

FEATURES

Delco's New SGA Officers Set Plans For Next Year

By Bob Dugan
Lion's Eye Staff Writer

While the majority of America was voting for a presidential nominee, Delco had its own race to crown four new officers of the Student Government Association. The current SGA, consisting of president Dana Conroy, vice-president Dasa Kelley, secretary Mary Beth Quattruchi, and treasurer Jennifer Scocca, will depart after May finals when the new SGA officials are sworn in.

A total of 130 students out of roughly 1,500 voted in the SGA election (8.6% of the student body). The new officers include president Scott Casey, vicepresident Ramy Nasr, secretary Jowo Samah, and treasurer Colleen Kelly.

"I'm looking forward to a fun and exciting year working with the SGA," said Colleen Kelly. "I'm sure that if we all work together we'll lead a successful year."

The SGA in general are put into place to be the voice of the students. They hold bi-monthly meetings and are in charge of providing funds for different events and clubs.

Scott Casey is already brimming with ideas about his upcoming presidency.

After Spring Seville Trip, Students Head To London

By Greg Haas
Lion's Eye Staff Writer

What do you do during your semester breaks? Some students may stay at home, relax, study, and sleep; others may venture to the murky waters of the Atlantic and the not-so-pink beaches of the Jersey shore; still, others – somewhat more adventurous – scratch some money together and head to the crowded coast lines of sunny Florida to gather with thousands of other college students where they sun-bathe by day and binge drink by night. All worthwhile choices, but there is a better option: Penn State Delco's study abroad trips.

Travel to a foreign country, get a stamp in your passport booklet, meet new people, see the sights during the day and be young at night. Sound good? Well, there's more: all this and receive college credit, too.

Over the recently passed spring break, Delco offered courses in Seville, Spain. "Awesome! I had a great time," junior David Fleming said, "I wish I had tapped into this earlier. It's a great opportunity and I'll be sure to be involved in any future trips." Penn State Delco offers trips over spring breaks, winter breaks, and summer breaks. Not just to Seville, but also to Florence, Paris, London, Barcelona, and Madrid.

Spend one week in a foreign country and receive up to six credits. And the trip is affordable to almost anyone (every trip is priced under \$1,000). So even if you don't need credits and want to travel abroad, this is a very affordable option.

"It's a wonderful opportunity," Dr. Alita Kelley, associate professor of French and Spanish, said. "You can learn more Spanish in that one week than you could in a whole semester here. And you

"My first goal is to get the clubs on campus better acquainted with the student body. Every single club on this campus needs better organization; they also need more lines of communication open to them.

"Secondly, I intend to reform the SGA. To make ourselves faster, more organized, and more readily available to the students."

Finally, Scott intends to "possibly start a survey center, where all surveys would be located, both for classes and organizations. And maybe a daycare, but before I will even think about that, we need to send out a survey to get feedback on the idea."

When asked about the new SGA officers, Student Life director Doreen Hettich responded that "they are already successful because they are a more diverse group than the current officers."

Jowo Samah said, "I strongly agree that diversity in the SGA will only help meet the various needs of this very diverse.

As the last few days of the current SGA fade away, the new members look forward to next year.

Scott Casey sums up the SGA's future with confidence. "I know that next year we will be successful in all that we set out to do."

get to be a part of the culture. Not just read about it, but live it."

