

Christine Reckner/Collegian

Steve Tucker (senior-premed) talks to students during the Science Involvement Fair in the Life Sciences Building Wednesday night. The fair gives students an opportunity to work with professors and other students in their major.

Science fair helps students network

By Paul McMullen
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The Life Sciences Bridge was packed Wednesday night with students hungry for free food and the opportunity to participate in the wide variety of science-related clubs and activities at Penn State.

Sponsored by the Eberly School of Science Student Council, the science involvement fair provided an opportunity for students to learn about the science student council and the 14 different science groups within the college, such as chemistry or pre-med clubs.

"We want to give students the chance to get involved in the university through groups that will have a positive effect on their future," said Eberly School of Science Student Council Public Relations Chairwoman Lucy Song (sophomore-biology).

"Getting involved on campus is vital to life as a student at Penn State."

Opportunities with the student council and other science related groups could provide an endless amount of benefits, Song said, from building a close study group to net-

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Kallia Steen
senior - premedicine

working with professors and other student participants.

Another important benefit, said council president Kallia Steen (senior-premedicine), is that student participation can result in a better environment for all students in the school of science.

"Our civic engagement is to improve life at Penn State, which involves building a bridge between the students and the dean," she said. "If we can build an open line of communication, the quality of student life at the university will flourish."

Steen said now is a great time to become a participant in the student council, primarily because it is going through a renaissance. There are opportunities for first-time participants to offer suggestions that will change the way that the council operates, but the most important factor of change is participation, said Steen.

"Students need to participate so we know what needs changed," she said.

"The council is reshaping itself to create a more positive experience in the science department, and the doors are open for new students who want to help in the process."

Based on the student turnout, there is a large number of people who are eager to roll up their sleeves and work to improve student life in the science department.

"I am definitely excited to get involved with the college, especially the chemistry department," said Chris Glinkerman (sophomore-chemistry). "I feel like this is a great opportunity to gain knowledge and network with professors and other students as well."

To email reporter: pjm5030@psu.edu



For those unable to make it to the fair, see weekly meeting times and dates: www.clubs.psu.edu/ecos

New firm gives students free legal advice

By Alyssa Sweeney
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Paying a few simple fees at Penn State can come with a lot of perks.

Student Legal Services (SLS), a full service law firm, will provide free legal council, advice, referrals and representation to all students that paid their student activities fee. Director of Student Legal Services Carolyn Larrabee spoke Wednesday night at the first Graduate Student Association (GSA) meeting to publicize the new division of student affairs that opened in March.

SLS can handle many legal issues that students face, including traffic violations, underage drinking and disorderly conduct citations, landlord or tenant problems and drug convictions.

"Our goal is to provide students with the information they need to make the right legal decisions for the direction they would like to go," Larrabee said.

The new office has already attracted clientele, bringing in 11 students on Monday, three on Tuesday and nine on Wednesday, Larrabee said. Though the office is busy, the staff has averaged a response time of 24-48 hours from the students' submissions of their questions.

Larrabee is the attorney at SLS and has four years of experience as an assistant district attorney. She has worked with many law offices in Centre County and makes referrals based on the individual preferences and problems of students.

"All advice students receive is completely free, and will come from a licensed attorney. We also guarantee attorney [and] client confidentiality always," Larrabee said.

President of the GSA Jon Lozano said that Larrabee's speaking to students was very relevant to the GSA.

"Graduate students at Penn State are 51 percent international students this year," Lozano said. "We had so many students come to us with visa issues last year, and it's so good now that we have a program that can help them legally."

The new office is planning to spread the word about the program and advertise their services at several organization meetings within the next few weeks, including meetings of the University Park Undergraduate Association and Residence Hall Association, Larrabee said.

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Whether it's sports, arts, campus events or regional news, your stories will be widely read by fellow students if you are a Collegian reporter.

If you are interested in applying for the Collegian's photography or graphics staffs, watch for upcoming advertisements.

Tryouts:

Monday, Aug. 30

Tuesday, Aug. 31

Wednesday, Sept. 1

2-3:15 p.m.

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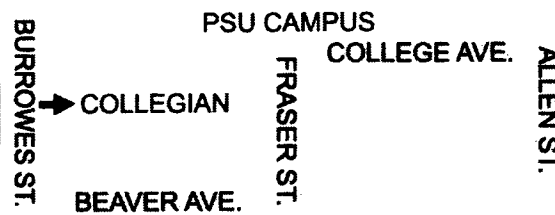
6-7:15 p.m.

Bring: A pencil and blue exam book

Where: 123 South Burrowes Street

Any questions? Call News Adviser

John Harvey at 865-3842



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