



Great Valley? Great News!

Administrators involved feel that the Great Valley Initiative is a way for both Brandywine and the Great Valley campus to grow and develop in their own right.

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Did you notice anything strange while registering for classes this semester? Some observant students may have noticed courses being offered at the Penn State Great Valley campus. This is because of a new alliance recently formed with the Great Valley campus that also involves Penn State Abington. The new initiative is a strategic plan that will benefit all three campuses, and offers Brandywine a great opportunity to broaden its horizons and better itself as a campus of Penn State University.

The Great Valley campus, located at the crossroads of routes 29 and 202, has historically been used for graduate programs, meaning that the campus is mostly used for night classes and lies unoccupied for the majority of the day. Seeing this as a prime expansion opportunity, Brandywine has begun to offer classes at the Great Valley campus during the times when the rooms are vacant. This also poses as a way to shorten the commute for students who live in the Chester County area. Why drive to Brandywine if you can get the classes you need right in your own backyard?



Penn State Great Valley, located in Malvern, is part of a new strategic plan to encourage development and growth for both that campus and PSU Brandywine. (photo by Rob Ewing)

These, however, are not the only reasons why Brandywine has chosen to offer select courses at Great Valley. The most important reason is to offer more programs to both campuses. This can open the doors for the Great Valley campus to build an undergraduate population, as well as allow Brandywine to offer more four year degrees.

"What's good for us is good for them", said Dr. Paul DeGategno, Director of Academic Affairs here at Penn State Brandywine. With both sides working together, the two campuses can build on each-others' strengths and weaknesses. DeGategno also explained how this strate-

gic plan will be greatly beneficial to both campuses in the long run. He says that Brandywine hopes that this new initiative can open the doors for growth within the University in a few main ways.

Although only in the discussion phases, such growth may include Brandywine's ability to offer a four year Bachelor of Science in General Engineering. Currently, the first two years are offered at Brandywine, but with the help of Great Valley facilities for year three and four, it could potentially grow into a four year program. This major includes a number of required general education credits which undergraduate students from the Great Valley campus could take alongside

Brandywine students in our Engineering program - utilizing Great Valley's campus space most efficiently.

Other ideas for collaborative programs between the two campuses that have been mentioned are for business and education programs where students could receive an undergraduate and master's degree in an accelerated period of time. In programs like these, students would spend the first three years at the Brandywine campus and years four and five at Great Valley.

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THON Kicks Off Spirit Week

Special to The Lion's Eye

As winter closes in, many of us spend a lot of time griping about the cold, getting sick, the inconveniences that we must endure, and the terminal gloom that sits on top of us. But those very things that we complain about are the reality of life for a lot of kids suffering from cancer. It is for those reasons, and a lot more, than we Penn Staters THON.

In a little over two weeks, Penn State students across the Commonwealth will be dancing for 46 hours straight at the Bryce Jordan Center (BJC) at University Park for the fight against pediatric cancer. The Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, affectionately referred to as "THON," will begin on Friday, February 18th and end on Sunday, February 20th. This 46 hour, no sitting, no sleeping, dance marathon benefits the Four Diamonds Fund at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center and has raised over \$69 million towards finding a cure for pediatric cancer.

The world's largest student run philanthropy gears up for final fundraisers of the year.

Here at Brandywine, THON love runs deep. Penn State Brandywine students Alexis Cicala, freshman, and Amanda Rasley, freshman (who will be amongst approximately 700 dancers that weekend) have been chosen to represent our campus during THON weekend. And in order to celebrate all things THON and send our dancers off in style, Penn State Brandywine's THON chapter will be kicking off THON spirit week beginning Monday February 14th.

THON Spirit Week promises to be full of fun and awareness for the entire campus community. This week long celebration will start off with "Kisses and Kandy For The Kids." Members of Penn State Brandywine THON will be selling bags of candy for Valentine's Day all day long and at a table outside the Lions Den in the Commons Building.

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