

# Opinion & Review

## Letter to Delco, I

### The Inside Story on UP Life

By Nick Indeglio  
State College Correspondent

(Editor's Note: Nick was a student at Delco and a member of The Lion's Eye staff last semester.)

As the sun rose on the morning of Thursday, January 5, 1995, I leapt out of bed and threw the blinds open. Standing before me was the vast landscape of University Park, Pennsylvania. With unfounded energy, I dressed and left my dorm room, eager to conquer my new surroundings. Now, almost two months later, I have had a chance to

**"Be prepared for large classes. And when I say large, I mean large."**

learn some of the ins and outs of life at the Park. So if you are coming up to Happy Valley next semester, or even in a year or so, here are a couple helpful hints for survival.

First of all, I suggest finding out where all of your classes are before the first day. I spent a few hours on a Saturday afternoon trying to locate all my classes. Although the buildings are marked on the map, it is a bit harder to locate certain areas in the big buildings once you get there.

Next, be prepared for large classes. And when I say large, I mean

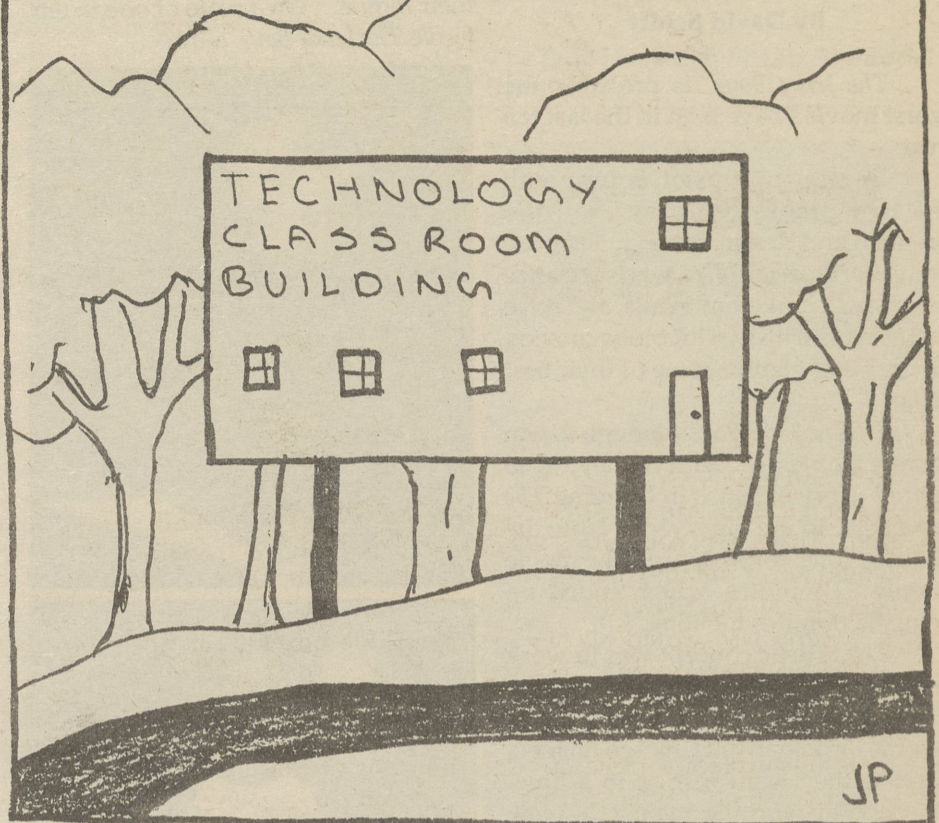
large. My psychology class has over 200 people while my anthropology and math classes have about sixty to seventy people. Believe it or not, my biology class, held in Schwab Auditorium, has over 700 people enrolled! Of course, if you are a junior or senior taking classes in a particular major, your classes will be much smaller. For me, as a lowly freshman, I'm doomed to a semester of huge lectures.

Contrary to popular belief, dorm life is not all that bad. If you take the time to meet the people on your floor and get acquainted with your roommate, it can even be a lot of fun. In fact, each dorm can compete in intramural activities for a grand championship at the end of each year. You can play basketball, badminton, wrestling, track and field, volleyball, and many others. Don't worry about the food, either. It is very good. Everything is made fresh, and the people who serve your food always do so with a smile and a friendly word.

