

P.S.U. Delco Approves New School on Campus

By Sarah Stover
Lion's Eye Staff Writer

The Penn State board of trustees approved a new school of Information Science and Technology on Friday, September 11th. The school is estimated to cost around \$9.5 million annually and will include 30 new faculty.

Enrollment is planned to begin next fall and about 800 undergraduates and 200 graduates are expected to participate. Jim Thomas, senior associate dean of the Smeal College of Business Administration, remarked that a lot of companies will be looking for people with programming experience. He continued, "They're interested in people who can use technology to provide a competitive advantage."

Many students, along with faculty at Delco, are both excited and relieved such a project is underway. Some students involved in the science and technology departments feel that this addition to Penn State is long overdue.

Curt Day, presently teaching all fall semester computer science courses at Delco, had a lot to say about the new school. He, too, felt that the School of Information and Technology was much needed. When questioned, he commented, "When you consider the ever-increasing impact that computers are making in the work place, it is important to try to provide systematic ways to study what is being done."

In addition, Day believes that many students will sign up for the program. "Since computers are

playing a more important role in the future, it is logical to think that this school would attract many students." However, Day is not without concern. He is worried about how this new school will properly be distinguished against pre-existing schools and if the new programs being offered will fit in to the present curriculum.

Day also stated that the prosperity of any school, computer oriented or not, centers around the students. "Regardless of the program or school, students who study computers need to have the right expectations to benefit fully from the classes. They need to expect to learn the details of using computers and they need to learn how to fit the individual parts together. Many times, new students expect computer science and computer usage courses to emphasize the details while unaware of the need to integrate the parts. The success of any school will partially depend on the students having the right expectations."

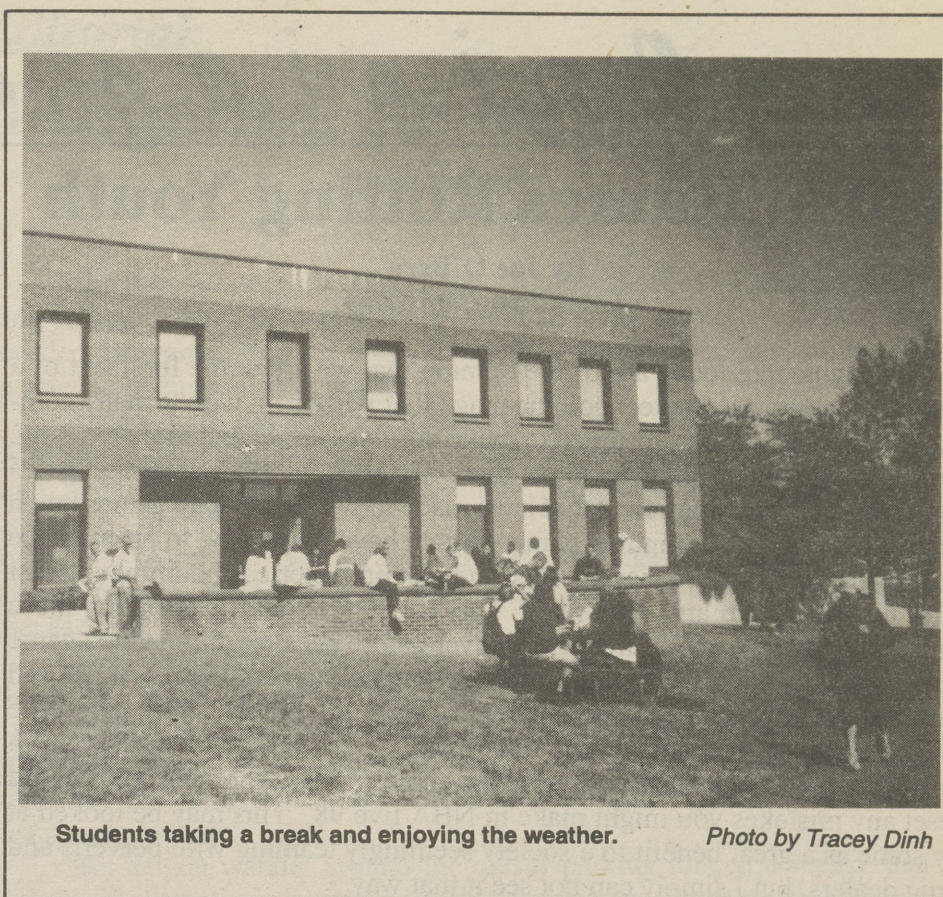
More than one million computer scientists, system designers and programmers will be needed by the year 2005, according to a university report. However, less than 25,000 U.S. students graduate in computer science each year.

