

Eye on Campus

New faces among the SGA for spring 2003

By **RENEE BLISARD**
REB202@psu.edu
Lion's Eye staff writer

A familiar face has moved to the top position in the Student Government Association. Penn State senior Christine Ferroni moved from vice president to president of SGA last semester when then-president Lauren Showalter unexpectedly stepped down. There is a brand-new secretary, treasurer, and vice-president of SGA and three new positions in the Senate: senator for governmental relations, senator for diversity, and Council of Commonwealth student government liaison. The new officers are: Brandon Goveas as vice president, Shana Goldson as secretary, Jamila Bishop as treasurer, Nanaesi Cato as senate president, Uzair Qadeer as senator for governmental Relations, Kaan Zaimoglu as senator for diversity, and Scott Park as Council of Commonwealth student governments liaison.

Ferroni is excited about her new position and working with the students.

"I love working with students," she said. "Meeting new people is the highlight of my day."

Ferroni served as SGA vice president for one semester. As the president,

she has many more duties such as attending all faculty meetings and student functions, planning events, resolving problems, and presiding over the most important meeting for student organizations, SGA Club Monday. This meeting takes place once every month and addresses any issues or concerns club leaders or their members may have.

"[The president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary] fill the students in on what is going on on campus and get to know the students and club presidents better," Ferroni said.

Ferroni has some reforms planned for student activities, mainly to get students more involved.

"[The students] are not involved enough and/or don't come to SGA Monday," she said.

To boost student's involvement, she plans to communicate better with the student body about upcoming functions using better signage, more announcements on the student email newsletter called listserv, and more incentives to come to functions, such as food.

Another plan is to be available to students as much as possible. She can be found throughout most of the day in the SGA office, located in the Lion's Den of the Commons Building.

"I plan to be there for students at all

“ Think of me as a friend, not just SGA president ”

