

OFFICE FOR
UNDERGRADUATE
EDUCATION

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Application Process for Prospective Ag Advocates

Applications for Ag Advocates will be available starting January 16 at <http://agadvocates.cas.psu.edu>. Information Session will be held Tuesday, January 24, 6:00-6:45 PM, 118 ASI Building.



Advocates are a vital constituent in assisting the College in the recruitment and retention of highly qualified students. The Advocates work closely with the Office for Undergraduate Education and have the opportunity to develop communication skills, network with professionals and establish working relations with college and university faculty, students, staff and administrators across the Penn State system. The mission of the organization is to create an awareness of the academic programs and career opportunities in or related to food, agriculture, and the natural resource sciences. Advocates assist with prospective student visits to campus, open houses, orientation programs, Alumni functions, and also travel the commonwealth to visit high schools and Penn State campuses.

Applications are due February 20, 2012 by 5:00 PM. The Advocates are a select group of undergraduate students in the College of Agricultural Sciences. The Ag Advocates

Encourage students to come learn more about the organization by attending the information session on **Tuesday, January 24, 6:00—6:45 PM, 118 ASI Building.**

Fall 2011 Student Marshal

The College of Agricultural Sciences fall 2011 student marshal was animal sciences graduate Alyssa Klein. Alyssa is from York, Pennsylvania, and is the daughter of Michael and Kim Klein. Alyssa graduated with highest distinction with a bachelor of science degree in animal sciences and was a Schreyer Honors student. She was active in undergraduate research and received numerous scholarships and awards.



Alyssa was the science lead on a team of students that took top prizes in the Washington State and Idaho State University Business Plan Competitions, and third place in the prestigious University of Washington Business Plan competition. Following a semester abroad in Israel, Alyssa will attend the Penn State Hershey School of Medicine in the fall.

Recruiting and Retaining Student Veterans

A Webinar series has been developed and made available to help faculty and staff who work with recruiting and retaining student veterans. We are likely to enjoy an increase in veterans attending the University in the near future. This link will take you to the resources develop by the Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity: Faculty/ staff professional development series webinars (<http://equity.psu.edu/veterans/resources>). The Webinar on Academic Advising is quite good.

Entrance to Major Process

The entrance to major process is currently in progress for our sophomore students (students in the spring 2012 pool). The deadline for students to confirm their major is February 10 and the Registrar's office is sending email reminders to students who have not yet confirmed their choice of major. Although we have only a couple of majors that require anything more than a 2.0 CGPA and 27.1 credits, it is important for students to complete this process so they will be automatically changed

into their desired majors.

You can help, and it's easy! Just go to eLion and select "Adviser Control" from the menu on the left (don't forget that you must log on as "Adviser" on eLion and not as "Faculty"). Your list of advisees will appear on the page. Under the box with this list, click the button titled "Select other options." The next screen gives you options as well, and you should select "Go to Advanced Settings." Scroll down on this new page to see selection criteria for finding various "types" of students. Put "sp12" in the box titled "Entrance to Major Sem" on the right side of the page and click the box toward the bottom of that column titled "ETM not confirmed." Next, click the button "Display list with selected settings." You will now see a list of advisees who have not yet confirmed their choice of major. Use the "E-mail Advisees" module to send these selected students a reminder email to complete the ETM process on eLion ("Entrance to Major" on their menu) by February 10. Some students ignore notices sent by the Registrar's office but are more likely to attend to a message sent by you.

Undergraduate Program Coordinator Meeting Schedule

The Spring 2012 Program Coordinator Meetings are scheduled at **1:30-3:00 PM** on the following dates and locations:

Monday, January 23	Room 118 ASI
Tuesday, February 21	Room 504 ASI
Monday, March 26	Room 118 ASI
Tuesday, April 24	Room 504 ASI
Monday, May 21	Room 504 ASI

Meeting notices with tentative agenda items will be emailed to Program Coordinators before each meeting. We welcome your input and ideas for agenda items, so please feel free to contact us at any time to add an item for discussion.

