

Student Government Officers Reflect on Achievements

By Angela Deal

Question: What were your objectives for this year?

Rich McFadden, Treasure SGA 1991-92: As an incoming freshman, Rich felt privileged to be a member of SGA. As treasurer, he set goals to change mistakes and misbalances from former officers, and to provide good, clear notes for prospective treasurers at Delco to look back on and learn from. Of course, Rich also tried to keep the clubs and organizations from exceeding their budgets. On a more communicative level, he made a point of touching base a lot with the officers in all clubs to "keep a close knit", as Rich put it.

Dianna Cahall, Vice President SGA 1991-92: Dianna's job was much different; as V.P. part of the job included student activities. She focused on getting more involvement from students, and set out to expand her knowledge about PSU to share with them. It was important to her to inform students about the system and the necessity to be a part of it all, rather than just another tuition payer.

Chris Cown, President SGA 1991-92: Although most of the officers held similar objectives, Chris expressed his desire to unite the campus and get people to be energetic. In addition, it was important to him to be able to adjust to their situation; Rich and Tracy

were not the original officers elected, and were both incoming freshman.

Tracy McLoughlin, Secretary SGA 1991-92: Tracy's objectives were pretty cut and dry. She set out to do the best she could and make sure she did a god job for everyone. Being a freshman, she also wanted to make up for lost time and to fit in with the flow of things.

Q: Did you achieve these objectives?

Rich: "Basically", he said. He had not experienced any real hold backs or problems with anybody or anything.

Dianna expressed that through a collaborative effort she did see a lot more involvement. She felt she learned quite a bit and was able as she met students to teach them and pass on important information. Information she feels students have a right to know about, like what our tuition money is spent on and why we do not have certain amenities on our campus.

For Chris, the achievement came when he witnessed the number of people who came together, united, to tackle the space problem the campus has been suffering. "It was thrilling for me to see that energy," he said excitedly.

Tracy felt that her goals were achieved; her minutes were concise, she was accepted, and formed good relationships. With contentment she added, "I feel comfortable in my position now."

Q: How did you feel about this year?

"It went over great," Rich said confidently. He had fun and the experience allowed him an opportunity to meet faculty, staff and students he might not, otherwise, have met. He said, "it was a great basis for college life." He felt that he had a real say in matters and that people listened to his opinions; something he feels is unique to our campus.

Dianna: "It was a learning experience-sometimes frustrating," she said without hesitation. But, felt that overall it was fun and she had an opportunity to share with a lot of people.

"Overall, I'm satisfied," said Chris. He felt they handled problems the best way they could. he accredits a lot of their success, and the success of the students in general, to Tammy Zampogna, Student Activities Coordinator. Despite the satisfaction, Chris said it was a long year and recalled a lot of high points and low points; balancing homework, classes, and SGA duties, successfully, was a difficult job.

"Very Positive," Tracy said confidently as if rehearsed. She felt that the issue of space was the only real complication they encountered, and noticed that although views varied, and compromises had to be made, everyone worked well together.

Q: Did you have a lot of cooperation among the clubs and organizations?

Rich stated that except for a small misunderstanding here and there, because of the locations of the offices, and therefore a lack of communication, he never had too much of a problem with the clubs.

"I saw a lot of people become interested," said Dianna. Recognizing that obtaining a goal is easier when the campus cares, she said that a lot of people in the clubs and organizations, and elsewhere, offered support and cared about the campus space problem.

According to Chris, "overall, yes". Taking into consideration the academic demands on the students, and recognizing that sophomore year is one of the most difficult, Chris felt that the students did the best they could.

"Yeah, again I think it was the space that caused an uproar," Tracy stated. She felt that there was a lot of flexibility with the other clubs and organizations. She said, "they understood our jobs and respected and understood us as a whole."

Q: Do you ever feel like it is a harder battle motivating people since it is a two year commuter campus?

Relating with the problem,

Rich referred to the campus as a stepping stone to main campus or another campus, and said it is really hard to get involvement. He said a lot of people say, 'I come here, I leave'. With this attitude, he feels people are missing out on the intimacy our campus has to offer.

Dianna, who says, "We've just about stood on our heads to show people we care," feels it has gotten better, but "at a commuter campus you're always going to have these problems."

"Definitely", Chris replied without hesitation. Although Chris too recognized the fact that this is a problem which will never be solved, and is dealt with by every commuter campus, "satisfying groups willing to be a part and get involved is what is important; there is only so much you can do for the others."

Drawing on the space problem, Tracy said while there was good involvement, there are always going to be those people who figure, I'm not going to be here so, who cares?

Q: Would you recommend this type of responsibility to others?

"Yes," said Rich, "to anybody- especially freshman." Rich said he would recommend involvement with any club or organization, not just SGA.

Dianna: "Yes, it has been a great learning experience. The things I learned from SGA I could never learn from a book."

While Chris notes that, "the job is not for everybody," he says, "[he] recommends it to those who want to get a lot out of their experience in college." Chris added, you have to be ready to meet demands, take risks, and put yourself on the line for the benefit of the student body.

Tracy: "I think so, It is a different type of responsibility that not a lot of people get to experience and should."

convincingly. He added that, in addition to book knowledge, people knowledge and communication skills are extremely important. Students need to take advantage of, and use, the sources at their fingertips.

Tracy: "I'm just glad I got involved."

Contaminants Can Pollute Everyone's Drinking Water

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to clean the car, will seep into our water supply with the help of rain.

Our kitchen sink is also a gateway to the pollution of water. Anything that goes down the drain is more than likely to turn around and come right back up.

In addition to families, many companies and state legislatures are also at fault. They allow for the unhealthy disposal of waste products. Dangerous chemicals find their way into our glass of water due to the corrosion or failure of the drums. Many municipal landfills across the nation are also responsible for water pollution due to the lack of supervision over the acceptance and removal of chemical hazards.

What can be done to stop this deadly threat? Try to stay away from using toxic chemicals in your way into ditches, streams, and lakes, taking with it all the pesticides, road salts, and construction debris found in all aspects of life.

Anything that is thrown out into the backyard, such as lawn fertilizers, car oil, and the soap used

house or garden. If they must be used, close their lids tightly and store them in the garage until you can get rid of them properly. Call your local public works department for a hazardous waste collection facility near you.

When winter comes and it's time to de-ice the driveway, consider using sand, since it's a natural material. Write your legislators and ask them to do the same for the highways and roads.

Go for a walk through your local park or neighborhood and pick up litter.

Most of all, be earth conscious. Remember that whatever you dump in the street, bury in the backyard, put down your sink, or sprinkle in your flower garden has a good chance of coming back to haunt or even hurt you.

Why not stop the destruction of Mother Earth and begin to take steps to prevent such contaminations? Realize the consequences and results of your actions before doing them. Earth safety is human safety.

