A Note From Betsy...

May 2015

Summer is here!

It's hard to believe in two months you will be arriving on campus to begin your graduate program here at Penn State! We (faculty, students, and staff) are excited that you will be joining us. The incoming graduate cohort consists of 10 Ph.D. and 7 M.A. students.

Our office is already preparing for your arrival. As part of the preparation, we have put together this packet of information that we hope will assist you in your move to Penn State.

This newsletter includes information about the College of Communications, the Graduate School and other University offices. This also includes information about State College (housing guide, restaurants, community events, Happy Valley activities and entertainment).

Included in the packet:
- Assistantship assignment (those on assistantships only)
- Temporary adviser information
- Instructions for completing background checks
- Centre County Visitors Center brochures

Throughout the summer, our office will send you emails with any updates and news from our office and the Graduate School.

If you have any questions as you prepare for your graduate program here at Penn State, please contact me at brh3@psu.edu or 814-865-3070.

Enjoy your summer!
Graduate Students in Communication (GSIC)

Graduate Students in Communication (GSIC) is an organization composed of all the graduate students in the College of Communications. While every graduate student in the College is a member of GSIC, three students are selected each year to serve as executive officers (president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer). The executive officers plan graduate student events, assist with administration in the College, and offer various academic and social opportunities to graduate students in the College. Responsibilities of GSIC officers include, but are not limited to:

- Acting as liaisons between the student cohort and the faculty
- Assisting in the general operation of student offices in the James Building
- Organizing social events that allow sharing/collaboration of academic pursuits
- Providing opportunities for academic development through training workshops
- Striving to assist with conference preparation and travel funding
- Arranging and executing community and/or university service projects

GSIC has a Facebook page that updates graduate students about upcoming events, news from the graduate office, etc. If you would like to be added to the Facebook page, please contact Fan Yang, fuy106@psu.edu.

Please keep in mind, any questions regarding policies and guidelines, should be directed to Betsy Hall at bhj3@psu.edu or 814-865-3070.

Graduate Student Handbook

The College of Communication’s Graduate Student Handbook is currently being produced and will be available online after June 15. If you would like a hard copy of the new handbook sent to you, please contact Betsy Hall bhj3@psu.edu or 814-865-3070. Interim Associate Dean Ford Risley; Graduate Programs Chair Matt McAllister; and Coordinator of Graduate Education Betsy Hall suggest all new graduate students review the handbook before orientation.

Bios Needed

The College would like to include a brief bio of new graduate students in an informational packet to be distributed to new students and College of Communications faculty. Please send Laurie Porter LPorter@psu.edu your bio by Friday, July 31. Although the bio below does not include a sentence about a fun fact, please provide one. Below is a sample of a bio from one of our current students:

Jennifer Hoewe earned her bachelor's degree in communications with an emphasis in journalism and an English minor at Grand Valley State University, where she was named the Outstanding Graduate Student and inducted into Kappa Tau Alpha. Jennifer held three research assistantships at MSU for which she analyzed news media coverage of minority groups and helped research and write a U.S. presidential history textbook. In 2011, she won a top paper award at the annual Broadcast Education Association convention. As a Ph.D. student at Penn State, Jennifer plans to study media effects, specifically the news media's ability to develop and perpetuate stereotypes through the use of framing, cuing and priming.
Background Checks: Grad Students on Assistantships

Successful completion of background checks is required for all incoming students receiving an assistantship.

Graduate Student residing in the United States:

As defined in PA House Bill (Act 153), the following checks are required:

- Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Background Check (SP4-164) $10.00
- Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance Form (CY-113) $10.00
- Federal (FBI) Fingerprint Background Check (Criminal History Report) $25.75

Students will be reimbursed in your paycheck within a month of your start date.

Students residing outside the United States:

Information on how to proceed with your background check will be sent to you by email by the end of May.

