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## **Academic Support Services**

### **Career & Life Education**

Michael Ellis, Director

Tanya Letourneau, Career Counselor

Kelly Wieand, Program Assistant

The primary goal of the Office of Career & Life Education is to provide a comprehensive and integrated program of academic support services intended to help students develop the skills and qualifications necessary to identify their career path and ultimately secure employment or further their education. Primary program components include: career planning/counseling; employment and internship referrals; administration of the college's Employment Program; provision of career and graduate/professional school resources in the Career Resource Center, and; the delivery of workshops, seminars, colloquia and other special events throughout the academic year.

The Office of Career & Life Education provides assistance to students in the areas of self-assessment, career exploration, and career decision making. Services are offered through individual consultations, career information presentations, several technology based assessment instruments, and graduate/professional school advising.

The staff offers numerous opportunities for students to strengthen job search skills and acquire employment. The Office maintains web-based listings of current full-time, part-time, and summer job openings, as well as internship opportunities. It also offers access to computerized job search data base programs, sponsors several job search seminars throughout the academic year, organizes on-campus recruiting opportunities, provides resume and cover letter assistance and a variety of resource texts.

A special feature of Delaware Valley College is the Employment Program. As a requirement for graduation, degree candidates in all majors - with the exception of Equine Science, Education majors (excluding the agricultural and business tracks), and Continuing Education students - must complete the Employment Program. This involves spending 24 weeks (960 hours) in a job(s) directly related to the student's major field of study. For this 24 week experiential learning component, students receive four academic credits. The Office of Career & Life Education administers this program in conjunction with the Department Chairpersons/Program Directors. Students are supported in their efforts through orientation seminars and job search strategies workshops, past approved site listings on file, and job leads for potential sites.

Several special programs are managed by the Office throughout the academic year, including an annual campus-wide Career Day which is attended by nearly 200 companies and graduate school recruiters. At Career Day, students have the opportunity to discuss job possibilities with prospective employers and obtain valuable career information from company and graduate/professional representatives. Additional special programs include: Career Expo; Senior Year Transitions Conference; Mock Interviews; Shadow-A-Professional and; the Professional Development Seminar.

Numerous resources are available through the Office and Career Resource Center which assist students in exploring career and other post-graduation options, enhancing job search efforts, and learning about career related opportunities. The Office of Career & Life Education strives to enable students to identify their goals and empowers them to successfully manage their post graduate transitions. The programs and resources offered reflect the Office's motto: to supply students with the tools for tomorrow.

## **Counseling and Learning Support**

Karen Kay, Director

### ***ACT 101***

Karen Kay, Director

James Yard, Tutorial Coordinator

Cindy King, Counselor

Chris Saulino, Counselor

Cheryl Lyons, Administrative Assistant

ACT 101 is a state-funded program sponsored by the Higher Education Equal Opportunity Program of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Participants must be Pennsylvania residents and must meet certain eligibility requirements.

Program services include counseling and tutoring throughout the students' four years to assist with academic and personal issues. ACT 101 offers a textbook lending library, career counseling, cultural enrichment activities, and a summer orientation program for incoming freshmen, all specifically designed to enhance the college experience. ACT 101 seeks to promote a positive sense of self among eligible students, as they develop personally, educationally, and professionally.

### ***Choices***

Please refer to pages 10 for information on the CHOICES program at Delaware Valley College.

### ***Counseling Services***

Anne DeForrest

Chris Saulino

The Counseling Center, located in Segal Hall, supports students with defining and accomplishing personal and academic goals. Professional Counselors provide individual and group counseling services to students throughout their college experience. Counselors assist students in resolving a broad range of issues including balancing work obligations, family and school, stress management, substance abuse and other personal concerns. When necessary, the Counseling Center also arranges outside referrals to community providers.

### ***Learning Center***

James Yard

The Learning Center is an important campus resource that provides free individual and group tutoring in a wide variety of academic disciplines. While tutoring is available in many upper division courses, the Learning Center's primary focus is on freshman and sophomore level core classes. Tutoring is available on a walk-in basis or by appointment, and students may also use the center to improve their study skills. Individual appointments and group workshops are available throughout the semester on topics such as note taking, text reading, exam preparation, and time management.

## ***Learning Support Services***

Sharon Malka

Learning Support Services is a resource for students with disabilities located within Academic Services at Delaware Valley College. Its goal is to assure reasonable accommodations and equal access to the college's educational programs and activities for students with disabilities. The office offers a variety of academic support services directed at student achievement and adjustment in college. In addition, Learning Support Services serves as a liaison within the college community, an information center, and a referral source on disability related issues.