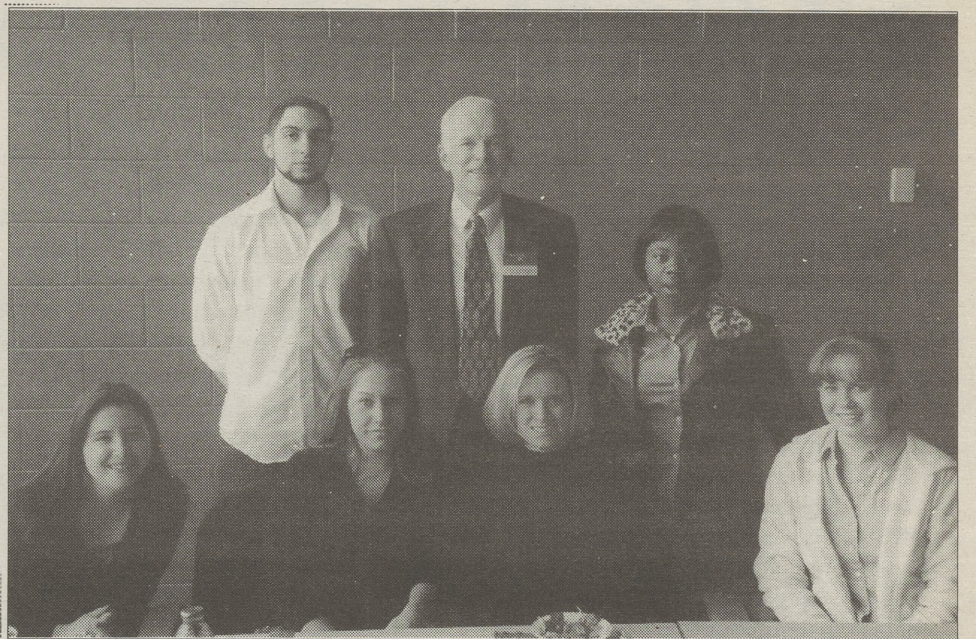
For those who cannot commit to a semester abroad, Penn State Delco's foreign study program is a smart alternative. "I can't afford a semester away, nor would I want to," senior Susan McLaughlin, a Seville trip veteran, said. "But a week in a foreign culture was perfect and fun. I hope, in my life, that I can be a part of a similar experience again, but I doubt that I'll be able to be a part of such a diverse and young crowd again."

Ms. Connie Kirker, assistant professor of Integrated Arts, who offers art history courses on these trips, said, "What makes this program different is that it's cheap, short and non-language based. And because we offer Gen. Ed. courses it fits into any student's schedule."

The trips aren't all hard work, boring travel books and photographs. "We try to teach you how to be a smart traveler," Kirker continues, "And with a mix of traditional students and adult students it makes for a more diversified atmosphere. We let the students have fun."

For added incentive, if one really needs it, Penn State Delco now offers a new minor: International Studies. Eighteen credits in a foreign culture are needed to fulfill the requirements. With up to six credits offered on each trip, a student could go on three trips, fulfill credits towards graduation and receive a minor. It's a deal that shouldn't be passed up. And according to Mrs. Kirker it isn't. "The university is working toward getting 20% of students involved in International travel by 2003. At Penn State Delco, that number is already almost 70%."

A high number that is still too low. 100% would be about right.



Dr. Joseph Stasser, Dean of the Commonwealth College, met recently with the incoming and outgoing SGA officers. Current officers include (1st row, l. to r.) Mary Beth Quattruchi, Dasa Kelly and David Conroy next to new treasurer Colleen Kelly and (back row) new vice president Ramy Nasr and new secretary Jowo Samah.

Photo by Owen Andrew Bergwall

Slovakian Scholar At Delco

By Karl Grieb and B. Feick
Lion's Eye Staff Writer

Edita Kominarecova, an English education professor from the Slovak Republic, is teaching and studying on campus this semester as part of the Fulbright Scholarship program.

"The main objective of my research at Penn State Delaware County," Kominarecova explained, "is to obtain practical information about the larger context of language teacher education, to examine and compare mentor education, and to explore new ways of carrying out

to teach English.

As a Fulbright scholar, Kominarecova serves as a "cultural ambassador" who can speak about her country, culture, or research to campus and community groups. Both her university in Slovakia and Penn State Delaware County benefit from her semester-long visit.

Over the past ten years a number of faculty exchanges have occurred between Penn State Delaware County and Slovak universities. Delco faculty members Dr. Carol Kessler, professor of English and Women's Studies, and Dr.

Visiting professor Edita Kominarecova is spending the spring semester at PSU Delco as a Fulbright Scholar.



the supervision and tutoring of students preparing to teach English."

Kominarecova has taught fifteen years in high school, two years in adult education, and six years at the university level. Currently she is a member of the Philosophical Faculty of Presov University, which is highly regarded in eastern Slovakia for preparing students

Richard Barrett, who retired last May, have taught in Slovak universities as Fulbright scholars. Additionally, Dr. Ed Tomezsko, campus executive officer, and Dr. Paul Orlov, associate professor of English, have visited Slovakia on the campus' behalf. In return, seven Slovakian professors have visited Delco for periods of two weeks to two months.



Bridget Barrow, a freshman art major, joined 60 other Delco students, faculty and staff, for the Spring Break trip to Seville, Spain.