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How to navigate PSU's campus

By Julia Mertes THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

As incoming students move to Penn State's campus, some may encounter feelings of anxiety and apprehension — especially since State College is notably extensive in both size and population.

Rachel Sorensen, president of the Liberal Arts Ambassadors, said various people and organizations are prepared to help newcomers as they get acclimated to campus and learn the State College area.

Sorensen (junior-criminology) said she believes some incoming students face extra apprehensions about moving to State College because they never received a campus tour before accepting their college contracts.

Despite these additional challenges, Sorensen said incoming students should recognize that they're "very much not alone," especially since "half of our student body has not experienced in-person classes nor had a real college experience."

Many sophomores lack exposure to Penn State's campus since they were isolated and faced pandemic restrictions during their first year on campus, Sorensen said.

"I have plenty of friends who are going to be sophomores who have no idea where a single classroom is — nor do they know where any of the apartments are, nor any of the restaurants," Sorensen said. "It's really hard for me to try to make plans with them because they always remind me that they don't know where anything is on campus because they never had to go anywhere."

Sorensen said students should optimize their available resources — including Google Maps — to better understand the State College community and geography.

"During your first week on campus, have no shame. Open your maps app and plan out your route," Sorensen said. "You will look around, and you'll see many other people doing that too. You'll be in good company, and you certainly will not be the only one who's lost."

Some students worry about



For freshmen who may be apprehensive about navigating campus, student Attlia Garcia recommends asking other students for help. "If you're too comfortable, then you must seek discomfort a little bit to succeed."

anxious about breaking out of automatically be spending lots because it has "fantastic" breaktheir comfort zone to explore of time with at work," Sorensen fast, the State College area, Sorensen said. She said she too was nervous about taking on too many time commitments during her first semester.

However, Sorensen said she learned from personal experience. She said students tend to have more free time than they initially believe, which means they can truly make Penn State their home away from home.

To afford the social and academic opportunities around State College, Sorensen said students should seek on-campus and offcampus part-time jobs to supplement their bank accounts and interests.

For instance, Sorensen said she enjoys working in the Intramural Building with competitive sports — despite her on-campus job being unrelated to her major - as it has opened her eyes to new hobbies.

obligations and are consequently quick friend group that you'll the options offered on campus

said

For individuals struggling to utilize their extra free time effectively, Sorensen said she recommends coming to the IM for classes and laid-back physical activity.

"[The IM Building] is just another fantastic place to go if you're in need of something to burn time," Sorensen said. "We usually do events until 10 p.m., so if you're looking to play basketball or get back into the swing of high school sports, I definitely recommend visiting the IM."

Besides studying and working Sorensen said students should use their time wisely and look for activities that pique their interests, even if it's something new and personally challenging. She also said they should explore campus and find new local businesses and restaurants to support.

Sorensen said she gravitates "Working in the IM is a great toward Irving's Bagels when overwhelming themselves with way to make money and find a she's craving food outside of

brunch and smoothie options.

"I wouldn't recommend for students to study [at Irving's] because it's always packed with people, but you will never walk into Irving's and not leave happier than when you came," Sorensen said. "When I'm lost and I need somewhere to go, I usually find myself at Irving's.

According to Sorensen, Penn State's main campus contains numerous underrated quiet and peaceful hangout and study locations.

Sorensen said her go-to study location is in an overlook within the South Food District at Redi-Commons that contains a fer quiet atmosphere and convenient booth seating.

She said her friends always referred to the location as "the spot" because it's been a bonding location for the group and holds a 'special place in their hearts."

For students worried about finding their place on campus where they can spend their *the full story*.

time and who they fit with best - Sorensen said they should attend the Involvement Fair to gain exposure to different groups, interest areas and opportunities around campus.

"It's very daunting during your first year, but going out of your comfort zone and heading into the eye of the storm - like into [the] Involvement Fair — [is] a fantastic way to quickly [meet] 10 new people and get information for organizations that you may be interested in," Sorensen said.

With time, Sorensen said students will learn more about the Penn State community and where they fit into that puzzle — including their favorite hangout spots in the downtown area.

In order to become better acquainted with campus, Attlia Garcia said she believes incoming students should utilize the opportunities around them.

'If you're too comfortable, then you must seek discomfort a little bit to succeed or get where you want to go," Garcia (sophomorecriminology) said. "I know if I didn't go talk to people or ask for help at times, I would still be lost and confused too."

