

Campus News

Flags Fly High for National Coming Out Day

By Troy Ballard - *Lion's Eye Staff Writer*, twb5261@psu.edu

For most, October 11th is nothing more than an average Tuesday, but for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, questioning and allied community (LGBTQA), it's one of the most important days of the year.

October 11th marked the national LGBTQA Coming Out Day. To celebrate their diversity, Penn State Brandywine made an excellent effort to get involved. For the first time in Brandywine History, the iconic rainbow flag could be seen flying high above campus. Faculty and student volunteers worked closely with student affairs distributing ribbons and T-shirts.

For those in need of guidance, volunteers around campus handed out information on individual sexuality and offered any advice they had to give. Students were also offered the chance to write inspiring messages inside handprints, to give other students encouragement to explore their sexuality.

Penn State Brandywine's Assistant Professor of History, Julie Gallagher, an Ally to the LGBTQA community, and had some inspiring words to share with others.

"I feel it's particularly important for institutions that serve young people, like high schools, colleges or universities, to create an atmosphere of safety for not only intellectual exploration, but for the exploration of self in all of its manifestations, including sexuality."

Professor Gallagher went onto talk about how the United States as a whole has made substantial strides towards accepting the LGBTQA community, but there is still progress to be made on a larger scale. Gallagher explained that the 'Don't Ask Don't Tell' policy being cut out of the military was instrumental, and was great for LGBTQ.

Freshman Ebony Ford shared with reporters the importance of Coming Out Day:

"It is important to me because it gives me hope that everyone isn't as hateful or intolerant as the people I've come into contact with as a lesbian member of the LGBTQA community." Ford also stressed the important that other students understand the LGBTQA community and not to jump to unjust conclusions.

Students who are not inclusive of the LGBTQA community also took part in activities and learned valuable information. Junior student Bobbi Caprice thought it was an incredibly helpful experience. "I am not LGBTQA, nor do I really have a personal connection with anyone who is. However, I am a believer that everyone should have the right to be themselves. I personally live by the quote 'treat people how you would want to be treated.' I support anyone who is being themselves."

National Coming Out Day is great example of how Penn State supports and backs all backgrounds and personal beliefs. The event serves as an annual celebration, helping the campus learn and understand the community.

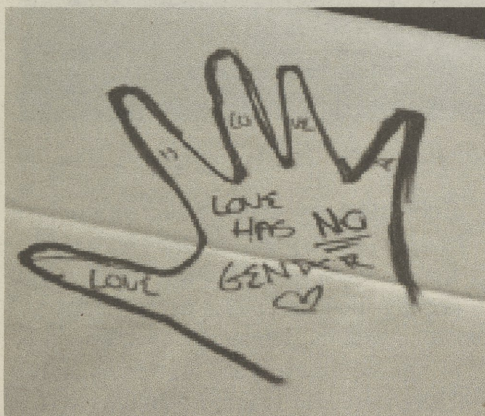
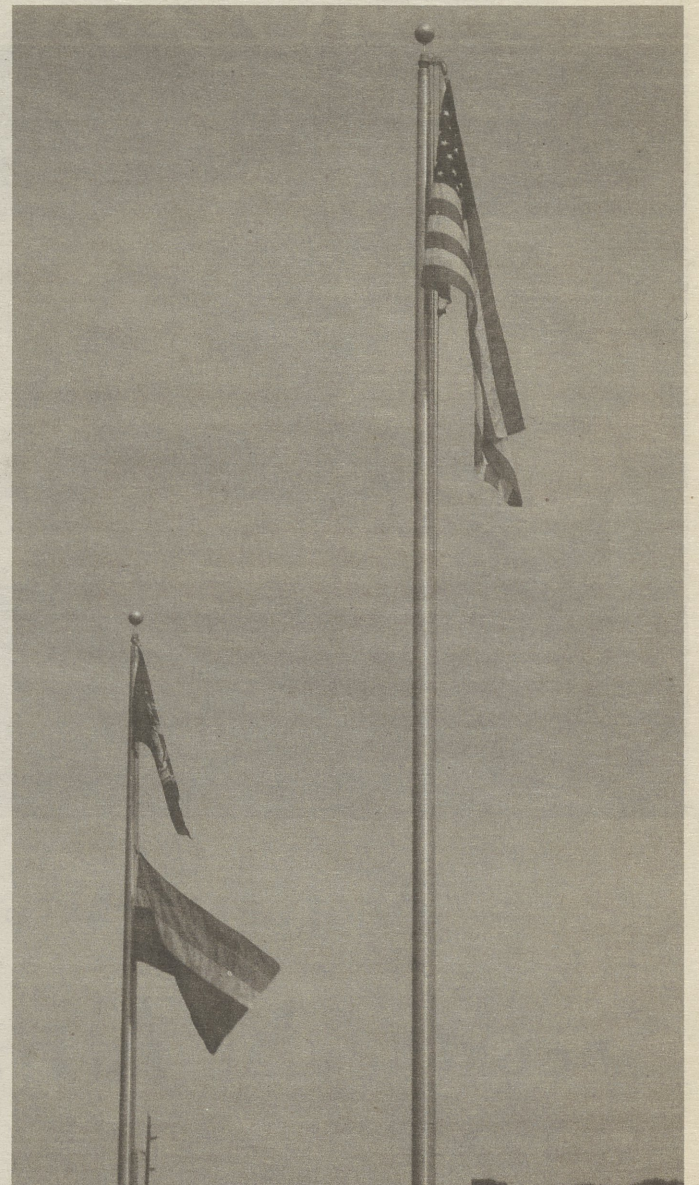


