

Eye on Campus

FACULTY FORUM: Independent Research at PSU Brandywine & Beyond

By Nancy Perone - Lion's Eye Staff Writer - nip5014@psu.edu

On Tuesday, December 2, 2008 Penn State Brandywine's Associate Professor of Earth and Mineral Sciences, Dr. Laura Guertin presented a faculty forum open to the campus.

The forum was held in the John D. Vairo Library during common hour. The topic she addressed was Independent Research at Penn State Brandywine and beyond.

The forum was setup in a "round table discussion" style with teachers gathered in a large circle.

While this forum was very teacher oriented, the topic was not. If there were ever any doubt in the minds of students as to whether or not their professors care about their academic successes, had more students attended the forum, it would have reassured them.

Passionate about student and teacher combined research, Dr. Guertin led an equally passionate conversation on how to increase student involvement in research.

Instead of the typical presentation that a professor

would give, she invited input, suggestions, and opportunities for each teacher to voice their experiences in dealing with students and research.

There was serious concern expressed among professors that students, of all undergraduate levels, don't seem to understand what having a paper published or being recognized scholastically can do for both their resumes and futures.

Multiple teachers also raised the topic of how students don't know how to properly do research. This spurred Dr. Guertin to encourage everyone that a researching tutorial ought to be included in all classes.

The fact that students feel more confident and maybe a little more like they are in college once they've been recognized or published was agreed upon by all.

An idea of Dr. Guertin's, that most agreed with, was to include and encourage other majors to participate in EURECA, as opposed to just being a "science fair." EURECA is a campus student research symposium that

allows students and the teachers working with them to showcase all of their efforts.

The thought of graduate school and continuing education being introduced to more students was tied together with encouragement of better and more research.

Although, the professors realized that along with all of this time and money that they would need, additional space would be and is a concern. If more students showed interest and faculty were to be involved, perhaps this problem would disappear along with spotty research.

If you have any questions for Dr. Laura Guertin, her email address is: uxg3@psu.edu. You can also visit her web blog at: <http://www.personal.psu.edu/uxg3>.

Correction: Nancy is the writer of the article Faculty Forum: Biomimicry from the Lion's Eye's previous issue.

SGA Update

By Martina Delgado - Lion's Eye Staff Writer
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On November 18th in the Commons Building, SGA held an open meeting to inform students of upcoming events on campus. During Global Aids week, which is December 1st to the 5th, Brandywine campus will be having guest speakers visit and speak about the dangers of the HIV/AIDS virus.

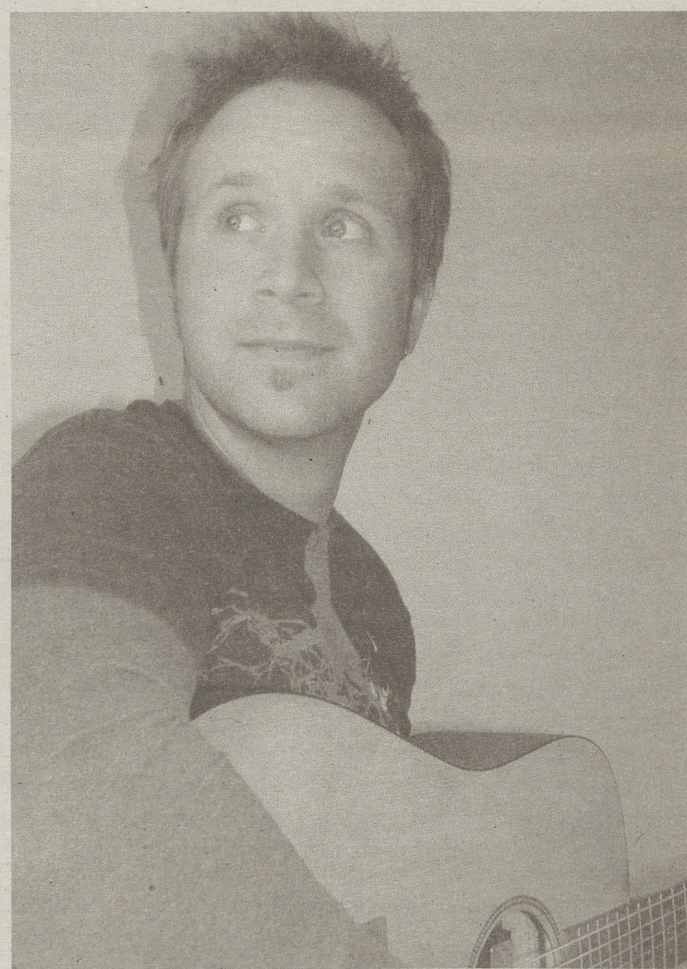
SGA also encouraged students to wear red for HIV/AIDS awareness week. Boxes will also be available to students to write questions they have about the virus and will be collected and answered - all questions will be kept anonymous. Secondly, SGA mentioned that December 8th through the 12th will be Study Week as students

get ready for finals. Faculty and students will be around campus ready to assist students with any subject they are having difficulty with.

Next, the Philabundance Organization will be having a food drive on campus for needy children. Donation boxes will be placed around campus for anyone that is willing to contribute to this good cause. The meeting was wrapped up with announcements from campus clubs. THON reminded everyone of the Black and White Dance which will be held on December 12th. Also Penn in Hand submissions are due by the December 31st and can be sent to Teron Meyers at tam5086@psu.edu.

Singer Songwriter Mark DeRose

By Chris DiLenno - Lion's Eye Editor
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Mark DeRose - Photo courtesy of www.yorkblog.com

On Thursday, December 4th, singer/songwriter Mark DeRose performed in the Lion's Den. Equipped with only a microphone and an acoustic guitar, Mark was able to bring his stentorian vocals into the den as if he was playing any other kind of show.

His set was made up with half of songs being ones he wrote and the other half were covers by various bands such as The Beatles, U2 and Simon and Garfunkel. The covers were the strong points of Mark's show, showcasing a new take on songs that were in an obvious different genre than Mark's other songs were.

His best song, in my opinion, was Here Comes the Sun originally done by The Beatles, because even the students were able to lend a hand in the chorus which added to Mark's already apparent ability to interact with the audience. The "show" itself was different than any I had been to before, but it was enjoyable for the most part.

Considering he graduated from Penn State, I wish him luck in his music career and hopefully one day he'll have his name in lights and he won't have to keep giving away air fresheners.

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SUPPORT center FOR **child advocates**

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