

# Eye On Columnists

## A Minor Improvement to Help Others

**Lion's Eye Featured Columnist:**  
Karen Craig

In a society full of self-importance, people tend to focus more on their own lives and problems instead of considering the issues of less fortunate individuals. A new minor has been implemented on our campus in 2005 to allow students to become more involved. By pursuing the new Civic and Community Engagement Minor, Delco students can explore the world of helping others while receiving college credit. Penn State University's handbook states "the minor serves to encourage, recognize, and systematize student participation in public service or problem-based fieldwork and research."

Students in the minor perform fieldwork related to their interests and studies. They must have one

required course, YFE 211, but may choose from a list of remaining classes to complete the minor. Also, a capstone project must be fulfilled in the form of a thesis, portfolio, service project, or publication. Dr. Laura Guertin, chairperson of the minor's committee on campus, said "some groups... are unable to speak for themselves or don't know how to make a change in their situation," and this program helps make that change. Civic and Community Engagement explains how to pursue an audience for a specific program, assists in organizing a plan as well as enacting that plan, and encourages young adults to aid individuals in need.

I have been involved in community service all my life. From the age of four, my uncle had me working at a game booth that he ran at

my church's fair every spring. In 1994, I began feeding the homeless - first, outside of the 69th Street Terminal and later, at a shelter built at 63rd and Market streets.

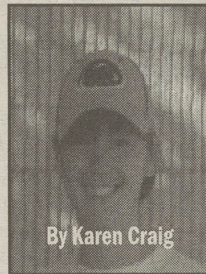
Volunteering at that shelter has been a constant part of my life once a month for the past eleven years. I have walked in the Philadelphia AIDS Walk in previous years, organized clothing and food drives, helped the elderly, and given countless donations to different organizations. As you can probably tell, community service holds great importance to me. Primarily,

the significance in my life comes from the thought that I could be in that person's shoes. I could end up homeless and hungry on the street. I could lose my home in a catastrophe and not have anything but the clothes on

my back. I could even see myself as the neighborhood old lady who can't get out of her house to purchase groceries or shovel her sidewalk during a snowstorm. The truth of the matter is that we all could end up like those people, needing to rely on the kindness of others. That's what makes this minor so important. Not only do students learn about the act of service, they learn how to target specific individuals and their needs.

Hopefully, the new Civic and Community Engagement Minor on Delco's campus, or CIVCM as registration books abbreviate it, will encourage students to help around campus and surrounding areas.

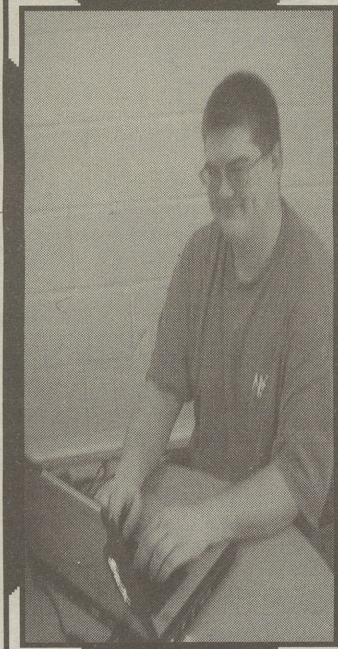
To learn more about the Civic and Community Engagement Minor, contact Karen at [kac368@psu.edu](mailto:kac368@psu.edu) or Dr. Guertin at [uxg3@psu.edu](mailto:uxg3@psu.edu).



By Karen Craig

### STUDENT

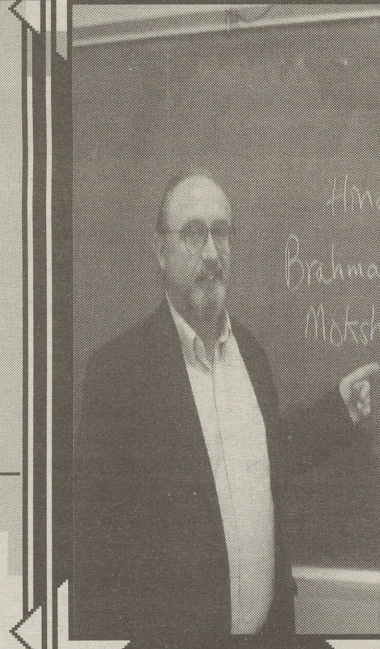
Although he admits that he usually stays close to home on the weekends, Brad Carpenter (Freshman, History) shows a bit of the party attitude with his trips to Main Campus. Carpenter started the semester as an English major but feels his new History focus will be better suited for his future. Still sticking with the English theme, he spends some of his free time writing books. "Although I write Science Fiction mostly, I'm trying to merge the two major veins of the genre, space sci-fi and fantasy, into my work." Carpenter currently has three works in progress, one of which turns the tables on history and puts Russia at the helm in the mid 1970's. His class load isn't unbearable, with 12 credits, but that freed up time is used hanging out at the IST club and (hopefully) reading the Lion's Eye. Carpenter aims to register to vote soon feeling he needs to change the current political climate out of fear of a Bush/Cheney world takeover. In this case, Carpenter is breaking out of the mold of the Star Wars character he feels he can relate to the most. Unlike Obi-Wan Kenobi, he is very suspicious of George Bush (Emperor Palpatine) and Dick Cheney (Anakin Skywalker).



Brad Carpenter

### Lion's Eye Student & Teacher Profile

By: Daniel Robert Delaney



Prof. Wayne Miller

### TEACHER

Surely this man's only opiate is the warm scent of our very own Penn State Delco. Professor Miller is part of the Religious Studies department on campus and also teaches Philosophy and Ethics courses at Neumann College. He has a varied educational history, starting at the University of Rochester where he started with a Chemistry major. Despite having stellar grades, he felt no passion for formulas and flasks and moved towards the religion field. After finishing at Rochester, he moved on to Union Theological Seminary for two years, then Drew University for his graduate in Philosophy and Religion. In his four years with the campus, Miller enjoys the dedicated attitude of students here who "are grounded with real life problems and challenges." Of the superhero universe, he feels he can relate best to Wolverine of the X-Men, "unlike Superman, Wolverine has realistic struggles and he battles with demons inside and out." In regards to musical tastes, Miller listens to mostly classic rock from the sixties and seventies. "Music videos have destroyed main stream music," complains Miller. On the Doors, he notes "Jim Morrison was truly a poet."

## Thanksgiving with the Doctor: Acorn Squash and Alms Giving

Stuck with the same old canned yams and boiled corn sidedishes to go with this year's Thanksgiving gobbler? One of this doctor's personal favorite foods, acorn squash, and 30 minutes can save the day!

Slice your acorn squash in half lengthwise. With a spoon, gauge out the seeds then proceed to put the halves face down into a microwave-safe container. Fill the container halfway with water and cover using plasticwrap. Microwave on high for 15-20 minutes. Scoop out the flesh into a mixing bowl and mix in (thoroughly) two tablespoons of butter,

two tablespoons of butter and one tablespoon of maple syrup. Add salt (sparingly) and additional maple syrup/brown sugar according to taste. Reheat before serving and proceed to gorge yourself.

#### Acorn Squash Checklist

- 1 Acorn Squash
- Brown Sugar
- Butter
- Microwave
- Water
- Maple Syrup
- Microwavable Container
- Plastic Wrap

This recipe and more to come  
by Dr. Andrew Walter D.D.  
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