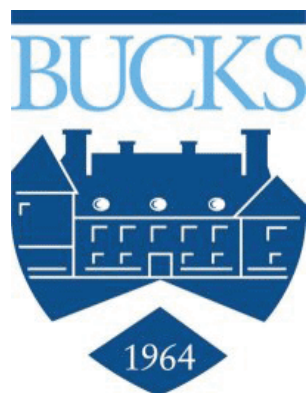


The Centurion



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A Conversation with President Ganther

JAMES BONNELL

Centurion Staff

Staring directly into the face of growing school debt, a nationally dwindling collegiate enrollment rate, and a society battling systemic injustices, new Bucks President Dr. Felicia Ganther is prepared to lead the college to a place of positivity and success.

In her first interview with the Centurion since assuming the presidency over the summer, Dr. Ganther spoke of her plans to increase diversity among students and staff, and her focus on reducing the college's debt and boosting enrollment.

When it comes to diversity, Dr. Ganther feels that students from different cultural backgrounds "need a sense of belonging" and that we "need more representatives from all the cultures."

To aid this, Dr. Ganther plans to work with community leaders for support, ensure that hiring practices attract quality employees and to look at recruitment strategies to reach all cultures.

According to Dr. Ganther, Bucks is in the middle of a debt crisis that has reached "more than \$6 million." While this could be scary for Bucks faculty and staff, Dr. Ganther's first goal to tackle the debt is "to maintain all employees."

Aside from this, she plans to

work on recruitment of new students, acquire grants for students, help bring back students who have not finished programs, and watch general spending. She is not above "pausing certain efforts to ensure resources and educators are available."

In terms of the nationally dwindling enrollment rate, Dr. Ganther understands that the school needs to be attractive to potential students.

Hit hard by the pandemic, Bucks' enrollment has plunged over the last several years: In Fall of 2020 there was an 8 percent drop from 2019, and in Fall 2021 there was a 12 percent decrease from 2020.

This means Bucks enrollment has fallen roughly 20 percent since 2019.

Community college enrollment nationwide has been gutted by the pandemic. According to NPR, preliminary data show enrollment is down 5.6 percent nationwide this Fall. In the Fall of 2020, community college enrollment fell by roughly 10 percent nationally — a loss of over 544,200 students compared with the Fall of 2019.

Dr. Ganther said Bucks has been working directly with the Ruffalo Noel Levitz enrollment consulting firm. As a school, "we will be looking at what types of students to seek out, how to grow

workplace offerings, and how to offer high demand occupational pathways."

An interesting alternative that was also discussed dealt with experimental program and course offerings. With the number of differences among students in higher education, it is impossible to expect that everyone be available at all the same times.

Dr. Ganther thinks there could be potential in offering weekend classes for students who can't take classes during the week. She also tossed around the idea of an 18-month associate's degree.

With regards to providing students with a proper education and experience, Dr. Ganther coined what she calls "The Bucks Promise." This refers to a level of success she would like to see from programs and students. "Follow our guidelines and you will succeed. We will help you succeed."

As a message to members of the Bucks community who are nervous about the future, Dr. Ganther would like to encourage everyone to stay positive and have fun.

But, she added, they must also understand that "it's game time" and just "going through the motions" will not be enough to achieve the necessary outcome."



Nor'Wester Comfort Dogs Visit Bucks for Midterms

JUDITH RUSSO

Centurion Staff

Once again Bucks Accessibility Office and Nor'Wester Therapy Dogs: Canine Partners in Education have collaborated to bring comfort dogs to campus.

Comfort dogs, also called therapy dogs, are specially trained

and certified to provide comfort and affection according to Deborah Glessner, Nor'Wester Dogs co-founder. They can "increase beneficial healing hormones such as endorphins and oxytocin" while decreasing anxiety.

They come twice a semester during midterm and final exam

weeks, providing students and staff "stress relief and emotional support," says Jennifer Osinski, Director Accessibility Office, M.Ed., MS.

In addition, the organization also participates with the community, in events that support the group's mission. The group

also aids in crisis intervention, in which therapy dog teams work with other groups to support families and students going through a community-wide tragedy.

Katharine Benziger, Clinical Coordinator of the Health Sciences Department strongly believes in the ability of dogs to enhance learning, provide socialization and joy and was seeing this happen in elementary and high schools, colleges, nursing homes and hospitals.

