

Eye on World & Local

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Wall Street Journal Survey Ranks PSU as Top College in Nation

By Sarah Sharp – Lion's Eye Staff Writer – ses5467@psu.edu

According to a recent Wall Street Journal Article, Penn State graduates are the most prepared to enter the competitive work force. Companies looking to recruit new employees have turned to large state universities because of the considerable student populations and their insistence on teaching practical life-skills, giving companies more for their money.

In their efforts to cut costs and simplify the hiring process, many companies have begun to focus on a select number of large schools in order to create deeper relationships with these schools. Once relationships have been established, employers can work with professors and students, rewarding them with access to the inside track. These relationships provide students with greater chances of getting internships.

The Wall Street Journal obtained their results by surveying the top corporate recruiters and then compiling the information to determine the list. "Recruiters say graduates of top public universities are often among the most prepared and well-rounded academically, and companies have found they fit well into their corporate cultures and over time have the best track record in their firms," reports the Wall Street Journal.

This study surveyed 479 recruiting executives spanning almost 30 industries. These professionals analyzed the top 100 colleges in the nation. After the six month data collecting period, the results positioned Penn State at the front of the pack. Annamarie Mountz, Penn State spokeswoman, says "[Penn State's high rank] is because the education that students get here is the kind of education that employers are looking to hire; our education goes beyond just the book learning."

This study disproves the common assumption that attending an Ivy League School improves the chance of finding a job after graduation. In addition, many private school graduates have plans to move on to post-graduate degrees, preventing them from immediate long term careers after graduation. On the contrary, the results of this survey show that a degree from a larger public university is more helpful for students looking

for a job after college. A Harvard economics professor, Claudia Goldin admitted that "[Harvard has] none of the basic bread-and-butter courses that serve you well in much of industry."

The Wall Street Journal's Top 5 Colleges, Ranked by Job Recruiters

1. Penn State University
2. Texas A&M University
3. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
4. Purdue University
5. Arizona University
6. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
7. Georgia Institute of Technology
8. University of Maryland, College Park
9. University of Florida
10. Carnegie Mellon University

Dr. Stephen Cimbala, Penn State Brandywine Political Science professor, mentions, "[This article] shows how Penn State has risen in the ranks for its elite research communities and is becoming a world-renowned university. It is really significant because this accolade is from the future employers. This is truly good news for Penn State students."

The article can also be expected to benefit the university. The Wall Street Journal's positive portrayal of Penn State could increase the total number of applicants, resulting in a more competitive classroom setting, which only will continue to produce well-educated and well-

rounded students. Surely, this complimentary article reassures many students about their decision to attend Penn State.

President Obama Visits Philadelphia, Gives Advice and Promise to Local Students

By Latika Whitmire – Lion's Eye Staff Writer – lmw273@psu.edu

On September 14th, President Barack Obama gave his second annual "Back-to-School" speech at the Julia R. Masterman Laboratory and Demonstration school in Philadelphia.

Masterman, which is one of the top schools in the city, was named a National Blue Ribbon School because of its high achievements and its wide range of diverse students.

Obama, introduced by the school's student body president, was greeted by many students and faculty with a round of applause at the speech ceremony. Among those in attendance were Governor Ed Rendell, Mayor Michael Nutter, Congressman Chaka Fat-tah, Congresswomen Allyson Schwartz, and the Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.

The main theme of President Obama's speech was education and the future. In his speech, Obama encouraged students to dream big and work hard. He told them that education was essential for a successful future. "Nobody gets to write your destiny but you. Your future is in your hands," Obama said. "Your life is what you make of it. And nothing--absolutely nothing is beyond your reach." Obama told the students that as long as they are willing to dream big, work hard, and stay focused on their education, there is not a single endeavor that any one of them cannot accomplish.