Rather than worrying about understanding campus geography in its entirety, Garcia said incoming students should prioritize the exploration of areas around their dorm room - whether that be local businesses, campus facilities or nature paths.

"I advise freshmen to become close with the people in [their] dorm and to go to the events close to where [they] live," Garcia said. "I lived in Pollock [Halls] my freshman year, went to most of the [geographically] close events, and that's how I met most of my close friends."

Besides nearby experiences, Garcia said she believes students should be open to exploring downtown State College as well in order to make the large area feel smaller and homey.

"Try to plan ahead of time [with your finances] because there's a lot to do in State College," Garcia said.

"You're going to make a lot of friends, and you're going to want to go out."

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Sophomores share advice for freshmen

By Ayden Mateo Herold THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

a month away, many of Penn State's students are preparing to move to campus for the first time or are returning from summer break

Arrival week provides freshmen with several days of free time before classes start, and after gathering their own experiences from last fall, several sophomores despite all the restrictions from have advice on how to survive the the pandemic — that students first week on campus.

her first week on campus adjusting to the freedom of college.

"It's very, very freeing. I would catch myself asking, 'Do I have to ask someone to go out this late at night?" Perez (sophomore-hospitality management) said. "You kind of gain freedom, but you understand the responsibility that comes with it at the same time. You learn it a bit at a time, and you're not alone."

Describing herself as being 'very nervous and very hesitant to do anything," Kathryn Lathrop said being far from home helped encourage her to acclimate to campus.

"Just being there and knowing I couldn't leave [helped me]," Lathrop (sophomore-global and international studies) said. "I was so far from home, and I couldn't call my mom and be like, 'Can you please come get me? I'm done now.""

To Nicholas Ross, University

Park was "pretty locked down" during last fall.

"During [my] first semester, With Arrival week less than it was very strict. The [resident assistants] were strict, but everyone followed what they had to do, and they wore a mask," Ross (sophomore-business) said. '[During the] second semester we got rewarded — it got easier in a way. [Penn State] loosened the grip.'

It was during the first week said they took away several valu-Victoria Perez said she spent able lessons to use for the rest of the year.

Perez said the first week was a time for her to get over her initial apprehension of meeting new people.

"I wasn't as social or as outgoing as everyone else, so I felt a little awkward. As time went on, I started meeting people and just being myself," Perez said. "So don't feel like you have to conform to other people's thoughts about you or feel like you have to be a certain way, especially if you're a person of color or a minority on campus. I learned to unapologetically be myself and not care what anyone else thinks. At the end of the day, their opinion doesn't matter."

Luke Finestone said he found a new opportunity to be himself during his first week on campus.

"Nobody knows who you are, so you can reinvent yourself in college," Finestone (sophomorenursing) said. "Once I got there, I realized, 'Hey, no one knows who



Regan Gross/Collegian

Rylie Wang, an employee at Findlay Commons, logs keys from students and staff members. Some of the sophomores advise freshmen to get to know their residential commons quickly – like Findlay in East.

wanna be."

be used to prepare for the start of classes.

"Take that first week to look at your syllabus. There's a lot of key information you need... I printed mine out, and I would highlight the important stuff," Ross said. "I would say walk around since you have a whole week to do nothing. Go to different buildings, see where your classes are.'

In terms of study spots and other important locations for freshmen to memorize, Finestone noted the HUB-Robeson Center.

"That's the main point that everyone goes to if you want to study, if you want to eat or if you just want to hang out," Finestone said. "Whatever you need, you can find there."

Given that freshmen will likely look for the location of their dorms when they arrive, Perez advised freshmen to find their residential commons first.

And, knowing that many freshmen will live in East Halls, Lathrop recommended checking out The Arboretum at Penn State.

"It was my favorite place [during my freshman year]. It's such a peaceful part of campus," Lathrop said. "It is so close to East. We used to walk there every day."

Luke Finestone is. I can be who I week and beyond, Finestone said building," Ross said. "Make as freshmen can be most productive Ross said the first week should in finding friends simply by being themselves — similar to Perez.

"No one's gonna judge you. You don't have to worry about being who you are at Penn State because it's such a diverse university," Finestone said. "There's gonna be people that are similar to you, so [by] just putting yourself out there and really doing what you love to do, you're gonna find your people there."

Perez said freshmen should not fear the prospect of being alone during their down time as well.