Photo courtesy of Troy Ballard

Photo courtesy of Dr. Matthew Shupp



Students Prove "Dressing for Success" Works at Penn State Brandywine Career Fair

By Kalleen McLachlin - *Lion's Eye Staff Writer*, kmm6327@psu.edu

Hundreds of students dressed to impress for the career fair on October 13th. Over 20 booths lined the commons gymnasium with all kinds of job opportunities for our students. Companies such as Target, Blue Cross, Aflac, Nationwide, TD Bank, and Adventure Aquarium all gathered here at Penn State to find young hopefuls who were willing to work and further their careers.

I went from booth to booth and heard talks of part time and full time jobs, the different types of jobs students could be doing, benefits they could be receiving, and internships. Internships are a great way to get your feet wet and get an experience in the working world. It's a good way to see how a job fits you and how you like working in that field.

A worker from the company Impulse Control named Julia showed her enthusiasm for the career fair and how beneficial it was. Julia commented, "All these jobs are in one place, so it's easier and more convenient for the students to get exposed and go from one company to another. You may learn more about a company that you originally thought you wouldn't be good in. This is a better way of getting exposed then just going on craigslist and reading a description."

Carol, from Financial U Investments also thought the career fair was a great idea. "The career fair is a great for networking with different companies and receiving great opportunities." Other companies who participated include Sovereign Bank, Enterprise, and

Endless Pools. The Air Force was also there explaining to students how to get involved and what being in the Air Force entails and what steps are necessary to join.

You learn so much more about a company by talking to the people who work there or who run the company. You may think you know what a job would be like and judge it before you even give it a chance. The career fair gave students the chance to experience the jobs before they applied. Students handed in their resumes to multiple companies who were more than happy to look them over carefully.

Freshmen Amanda Bradley found the career fair and the people there very helpful. Bradley commented, "I got to talk to people from Target, and they filled me in on a lot that I didn't know. They were really helpful and explained the company to me. It really got my attention. Bradley also added, "I think this career fair was a great idea because we have the chance to get a great job and for the fair to be right at school where we can access them was great. We all deserve a shot at a well paying job." Jobs are hard to come by nowadays, and the career fair gave our students the chance to make good money to support themselves in a career they can enjoy.

If you missed the career fair on Thursday, although you missed a great opportunity, don't panic! You can always contact the companies and apply. I hope everyone who did attend the fair found it helpful and found great opportunities.

Writing Center Holds Workshop Series

By Labanya Mookerjee - *Lion's Eye Staff Writer* - lzm5110@psu.edu

Last month, the Writing Center commenced its series of workshops to help students enhance their writing techniques.

Ms. Main, the director of the Writing Studio, and Andrew Dombalagian, a tutor at the Center, conducted the session titled "Don't Be A Thief!" on September 29. The workshop discussed the different ways of avoiding plagiarism and the importance of citing sources.

"Plagiarism isn't about just the words they're using, but also the ideas," says Andrew. He continues to explain that the workshop's main goal was to distinguish the factors that contribute to plagiarism and to clarify the rules of citation. For instance, ideas, facts, and direct quotes all require proper citation.

"Plagiarism lasts forever and it can come back to haunt you," continues Andrew.

There will be a second "Don't Be A Thief!" workshop held on Tuesday, November 1 from 11:30-12:20 in room 110 Vairo.

On October 5, Stephanie Gant and Ms. Main presented a session that covered common writing errors. It was called "Whoops!" and as the workshop flyer indicates, the session aimed to help students to "find out how to identify and avoid...errors so that you're not saying 'Whoops!'"

"Whoops! identifies common mistakes that keep good writing from being great writing," says Andrew.

Upcoming workshops include "Being Sherlock Holmes" and "Paraphrasing, Summarizing, and Quoting."

"The Sherlock Holmes workshop teaches students how to utilize library tools to write research papers," explains Andrew. The session will be held on Wednesday, November 16 from 12:30-1:20 in rooms 109 and 111 Vairo.

The session on "Paraphrasing, Summarizing, and Quoting" aims to teach students how to incorporate sources into papers. Students are welcome to attend during common hour on Thursday, October 13 in room 110 Vairo.

The workshops are open to all students.

"These workshops emphasize to students the importance of good writing, and we hope they can pick up some tips in the workshops. Clear and concise writing is essential in academic settings as well as in the workforce. We want to make sure our students leave PSU Brandywine not only able to think critically but also able to express those ideas in clear and correct writing," says Ms. Main.

For more information on the Writing Center workshops, contact Ms. Main (pam47@psu.edu) or Andrew Dombalagian (agd5038@psu.edu).