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Important Dates for Your Calendar - 2015

Friday, July 31  
Bio due to Laurie Porter

Sunday, August 9  
Penn State International Student Orientation Arrival Date

Monday, August 10  
Penn State International Student Orientation Day  
Morning, HUB-Robeson Center

Wednesday, August 19  
Penn State Graduate School Orientation  
Afternoon, Eisenhower Auditorium

Thursday, August 20  
College of Communications Orientation  
8:30 am - 1:00 pm, Nittany Lion Inn

Friday, August 21  
College of Communications Graduate Orientations  
Ph.D. Student Orientation:  
9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., James Building, 2nd Floor

M.A. Student Orientation:  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm, 101 Carnegie Building

Monday, August 24  
First Day of Classes

Sunday, August 30  
Graduate Student Fall Picnic  
Circleville Park, State College
COMM Graduate Course Offerings—Fall 2015

COMM 501 Proseminar in Mass Communications
Wednesday 9:05 am–12:05 pm 3 Carnegie Bldg. Patrick Parsons
The course will review and discuss the major concepts, issues and approaches involved with studying media from a social science perspective.

COMM 502 Pedagogy in Communications
Monday 9:05 am–12:05 pm 3 Carnegie Bldg. Kevin Hagopian
The course focuses on the unique characteristics of undergraduate education in the communications discipline. The principles and practices covered in the seminar have applications for teaching communications in a number of venues including the academic, business and government professional settings. The course involves students in collaborative learning, assessment skills, powerful pedagogies, practical workshops and substantive reviews and applications of curricular and pedagogical research in the communications discipline.

COMM 506 Research Methods in Communications
Wednesday 1:25-4:25 pm 3 Carnegie Bldg. S. Shyam Sundar
This is a gateway course on social science research, providing students a rigorous introduction to basic methodological concepts needed for conducting empirical research. Students will learn how to explicate concepts, ask research questions and test hypotheses using experiments, surveys and content analyses. They will critically analyze published research, by identifying threats to validity of inferences. They will conduct a research project from start to finish, and produce original, publishable research.

COMM 515 MA Proseminar in Mass Communications
Thursday 9:05 am–12:05 pm 3 Carnegie Bldg. Michel Haigh
This course provides an orientation to graduate study in the field of mass communications. The course focuses on the essence of scholarship: the nature and role of theory in scholarship, and the function and process of research. The course will provide a macro perspective of theory and research. Sessions will offer an opportunity to explore a range of major theories in the content niche of interest to each student. The course culminates with the preparation of a research prospectus.

COMM 518 Media Effects
Tuesday 1:25-4:25 pm 3 Carnegie Bldg. Michael Schnierbach
This course focuses on key theories in the social-scientific study of individual/social effects of media use. The class explores how media shape our attitudes and behaviors in different contexts, including enjoyment, consumer behavior, politics, stereotyping, aggression, learning, and ongoing attitudes toward media. Course readings include scholarship on traditional media such as print, television and film as well as interactive media such as social networking and video games. Students should have a basic familiarity with quantitative research, but the class is ideal for anyone interested in the media, whether they have prior experience with scholarship in the area. Students are welcome even if they are taking COMM 506 concurrently or have completed equivalent coursework in another department.

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COMM Graduate Course Offerings—Fall 2015

(...continued from page 4)

COMM 590  Colloquium
Thursday  2:30-3:45 pm  3 Carnegie Bldg.  Marie Hardin
Required of all first-semester COMM graduate students, this 1-credit seminar consists of a series of individual lectures by faculty, students, or outside speakers designed to introduce the field and graduate studies in COMM at Penn State.

COMM 597B  Advanced Data Analysis in Communications
Thursday  4:15-7:15 pm  8 Carnegie Bldg.  Mary Beth Oliver
Structural equation modeling (SEM) and related procedures have become very popular techniques in most social scientific disciplines, as they allow for more rigorous and theoretically enriching examinations of our data. The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to and foundation for SEM contextualized in terms of applied research. It will emphasize a conceptual understanding (rather than a mathematically derived focus) of the processes involved and decisions required in conducting these types of analyses. It will illustrate how researchers often report their results in scholarly publications, and provide students with numerous opportunities to practice their skills, both during the course and on their own. Topics include introductions to path analysis, confirmatory factor analysis, and structural equation modeling.

COMM 597C  Feminist Media Studies
Monday  1:25-4:25 pm  3 Carnegie Bldg.  Michelle Rodino-Colocino
This seminar will explore key intellectual and political problems that inspire work in feminist media studies. Course readings will be inter/transdisciplinary so that students may gain a sense of the field of feminist media studies, its influences, and its possibilities. Readings and student projects may relate media studies with: feminist histories; transnational feminism; feminist political organizing and activism; queer studies; feminist approaches to masculinity, race, ethnicity, labor and production, health, social media, violence, rape, and sexual harassment; relationships between feminist scholarship and other critical studies of culture, gender, sexuality, audience and reception studies, science and technology studies, geography, rhetoric, art, politics, economics, sociology, and history.