A review of the evidence from 60 previous studies in Frontiers in Psychology found that human animal interaction (HAI) showed "— improvement of social attention, behavior, interpersonal interaction, and mood, reduction of stress-related parameters such as cortisol, heart rate, and blood pressure, reduction of self-reported fear and anxiety, and improvement of mental and physical health, especially cardiovascular health."

Labrador retriever breeder Wendi Huttner and Deborah Glessner, a retired Council Rock librarian and district library-media coordinator created Nor'Wester Readers in 2007. In 2016 they changed their nonprofit's name to Nor'wester Therapy Dogs: Canine Partners in Education "because our program has become unique as an academic learning program."

Their therapy dogs were en-

hancing learning and decreasing stress in all kinds of learning environments and Huttner, a Bucks alum, wanted to share the joy with Bucks. It took her about three years but with the help of Deborah Hoelper, Assistant Director Accessibility Office, she finally succeeded in 2018.

Benziger decided to volunteer, and she has been bringing her own Labrador Kona since 2020 after she and Kona completed training and two levels of certification.

Due to COVID there are only about 20 volunteer teams.

"We are looking for volunteers," says Wendi Huttner. "It has nothing to do with the type of dog. We have fox terriers and collies." The process to volunteer is at this link: <https://norwestertherapydogs.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

"Petting an animal makes a wellness moment. We are happy to do this for the campus," says Jennifer Osinski. "We are happy everyone is back, students and staff and to give back through this program."

The dogs were at Bucks Newtown Campus during midterms, and they'll be back for finals.

Comfort dogs will be on campus Tuesday Nov 30, Thursday Dec 2, Mon Dec 6, Wed Dec 8, 11-1PM at the Solarium Rollins Center.



Photo by Gabriella Pirmann

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Letters should be limited to 500 words. They will be edited for spelling, space and malicious or libelous statements. Letters must be the original work of the writer and must be signed. For identification purposes, letters must include the writer’s full name and telephone number.

MAX MOWER
Centurion Staff

On Oct. 2 an oil spill of the coast of Orange County California threatened sea life and closed much of the coastline. Sourced from a damaged underwater pipeline, the oil spill covered about 13 square miles, further moving southward along the coast as the ocean’s current extended its reach.

The pipeline from which the spill originated is operated by Beta Offshore, an offshore facility about 5 miles off of the Orange County coast. Coast Guard officials reported a 13-inch split in the pipe, suspected to have been caused by the stray anchor of a



Courtesy of Unsplash

A Disaster on the Huntington Beach Coastline

cargo ship being dragged along the sea floor during a day of rough sea weather. The spill allowed about 25,000 gallons of oil to spread, causing urgent closures of around 6 miles of coastline and taking the lives of a significant amount of local wildlife, mainly the beaches’ native birds.

After a week’s worth of cleanup efforts, and 5,000+ gallons of crude oil already having been recovered from the ocean Huntington Beach’s popular shorelines were reopened, much to the delight of the public. This decision was reached after a quality test of nearby ocean water was performed, finding non-detectable amounts of oil toxins within the water and confirming a safe environment for beachgoers.

As the investigation into the leak’s exact cause and the attempts to clear the spill from the waters continue, many have begun to criticize the actions of those in power and the true root cause of the event. Oil pipelines were installed years, if not decades ago by large corporations who profit from them, and enabled by those who put in place the rules and regulations for said companies.

“Animals have been hurt, and those who make their living as fishermen are being prevented from doing their jobs.”

“Much of the problem lies with the policy makers,” said Bucks Environmental Science professor Kathi Knight. “Why are they allowed to do this? Powerful lobbyists donate lots and lots of money to keep their careers in the oil industry, but at what cost?”

The largest concern of many is the “domino effect”, as put by Professor Knight. As powerful people insist on keeping these oil pipelines as a common source of natural energy, the eventual endpoint is unintentional catastrophes like the Huntington Beach spill – severely damaging our waterways, our citizens, as well as our important natural wildlife.

As purported by Professor Knight, “There are many externalities, or innocent parties, who have been affected by this. Animals have been hurt, and those who make their living as fishermen are being prevented from doing their jobs”.

What, then, can be done to prevent these events in the future? According to Professor Knight, “we could generate enough solar and wind power to meet the needs of the nation, and if funding was appropriately channeled to it, it could be very successful”.