"Another thing people are scared of is eating alone, like in the dining room or the HUB. You learn that so many people do [and] that nobody is paying attention to you," Perez said.

'They're all doing their own thing, doing their own work. I can't even count the times I was eating by myself in the HUB while studying."

After spending a year of trying to live out the college experience while still adhering to coronavirus regulations, Ross recommended freshmen enjoy the freedom of their first year as much as they can.

"Make the most out of freshman year, because it flew by [for me]. Take advantage of the For general advice for the first people on your floor and in your

many friends as you can. Go to football games. Go to basketball games. Go to volleyball games go and do as much as you can."

The sophomores themselves said they are quite excited for the upcoming school year and ready to experience in-person classes for the first time in a while.

Lathrop said she expects a lot more students to be out and about this year.

"I think it'll be a lot busier on campus," Lathrop said. "We didn't see the real Penn State [last year]."

Perez said she believes overcoming the habits forced by online school will be a challenge.

'We got so used to waking up five minutes before class and logging on to Zoom or sleeping through class," Perez said. "I feel like this year is going to be a transition for the sophomore and freshman class.

With summer break coming to a close in just a few weeks, Ross said he is excited to return for his second year.

"The whole atmosphere of Penn State — I miss it, and I want to go back." Ross said. "I actually want to go to school now, it's weird.'

> To email reporter: aqh5706@psu.edu. Follow him on Twitter at @ayden_1a.

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Due to its proximity to East Halls, Kathryn Lathrop recommends

hanging out or studying at The Arboretum at Penn State.

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A guide to Penn State art: State College's iconic murals



Chloe Trieff/Collegian The new "Penn State Alma Mater" mural is on the side of Alexander

Court in downtown State College, Pa.

By Colton Lucas THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

While walking through the bustling streets of downtown State College and the hallowed halls of Penn State, one might notice several murals along the way.

From a flock of geese traversing a kaleidoscope of bright colors to a mysterious array of shapes and colors with unknown origins located under one of University Park's most recognizable buildings, the local area is littered with walls adorned with eye-popping and creative works of art.

Conveniently laid out from east to west so you can easily follow along, here's a guide to some of State College and Penn State's most iconic murals.

"Colors of Music"

A mixed media piece located on the corner of East College Avenue and South Garner Street, the first mural on this guide combines a unique blend of shapes and imagery to form a vibrant display of colors.

During her time as a graduate student at Penn State, Natalia Pilato, a 2013 art education gradu-

new work of art downtown as a part of the course she was teaching at the time and her master's thesis project.

In 2012, the course titled "Intro to Community Arts: Beyond the Classroom Walls" was offered for the first time to students, and it focused on working with members of the community to create public works of art. Throughout the semester, students helped fundraise, plan and organize the construction of the mural.

With the help of fellow Penn State alumna Elody Gyekis, who graduated in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in painting and ceramics, Pilato also recruited over 500 members of the State College community, partly through open and private paint sessions.

After approximately 120 hours of work, the mural was unveiled in 2012, and it features both a mural and a mosaic on one of the side windows of the First National Bank that now resides there.

"Inclusivity"

One of the more recently completed downtown murals, the piece on this guide features a bold message of inclusion.

cust Lane and East Calder Way, "Inclusivity" was painted onto the side of the Abba Java Coffeehouse by Penn State students Nehama Dormont and Kelly Hooper.

Working as an intern for the coffeehouse, Hooper (senior-music and psychology) was presented with the idea to create a mural by the director of Abba Java, Sarah Voigt.

On the hunt for an artist whose work would match the theme they had in mind, Hooper and Voigt said they found Dormont's (sophomore-music education) work to be the solution.

Alongside Dormont, Hooper began working on the piece earlier this year and managed to complete it in nearly a month, working on it two or three days every week.

As for the message featured in the center of the piece? Hooper said she first heard the phrases "You are loved" and "You are welcome here" used as the Wi-Fi password for Abba Java, and from there, it has carried through in everything the coffeehouse stands for.

"The message has been ingrained in the walls of the place, and you can feel it." Hooper said. 'I have not seen the start to it, and I doubt I will ever see the end to the phrase. It's an idea, and it will be consistent as long as [Abba Java] stands.'

"Penn State Alma M**ater**"

Moving right along to the next mural on the guide, this abstract piece uses a series of shapes and colors to encapsulate the spirit of the "Penn State Alma Mater."