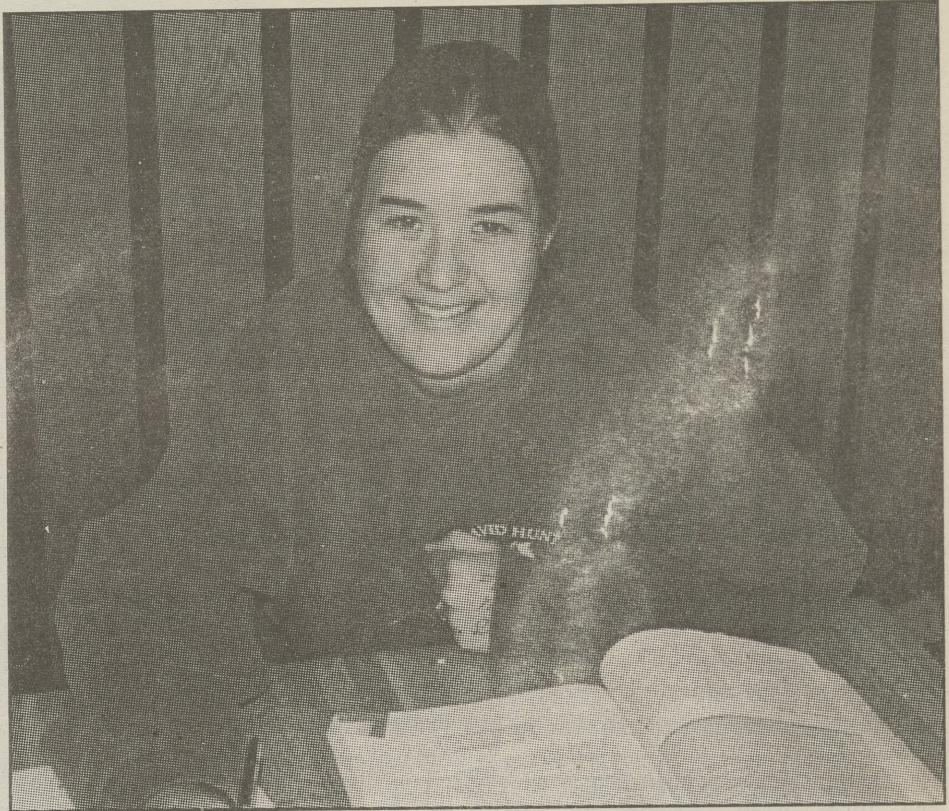


Photo by Meredith Becker

Penn State senior Christine Ferroni moved from vice president to president of SGA last semester. She is planning to increase student involvement on campus and to help students with clubs. She wants students to feel comfortable coming to her with problems or just to talk.

times—help them with clubs, talk. Think of me as a friend, not just SGA president," Ferroni said.

Ferroni is a Letters, Arts, and Sciences major who plans to go to law school and then join the FBI. She lives in Chaddsford, PA, attended Conestoga High School in Westtown, and her favorite

hobby is surfing in Ocean City, N.J. Her other school activities include Nittany Christian Fellowship, THON, and Penn State Lion Ambassadors. She hopes to preside with optimism and helpfulness.

"I want to leave the presidency position with a positive effect," she said.

