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# Barnes and Nobles: Help or Hindrance?

by Janice D. Hayes

Students wish for very little, for example just being able to have a book for class. That is not too much to ask since the whole purpose of being a student here at Penn State is to get an education.

There are over 100 days from the time students leave for summer until they return for the next semester, but when students return what do they find? The answer is a bookstore that has ordered the wrong books or doesn't have their books at all.

Does Barnes and Nobles really care about the inconvenience that they have caused students? Are they suggesting ways to save

students money so the they won't have to write ten different checks? Are they talking to your professors telling them that since they don't have the books in the bookstore they shouldn't assign over fifty pages of reading almost every night.

Yes, there have been many weather delays. Yes, there is always room for error, but sometimes the bookstore seems to think that they can take their time and do whatever they want just because their purchasers are only students. This editor does not think so!

It is time for the new ownership of the bookstore to remember one thing. They are

here for the students and should get their act together because students will not sit and take the run around from them anymore.

We have to think about this situation carefully. When Penn State sold the bookstore did they sell it to enhance student life or did they sell it for a quick buck, allowing them to be relieved of the responsibility of taking care of their students.

Students who have problems, fight back. Let the Student Government Association become aware of the problem. The tuition that is paid every semester gives you the right to speak out.

## Penn State Students Need To Wake Up

by Janice D. Hayes

We get tuition increases without even a notice. We get billed for damages in the residence halls that were there when we first set foot in the door. We get hours placed on what times we can use our meal cards and what times we can't. We get professors that wish to cancel class when their roads at home are bad. We get parking lots that are only half-way shoveled. We get a maintenance staff that consists of five people, broken tools, and a two million dollar shed. We get a bookstore that

doesn't even care if we get books or not.

Most of all, we get an advising center where half of the advisors don't even know how to spell your major, much less advise you in one. This campus needs to think about where their priorities lie, but students must remember these problems are not just the fault of Penn State.

In some ways it is the students fault. If students keeping portraying the attitude of "I

don't care" things will never change, things will always be the same. As long as students let their social lives be their main priority of their college career then Penn State will always treat them the way that they are doing now.

Students need to put down the bottles of alcohol, chill on the pot smoking, stay home and study one night and actually find out what's really going on around them. If students do that then maybe this editor will gain some confidence in the student body.

## Comments to the Editor

Dear Editor,

This letter is to inform administrators as well as concerned students about the current situation of money cuts in the Student affairs departments of the various commonwealth and the effects that they are having. I see the damage that the "Old Main" administrators are doing to the individual Commonwealth Campuses.

The commonwealth campuses are individual, we are not on huge conglomerate as the central administrators think we are. We have different concerns and are in need of different things. We cater to different people in each region of Pennsylvania. We, unlike University Park, are truly diverse in our approach to education as well as recruitment. Therefore, it is essential that the central administration treats us as such. Unfortunately, that is not the case.

The "Old Main Administrators" choose to treat us as on huge entity that is the same everywhere at all times. Unfortunately, they neglect the fact that what is good for Hazleton is not necessarily good for New Kensington. Each campus has to recruit the students to fill the campus classes each year without overtly stepping on the toes of UP and

the Central Administration. That alone makes it extremely difficult to make the required funds to keep the individual campus afloat. With that in mind, I must now tell you that we are Enrollment driven. Which translates into the fact that if your enrollment decreases, so does your funding. This leads into the problem that every student organization and individual campus administrator must face, Recruitment and Retention. The university stresses the fact that we must continually increase our enrollments to get greater funding and yet the university, in its omnipotents, will not provide a way for the individual campus to retain the student that it requires you to enroll. The current funding for the campuses is terribly inadequate to provide the insensitive for students to stay in the Penn State system,

The University talks about higher enrollments, but the fact remains that even when a Commonwealth Campus does increase its enrollment, it still suffers cuts in student programs and services, recently renamed back to Student Affairs.

What is the answer? It is not simple, but the CES plan for the future and the "Old Main Administrators" still haven't gotten a

clue as to what to do. A step in the right direction might be to treat the CES as a diverse whole and actually listen to student leaders instead of paying lip service to them. If administration begin to listen to the students, maybe, all parties concerned can come to a agreement on how to tackle this problem before it tackles the CES.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Spado III

President, Hazleton Campus

Campus Chair, CCSG

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