Students requesting academic adjustments or accommodations should contact Learning Support Services as early as possible following acceptance to the college. At that time, they are asked to provide documentation of their specific disability. Throughout their time at the college, students interact with the Learning Support Specialist to implement arrangements that meet their specific learning needs.

Learning Support Services strives to provide superior levels of assistance to students with disabilities. When a student requests and provides information in a timely manner, personalized accommodations can be implemented effectively.

## **Student Affairs**

### ***New Student Orientation***

Success at Delaware Valley College begins with a smooth transition from high school (or another college) to DVC. The college's two part orientation program helps facilitate this transition. The late spring SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising and Readiness) Program, focuses on preparing students for their academic entrance into Delaware Valley College by providing required testing and advising sessions for all new students. In addition, the SOAR Program focuses on welcoming students and families into the college setting through activities that introduce them to members of the DVC community. The August orientation program is a more intense introduction and integration of new students into college life. Workshops and activities are designed to prepare students for many aspects of academic and student life that they might experience as a new student at Delaware Valley College. Participation in both programs is mandatory.

New Student Ambassadors (NSAs) are upper-class students who volunteer their time to welcome new students throughout both parts of the orientation program. These students act as friendly contacts and resources as new students make their transition to the college.

### ***The Connections Community Service Program***

Participation in community service activities on the DVC campus enables students to gain valuable experience while working in the community and building new relationships. The DVC Connections program offers students the opportunity to work within five different dimensions of community service. Students can participate in environmental programs, work with elderly at local nursing homes, tutor and mentor elementary school students, and participate in local Habitat for Humanity builds.

The Connections program also sponsors an annual Alternative Spring Break trip to a location within the country where a group of students participates in a week-long service initiative while having fun and meeting new people.

### ***Clubs and Organizations***

The college believes that cocurricular activities are a vital part of the total college experience. A wide range of cocurricular clubs, organizations and activities are available to provide hours of enjoyment in exploring interests outside the traditional classroom environment. They also provide students with opportunities to develop leadership skills, establish new personal relationships, and broaden their exposure to real-world opportunities.

The Student Government Board and the organizations within it play a principle role in the governance and operation of student activities. Student Government Board representatives and officers are elected by the students. The organization, functions, and responsibilities of the Student Government are detailed in its constitution which is published in the Student Handbook (a copy of which is provided to each registered student).

The various clubs and organizations on campus (listed below) act as the primary conduit for student interests concerning campus life and provide a variety of opportunities for involvement. These groups plan and organize numerous activities including movies, concerts, speakers, field trips, workshops, dances, and others. Some of them are affiliated with a specific major or with a special interest within a major; some of them are service-oriented; still others speak to student interests wholly outside the college's programs. Students are encouraged to become actively involved in activities that meet their individual interests and needs.

## **Student Government**

### ***Organizations Within Student Government***

- A-Day Committee
- Campus Improvements
- Halloween Haunting Committee
- Inter-Club Council
- Inter-Greek Council
- Security Review Committee
- Student Activities Council

### ***Campus Media***

- Cornucopia (yearbook)
- Gleaner (literary and scientific publication)
- RamPages (newspaper)
- WDVC (radio)
- DVC-TV

### ***Clubs- Major Related***

- Agronomy, Crop & Environmental Science Club
- Animal Science Society
- Biology Club
- Block and Bridle
- Criminal Justice Club
- Dairy Society
- Equine Club
- Equine Science Organization
- Equestrian Team
- Floral Society
- Horticulture Society
- Landscape Nursery Club
- Students in Free Enterprise
- Turf Club

### ***Clubs- Interest Related***

- Apiary Society
- Black Student Union
- Digital Photography Club
- FFA
- Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship
- Lacrosse (competitive team)

### ***Professional Organizations***

- Association of Information Technology Professionals
- National Agri-Marketing Association

### ***Greek Organizations***

- Alpha Gamma Rho
- Alpha Phi Omega
- Delta Epsilon Beta
- Omega Chi
- Rho Epsilon Kappa
- Sigma Alpha
- Zeta Chi

### ***Honor Societies***

- Alpha Sigma Lambda (adult honor society)
- Delta Tau Alpha

### ***Other Groups***

- DVC Community Concert Band
- Chorale
- Intercollegiate Judging Teams (dairy, livestock, equine, soil)

### ***Code of Conduct***

If a college community is to function properly, there must be norms and guidelines for students to follow. A detailed list of rules and regulations is included in the Delaware Valley College Student Handbook which is issued to each student. This code of conduct exists to serve as a guide for the student and to ensure the proper atmosphere necessary for the academic and social life of the student.