Jim Dunn	AG BM, and 2 AGB
John Ewing	AEE and AG SC
Megan Marshall	B E
Jude Liu	A S M
Kate Butler	AGECO
Les Griel	VB SC
Harold Harpster	ANSCI
Leland Glenna	CED
Rob Shannon	E R M
Stephanie Doores	FD SC
Ellen Manno	FORSC, W F S, and W P
Dennis Decoteau	HORT
James Howell	IID and TOX
Dan Stearns	LSCPE
Andrew Mc Nitt	TURF & TURF (WD)

President's Award for Engagement with Students—Nomination Reminder

Through the gift of a generous donor, the University offers the "President's Award for Engagement with Students."

The award will be given during the 2011-12 academic year to a tenured or tenure-track faculty member who goes well beyond the typical responsibilities of a professor by demonstrating exceptional involvement with students' learning and special efforts to engage and encourage students in academic endeavors. The honoree will have taken specific actions to be involved in student growth and learning—academic, social, and professional. Such professors typically make themselves available to, and interact with, students outside class, link students to opportunities, and help them build their confidence as learners and potential contributors to society.

The \$5,000 award consists of \$3,000 that goes directly to the recipient and \$2,000 that goes to the professor's department, to be managed by the recipient and used for extending the kinds of activities the award recognizes. These activities could include:

- Receptions, lunches, or picnics for students
- Field trips, museum visits, or performances for students in classes
- Purchasing books, software, personal computing assistants, compact discs, or access to portals and data-

bases to enhance student involvement or to improve learning experiences for students

- Taking students to participate or present at research meetings, internships, performances and the like
- Networking with student organizations, for example, providing support for materials that the professor might bring to a student club or association when serving as a speaker or adviser
- Bringing speakers from other locations to meet with students
- Faculty travel to professional meetings for teaching/learning enhancements
- Involving students in research

Nomination

Include the name, the professorial title, and a brief statement, not exceeding two pages, stating why the professor qualifies. Send nominations to Tracy Hoover at tsh102@psu.edu or 101 Ag Admin, **by January 18, 2012.**

A screening panel will forward nominations to the President and the President will select the honoree by Thursday, January 26, 2012. The recipient of the President's Award will be recognized at the University-wide Spring Awards Luncheon.

Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee Schedule

The Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee (SREC) will meet on the following dates, times, and locations Spring 2012:

January 18	9-10:00 AM, 214 Ferguson Building
February 15	2:30-3:30 PM, 432 Food Science Building
March 21	9-10:00 AM, 214 Ferguson Building
April 18	2:30-3:30 PM, 432 Food Science Building





Nominations for the Presidential Leadership Academy

Nominations requested to identify students who may be candidates for the Presidential Leadership Academy's fall 2012 class.

The Academy is a three-year leadership development opportunity for a select group of students. Through the Presidential Leadership Academy, students will develop leadership fundamentals to thrive in an environment in which multiple dimensions of an issue are explored, diverse viewpoints are welcomed and heard, and a fully informed and respectful discourse ensues that leads to sound action. The curricular and extracurricular opportunities available through the Academy lead to further development of critical thinking abilities necessary for leaders to implement decisions with sensitivity to the circumstances that led them and the flexibility to rethink decisions and even change course along the way. A highlight of the Academy is a one-credit introductory seminar led by the President of the university.

Information Sessions

To learn more about the application and the academy, attend an information session:

Wednesday, January 11 or
Thursday January 19
4:00 PM

Grandfather Clock Lounge, Atherton Hall

Interested students may apply for membership in the Academy, or they can be nominated by members of the university community. Given the likelihood that you may come in contact with current first-year students who may be interested in the Academy, you are invited to nominate any current students you feel would benefit from this kind of experience. You may complete the formal nomination on this Web site: <http://www.academy.psu.edu/>

Please note that the only requirements necessary for nominations are:

- ◆ Current status as a first-year student
- ◆ Demonstrated leadership skills, either in or outside the classroom
- ◆ Minimum GPA of 3.2

Deadline for receipt of nominations is **Tuesday, February 14, 2012**. Students nominated for the Academy will be asked to complete the application process, which includes a resume, one essay question, and two letters of recommendation.



