



The Lion's Eye

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Student Life Leads the Way on Anti-Gambling Initiative

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A February 9 memorandum from Christopher Coia, the associate director of student affairs to the Student Government Association, addressed concern and discontent over a group of about a dozen students playing cards in the cafeteria, which he suspected to be open gambling in violation of Pennsylvania state law. His solution calls for the permanent removal of poker chips, tables, and surfaces.

"I've noticed students playing cards in the den and the cafeteria," Coia said.

Coia also said he's mindful of the increasing popularity of poker.

"My role in student affairs is to be concerned about whether or not there is gambling taking place on campus."

SGA President Paul Hurych has personally spoken with several students who spend time playing poker in the Commons building to inform them of the impending regulations.

Hurych however expressed support for his fellow students saying that the all out banning of poker and general card playing would not solve the problem.

"We (SGA) thought it was great that students were coming together and having fun on campus," Hurych stated.

Coia's other main concern besides stopping any illegal activity is to maintain the image and prestige of the campus for prospective students and their families.



Photo by Brittany Neimeth

"It's understandable," Hurych admitted.

"The blatant appearance of gambling taking place on campus will hurt the public spirit," Coia said.

At an SGA closed meeting Feb. 12 those students involved in card playing and other related activities had an opportunity to express their own opinions.

A compromise was reached.

There will be no poker tables or surfaces of any kind permitted on campus. The use of cash money and poker chips is also prohibited. If a student or students are caught in the act of gambling in the open, the Judicial Affairs office will act.

"I support that resolution," said SGA Vice President Devin Zuczek.

The procedure requires a disciplinary conference where

charges can be made by Coia for which the consequences could range from a simple warning to probation, with permanent expulsion as a last resort.

"The student(s) would have the ability to appeal," Coia said.

Coia said in a recent interview that he's never had to take such extreme action in his two years at Penn State Delaware County. The reason being is because Coia has yet to obtain any direct proof that open gambling exists on this campus.

"It's difficult to identify who is gambling because there's no money on the table," he said.

Coia has worked closely with campus security to try and nail down any illegal gambling cells within the university.

"I'm not trying to take away their ability to play cards," Coia said. "I'm just looking at the overall environment on campus."

The issue of poker and other gambling practices have become the subject of recent meetings, which include representatives of all 20 satellite campuses of Penn State held at the main campus in State College once every semester. Chris Coia was in attendance at these meetings.

"I'm making sure the administration gets the word out," Coia said.

SGA President Hurych is both committed to his fellow constituents and keeping law and order.

The enforcement will be handled by the office of Student Affairs in cooperation with campus security.

"Obviously we (SGA) won't tolerate illegal behavior taking place on campus," Hurych said in a recent interview.

Lion's Den Awaits 50 Inch Plasma Television

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The moment of truth has finally arrived. All the rumors of student government lurking behind the scenes whispering in the dark about televisions have finally become a reality. During the week of the 19th of Feb., Penn State Delaware County received a rare delivery, a 50 inch max-ent plasma television. Boasting nearly a \$2,000 discounted price tag including mount fees, this television is being brought to you by the Student Government association - truly their most visibly

lasting legacy of the academic year. This television is to be placed in the Lion's Den offering students a bright future in passing time.

For the moment, however, the television spends its lonely nights in the office of Christopher Craig Coia, Associate Director of Student Affairs, awaiting the day it can be mounted on the Lion's Den wall. "There was a lot of discussion with



Photo from Bestbuy.com

maintenance and ITS over who's going to mount it, and whether those two departments were going to accept the liability over who's going to hang it. The plasma will be mounted by the end of the spring break" says Student Government President Paul Michael Hurych. He continued to explain that there will be some sort of dedication ceremony during the week of its unveiling.

So for now, we can sit

back and twiddle our thumbs and wait another two more days for spring break to arrive before expecting to see this television make its debut in the Lion's Den. I personally can't wait.

Paul Michael Hurych also boasts updates to the entranceway kiosks as well as other noticeable changes for the near future. Keep your eyes open because it appears as if the Lion's Party's fervor has yet to end for this academic year. Many events and changes have yet to be made and the Lion's Eye remains steadfast and diligent in coverage of that yet to come.



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