Any activity or behavior that infringes on the rights, safety, property, or privileges of others or which impedes the normal

operation of the college, is unacceptable. In addition, students are reminded that they are residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the municipalities of New Britain Borough and Doylestown Township and, as such, are responsible for obeying all state and local laws.

Since failure to adhere to college regulations can result in disciplinary action, students are urged to review the Student Handbook carefully.

### **Health Services**

The college makes every effort to have a positive impact on the health experiences of the student. The Student Health Center is a valuable resource to all full-time students. Services available include health promotion and disease prevention as well as illness treatment. Students are encouraged to use these services. Physician's services are available to the student on a daily basis Monday through Friday. All full-time students are required to submit a physical form which includes a doctor's exam upon initial entry. All full-time resident students and athletes must show proof of insurance each year or purchase the student health insurance provided by the college.

Medical conditions that require continuous care, specialized or surgical interventions are handled either by referral or return to the primary physician at the student's expense.

The college assumes no financial responsibility for the medical, surgical or dental services required by the student.

### **Athletics**

Athletic activities, including intercollegiate and intramural events, are an important component of the educational experience for the individual at Delaware Valley College. The essential value of athletics is participation. The program seeks to integrate athletic involvement with the college's academic objectives. Lifetime physical fitness, the self-discipline of individual achievement, the value of cooperation in a mutual struggle, the capacity to deal with success and failure, and the ability to perform under stress are all qualities learned in athletic competition and can be carried over into the educational experience and lifelong learning.

The college is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA, Division III), The Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC), and the Middle Atlantic States Collegiate Athletic Corporation (MAC).

Intercollegiate sports are offered for both male and female student athletes. Sports for men include baseball, basketball, cross-country, football, golf, soccer, track and field, and wrestling. Women compete in basketball, cross-country, field hockey, soccer, softball, track and field, and volleyball.

Additional program offerings include a broadly supported intramural program. Some of the activities scheduled are as follows: touch football, volleyball, basketball, softball and tennis. Membership is held with the National Intramural Sports Association (NISA).

### **Other Organizations**

In addition to the intercollegiate athletic teams, several other student groups also compete with students representing other colleges and universities. For example, the college sponsors both English and Western Intercollegiate Equestrian Teams. Intercollegiate judging teams compete regionally and nationally in the evaluation of dairy cattle, livestock, and soils. Students in both the Dairy and Animal Science programs play active parts in fitting and showing animals in a number of regional and state competitions. And, each year the Ornamental Horticulture and Environmental Design Department produces an exhibit for the Philadelphia Flower Show that is designed and produced by the department's students. All of these activities require considerable time and dedication by the participating students and the faculty members who coach and advise them. The experiences gained by the students, however, are of incalculable value.

The main event of the annual program of student activities at Delaware Valley College is A-Day. This event, staged each year over the last weekend in April, provides students with an opportunity to showcase their skills and their programs. A-Day is the product of months of preparation under the leadership of a representative student committee encouraged and advised by a faculty and staff committee. It features livestock exhibitions and judging contests, an extensive floral design exhibition, exhibits produced by the various majors and student organizations, contests of skill, and much more in a country fair atmosphere that brings thousands of visitors to the campus each spring.

### **Cultural Enrichment**

Delaware Valley College is committed to the cultural development of its students. This is reflected in the Cultural Enrichment Program that is part of the Core Curriculum (page 17). Moreover, student activities extend into cultural areas as well. Student publications include the student newspaper, the Ram Page; a student literary magazine, the Gleaner; and the yearbook, the Cornucopia. Students may earn 1/2 credit each semester they participate in these publication activities.

The college's music program includes the Chorale and the Band, both of which offer several concerts each year and participate in such annual programs as Homecoming, Founders' Day, A-Day, and Commencement. These cultural programs are supplemented by a variety of both on-campus programs and off-campus field trips sponsored by the Liberal Arts Department featuring artists and technicians that bring a diversity of talents to the students of Delaware Valley College. The Drama Club provides an artistic and creative outlet, involving quality productions during the year.