The first of several murals in this guide that were designed and created by William Snyder III, this is also the most recent of his works in downtown State College. The piece was commissioned by Core Spaces, a Chicago-based group.

E. Beaver Ave., Snyder said he died. Michael said the addition of used a sort of code system made halos is meant to be a spiritual of different shapes to convey the university's alma mater.

'I presented [Core Spaces] this retro, mid-century stylized translation of the alma mater," Snyder said. "I translated each word from the alma mater into a general symbol... It was a fun process.

The mural was completed and installed in early June.

"Inspiration"

Possibly State College's most iconic and oldest mural and one that continues to grow to this day — is "Inspiration."

Started in 1999 and unveiled in 2000 by Michael Pilato and Yuri Karabash, this mural features a collage of some of the impactful people in the State College community.

Michael, who happens to be the brother of Natalia, said the process of starting the mural involved reaching out to local businesses and members of the community to gather support.

As part of the ongoing process of this "living mural," as Michael described it, he continues to return to the mural to add golden halos to those featured who have and healing process, rather than a religious one.

Throughout the years, the mural has continued to grow, with various changes having been made, including the removal of Jerry Sandusky's portrait and addition of a sidewalk tribute.

'The mural grows by itself," Michael said. "The mural has become this part of the community that was once just this ugly brick wall — it enhances the quality of life."

Pugh Street Garage mural

This next mural is perhaps one of the most unique of its kind downtown. Located on the east side of the Pugh Street Garage, this mural was completed by Snyder in 2019 using only spray paint.

After purchasing the design from local jeweler Wes Glebe, Snyder quickly got to work creating this abstract work.

The resulting piece is an arrangement of bright colors that help bring life to the garage and continue the impact murals have on the community.

To email reporter: cpl5368@psu.edu. Follow them on Twitter at @ColtonPLucas.



Featured on the side of Alex- The mural "Inspiration" is considered a "living mural" and is located on ate, helped lead the creation of a use of primary colors to frame a ander Court at the Canyon at 309 Heister Avenue in downtown State College, Pa.





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Penn State football traditions to know

By Alexis Yoder THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Penn State football season is right around the corner, and the first fan attendance in two years comes with it.

However, that means there's two whole classes of students who haven't yet experienced a Saturday showdown in Beaver Stadium and will need to learn the classic chants and cheers that fill the student section.

Here's a look into each stadium tradition and how to keep yourself afloat on that first Saturday.

Blue Band Pregame Show

Prior to every home game, the Blue Band performs a medley of classic songs Penn State fans have enjoyed for decades.

Have no fear if you've never been to a game, though. The lyrics to these songs are often projected onto the video board, and most songs only have a couple of iconic lines that students belt at the top of their lungs.

Nevertheless, an introduction to these traditional pregame jams won't hurt, so here's the typical setlist for the Blue Band's pregame performance.

"Lion Fanfare"

As the band makes its way onto the Beaver Stadium grass, it plays Lion Fanfare, a song in which the crowd participates.

"Woahhhhh, Woahhhhh, Woah-hhhh LET'S GO STATE!" is repeated a couple of times, setting up for the drum major's entrance.

The drum major proceeds to run down the center of the field and does two front flips into a split, once in each end zone, while the band proceeds farther onto the field.

"Victory"

While many don't know every line to "Victory," the second to last is a necessary line to memorize.

the classic "WE! ARE! PENN! STATE!" toward the end of the song, which essentially finishes the song off.

There's not much to worry about with this song, but be of ours bring shame."



Fans sing along to "Sweet Caroline" during the White Out game against Michigan on Oct. 19, 2019. Like "Sweet Caroline," the White Out is one of the more prominent Penn State football traditions.

prepared for that classic "We are" chant.

"Fight On, State"

"Okay fans, pick up the beat and sing along to 'Fight On, State!'" The song title pops out from

this classic line from the Beaver Stadium announcer. All fans sing along to this song, so be sure to review these lyrics

ahead of time to be prepared for one of the more upbeat songs in the pregame show.

Alma Mater

You may not have known your high school alma mater by heart. but it would be beneficial to learn "Dear Old State" prior to the commencement of football season.

during the football Sung pregame show and after the final whistle blows at the end of every Penn State sporting event, the alma mater claims residency The most memorable part is at every athletic venue across University Park.

Make sure you're prepared for the quiet singing of "When we stood at childhood's gate" and the shouting of "May no act

And if you feel unprepared for these components of the alma mater, don't worry — all the upperclassmen have been in your shoes (or still may be there themselves).