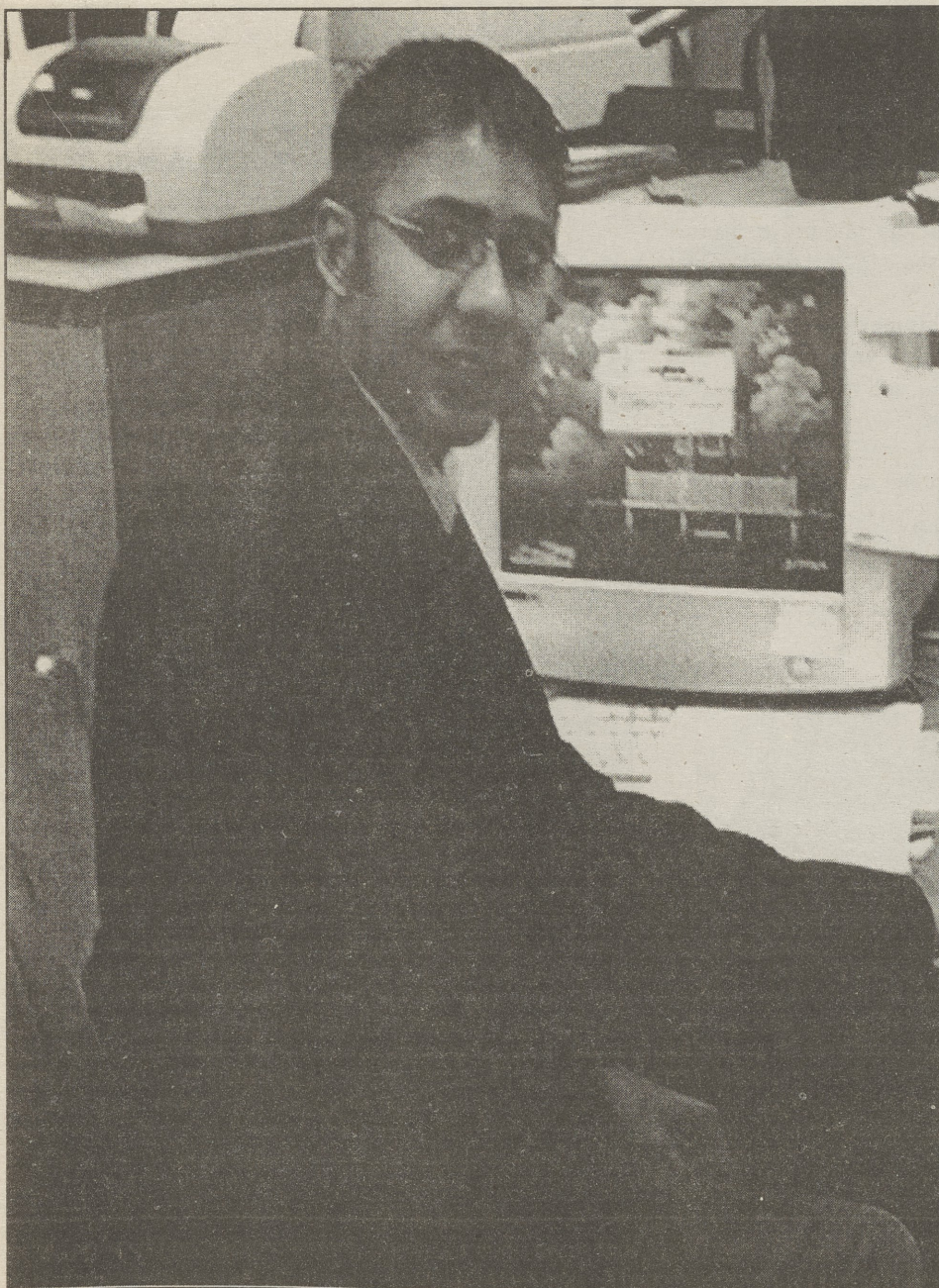


Photo courtesy of Uzair Qadeer

Qadeer's involvement on campus includes the new International Awareness Club, Muslim Student Organization, and writing for various campus and international journals and magazines.

Our Eye is on You

Reaching out: Spreading international awareness to all corners of the campus

By **AMANDA TROMBETTI**
AUT114@psu.edu
Lion's Eye staff writer

Penn State Delco is a multi-cultural campus with many students who each have a story of their own. One of those students is Muhammad Uzair Qadeer.

Qadeer is a sophomore majoring in electrical engineering, and minoring in English.

Born in Lahore, Pakistan, a town Qadeer referred to as "the cultural capital of the country," he moved to the United States in 1999. He finished his last year of high school here, at Springfield High School. His native language is Urdu, but he learned English as a second language when he was young.

Qadeer started at Penn State Delco in the fall of 2001.

"At that time the campus was much different from it has become," Qadeer said.

With many new ideas in mind, Qadeer wanted to "liven up" the commuter campus. "I realized that Penn State was the place where your voices were heard and opinions were respected."

By the summer of 2002, he conceived the idea of starting a club called the International Awareness Club, or IAC. His goal was to start a club that would help bring the campus together and to promote awareness to connect Penn State students to the rest of the world.

"After Sept. 11 there were many misunderstandings and misconceptions created amongst us, and if [they] were not cleared, our unity of diversity could have been jeopardized," said Qadeer.

The club is now represented by students of almost every nationality and religion, that telecast a news program every

week. As president of IAC, Qadeer wrote the club's constitution, and helped put all the administrative chores together.

"[It] eventually became a success and ensured success in my effort to promote understanding and awareness," Qadeer said.

This is, of course, the first student-run, student-operated international awareness program at Penn State Delco.

Along with that Qadeer is a member of the Muslim Student Organization, and lends a helping hand at many of the functions. He also enjoys writing poetry, short stories, and political articles. They have been in *Penn In Hand*, the campus literary magazine, *US Magazine*, and the *News International*. Currently he is also writing and researching on Judaism.

"As a Penn State student I have represented Penn State at an international level by writing for international newspapers," Qadeer said.

Aside from his school work, the IAC club, and his many writings, Qadeer helps out and takes an active part throughout the whole campus. He assists in orientations and convocations, and does many things with both the Admissions Office and Student Life. Qadeer is a very sociable person who can be seen at activities such as multicultural day, fashion shows, and dances.

Qadeer is currently the secretary of the Engineering Club, and hopes to become president of the SGA one day.

"I [would] plan to structure SGA into a very stream line fashion by implementing some productive reforms," said Qadeer.

"No matter what they decide, my support for every positive thing that Penn State has done has always been there and it will always be there," Qadeer said.