

PSH NEWS

Advice given for future graduate students

*Robin Price
Capital Times Staff*

Students considering graduate school received some helpful hints from the Student Assistance on Feb. 26 as part of its series of lunch time personal growth classes.

Ed Beck, personal counseling programs coordinator, shared his expertise with a group of about fifteen students in the Gallery Lounge.

Beck said "There are no universals in graduate school curricula and expectations."

Beck said he knows how difficult and intimidating the process of applying to grad school can be. He was a non-traditional student, married with two

children during his grad school days.

Beck suggested students should, "Figure out what he or she wants to do when they grow up," before applying to graduate school.

He said the school usually assumes students know what they want to do with their degree. Faculty at graduate schools are highly motivated, he said, and they generally assume the prospective students is equally motivated.

Beck also offered a few tips to decide if grad school is the right choice for you, and several hints on how to choose a grad school.

Beck suggested checking the faculty out to see whether their expertise matches your interests.

Beck also suggested that the prospective candidate ask masters and doctoral students of the schools you are interested in, to see if present students are satisfied with the program.

"It is not as hard to get in to grad school, as it is to decide which program is right for you," Beck said. "There is probably a grad school program somewhere for you."

Beck suggested students look at the compendiums of grad school listings available in the Student Assistance Center or Heindel Library. The library also houses a complete set of grad school catalogs on microfiche.

Beck advised students on grad school admission "test anxiety," and suggested

that prospective grad students get the tests behind them as soon as possible.

About test prep courses, Beck said, "Test prep material is like chicken soup. We don't know how much it helps, but we know it doesn't hurt."

After the class, Jennifer Burkey, 21, a behavioral science major said she previously had "no idea what was required" of her. "I now have guidelines," she said. "I know I need to define my goals before I apply."

Latonia Childs, 22, currently a graduate student here, said she felt "less intimidated, less overwhelmed, and less stressed out" after the lecture. Childs seeks an eventual doctoral degree in psychology.

Model United Nations Conference debates world topics

*Victoria Phillips
Capital Times*

United Nations delegates hotly debated the Palestinian issue in front of a T.V. camera. But this wasn't in New York. It happened last month at Penn State Harrisburg during the 19th Annual

Model United Nations conference.

On Feb. 21-23, the International Affairs Association of Penn State Harrisburg, under the direction of Clemmie Gilpin, coordinated the event. Over 350 students from 19 local high schools participated. Groups of students were appointed delegates from various U.N. member nations. Teachers from the schools were sponsors, and the

I.A.A. members from Penn State Harrisburg chaired the committee meetings.

In the Student Center at the Capital Union Building a U.N. committee debated the Palestinian issue for News Sight 21 cameras and waved large cards identifying their country. Each was then recognized by the speaker.

A Bahrain delegate said P.L.O.

violence would end if the Palestinians had a homeland.

"Once they achieve their goal...they will no longer need to go on with their actions," he said.

Delegates from other nations spoke for and against the P.L.O. The U.S. and Saudi Arabian delegates believed Israeli troops should stay in the occupied territories to prevent riots until settlement of the Palestinian state.

In another room, a Gulf War debate was underway. It was proposed that a U.N. buffer force remain in the Gulf to prevent further hostilities after the war. Then an Iranian delegate asked how large the force would be.

"That will be determined by the General Assembly," said a Saudi delegate.

He didn't think the force would have to be large, and said that it would be made up of many nations. He urged members to vote against the proposed amendment.

One of the sponsors was Steel High teacher Carl Smith. His students represented Cyprus, the Ivory Coast, Oman, Bulgaria, and Iceland.

The Gulf War is "probably the most talked about subject," he said. Some resolutions were passed, but many were defeated Smith said. He said this conference showed students how hard it can be for the U.N. to pass a resolution.

Sister Helen Mary sponsored students from Bishop McDevitt High School. Her students represented Indonesia and Pakistan. She said students enjoyed themselves and were better prepared than in past years.

Wearing a white tag with the Turkish flag on it, Harrisburg High School student Aisha Herring said the war was the most talked about subject at the conference. She pointed to a 25-point list of resolutions about Kuwaiti relief following the war.

Bill Stasiualatias, a Cumberland Valley student delegate for Bolivia, said this year was the first time he had participated in the Model U.N.

Tina Batra, also from Cumberland Valley, pointed out that there is a lot of bureaucracy in the U.N. committee meetings.

"It's hard to be recognized [by the speaker]," Batra said.

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three to five candidates for each position.

The interview process takes about 1 1/2 days. During the process, the applicant tours the campus, teaches a class, makes a presentation and meets a variety of faculty members.

Dishner said the applicant's schedule is rigorous during the process, but they try not to rush them.

"If you rush it, they'll leave here not being sure, and if you later offer them a job and they have a lot of questions still in their mind, then you've spent a lot of money and you've maybe missed," Dishner said.

The committee not only interviews the candidate, but also promotes Penn State Harrisburg, Dishner added.

"When they leave here, we want them to be very positive about Penn State Harrisburg," Dishner said. "If they're not offered a job, we want them to be sorry about that."

Dishner said he hopes to hold a reception with local business leaders to see how well the applicants interact with the business community.

"I want people who can walk into the office of the president of a local bank, or AMP, or Hershey Foods, and be somebody that's accepted and that has a lot of credibility," Dishner said. "People need to provide leadership on campus but also provide leadership in the appropriate arena external to the campus."

Despite the large number of applicants, some positions might not be filled, Dishner said, adding that some fields have fewer candidates.

"I would much rather close down a search that to make a decision to hire a marginal candidate," Dishner said.

In some instances, the school might stop the search and hire a part-time replacement for one year, Dishner said.

Academic Affairs Personnel Searches For Fall 1991 Appointments

Academic Administrators and Faculty Searches by Division and School

Behavioral Science and Education

Director of Education Programs
Clinical/Community Psychology
Experimental Psychology (Hired Barbara A. Bremer)
Instructional Design/Educational Technology
Foundations/Secondary Education

Business Administration

School Director
Finance (Hired Harvey Arbelaez)
Information Systems (Hired Girish Subramanian)
Information Systems
Management - 2 positions

Humanities

Humanities/Philosophy
Humanities/Writing

Library

Division Head
Librarian

Public Affairs

Division Head

Science, Engineering and Technology

Division Head
Civil/Surveying
Electrical (Hired Alireza Rahrooh)
Electrical

Support Personnel

Continuing Education

Director
Area Representative - 2 positions

Computer and Information Systems

Director
Staff

Source: Penn State Harrisburg Office of the Associate Provost and Dean of Faculty