Nevertheless, you'll catch on eventually and enjoy the traditional singing of the Penn State alma mater.

Floating Lions Drill

While it may look strange from the student section in the south end zone, the view from either side of the Beaver Stadium bleachers is breathtaking.

While the band plays "The Nittany Lion," it spells out LION twice, facing each way in Beaver Stadium so each fan has the chance to see it right side up.

For the song itself, only two lines are key to passing the lyric test and both come at the end of the song — "PENN! STATE! Forever, molder of men (and women), FIGHT! for her honor -FIGHT! — and victory again."

Let's Go PSU

Now is when the crowd prepares for the Nittany Lions to enter the field.

The band parts ways and makes a lane down the center of the field, leading from the south end zone gate where the team enters from, and you'll hear the announcer yell, "Are you ready for Penn State football?"

Then the band begins playing again.

You'll yell out each letter of PSU at distinct parts of the song and then put it all together with "LET'S! GO! P-S-U!"

Do this twice, then yell "TEQUILA" at the end with your fellow students.

Don't ask why. Just do it.

Following this song, direct your attention to the video board for the pregame hype video, which encapsulates highlight reel plays from current Nittany Lions and iconic moments from teams past.

"Power," "In The Air Tonight," "Zombie Nation"

Whether you recognize all of the major moments shown throughout the hype video, you'll begin to sense loads of excitement building up toward the next round of songs before the Nittany Lions make their way onto the field at Beaver Stadium.

This next song lineup can include multiple song combinations, but let's focus on the most popular.

After the conclusion of the hype video, you'll hear "Power' by Kanye West erupt through the Beaver Stadium speakers and from the mouths of every fan in attendance.

As the team is shown making its way from the locker room to the field, the crowd calms down as "In the Air Tonight" by Phil Collins plays.

The crowd will sing along until after the classic drum sequence is played, and the team entrance begins.

'Zombie Nation" blasts through the speakers and the crowd screams "WE! ARE! PENN! STATE!" as James Franklin and the captains emerge from arm in arm to lead the team to the field.

The team takes in the unrivaled atmosphere of thousands of fans chanting its school name then runs into the field.

This sequence is a staple of a Beaver Stadium Saturday, as it plays for each entrance and after every touchdown.

WE ARE... PENN STATE

Now that both teams have entered the stadium and the coin toss occurred, the classic call and response cheer begins.

Set off by cheerleading waving massive flags in the south end zone, one side of the crowd shouts 'WE ARE" and the other side responds "PENN STATE."

The cheer doesn't have a set number of times it's repeated, but the cheerleaders prompt the crowd to end the cheer by holding up signs that say "THANK YOU" and "YOU'RE WELCOME."

You can usually hear this call in the streets of State College and in every public setting when you're wearing Penn State gear, and it's almost time to shout it on one of the biggest stages in college football.

Touchdown tosses

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THE BEST AND WORST PLACES TO EAT ON CAMPI

Penn State students rank campus dining options — and some are best avoided, they say

By Charles Ammon FOR THE COLLEGIAN

When Penn State student Nick Hagan imagines eating on campus, he said his mind goes straight to one thing — cookies at West Halls' Waring Commons.

With the fall semester right around the corner, one of the first questions that can dominate new students' thoughts may be, 'Where's the food?" There are plenty of answers from current students as to where some of the lock and I would go there every best food — and the worst food can be found on campus.

For Hagan (senior-economics), the easiest choice for any new or returning student ought to be Waring Commons, not just because of the cookies but also for the sheer amount of options.

they have the taco station there, I get that a lot," he said. "Even just the daily special — usually I would get that, and it was always really good. There's always a lot of options where you could get something you like."

Not every dining commons is created equally though, Hagan said, especially in regard to Pollock.

"It seemed when I lived in Polday, it had the least amount of options compared to West or even South," Hagan said. "It seemed like the food wasn't always as fresh there compared to other places.'

Rylie Kenney agreed with Hagan and said she believes not One of those places he said he

Findlay Dining Commons in East Halls is best left alone.

"My least favorite is probably East because I was forced to eat there almost every day of freshman year," Kenney (senior-biobehavioral health) said.

"I feel like, other than the Edge Coffee Bar in East, the actual dining hall food was never that great.

However, when it comes to Redifer Commons in South, she said, there's no going wrong.

