

# Opinion & Review

## Editorial

### Divulging Campus Secrets

By Erin Lulevitch

Forget recess, forget study halls, forget bells ringing to denote class changes. In other words, welcome to college.

It's a brand new year, and for over 500 students it's going to be a whole new experience. I still remember fumbling through my first days trying to learn the art of college etiquette. So, as my personal welcome to all of the new students at Delco, I offer a few words of advice that I wish someone would have given me.

1. No matter how important you feel or how late you are for class, do not attempt to park in the staff/faculty lots! You will be caught and ticketed. Take it from someone who knows. There's no escaping the all-knowing, all-seeing eyes of the Delco security staff. You can find better things to do with your money.

2. Frequent bathroom visitors take note. When you hear mother nature calling during class time, wait for an appropriate time to quietly excuse yourself. No hand raising skills required.

3. Go to class! Despite the shocking fact that you just might learn something, it's the only way to pass the exams.

4. Join a club on campus. You not only get to meet people, but it's also where you can gain valuable experience and sometimes receive class credit for having fun. Trust me, on a campus where there are no dorms it's essential to get involved to get a real taste of what the college experience is all about.

5. Don't be afraid to admit when you're confused or just downright clueless. We didn't all become rocket scientists overnight.

6. And finally, here you will never hear the words "We'll be seeing you in detention this afternoon, Mr. Smarty Pants." Yes, you have entered a world where detention no longer exists, but getting kicked out of class does. You're treated as an adult here, on a fair and equal level. So remember, respect is a two way road.

Now that I have divulged the crucial secrets to making your first year a successful one, remember one thing...as our elders often say, these are supposed to be the best years of our lives, so enjoy them while you can.

LIFE IN HELL CALLING ALL YOUTH! ©1997 BY MATT GROENING

## So You Want to Get Pierced

HEY! YOOKIE AH ME!

MATUG IH AHMO HEAHEAD!

Q: ISN'T PIERCING STRICTLY FOR FETISH-GUYS, S&M FREAKS, AND SEETHING CARNIVAL WORKERS?  
A: NOT ANYMORE! THANKS TO MODERN ALIENATION AND BOREDOM, YESTERDAY'S CREEPY PSYCHOPATHOLOGY HAS BEEN MAGICALLY TRANSFORMED INTO TODAY'S WHOLESOME TRENDY MIDDLE-CLASS YOUTH AFFECTATION!  
Q: WILL I EVER RUN OUT OF BODY PARTS TO PIERCE?  
A: IF IT DANGLES, PROTRUDES, JIGGLES, OR THROBS, WE CAN IMPALE, LANCE, DRILL, OR STAB IT!

Q: DOES IT HURT TO GET PIERCED?  
A: AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, ANY SUDDEN PERFORATING, PUNCTURING, OR SKEWERING OF SENSITIVE HUMAN TISSUE MIGHT LEAD TO WHAT SOME CALL "PAIN." WE LIKE TO REFER TO IT AS "THAT SHARP UNPLEASANT TINGLING SENSATION."  
Q: ISN'T PIERCING JUST A FANCY WORD FOR SELF-MUTILATION?  
A: HEY, SELF-MUTILATION IS SOMETHING YOU DO TO YOURSELF, WITH PIERCING, WE DO IT TO YOU, AND YOU MERELY PAY US. COME ON, GROW UP! DON'T YOU WANT TO REALLY FREAK OUT MOM AND DAD?

NOW YOU CAN WEAR YOUR ABUSED CHILDHOOD AS A PERMANENT FASHION STATEMENT!!!

SO COME ON! BE A SPORT!

## From the Front Desk

Ed Tomezsko, Campus Executive Officer

We're back. Finally -- I've seen it myself -- the earth is moving on the classroom building right outside my window. This feels good and it looks great because it is the growing future of the campus in the Commonwealth College. Look for the classroom building to be completed on June 26, 1998. Yes it will!

A new class is entering the University - our campus's first year enrollment is even with last year, and it has grown at the third year class. Another promising measure for the future.

Catherine's Campus Cafe is opening in the Commons Building, nice people providing great food. Support Catherine and enjoy.

The Commonwealth College will be transparent to most of the students on our campus. The College will be very visible to our external community, however. It was developed so that we could be more supportive of our community. The vision statement for the college includes the phrase "... be known as Penn State at its best." This is a truly heady statement: "to be the best!"

Is it necessary to be the best? Yes, I believe this with a passion. We are the best at providing an educational experience to our students which considers first the person's well-being. This is precisely why Penn State itself was established in 1855 - to provide an education for the children of the working class.

Do I really have to go back to 1855 to find a reason for our existence? No, education has changed significantly over the past years. There is an argument on the value of education itself. We watch "down-sizing" and "right-sizing" happen every day. Really talented people send me resumes every day as a result of "down-sizing" and "right-sizing".

I look at the talent on our faculty and staff. Our faculty have received University teaching awards for the past seven years. This says something about us. We have the best on the educational delivery side. Our campus honors program continues to grow. We are developing scholars.

On a more extended view of Penn State, we are working more closely with alums from this campus. What we have is a group of successful people who see real value in what we, Penn State Delaware County, gave to them as students. Our alums, in the very large majority, already see us as Penn State at its best.

So we're back. Another year but a year which reflects great and valuable change on our campus. We have new faculty and staff. Most importantly we have a new group of Penn State students - soon to be know as Penn State at its best. Welcome to our campus and have fun!

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## Penn State: "a ball of clay"

By Paco

You graduated high school, you're eager to embrace the life of college, and you're all pumped up for what's to come.

But everything you want depends on you. Delco has a variety of clubs you can participate in. There's a film club that specializes in kung-fu and horror films, an engineering club that schedules technical outings, a theater club that produces plays, and many more.

If you don't like any of the clubs, you have the option of starting your own (i.e. breakdancing, animation, macabre art). Not only do they look good on your transcript, they actually are fun.

The SGA (Student Government Association) located in the Lion's Den of the Commons building throws fun

activities now and then between classes. They're there to help you make your college experience better.

Or if you have an idea, bring it to the SGA. If you want to put on a concert, go for it. If you want to have an arts and crafts day, go for it!

But be warned: don't fall into the ditch many freshmen fall into their first year. Freedom to smoke between classes, freedom of dress, and freedom of language are great, but beware the freedom of going to classes when you want to; it's addictive.

First you miss one class, then you miss eight, then you're so far behind in the class you either fail or have to drop it. That's no good.

In other words, Penn State is like a ball of clay: you can either make it into a crappy ashtray or turn it into a magnificent masterpiece.

The choice is yours.



Kate Reilly (fifth semester, Speech Communication) talks with Linda Campitelli, DUS Coordinator, about the Division of Undergraduate Studies Award she won as an outstanding DUS student. Kate is the first non-University Park student to win.