Finally, get involved early. There are millions of fraternities, clubs, sports, and activities up here. Take advantage of Orientation Week so that you can sample many of these activities. I've already signed up to help at a local preschool, and I'm also going out for the Penn State Cheerleading team. Even though I still get homesick and miss my mom, I believe that the University Park experience is a definite must for all Penn State students. There is a special spirit here that can only be explained by the the over-powering battle cry, "We are Penn State!"

When your opportunity arises, take it and run! You'll be glad you did!

## PROGRESS ON/CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW BUILDING



## Letter to Delco, II

### Sailing with the Global Classroom

(Editor's Note: Connie Kirker, Assistant Professor in Integrative Arts, is on leave this semester to join the faculty of a university ship sailing around the world with 500 students aboard)

"Some of the professors," claim the students, "can drone on and on and on for 15 minutes or more!"

I will be trying to get Adam Lui

February 11, 1995

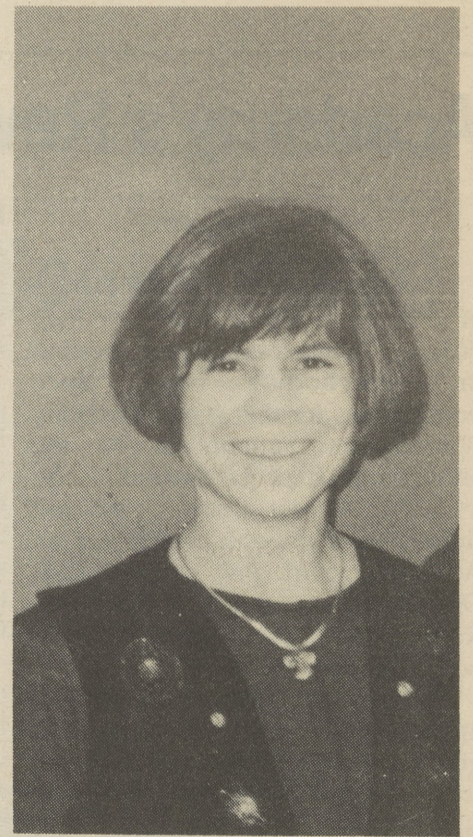
Hi Everyone!

We are now in Salvador, Brazil. We begin each port, when we "dock," with a diplomatic briefing during which the U.S. ambassador tells of the bleak economic situation in the country and details of how many Americans are imprisoned there and for how long. This time we were given suggestions about how to develop our own plan for dealing with the many "street children" who more than "approach" us.

We didn't need to review pickpockets, muggers or drugs since they were well covered in Venezuela, and many students were heading straight to the Amazon Rain Forest for the entire five days. We had a "special tips" session for those going to the Amazon-- the key factor to remember there seemed to be to take your own snacks since there weren't any vending machines in the rain forest.

My first performance was this week in CORE. It is team taught with all twenty five of us [faculty] chiming in at scheduled times on specific topics. I assembled a multi-media extravaganza of slides alternating every ten seconds with images of candembla altars (Yoruban/Brazilian) and shots of interiors of Salvador's 17th century Portuguese/American baroque churches; this while I'm speaking over 17th century Portuguese guitar music. And mine was one of the simpler of the five presentations that day!

The students gave me excellent reviews, but when pressed, seemed to be most impressed by my comparative brevity (it only lasted four minutes) and the fact that they were mostly awake, since I was first on the program.



CONNIE KIRKER

Photo by: WES TOMLINSON

[a Fulbright professor who taught at Delco in Spring 1994] on board the ship in Hong Kong as a visitor-- that's not an easy request, but will pass on regards from all.

Hope all is well with everyone.

Love, Connie

I COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE...  
Please save mine.



For more information  
Call 1-800-824-WILD

The Houston toad produces alkaloids - pharmaceutical wonders that may prevent heart attacks or act as an anesthetic more powerful than morphine. Yet, due to habitat loss, it is on the very brink of extinction, another member of the Endangered Species List.

#### \*COLLEGE MEETINGS\*

Friday, March 24  
12:30 - 1:20  
Check Posted Room  
Assignments