

Community Human Services Adds to Delco's Degrees

By Christine Heffernan

Penn State Delaware County campus plans to offer Community Human Services as its seventh baccalaureate degree program beginning in Fall '98. The new four-year degree in the Commonwealth College will give students another opportunity for "a quality education close to home and work" instead of having to go to University Park to finish the degree. The degree comes under the Human Development Family Studies (HDFS) major in the College of Health and Human Development (HHD).

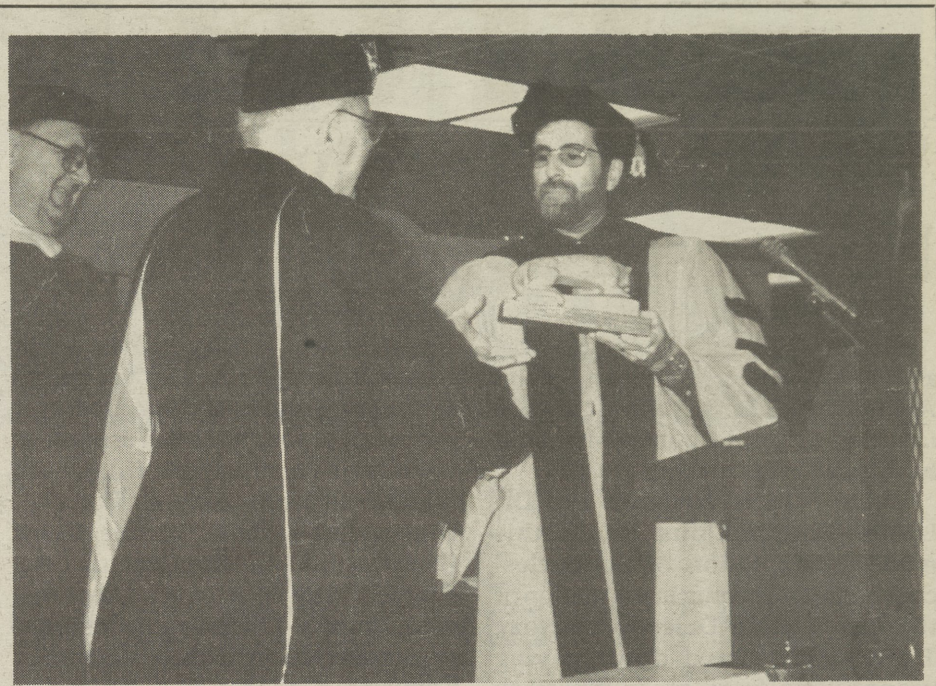
The minimum credits for this degree will be 153. The requirements of this degree will be general education, an internship, and electives. Delco's program will focus on Human Services, unlike University Park where two other options are offered. Those specialized areas are Children, Youth, and Family Services Option; Adult Development and Aging Services Option; Life Span Human Development and Family Option; and Community Human Services Option.

According to the 1997-1998 Baccalaureate Degree Programs Bulletin, the typical employment settings for these graduates will be with youths and the aged. The youth settings are "preschools, daycare centers, hospitals, institutional and community programs for the disturbed, and abused or neglected children and adolescents".

Graduate work can be in "human development and services areas". The aged settings are "mental health facilities, nursing homes and other institutions for the aged, area agencies on aging, public welfare and family service agencies, women's resource centers, human relations programs, and employee assistance programs." The Community Human Services program will help graduates take positions in "community human service agencies serving children, adolescents, families, and the aged".

The success of the Community service Degree is forecast to occur just like the in-progress new Business Degree. The Business Degree was the sixth Baccalaureate degree at Delco's campus. The Business program is not geared at a particular specialty in the business sector. It combines the management, marketing, finance and logistics needed for small businesses since Delaware County has a high concentration of small businesses with a need for employees educated in all areas of business and not a particular area such as finance. Corporations, rather than small business, demand business professionals with special skills.

Delco students graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Business while main campus students graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting or Finance. Delco's Business Program requires everybody to fulfill 47 credits of General Education, 4-9 credits for senior experience, and 47 Common Requirements for the Major.