CCLAW 994:  Telecommunications Law and Regulation
(offered through the Dickinson School of Law)
Tuesday/Thursday  8:00-9:15 am  232 Katz Bldg.  Robert Frieden
In this course students will examine and debate a series of spectrum management, broadcasting, cable television, telecommunications, Internet, resource allocation and technology planning issues. The course will emphasize legal aspects, but you will find much of the material require an understanding of the technologies used. Law students will see elements of administrative, antitrust, law & economics, constitutional (First Amendment) and other law courses addressed in the cases we will examine. Telecommunications students already may have reviewed some of our cases, albeit not at the level of scrutiny we will use.
Graduate School Orientation

The University's Graduate School Orientation will be held on Wednesday, August 19, 2015, in the afternoon at Eisenhower Auditorium. Detailed information about this year's event will be posted soon at:

www.gradschool.psu.edu/current-students/new-graduate-student-orientation

We will send an email with a registration link after all details have been finalized.

International Student AEOPC

All international students are required to take the AEOPC. The AEOPC is designed for the purpose of determining the extent to which a potential International Teaching Assistant (ITA) demonstrates a sufficient level of English language proficiency required to carry out the duties of a teaching assistant in his/her home department. The score an ITA receives on this test will determine when he/she may assume teaching duties as a teaching assistant. Also, effective January 1995, an American English Communicative Proficiency Test (AEOPC) score is required for enrollment in ESL 115G, ESL 117G, and ESL 118G. Students who have not taken the oral proficiency test will not be permitted to enroll in these courses.

More information and registration for the test can be located here:

www.aping.la.psu.edu/academicprograms/ita_whatisaecpt.shtml

Health Insurance

For Detailed Information on Graduate Student Health Insurance, please visit:

www.studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/services/insurance/graduate.shtml

For a list of Student Health Insurance Frequently Asked Questions, please visit:

www.gspa.psu.edu/healthcare/healthcare/#2015

Please see information sheet on health insurance included in this packet

Football Tickets

The 2015 student season football ticket sale will soon begin. All returning and first-year graduate degree students who wish to purchase a 2015 season ticket may do so on a first-come-first-serve basis during the student sale period, June 22-25. Pre-registration will not be available.

Information regarding football ticket sales may be found at:

www.gopsusports.com/studentcentral
STATE COLLEGE HOUSING GUIDE
Visit http://www.housing.psu.edu/ for Penn State housing options at University Park
Visit http://www.statecollege.com/apartments/ for a detailed listing of State College area housing

The Apartment Store
444 E. College Ave Suite 210, State College, Pa. 16801
(814) 231-3333
www.statecollege.apartmentstore.com

Associated Realty Property Management
456 East Beaver Ave, State College, PA 16801
(814) 231-3333
www.arm.com

Briarwood Apartments (Morgan Properties)
679-A Waupelani Dr., State College, PA 16801
(866) 420-7555
www.morgan-properties.com/
morganlocations/PropertyDetail.asp?
propertyName=briarwood

Calibre Residential
2766 W. College Ave., Suite 100, State College, PA 16803
(814) 234-5244
www.calibrerresidential.com

Cooper Beech Townhomes
Cooper Beech Rental Office:
145 Northbrook Lane #101, State College, PA, 16803
The Perk Downtown Leasing Office:
220 West College Ave, State College, PA, 16801
www.cbeechnstatecollege.com
Locations: Parkway Plaza, Oatwood, Northbrook Greens, Aaron, Oak Hill

Falk Realty
320 S. Corl St, Suite 2, State College, PA 16801
(814) 231-3888
www.falkrealty.net

GN Associates
119 S Burrowes St, State College, PA 16801
(814) 238-1878
www.gnrealty.com

Lion’s Gate Apartments
424 Waupelani Dr. H-13, State College, PA 16801
(800) 551-7603
www.lionsgateapts.com

Meridian on College Ave
646 E. College Ave, State College, PA 16801
(814) 231-9000
www.meridianoncollegeave.com

NDC Real Estate Management, Inc
2790 W. College Ave, Suite #5, State College, PA, 16801
(814) 231-3333
www.ndcrealestate.com/pennsylvania