"They always have the best food, like the quesadillas, and just a lot of options," Kenney said.

If students happen to tire of the dining commons, there are plenty of places elsewhere to find good food, Ian Wanner said.

"It's usually pretty quick, pretty easy. Tastes pretty good," Wanner (senior-physics) said.

If students find themselves at Panda, Wanner recommended the orange chicken and the teriyaki chicken as ideal choices to stave off their hunger.

Just down the hall in the HUB is where Fatima Alzaabi said she enjoys getting some of her favorite campus food. She said she usually goes for the poke bowls at Hibachi-San.

"I usually just go to the HUB and get the poke bowls [at] Hibachi," Alzaabi (senior-Japanese language) said. "And, you can't forget the avocado and the onions.'

If students are hankering

"Obviously, you can't forget all dining halls hit the spot. To her, enjoys is Panda Express in the for something sweet, though, about the West cookies, but when Findlay Dining Commons in East HUB-Robeson Center. there is one essential place to go, Lamisse Hamouda and Trey Campbell said.

"I highly recommend the [Penn State Berkey] Creamery. It's a nice experience when vou're in the mood for ice cream or milkshakes," Hamoud (freshman-division of undergraduate studies) said.

Campbell (senior-hospitality management) said he enjoys how the Creamery has plenty of flavors to choose from and recommended it for anv freshman.

"It's something that if it's not on your bucket list, it should definitely get on there eventually."

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Embrace the highs and lows of college

By Jade Campos EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I've been sitting on this one for a while now, sifting through my memories of my seemingly very short time at Penn State. Every Dailv Collegian

through their summer new student orientations.

It feels like I'm still a freshman like I'm still also going through the motions of NSO with every assigneditor-in-chief ment and race across campus to get

Courtesy of Jade Campos

Jade Campos poses with her friend Miranda Siegal.

offers some words of wisdom for to the next class. But Penn State looks his first visit to Penn State. incoming freshmen as they pass a lot different than it did when I spent my first night on campus in Pollock Halls, wide eyed and afraid.

> Campus seemed so big back then: remember trying to navigate from the Intramural Building to Berkey Creamery after our introduction day of activities. I got worried I would get lost and decided to follow a small group back to the dorms to avoid looking silly. We got lost on Bigler Road anyway.

> The way campus looks to me changes every month. But if I squint hard enough, I can remember the way it looked to me at a specific point in my three years I've spent here.

> I can see the T-Pain concert on the HUB-Robeson Center lawn during one of the first weeks of classes freshman year where I made some of my first friends. I notice the spot I took one of my first Canvas quizzes on Old Main lawn where I thought I'd end up doing all of my homework (I don't think I've ever done work on Old Main lawn again). And I always stop and smile in front of the parking garage where I ran and gave a hug to my long distance boyfriend when he came for

I fall in and out of love with Penn State so often - usually with the weather. When it's warm. I feel so inspired by the university and all the people within it. But when it's cold, it gets really cold. I feel frustrated and stressed and completely overwhelmed.

To all the freshmen who are likely as starry eyed as I was: The next four years are going to change you a lot, and that's OK. It's better that way.

I've met people I thought I would spend the rest of my life with and stopped speaking to them a few months later. I got bangs (I always told myself I'd never look good with bangs).

Everyone comes into college believing they already know everything. You think you know where you're going to end up at the end of your four years, but the truth is, you don't even know where you're going to be at the end of your first year. Sure, you may not be getting lost on campus anymore, but you still may feel a little lost through it all.

Just let yourself make mistakes, and be young and stupid. This is the

time in your life to really figure out who you are before you're thrust into the "real world."

I used to be afraid when I started college that I wouldn't have a safety net anymore. I would be all alone in college without the teachers I knew, the friends I trusted and my family who would always be there. But, don't worry - through your biggest changes and moments of uncertainty, Penn State will be your safety net.

Because when the leaves turn green, the weather gets warm and the air becomes a little sticky. I remember why I fell in love with Penn State those first few days I spent on campus. It brings me comfort even when the assignments start piling high and my home-cut bangs look a little off.

Embrace all the stupid and messy things that make college what it is and hopefully the warm State College breeze will make you feel a little safer through it all.

Jade Campos is a senior majoring in a digital and print journalism and is the editor-in-chief of The Daily Collegian. Email her at jmc7727@psu.edu or follow her on Twitter at @jademccaaartney.





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