As California lawmakers attempt to further limit and even stop oil drilling altogether on the West Coast, those of us with no power to make the choice can only hope these efforts are successful, for the sake of society’s safety as well as the wellbeing of our waterways and natural life.

Fall Fest



Photo Credit: Bucks Instagram



Photo Credit: Bucks Instagram



Photo Credit: Gabriella Pirmann



Photo Credit: Bucks Instagram



Photo Credit: Gabriella Pirmann



Photo Credit: Bucks Instagram



Photo Credit: Gabriella Pirmann



Photo Credit: Bucks Instagram

Mental Health

The Impact of Social Media on Students



Students discuss the negative impact growing up on social media has had on their lives

JOCELYN KOSIBA
Centurion Staff

There are a lot of ways social media can affect us, more of them harmful than good. Some students feel that it has affected them in crucial ways.

James Bonnell, a journalism major, describes the way it has affected him as “harmful.”

Many people find themselves spending a significant amount of time on social media.

Bonnell says, “I’m on social media for about... 28 hours per week.”

According to DigitalMarketing.org, the average American spends

about 2 hours and 3 minutes each day. Alyssa Allebach, a 20-year-old communications major, says this is about accurate for her.

Bonnell feels that the impact of social media “depends on the content. More of it is negative than positive..”

Allebach agrees, saying that “People display unrealistic expectations on what people should look like and it affects self-esteem and body image.”

According to James, “It could affect your day, because if you read something mean and inappropriate it can ruin it. It can be harmful information.”

These students feel that social media has changed their overall outlook.

“It made me see that no one is positive that they are bringing themselves to be,” says Bonnell, “People are angrier than they look.”

Many people only present their best selves on social media, creating an image of their life that may not be entirely accurate.

Allebach comments, “It can prevent people from showing their true selves.”

Many feel that people turn to social media as an easy way to fill time.

“I could be reading, walking outside. Living life, and everything else,” says Bonnell.

Allebach agrees, saying “I would be throwing axes and targets in my free time If I wasn’t on social media.”

Is there any way that social media can improve?

“I don’t think there’s anything you can do. If you censor it you go against the first amendment but you can’t. I don’t think we can change it, because it would be changed to something different,” says Bonnell.

Alyssa thinks of it differently, arguing that “Media platforms

have the responsibility to monitor communications and take action against people that break their guidelines.”

Regardless of who the responsibility falls on, it’s clear that students feel the impact of social media on their lives.

Photo Courtesy of Unsplash



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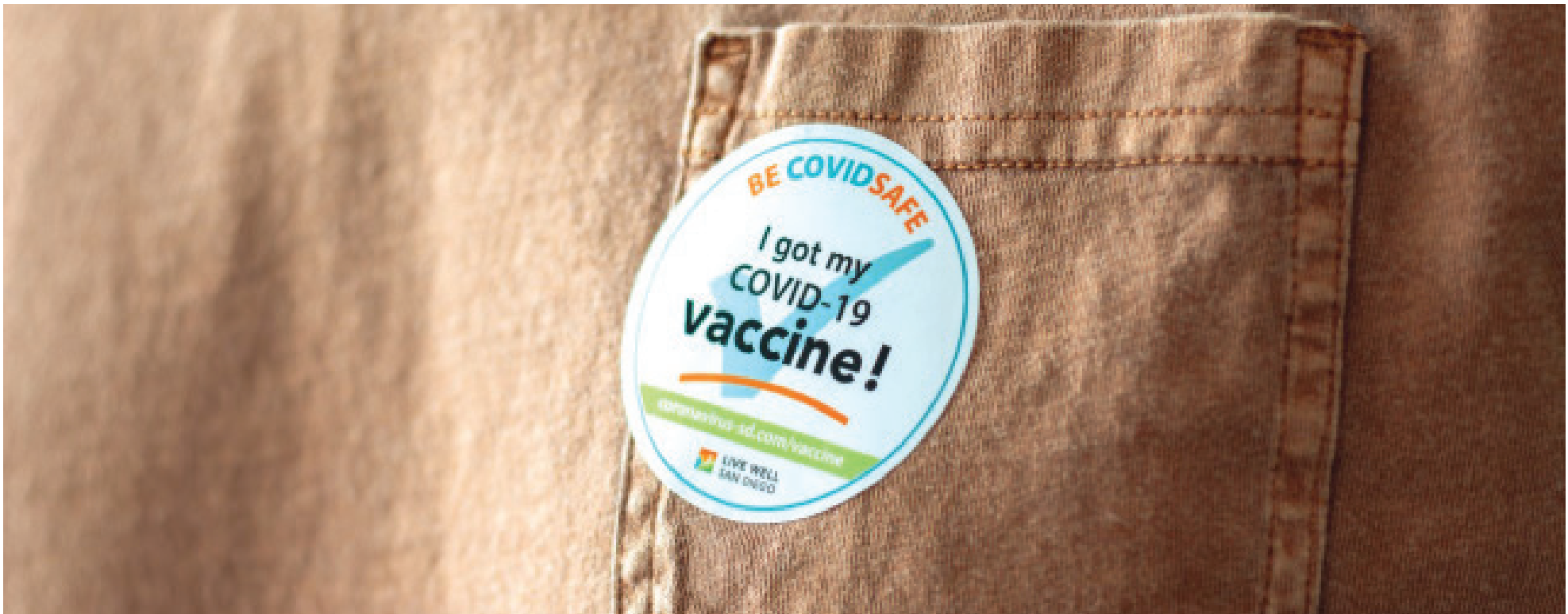
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BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
UPPER BUCKS CAMPUS
1 HILLENDALE ROAD, PERKASIE, PA 18944