The President familiarized himself with the audience about the conversations that most students and parents have between each other when dealing with school. He talked

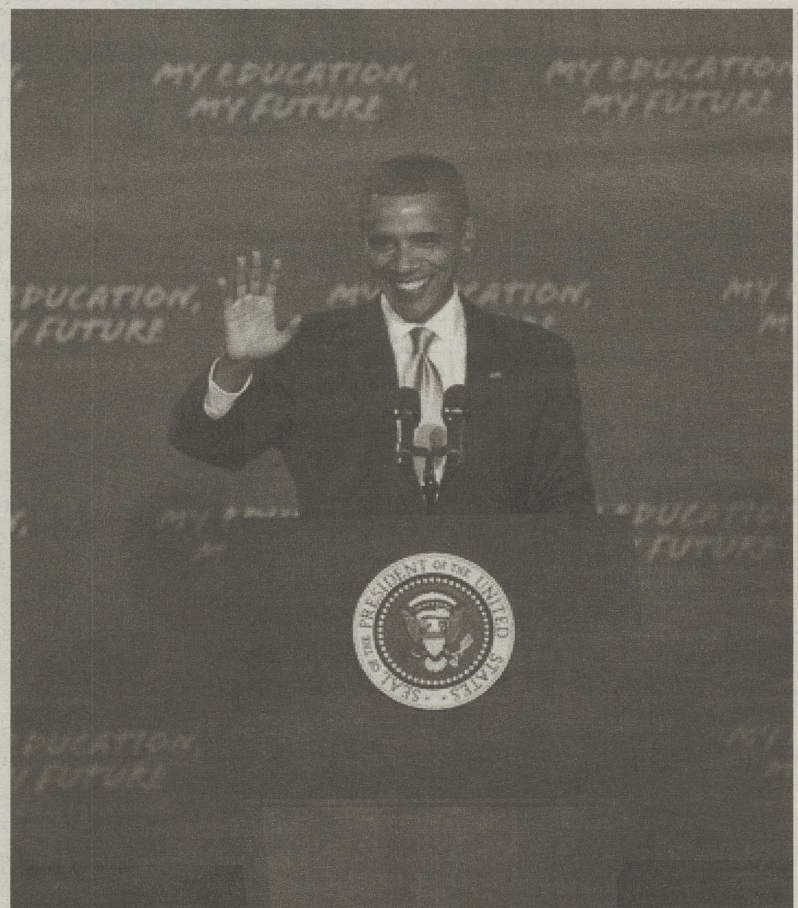
"Nobody gets to write your destiny but you. Your future is in your hands. And nothing--absolutely nothing is beyond your reach."

about how he was not always the best student when he was younger and that he made his share of mistakes. He reminisced with the students about how his mother would have to sit him down and give him a talk, encouraging him to put in a bit of effort when dealing with school. "Just because you're not the best at something today doesn't mean you can't be tomorrow," Obama said. "Even if you don't think of yourself as a math person or a science person, you can still excel in those subjects if you're willing to make the effort."

Obama told the students that the farther they go in school, the farther they will go in life. "You've got to show up to school on time. You've got to pay attention in your class. You've got to do your homework. You've got to study for exams. You've got to stay out of trouble." Obama continued, "You've got to instill a sense of excellence in everything that you do. That kind of discipline, that kind of drive, that kind of hard work, is absolutely essential for success."

Near the end of his speech, Obama told the students that he was confident that all the students at the school and across the country will keep doing their part to keep fighting for their dreams because if they succeed this year, they are going to succeed for the rest of their lives. "My main message to all of you here today... [is to] keep it up. All of you, I know, are going to do great things in the future," Obama said. "Maybe sometime in the 21st century, it's going to be one of you that's standing up here speaking to a group of kids as the President of the United States."

President Obama also announced the "Second Commencement Challenge" to students graduating from high school. "If you show us how teachers and students and parents are all working together to prepare your kids and school for college and a career—if you show us how you are giving back to your community and country, then I will congratulate you in person by speaking at your commencement," he promised. Last year, Obama gave a commencement speech to high school graduates in Kalamazoo, Michigan.



Obama speaking to Masterman students before the words, "My Education, My Future." Photo courtesy of www.phillyvist.com

Pennsylvania Residents Still Eligible to Vote in November Elections

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For those Delaware County citizens interested in casting a vote for a Pennsylvania Senator, Representative, or Governor this November 2, 2010, the time for registration has not yet passed.

Application forms can be found in public buildings such as courthouses, some

public libraries, or any PA Department of Transportation photo license center. Details about registering by mail can also be found at www.votespa.com.

The deadline for voter registration is Monday, October 4th, so do not hesitate—register today and let your voice be heard!

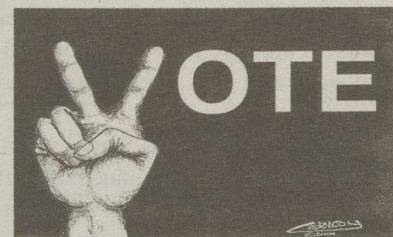


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