

Service Corps Praises Freshman's Dedication

By Melissa Martin

In the past few weeks, the Service Corps has expanded. The activities and events vary from previous years. More important is the dedication of the students. Many freshmen have become involved and very valuable to volunteering. Among this group is Dominique Laroche. Dominique is a PreMedicine major and an all around good student. CLASP tutor, Service Corps Vice President, and a member of the PSU women's volleyball team, Dominique appears quiet, but she is a strong willful leader. Creativity and initiative are just two qualities of her amazing personality. When problems arise, she steps in to find solution.

Dominique was involved in the sale of Blue Jean Day Buttons. These buttons were sold in the Volunteer Service Center for five dollars a piece. Proceeds benefit the Moss Rehab for Brain Injury.

The Oxfam Hunger Banquet, which will be held on Tuesday, November 25 will be coordinated by Dominique. The PSU Service Corps will be hosting the banquet for its third year. The reasoning behind the banquet is to inform the students and faculty of world hunger. Guest speakers and lunch are included in the program. Anyone interested in planning or volunteering should contact dxl206@psu.edu.

Of all Dominique's wonderful works, she is most appreciated for her involvement in the CLASP tutoring program. Most tutors have a preference as to which room or age level they want to work with. Dominique, however, is very flexible. Wherever, there is a need, that's where she goes.

Dominique is a valuable volunteer and the Service Corps greatly appreciates everything she does.



Dominique Laroche (far right) takes a minute to relax in the Volunteer Service Center with other members of the Service Corps. Photo by Aaron Mixson

Career Alert:

Y100, Fox 29, U.S. Airways Are Waiting for You

By Candice Meriano

"Our philosophy is to help the students prepare for the workforce," spoke Dr. Tomezsko with fervor in his voice.

THE POWERS: Dr. Tomezsko. Sharmon Bryant. Virgil Perry.

THE PLACE: Career Center, second floor Commons Building.

THE MISSION: Enlightening the students concerning internships and co-ops.

THE GOAL: To give students the chance to become as comfortable in the workforce with as much experience as possible.

What is an internship? It is an opportunity for a student to acquire approved experience related to their career objectives and interests, in agencies outside the University (as defined by the internship packet available in the Career Center).

There are various types of internships and requirements. Note especially that you can participate in an internship at any stage of your education, beginning with second semester.

Many students don't realize the benefits an internship has to offer, such as the importance of building a resume. By acquiring experience in various fields you are not only finding out what you want in your future, but you are determining your future.

You are not limited to only a certain number of internships or to those pertaining to your field. By expanding your horizons you are giving yourself a broader background and not limiting yourself to any certain specific area.

The various types of internships include: paid, unpaid for academic credit, and volunteer. Now, of course, you see "paid" and are attracted. However, most paid internships require that you have experience, which was probably unpaid. Earning academic credit allows you to work, but not necessarily for free. Rather than receive pay, you receive credits (which vary).

To be approved for an internship a student must:

1. Have at least second semester classification and be in good academic standing (at least a GPA of 2.0).

2. Have adequate skills and a knowledge base as determined by the employer.

3. Work up to 15 hours per week during the semester. 10 to 12 hours per week is recommended.

4. Obtain a faculty liaison in order to receive academic credit.

5. Complete academic assignments associated with the internship.

"Don't be a fool. Don't pass this up."

6. Work a minimum of 50 hours per academic credit per semester.

Now are you wondering, "Where can I get more information?" or "Why didn't I know this before?"

The truth of the matter is you aren't aware of these benefits and programs because you are preoccupied with "other things." The information and packets, as well as flyers, are located in several places around campus. You may pick up packets and speak with an advisor in the Career Center, where there are also shelves of

advertisements and flyers from employers willing to hire. There is also a huge bulletin board located in the Main building across from the book store labeled "INTERNSHIPS. CO-OPS."

You need to look. You need to have interest. You need to be aware of what is around you.

Remember there are many benefits to doing an internship, benefits that will help you climb to the top of the ladder rather than being the peon who holds the ladder still. The opportunities are endless.

Don't be a fool. Don't pass this up. Take advantage of these opportunities to better yourself as well as your future!

KEEP AN EYE OUT! In November there will be a workshop displaying these internships and in the Spring a seminar with representatives inviting you to intern with their company. Get a buddy and grab the opportunity. Former internships have been with Y100, AT&T, Fox 29, and US Air.

Be smart. Better yourself. Better your future.

Project Vision: Innovative, Exciting, 'Real World'

By Christina Papa

Jill Kobb, first semester DUS, is really enjoying Project Vision so far. "Getting a laptop computer on loan for the semester is really great. Learning how to use e-mail and the Internet is really important. Not only is it fun to work with, but it is also good for when I graduate from college and go out to the 'real world,' where I am going to need it the most."

Project Vision is a program currently in its third year of existence. This year it is composed of 14 freshmen chosen by an application process which included an essay about the student's interest in Project Vision.

Project Vision offers three courses which are taught primarily through computers and which are all related. Speech Com 100 (group techniques) instructed by Nancy Wyatt, teaches the students how to communicate

effectively in groups. Library Studies 198 instructed by Sara Whildin, focuses on health education and the ethical issues of human sexuality, which, in turn relates to the HealthEd 48 course, instructed by Daniel Doran.

Next semester, two of the courses that will be offered will be English 15 instructed by Elizabeth Buckmaster, and Earth and Mineral Science instructed by John Ousey.

Matt Bodek is the technical support for Project Vision students. "It's an innovative and exciting project," he said. "Project Vision is giving the students a firm understanding of information technology which they will be able to use to further their education at Penn State."

Project Vision "integrates technology into the courses and also puts a heavy emphasis on group and collaborative learning," according to

Ms. Sara Whildin, Librarian. A benefit of this is the students each receive their own laptop computer for the semester. The students are also able to get to know each other by hooking up on their laptops to chat, even as late as two a.m.

"I love Project Vision. It's a great program," said Rachel Kline, first semester DUS. "I've met a lot of nice people and very dedicated teachers. I can't imagine being a freshman and not being in Project Vision."

In addition to being lots of fun, Project Vision is also an experiment. Its purpose is twofold: to see whether or not learning can take place effectively and enjoyably outside the classroom using computer technologies, and to prepare students for the work force of the future.

"Everything is done in groups in the outside world, and Project Vision prepares you for that," said first

semester Aerospace Engineering major Keith Riley. "It's rarely that you do something by yourself."

One of the many fringe benefits of the Project Vision program is the PV Room, located in the Vairo Library, lower level. The students use the room for coursework, studying, hanging out and listening to music, and even talking on the phone.

Erica Scott is a secondary education english major who also appreciates the fringe benefits of Project Vision. "They take care of us," she said with a smile.

Dean's List: Summer 1997

La Toya Bradway
Andrew A. Husband
Anup Y. Kharode
Jennifer Reichenbach

Each earned a 3.5 GPA or higher.