With this school of Information Science and Technology comes an entirely new field, one that is presently in high demand. Students are urged to take advantage of the program. This new school will no doubt open more opportunity to Penn State students and broaden the majors in this field.

students involved is by having our University's mascot, the Nittany Lion, roam the campus at different periods during the day. Besides marking his territory, the Lion will be sporting a large bulletin board informing students of upcoming or important events on campus. It will also display the accomplishments and volunteering endeavors of campus clubs.

All the clubs on campus are always eager to recruit new members, whether it is the Black Student League or the Asian American Caucus, all are welcome to join. For those not up to the challenge of joining an ethnically rooted club, several other clubs are forming to satisfy the diverse interests of students. One notable one is the new philosophy club, Pantopia. At the very least, join the club to unravel the meaning of the club's name and how its definition exists in your existence.

Of course, there is so much the SGA can do to stimulate student involvement on campus. It is up to you, and you, and you to take advantage of the opportunities available. So, grab the closest campus leader and aim high.



Students taking a break and enjoying the weather.

Photo by Tracey Dinh

P.E. P.P. Lends Helping Hand to Neighboring Schools

By Regis Fields
Lion's Eye Staff Writer

For the past year PSU Delaware County has been involved with the Penn State Educational Partnership Program, or (P.E.P.P). The program started in the late 1980's at the PSU McKeesport campus, moving to the Reading campus in '91-'92 before finally being introduced to PSU Philadelphia area campuses, including Abington and Delaware County. The program is an after-school and summertime program that utilizes Penn State students in local area schools for tutoring and mentoring.

In this area Penn State has been involved in two Philadelphia area schools, Barry Elementary School at 59th and Race Streets in West Philadelphia. The other is Vaux Middle School in North Philadelphia at 23rd and Master Streets, Vaux holds this program primarily in the summertime while during the school year the majority of students volunteer at Barry.

Program Manager Elmore Hunter sees this program as extremely beneficial for children in urban environments. "The Penn State kids are a good influence on the children...for them to see someone who has and is going through it (school) is great," said Hunter. Hunter, who frequents campuses and assists at PSU Abington, spends most of his time coordinating and searching for volunteers for the program. Hunter heads up the program in this area from Penn States' downtown office at 4601 Market St. For the program Hunter seeks "students with a good chance for success." He went on to explain, "We are open to any student interested in tutoring...some of our best tutors were not Urban Education majors.

In Philadelphia the program has had good success even though it is only two years old. The program

not only focuses on the student but the learning environment as well. Parents are strongly encouraged to participate with their children with agendas like reading and writing. At Vaux, the program gave children a "100 book challenge," a contest that encourages reading by rewarding children for reading 100 books. "The best way for a child to improve their vocabulary is by reading...kids are doing better in school, not only grade wise but with their attitudes towards learning," Hunter said. P.E.P.P plans on using such challenges for other aspects of education and will also work at community centers like the YMCA on 52nd and Chestnut Streets to reach more children.

The program has seen one of PSU Delaware County's own volunteering Urban Education major Louis Walker. Walker volunteered last semester at Barry Elementary School from 3-5 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. "It was a good atmosphere for the students...I think it worked well because the parents were involved," said Walker. "The students had a lot of interaction with us, that's what made it the best." Walker is the only student left at this campus who was involved with the program last year, P.E.P.P hopes for more this year. The program operates for students of PSU three days out of the week from 3-5. Hunter hopes to have things moving by Oct 12, and this year will incorporate the use of a van to ease the commute from campus to the places where students will be helping.

P.E.P.P extends their welcome to any student interested in helping, offering credit work and stipend pay of 5.50/hr. for those who meet the requirements. Hunter will soon be visiting our campus and anyone interested in the program that does not want to wait that long can call (215) 471-2206.

SGA:

A Call for Participation

By Tracey Dinh
Assistant Editor

The Student Government Association seems especially motivated this year in getting Penn State Delaware County students involved in campus activities. Although always optimistic, Martin Ranalli (SGA President) is worried about the active involvement of not only the campus students, but also the campus clubs. The showing at the last SGA meeting was poor, barely half the clubs existing actually represented themselves at the meeting. One by one the clubs were called for attendance, and with every silence, the SGA became more and more agitated.

This agitation is justified, how can students be persuaded to be more involved if the campus leaders do not set the example? So, in an effort to dissuade the growing attitude of indifference on campus, the SGA instituted a penalty for clubs that do not represent themselves at future SGA meetings. Clubs will be deducted \$10 from their account for every no show.

Another method for getting