

Eye on Our Generation

He Said, She Said - Emergency Drill Response

By Chris DiInneo - Lion's Eye Staff Writer - cad5241@psu.edu

Thursday, March 5th was the day that the school tried to have a preparedness drill for the whole entire college campus of Penn State Brandywine. It was kind of crazy at first because I was in my calculus class and my teacher didn't know what to do. This one kid in my class had got a text message on his phone saying that it was about to happen in like 5 minutes. Then after the 5 minutes was up bunch of other students in the class had got the text message saying that the drill start. Since my teacher didn't know where he should keep or stop teaching class. It was really funny though because all of the students in the class were telling the teacher what he should do, like locking the door. There were a lot of fake gun shots going up and down the hallways of the main building. Also there were a lot of screaming and banging on the doors of the classroom.

Along with that she was responsible for initiating the campus' emergency procedures at the start of the drill and sending the PSUTXT to everybody that had registered.

Doing this drill was very effective because it prepared a lot of the students and the faculty, and the police. Even though most of the students thought this was very funny and not that important, it really was interesting and a positive thing for everybody. The reason why this preparedness drill was done was because of the incident that happened at Virginia Tech. Now I feel a little better knowing that this campus has taken precautions to make this campus a better and safer place for not only the students, but all of the people that come on and around this Penn State Brandywine campus.

Not only do I think that this drill was a good success, but so do a lot of the faculty and staff. Ms. Yerges believes that the drill helped us assess our emergency procedures and identify ways in which we can make enhancements to our emergency plan, physical facilities, and communication/training. She is hopeful that we can plan at least one exercise a year to test our readiness and help raise awareness about procedures to be followed in the event of any given emergency.

By Jasmine Hunter - Lion's Eye Staff Writer - jph267@psu.edu

On Thursday, March 5th, Penn State Brandywine took part in a campus wide preparedness drill. The drill started around 10:30 AM and was in effect in different ways in each building. I happened to be in the library when someone I was sitting next to got the message declaring that the drill had started and as he turned to tell me, the lights in the library turned off and everyone headed for the downstairs area by order of the 'librarians'. Once everyone got there, we sat down at the computers and they briefed us on the details of the drill. We were to stay in this area until the drill ended. After an hour and half of nothing but loud taps at the keyboard and the occasional walkie talkie blare, we were allowed to leave.

I was told that the experience was much different in the main building of the school where fake gunshots and troopers were prevalent in an effort to instill caution and fear in the students of our school, including myself. But there is a problem with this way of thinking. The idea that surprising the students of our school by giving the day of the 'attack' but not the time is quite far-fetched in itself. There is no order when it comes to terror, People do not act rationally and you can't expect any different from college students, this drill did nothing but heighten the sense of a terrorist presence among the campus.

By telling us that we need to be prepared, you run the risk of letting loose a paranoia that could internally damage the relations of the students in our campus. The truth is, there is no way to prepare for such an event and thus you have to work indirectly toward preventing these tragedies before they are put into effect. When it comes to an internal attack, counsel the people with problems, if you see a person having a bad day, do your best to engage in a positive interaction with them, people just need human contact in most instances of gloominess.

As for the terrorist idea that we are still faced with the possible threat of attack, we must do what we can when the situation arises with the circumstances we are placed in. I am not bashing the coordinators of this drill, far from it, I just need you all to know that you can be an active part in preventing the threat and ensuring the safety of yourself and your classmates.

Penn State Brandywine's Annual

Spring Fling

Thursday, 4/23
10am-2pm
Live music and food take place from 11:30am-1:00pm
Campus Lawn

Featuring:
FREE BBQ
Funny T-Shirts
and pictures
Live Music
Inflatables

Featuring the music of:
Stacy

For more information about Spring Fling, contact the Office of Student Affairs at 610-892-1270.

Student Affairs
Enhancing your Campus Experience

Student Talent Showcase

Are you a musician, singer, poet, or dancer?

SHOW US WHAT YOU GOT!!

Contact Ronika rmm29@psu.edu by April 30th to participate

Wednesday, April 22nd
12:30pm
Viaro Amphitheater

APPROVED BY 4/21/09