November 6, 2021 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Opinion

Bucks Students Weigh In On Vaccine Mandates



Courtesy of Unsplash

ALYSSA ALLEBACH
Centurion Staff

Some colleges are starting to mandate vaccinations for students. Bucks has not mandated the vaccine, and students seem to agree with that decision.

According to The Washington Post, community colleges in Maryland have begun mandating the coronavirus vaccine for students and employees. The colleges are allowing some students to be excused from the mandate due to medical or health exemptions.

Colleges that are not mandating the vaccine do still recommend students and staff get the vaccine to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Colleges have been offering rewards or educational

opportunities to encourage students to get vaccinated.

Bucks has encouraged its students to get vaccinated in the past by offering \$100 gift cards to the first 200 students who get vaccinated across their three campuses, but has not yet mandated it for its students and faculty.

The only requirements Bucks has put in place for students is wearing masks and social distancing at all times while on campus.

As the coronavirus has persisted and mutated, colleges might have to be stricter on students being vaccinated.

The idea of mandating the coronavirus vaccine has some Bucks students displeased.

Jocelyn Kosiba, a 20-year-old journalism major from Feaster-

ville, is supportive of people getting the vaccine but does not believe it should be forced upon them.

Kosiba explains, “Students should have a choice to be vaccinated. I don’t think it’s right to force someone to get a vaccine if they’re uncomfortable with it.”

But when it comes to professors getting vaccinated Kosiba feels that “It would only be beneficial for them to get vaccinated, since they are in a room full of students. They can’t just take a three week leave when they get sick because they have classes to teach.”

Another Bucks student that shares similar views is Joe Samperi, a 20-year-old engineering major from Pipersville.

“Mandating the vaccine for

college students is wrong and people should be able to choose for themselves. I should be able to use my rights to decide what I want to put in my body.” said Samperi.

Students do not seem to have an issue with people getting vaccinated, but they do have an issue with schools taking away students’ decisions and forcing the vaccine upon them.

Breanna Lyons, a 19-year-old communication major from Langhorne, is another student that has an issue with the vaccine being mandated for students.

She explains, “If the vaccine becomes mandatory right now, I believe there will be a huge destructive movement and uproar from the students. I think that

students will fight the school over the mandate and there will be a decrease in the number of students attending Bucks.”

According to The Washington Post, colleges have experienced a steep decline in enrollments due to the pandemic.

Students seem to be okay with the restrictions already put in place at Bucks of wearing masks and social distancing, so why take a chance on overstepping by requiring students to get vaccinated?

Bucks’ New Film and Multimedia Club



Courtesy of Unsplash

NICK COSENZA
Centurion Staff

The Film and Multimedia Club is a club at Bucks for students who love producing film and videos. The club was created to allow students to express themselves artistically through video.

