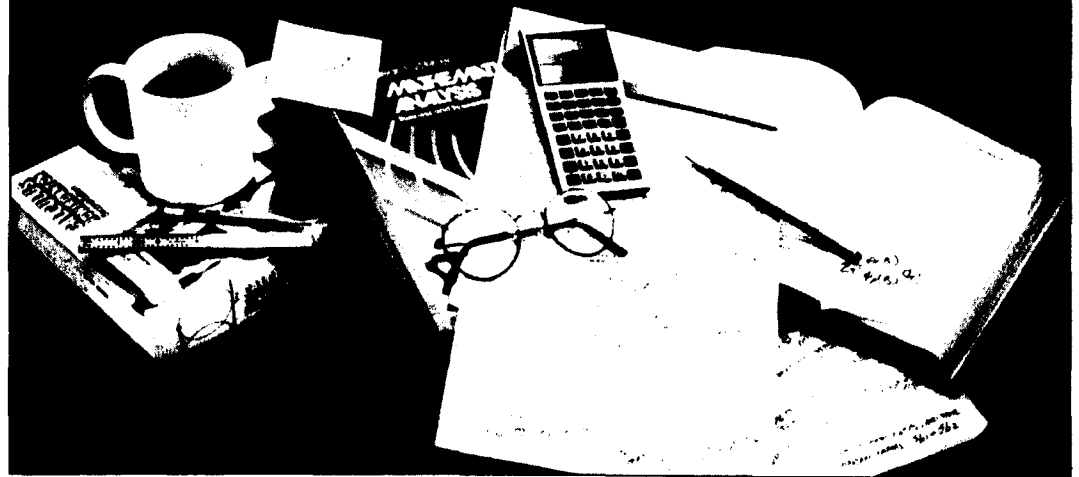
Pink eye is highly communicable and every precaution should be made.

"Good hand washing is essential," McMahon said. "Avoid rubbing eyes and placing hands on your face."

The residents of third floor Lawrence have taken precautions to prevent the pink eye from spreading further.

"We've been careful not to touch the doorknobs too much," Baker said. "No one really wants to touch anything on the floor."

SOLVE ALL OF YOUR PROBLEMS THIS SUMMER



Take advantage of your summer and make "The Smart Choice": get a head start on your next semester.

Whether you want to improve a grade or lighten your next course load, CCAC is the place to do it. Pittsburgh's CCAC offers a wide variety of summer courses guaranteed to transfer to other colleges and universities. You can do it with four, six, eight

or ten week sessions.

As Pennsylvania's largest community college, CCAC helped over 109,000 students last year to get an edge in today's labor market.

This summer, get more than a tan from your vacation. Make "The Smart Choice" and call your nearest CCAC campus today for complete enrollment information.

• Business • Computers • Sciences • English • Sociology
• Psychology • Engineering • Drafting & Design • Mathematics • Speech

CCAC COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Allegheny Campus
North Side,
Pittsburgh 412-237-2511

Boycie Campus
Monroeville
412-371-8651

North Campus
North Hills
412-366-7000

South Campus
West Mifflin
412-469-1100