

Eye on Campus

Outgoing SGA president bids adieu, says thanks

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I just became a former SGA president. I'm not upset, though. No, I'm proud.

David Neidert, an Anderson University history professor, once said, "The most important part of being a leader is maintaining the desire to keep on learning. That means learning about yourself, about your peers, and about the people you serve. Leadership requires hard work over the long haul, and it doesn't come easy."

When I see the faces of the students, I see friends, colleagues, and people whom I've served, laughed with, almost cried with. I see people whom I have helped to learn, and people who've helped me to learn. Together, we have accomplished more than I thought possible.

I would have probably changed a few things if I could, but hindsight is always 20-20. The amazing thing is that as an SGA, we have accomplished just about everything we set out to do, and also did more.

We fought for student rights, we held events, we helped save lives with the Blood Drive, we tried our best to help the student body with the Advising Fair, but we've also done our best to help every student in the entire university.

At CCSG, outgoing Vice President Andrew Walter had the idea of and spearheaded the efforts to create a university-wide diversity scholarship which helps students financially who try to help foster diversity amongst the student body.

I have been involved with and introduced a concept which hopefully will succeed in going through the University Faculty Senate and other necessary committees: teaching evaluations which would be viewable by students during scheduling time.

This is a Project I have called, "Teaching Facts."

With it, you would be able to see the responses from students about logical questions, such as, but limited to: Is the professor a lecturer, or does he/she use a lot of visual aides? Do they use ANGEL a lot? Do they use all of the required textbooks? Questions like these which could really help a student decide which class is best for him/her.

I am extremely proud. I'm a little nostalgic, too. It seems like yesterday when I was running around in a suit in 85-degree weather trying to get people to vote for me.

I think I have aged about 20 years while in this office. But I've seen most of you grow along with me. I've seen what you've accomplished, and I see now that you are capable of anything.

... we are more than just schoolmates, more than just friends."

So, here I am, on the road again, halfway there, livin' on a prayer, in the summer of '05. I'm heading to University Park now (a little reluctantly I might add), probably go on to law school or something.

I know I can always call back on anyone here, because we are more than just schoolmates, more than just friends.

We are all just about the closest we can be to family without buying engagement rings, which I can't afford, and not to mention the whole wedding thing freaks me out. And just like family, I'm gonna miss you.

To all of the professors who have helped me, all the staff members who have taken time to sit down and talk to me about a problem or a success, all the students I've done whatever it is that students do, to the friends I have found, and to SGA.

We've shared laughs, struggled together, and we've made differences in each others lives. I know you have in mine. What I'm trying to say is, "Thank you."

It's been an experience I wouldn't trade for the world.

Blue and White party takes office



Photo courtesy of www.de.psu.edu

The newly elected 2005-2006 Student Government; the Blue and White party includes, front, from left, Rayanne Lynch, Leah Semmelhaack, Karen Craig, Nida Qadeer; middle, Stacie Mann, Crystal Bowhall, Laura Burns; rear, Hassan Mehmood, Matt Kelly, Charles Sandor, Rodney Simon, Devin Zuczek, Sean Nichols.

The Blue and White party won the 2005-2006 SGA election, sweeping Stacie Mann into office as president.

Mann and vice president Crystal Bowhall were sworn in on the April 23 at the Commons building patio, along with their 17-member cabinet. The ceremony was witnessed by students, faculty and staff.

The incumbent Lions party lost the Spring semester election by a margin of 21 percent.

The election's statistics found that only 287 out of more than 1,500 students participated in the online voting. That translates to 19 percent student body involvement.

The apparent lack of campus-wide zeal is one of many issues that Mann and her cabinet have promised to tackle.

One way they plan on reviving Penn State Delco school pride is through "open Meetings for the whole community, where all campus decisions are voted on," according to the

party's written platform statement.

Other issues the party has taken up on its platform are successful student interactive events of previous SGA parties. Highlighted events include the Challenge of Champions, the Advising Fair, Multicultural Day, Faculty/Staff appreciation Dinner, and Fall/ Spring Week events.

Mann stresses that her party will always survey students for their approval of selected events and how their allocations fund is being spent.

In a written statement issued to the campus, Mann and Bowhall envision their party's involvement with the Delco campus as service oriented.

"The two of us would like to lead our party primarily as a service group," the statement read. "A service group that serves you, the students here at Delco. We are here to listen to your concerns, requests, and needs, and do our best to respectively take action."

— GERRY DUNGAN

Graduation, buyback time at the bookstore

By MATTHEW ARAGONA
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As the end of the semester winds down, the bookstore is gearing up with several announcements.

For all graduates, caps and gowns are on sale now. You can go in and pick yours up. They are \$19.95 plus tax.

The bookstore also has a wide variety of Penn State graduation merchandise available. Graduates can also stop by and get information on diploma frames, graduation announcements, and class rings.

To the rest of the campus community, buyback is right around the cor-

ner. Some people on campus don't realize they can sell their books back to the bookstore. The best time to sell back your books is during finals week, May 2 to May 6.

If books are in good condition and are being used on this campus next semester, students will receive up to 50 percent back for their books.

Students are urged to bring all of their books in to check their buyback value.

For those students who are thinking ahead and want to get a jump start on the fall semester, students can fill out an order form for their textbooks.

Students can fill a form out online at www.psudelaware.bkstore.com or

come into the bookstore to fill out a form.

This is a great way to get used books if available. The bookstore is located on the first floor of the Main building.

Photo courtesy of www.de.psu.edu

Students can earn cash back for their textbooks.

