

Freshmen adjust to campus life with the assistance of First-Year programs

freshmen finance major said he didn't know ANGEL existed until he attended his First-Year-Seminar class. "The class for freshmen are really helpful when it comes to becoming familiar with the campus and the University in general," Kanchanasakul said.

"The peer mentoring is good for freshmen because they might be more comfortable talking to me about a problem than to a professor and I can direct them to the right place," said Kane.

Currently 63 freshmen live on campus. Accommodations for freshmen are primarily in the 3000 and 4000 housing

buildings, according to George Young, coordinator of Resident-Life. Programs were held to help freshmen adjust to living in the dorms. "How to Adjust to Life on Campus" was held on Aug 28 and "We are an Apartment Family-Now What?" held on Sept. 9 are a few programs presented Resident-Life. Staff members attended training courses specializing in freshman student life to better assist the first-year students.

The full list of majors is available on the Penn State Harrisburg website at <http://www.hbg.psu.edu/hbg/programs/undergrad/index.html>.

Tips for Freshmen

1. Cramming for tests never works.
2. Go home to do laundry to save \$\$
3. Eat at least one meal per week that doesn't come with a tray.
4. Class attendance is not optional.



Photo by Jennifer Kauffman

Mike Staley, Pre-law major, Eric Perera, Business major, Anthony Ike, Business major, Joseph D. Brown, finance major enjoy lunch in the Towne Square before heading off to class.

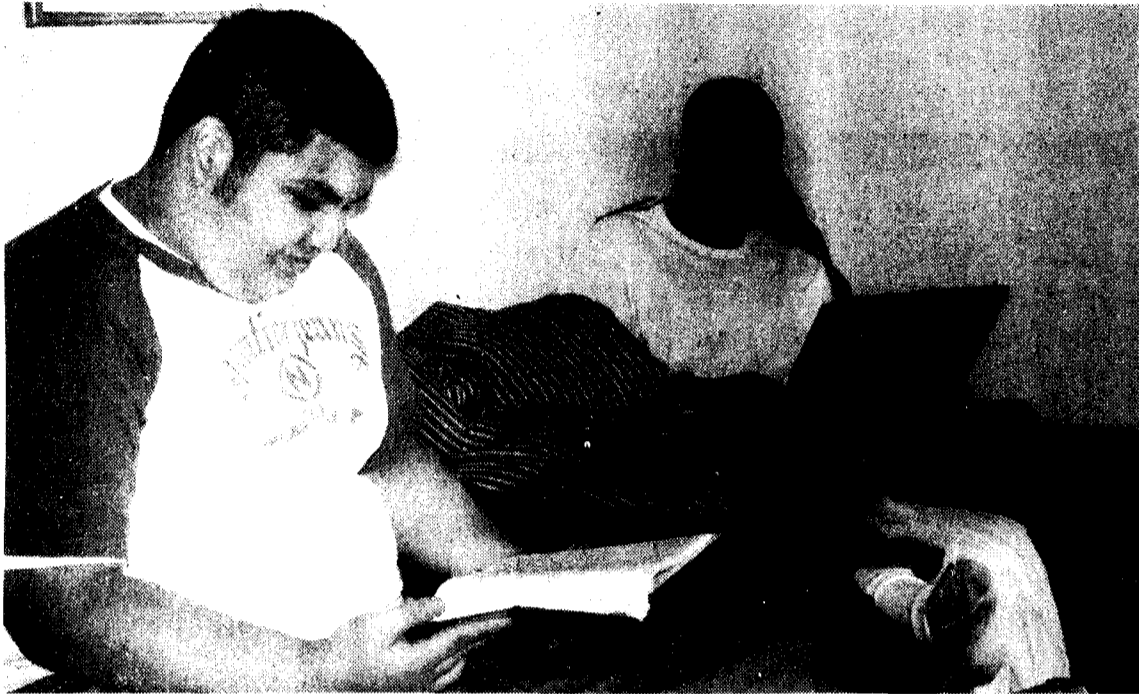


Photo by Jennifer Kauffman

Lewis Kennedy, freshman Architectural Engineering major and Grego Bosley, freshmen Electrical Engineering get down to work in the freshmen dorms. Freshmen are adjusting to life away from home and making new friends.



Video games are important for stress relief. These freshmen hang out in the dorms letting off some steam from their first week of classes at Penn State Harrisburg. After they complete the games they will need to clean up.

Turgeon talks tough

have children you realize that that is true. When I was growing up, even if one of my parents or grandparents weren't around, the next door neighbor was watching and I couldn't get away with anything. Very few communities do that now. People are afraid to get involved. Some parents will say don't you touch my kid, that's my job as a parent. I can guarantee you that that kid is going to be in trouble. I think we need to change society to become

said Turgeon. "They don't serve the community well," she said.