Dr. Kenneth Kinman, Assistant Professor of Sociology, receives a Nittany Lion Statue for his service to Penn State Delco. Dr. Kinman is retiring after this year.



Penn State alumni and area professionals pose with Delco students after their recent Empowerment Luncheon.



Brandon Wiley of the band Earthtones electrified the crowd at Rockfest on Friday, April 17. All the bands that participated contributed to the frenzied atmosphere of the evening.

SUMMER CONCERT EVENTS:

MAY

- 1 They Might Be Giants - at Electric Factory
- 2 Pridefest - at Electric Factory
- 6 Foo Fighters - at Electric Factory
- 13-14 Billy Joel - at CoreStates
- 29 Y100 Feztival - at the E-Center

JUNE

- 6 Reba McEntire - at the E-Center
- 27 Spice Girls - at CoreStates

JULY

- 10 Jimmy Page & Robert Plant - at CoreStates
- 11 Ozzfest - at the E-Center
- 15 Metallica - at the E-Center
- 16 Backstreet Boys - at CoreStates

Countdown to Graduation Reaches Zero

By B Ray

Tommy: "You know a lot of people take nine years to graduate."

Richard: "Yeah, I know. They're called doctors."

I wish.

May 13th is going to be a great day. I already know that it is. It doesn't matter what the weather will be like, what's going on in the world, why she didn't call, or what's wrong with my car. For that one day, everything will be right in the world. That's because the countdown will be at "one". One more day. The last day that I can call myself a college student.

Why is my countdown reason to forget life for a while and just smile? Because the countdown started at three thousand one hundred and eighty eight. That is 3,188 days to graduate college. By no means was that my intention of course, and no, those days haven't been consecutive either. But from the first day I stepped on the

Delaware County Campus (by the way the only college campus that I ever attended), I have had this dream of wearing a cap and gown. And for at least half of my college time, it was going to be just a dream.

All right, ready to laugh? Don't worry, I'm used to it. I was at Delco when Bill Clinton was governor of Arkansas. I was here when Pearl Jam was playing clubs in Seattle under the name Mookie Blaylock (that's true you know). I was here before anyone knew who Eric Lindros or John LeClair were. I was here when Thursday night at nine o'clock meant *Cheers*, not *Seinfeld*. I first walked into a classroom at The Penn State Delaware County campus on August 23, 1989.

All right, it's not that funny. OK, it is. But that doesn't take away anything now. I would take a million more Geritol jokes as long as I wake up on May 14, and go to sleep that night (it will actually be passing out)

with a firm hold of a declaration acknowledging my nine years of admittedly mediocre and more often than not last minute work. Hey, I never said I was graduating with honors did I?

So thus ends a glorious, if a little excessive, collegiate career. I could not begin to tell you the things that have happened, or the people who have gotten me here. But it doesn't matter. The fact is I'm here.

I have to admit, it won't hit me until I look out to the crowd and see my family and friends watching me get this piece of paper that we all hold in such high regard. As much as I'm looking forward to it, I'm not looking forward to it. It has become a challenge more than anything else. A challenge that took me a really long time to conquer, but I conquered it nonetheless. It was a challenge worth taking, and is a success worth celebrating.

We are all here for the same

purpose, and we'll all reach the same goal eventually. We are all different people. We all have different ways of doing things. People like me just tend to take a little longer. But no matter how long it takes, and no matter if it's a challenge or a walk in the park to you, you have to experience it. It's worth it.

So when my countdown reaches zero, and the weight of every exam, term paper, eighty-dollar textbook, 4 AM typing session for a 8:30 class, memorized poem, MLA format bibliography, angry teacher, blue book, and icy tea is lifted off my shoulders, I will be a success, if even just to myself. And that will be one of the few things I remember when I wake up. That, and the fact that if I put my mind to it and try real hard, I could have my Masters Degree in about another 2,074 days.

Maybe I can pay off my student loans with my Social Security checks.