SNIDER AGRICULTURAL ARENA

2012 Research Opportunities for Undergraduates

The Office of Undergraduate Education is pleased to announce the following undergraduate research opportunities open to students at all Penn State campuses.

Summer Discovery Grants

Application deadline **Friday, February 10**

The Undergraduate Exhibition

April 3—Performances

April 11—Posters

Entry deadline: **Friday, March 2**

For more information, visit www.undergradresearch.psu.edu



College of Agricultural Sciences

Instruction & Curricular Affairs Committee Calendar 2011-2012

Proposals Due to College Administrator in CSCS system**	Send to ACUE Deans (if necessary) Post in ANGEL & notify committee for review	College Curricular Affairs Committee Meeting Dates and Location	Revisions Due back in CSCS and begin final approval process	*Proposals due to Faculty Senate	*Curriculum Report Publication Date (on Blue Sheets for 30 days)	*Senate Committee Curricular Affairs (SCCA) all day meeting
Friday Oct. 28, 2011	Nov. 1-2-3	Thurs. Nov. 17, 2011 1:30 -3:00 p.m. Rm 244 Ag Eng. Bldg.	Dec. 2, 2011	Dec. 16, 2011	for the Jan. 10, 2012 Issue	Jan. 24, 2012
Friday Dec. 16, 2011	Dec. 19-20-21	Thurs. Jan. 12, 2012 1:30 -3:00 p.m. Rm 244 Ag Eng. Bldg.	Jan. 20, 2012	Feb. 3, 2012	for the Feb. 21, 2012 Issue	March 13, 2012
Friday Feb. 3, 2012	Feb. 6-7-8	Thurs. Feb. 23, 2012 1:30 -3:00 p.m. Rm 244 Ag Eng. Bldg.	March 2, 2012	March 23, 2012	for the April 10, 2012 Issue	April 24, 2012
Friday April 6, 2012	April 9-10-11	Thurs. April 26, 2012 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Rm 244 Ag Eng. Bldg.	May 18, 2012	TBD	Issue TBD	Meeting TBD

Course proposals need to be completely through all CSCS consultation and ready to be sent to the college administrator (K. Pletcher, email: kjs8@psu.edu) by this date to be reviewed at the college committee meeting. Also, a PDF of your proposal must be sent to the college administrator by this deadline. **Hard Copies are not required for the course proposals. A Hard Copy original is only required for the Program Proposals (since they are NOT available via CSCS yet). Once your proposal has passed through the College's Instruction and Curricular Affairs Committee review process, the appropriate hard copies will be made by the college administrator and sent to the Faculty Senate for their review process.

* Dates posted by Faculty Senate.

Senate Newsletters are posted to their website at: http://www.senate.psu.edu/senate_activity/newsletters.htm

Nominations for the Outstanding Adult Student Award

Nominations for the Outstanding Adult Student Award are now being accepted. to recognize an outstanding adult learner at University Park who has overcome obstacles and multiple roles in furthering his/her education, serves as a role model for other students and achieves academically.



Nominees should have begun/resumed studies at or after the age of 24 or after having been out of high school for four or more years. Nominees must be enrolled at Penn State's

University Park Campus, through any delivery system, as either a full or part-time undergraduate status.

Prior to nomination, undergraduate students must have completed a minimum of forty-five credits with at least thirty of these credits earned at Penn State, earned a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA and demonstrate participation in co-curricular or community organization.

Completed packets are due January 31, 2012. Packets and additional information is available at: <http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/adults/oasa.shtml>

Feel free to contact Leslie Laing (lal24@sa.psu.edu; 863-7378) for additional information.

PENNSTATE



Office for Undergraduate Education

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Fax: 814-863-7277
<http://agsci.psu.edu>

ThinkAgain

SPRING 2012 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

January 6	Leave of Absence Deadline
January 7	Arrival Day—New Students
January 9	Classes Begin
January 16	Holiday—No Classes
March 4-10	Spring Break—No Classes
April 6	Late Drop Deadline
April 27	Withdrawal Deadline
April 27	Classes End
April 30-May 4	Final Exams
May 4-6	Commencement