Turgeon talked about the current sentencing guidelines in PA.

"There are some guidelines that I would like to change," said Turgeon. "Now you can go to jail for three years if you have three grams of crack in your pocket versus if you sexually assault a child where the guidelines can be as low as restorative sanctions and that is just wrong,"

"When you send somebody away for twenty years or life in jail you realize that you're taking that person's freedom away for a long time"

- Jeannine Turgeon

more responsible as well as parents," she said.

Turgeon talked about the fairly recent phenomenon of children being tried in court as adults.

"The big push now is to sentence children as adults," said Turgeon. "I do not support that concept but more and more kids today are being transferred to adult court for prosecution and that's due to the legislature. Under the Tom Ridge administration, they changed the juvenile law to make more crimes adult crimes. That is the political climate of today," she said.

Another issue that is usually an occasion for heated debate is mandatory minimum sentencing. Turgeon revealed her belief in the cynical nature of their origin. "I think that they're the politicians answer to re-election,"

Turgeon said.

Sentencing an individual to do hard time is a heavy burden for even the most seasoned judge. Turgeon explained the process she goes through when faced with having to make such a decision.

"It's rough" admits Turgeon. "When you send somebody away for twenty years or life in jail you realize that you're taking that person's freedom away for a long time. But, you also have the victim or the victim's survivors in the courtroom and no matter how long I put you in jail I can't bring this life back that you have ruined or devastated that they have to live with everyday of their life. So, there's no way for justice to occur in a courtroom at a sentencing because you can't restore somebody's life who's been harmed by a defendant," she said.

Penn State tuition goes through the roof before semester begins

Newspaper survey says Penn State has most expensive in-state tuition

By MARTHA RAFFAELE
AP Education Writer

HARRISBURG, Pa. - A recent newspaper survey ranks Penn State University's tuition and fees the highest among the nation's major public universities, but the university's president said Thursday he doesn't expect that distinction to stigmatize his school.

This year, incoming Penn State freshmen who are Pennsylvania residents are paying \$10,856 in tuition and fees, making it the most expensive of the 67 "flagship" public universities surveyed in 50 states by USA Today. The survey was published in Wednesday's editions of the newspaper.

"Price itself isn't a stigma, or else no one would go to Harvard or any one of the many Pennsylvania private schools that cost two or three times as much as Penn State," university President Graham Spanier said. "But it doesn't feel right to me for the Commonwealth's flagship university to cost \$10,000."

Penn State's tuition and fees are 12 percent higher than in the 2003-04 school year, and 30 percent higher than in 2002-03. "They're jacking up prices for everything these days. Here, they're building a lot of new stuff, and I'm not sure I know why," said Nathan Baldwin, a sophomore from the Pittsburgh area. "I get finan-

cial aid, but as far as me and my family goes, we're pretty much strapped."

Penn State is one of three schools whose annual costs exceed \$10,000, according to the survey. The others are Rutgers University, at \$10,460, and the University of Vermont, at \$10,226.

Spanier attributed the higher costs to a series of cuts in state funding in the past three years. Penn State's appropriation declined from \$334.8 million at the beginning of 2001-02 to \$307.8 million in 2003-04 because of the state's budget woes.

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lenges the fundamental concept of being a public university accessible to all," Spanier said.

to \$317.2 million. It accounts for about 11 percent of the university's budget. Despite the funding cuts, the university's enrollment has consistently grown. According to the most recent figures, fall 2003 enrollment reached an all-time high of 83,177 students.

The university received more than 51,000 undergraduate applications for the 2003-04 school year, and expects to be "very close to that" this year, said Randall Dieke, assistant vice provost for enrollment management and director of undergraduate admissions.

In 2002, the university embarked on a five-year campaign to raise \$100 million in need-based scholarships in response to declining state funding. About \$20 million has been raised so far, Spanier said.

Penn State also recently completed a separate campaign that raised more than \$1.3 billion, of which \$38 million was set aside for endowed scholarships.

Incoming freshmen receive an average financial aid package of \$4,459, spokesman Tysen Kendig said.

Ben Wygant, a junior majoring in recreation and parks management, receives some financial aid and supplements it by working during summers and school breaks.

"I talk to a lot of my friends who go to state schools, and my sister goes to a state school, and it's a lot cheaper than it is here," said Wygant, of Franklin.

lenges the fundamental concept of being a public university accessible to all. But this is the unfortunate reality in Pennsylvania after decades of underfunding public higher education," Spanier said.

State aid for the current fiscal year increased by 3 percent

"We aren't happy about being so expensive, since it challenges the fundamental concept of being a public university accessible to all"
-Graham Spanier

Circle K is looking for members who want to do help out in the community and around campus. meetings are held Tuesdays at 5 p.m. in the club activities room E126