The group takes on a wide array of projects. They are open to any idea or concept somebody may want to produce. The interests of the group are extremely diverse, producing anything from horror films to documentaries and everything in between.

The club is particularly enthusiastic about highlighting all of the amenities Bucks has to offer to students. Brenda Czich is the leader of the Film and Multimedia Club and is keen on showcasing

athletics, music, art, cooking, or any of the various talents found at Bucks.

“There are several of us that think Bucks is undersold. There are so many cool things that even students at Bucks are not aware of,” Czich says.

“We want to feature these well-kept secrets in film footage that we can post on Instagram or YouTube for everyone’s consumption.”

The club recently held their inaugural meeting. The hour was spent brainstorming ideas and sharing interests and ideas for potential projects. Members support and assist each other in producing their visions.

Each member gets the opportunity to bring their idea to life.

One member will be responsible for leading the production of the video they want to produce, and it will change as the group moves onto other endeavors. “We each are a part of the film crew, so to speak.” Czich continues, “No one is working in isolation, we are a team in the truest sense of the word.”

As every vision is produced, members learn from the experience and gain an understanding for a genre they might not have otherwise been interested in. Members bond through their shared willingness to learn and eagerness to produce quality content.

Film is a vital part of the world and every part of the field of communications. It is mostly

considered a creative endeavor, but it is also a necessary tool in the modern world and potential careers in any field. Film is used everywhere from marketing, to athletics, and journalism.

For spreading information or entertainment, film clubs are useful in every sense. They often act as a space for students to grow and develop together, all while having fun and producing videos.

The only limitation on the club, at the moment, is the number of members. You do not have to be a Cinema Video Production major to participate, students from all different areas of study participate in the club.

It can be fun for anybody to create clips for TikTok or produce YouTube videos for an online au-

dience. It is not often equipment, knowledge, and friends willing to help will be so readily available as they are at Bucks, so students are strongly encouraged to check out the Film and Multimedia Club.

The club meets weekly on Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. in the film studio on the Newtown Campus. For more information contact Brenda Czich at czichb@live.bucks.edu.

Entertainment

“Halloween Kills” Hits Theaters

MARK RUFFIN

Centurion Staff

“Halloween Kills” is directed by David Gordon Green and written by Green, Danny McBride, and Scott Teems. Starring Jamie Lee Curtis, Judy Greer, Andi Matichak, the film is a direct sequel to 2018’s “Halloween” and the 12th installment in the “Halloween” franchise.

The film picks up directly where the last film left off with the Strode woman trapping Michael Myers in the basement, to let him burn as the house is engulfed in flames. Since this is a Halloween film, Michael Myers survives.

What I loved about the 2018 “Halloween” film besides it being a direct sequel to the 1978 original, was that the film had real drama beyond the scares.

The film depicted a woman (Laurie Strode) who has been living with the trauma of what happened to her 40 years ago when she first encountered the boogeyman, Michael Myers.

The film showed how that fateful night in Haddonfield, Illinois not just affected her but her family (namely her daughter and grand-daughter), and gave the film real stakes outside of the terror that is Michael Myers.

Sadly, this sequel does not have the same drama.

The sequel ironically falls into the same pitfalls as the sequel that it erases from canon.

“I felt a bit disappointed with the movie compared to the last one,” said James Thomas, 25, a crew leader at AMC Neshaminy 24.

Following an impressively realized flashback which fills in some gaps in the night Myers was apprehended, we pick up right where the last film ended as the masked madman escapes his fiery prison and massacres a group of first responders.

From there, we follow Michael on a brutally bloody rampage across Haddonfield while Laurie recovers in hospital and the townspeople - Tommy Doyle (Anthony Michael Hall) and Lindsey Wallace (Kyle Richards) among them - assemble a mob to hunt down Michael and end his reign of terror.

Having Haddonfield revolt against Myers is an interesting idea, but the execution leaves a lot to be desired.

The movie goes to great lengths to make a point about the dangers of mob-mentality and giving in to fear, but it’s all far too heavy-handed to really have much of an impact.

The film does shine when it chooses to focus back on the returning characters.

Jamie Lee Curtis (Laurie), Judy Greer (Karen) and Andi Matichak (Allyson) once again do terrific work in the lead roles, and the film comes alive whenever any of them are on-screen - which is nowhere near enough.

Sidelining Laurie does make a certain amount of sense if their final face-off is being saved for next year’s “Halloween Ends”.

David Gordon Green is still a strong director, there are some great visuals, and the John Carpenter’s score is amazing.

The kills in the fill are not for

the faint of heart.

For a horror franchise that has been around since 1978, “Halloween Kills” has some of the most creative and brutal kills in the entire franchise. Michael Myers is not messing around!

“The ending was trash,” said Diane Johnson, a 24- year-old Bensalem nurse.

The ending may be divisive for some, but given that they announced they were making two films (Halloween Kills, Halloween Ends), the ending of this film makes sense.

“Halloween Kills” is an uneven sequel that shines when it puts the focus on the Strode family (Laurie, Karen, and Allyson), and the boogeyman himself Michael Myers.

For next year’s “Halloween Ends” let’s hope for a rousing finale.

Film Review Grade : C
“Halloween Kills” stars Jamie Lee Curtis, Judy Greer, and Andi Matichak. The film is currently in theaters and streaming on Peacock (With Tier Subscription).

Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons



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Sports

Why You Should Major in Sports Management

ANDREW COATES

Centurion Staff

The sports management program at Bucks County Community College is a popular gateway into the realm of the many different career paths in the sports industry.

Sports are one thing that many people have knowledge about, and in fact 57 percent of kids in high school are involved in organized sports according to a CDC study.

Bucks is proud to offer a program for those wanting to be involved in the colossal sports industry in some way. This program is perfect for those students who have a love for sports but are not sure what they are wanting to do as a career path.

Bucks has arranged the program in a way that the student gets a taste of different facets of sports careers over the duration of their time at Bucks while also providing an education in general courses.

“57 percent of kids in high school are involved in organized sports, according to a CDC study.”

These students majoring in Sports Management will get a taste of the business side of sports through classes like Sports Marketing (SPMT201) and Facility Management and Event Planning (SPMT202).

They will also get their fill of classes like Sports and Society (SPMT204) and History and Philosophy of Sports Management (SPMT203), while taking classes like Sociology (SOC1110) and Principle of Economics-Macro (ECON111).



Bucks also offers an educational club called the Kinesiology/Sports Studies club which meets at Newtown campus. This club allows students to network and learn more about the industry they are interested in.

Connor Volb, a Sophomore in Sports Management, describes his experience with the major as a positive one.

“Unfortunately, like many other students, I didn’t get to have the full experience due to COVID, but other than that I have learned many new things within the sports

industry.”

“The professors within this major are great and easy to work with if you are struggling with anything specific.” Volb added.

When asked what opportunities the major has offered him, Volb described the internship he acquired while being at Bucks.

“I am interning at WBCB Sports. It is a radio station that covers and airs high school sports games in Bucks county and Montgomery County.”

“It is giving me a great opportunity to experience the commu-

nication side of sports. WBCB Sports is owned by the play by play announcer and voice of the Eagles, Merrill Reese, which is good for me considering he knows many other connections in the industry.”

When asked what the most unique thing about the major was, Volb said was it was the versatility.

“There are multiple fields in the sports in the sports management industry. The most popular is the business side, but there is also coaching, and communications.”

If you are interested in more information in the sports management major at Bucks visit the page on this major here: <https://www.bucks.edu/catalog/majors/kinesiology/sports-mgmt> or talk with your advisor about options that work for you.

Image Courtesy of Unsplash

Bucks Mens Soccer Beats PSU Lehigh Valley

SCORING SUMMARY
1st - 10:02 - Matthew Edwards (Bucks County CC)
1st - 14:01 - Zachary Shefsky (Bucks County CC)

GAME LEADERS
BUCKS COUNTY CC
G: 2 Players (#4, #12) - 1
A: Peter Overby - 1
Sh: 3 Players (#9, #11, #21) - 3
Sv: Luis Beletzuy - 10
PENN STATE LEHIGH VALLEY
G: N/A
A: N/A
Sh: 2 Players (#10, #11) - 5
Sv: Kenneth Dyer - 7

TEAM STATS		
BUCKS COUNTY CC		PENN STATE LEHIGH VALLEY
15 (11)	Shots (on goal)	19 (11)
10	Saves	8
16	Fouls	11
10	Corner Kicks	10
2	Offsides	3

Scoresheet Courtesy of Bucks Athletics

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