Locations: Fairlawn Townhomes, Fox Hill Apartments,
Green Leaf Manor, Longmeadow Townhomes,
Pleasant Hills Apartments, Stone Glen Apartments,
Teaberry Ridge, Waupelani Heights,
West Beaver Apartments, Yorkshire Village

Property Management Inc. (Various Locations)
1300 Market St, PO Box 622, Lemoyne, PA 17043
(717) 730-4141
www.rentpml.com/PMISStudent/
Pages/StudentHousing.aspx
Locations: 300 Building, Americana, Barns Lane,
Blue Course Commons, Dorchester, Fischer, Foster Arns,
Kissel I, Laurel Terrace, The Metropolitan

Southgate Apartments, State College Apartments
801 A Southgate Drive, State College, PA 16801
(814) 238-1598
www.studenthousingstatecollege.com

The Pointe
501 Vairo Blvd., State College, PA 16803
(814) 231-6900
www.pointestatecollege.com

The Retreat
300 Waupelani Drive, State College, PA 16801
(814) 231-0871
www.retreatstatecollege.com

Toftrees Apartments
390 Toftrees Ave, State College, PA 16803
(888) 254-1255
locations.rentberger.com/toftrees

Trout Housing
852 Webster Drive, State College, PA 16801
(814) 237 - 2573
www.trouthousing.com

Vairo Village Apartments
10 Vairo Boulevard, State College, PA 16803
(877) 300-1464
www.locations.rentberger.com/vairovillage

Westside Village Apartments-State College
623 West College Ave. Rear #8, State College, PA 16801
(814) 234-1707
www.rentwestsidevillage.com
Downtown State College Restaurants

**On-Campus**

In the HUB Robeson Center:
- Blue Burrito
- Burger King
- Chick-fil-A
- Diversion—gelato, cookies, whoopie pies, tarts
- Higher Grounds—fair-trade coffee and organic snacks
- Jamba Juice—smoothies
- McAllister's Deli—sandwiches
- Mixed Greens—salad bar
- Panda Express—Chinese cuisine
- Sbarro—Italian cuisine
- Soup & Garden
- Starbucks
- Sushi by Panda Express

Penn State Berkey Creamery (Food Science Bldg)

**Coffee**

On-Campus
- Au Bon Pain—4 locations (Kern Building, IST Building, Zoller Gallery, Lewis Katz Law Building)
- Blue-Chip Bistro (Business Building)
- Berkey Creamery (Food Science Building)
- Higher Grounds (HUB)
- MacKinnon's Café (Pattee Library, ground floor)
- Starbucks (HUB)

Downtown
- Cheese Shoppe (234 E Calder Way)
- Dunkin' Donuts (200 W College Ave)
- Saint's Café (123 W Beaver Ave)
- Starbucks (232 W College Ave)
- Webster's Bookstore Café (133 E Beaver Ave)

**Downtown**

The Allen Street Grill/The Corner Room (100 West College Ave)
California Tortilla—Mexican (322 West College Ave)
Canyon Pizza—pizza and Italian (260 East Beaver Ave)
Canyon Wings—wings and fries (219 East Beaver Ave)
China Dragon—Chinese (147 South Allen St)
Chipotle Mexican Grill—Mexican (116 Heister St)
Chopatick Express—Chinese (134 E College Ave)
Cold Stone Creamery (321 East Beaver Ave)
Cozy Thai Bistro—Thai (232 South Allen St)
DP Dough—Calzones (401 East Beaver Ave)
Dunkin Donuts (200 West College Ave)
Fiddlehead—Soup & salad bar (*34 West College Ave)
Five Guys—burgers & fries (226 West College Ave)
Galanga by Cozy Thai—Vegetarian, Asian (454 East College Ave)
Green Bowl—Stir fry (131 West Beaver Ave)
Hervig's—Austrian (132 West College Ave)
India Pavilion—Indian (222 East Calder Way)
Irving's—Salads, soups & sandwiches (110 East College Ave)
Jersey Mike's—Hot & cold subs (128 South Allen St)
Kaarma Indian Cuisine—Indian (120 East Beaver Ave)
Kiwi—Frozen yogurt (324 East College Ave)
Mamma Mia's—Italian (126 East College Ave)
McDonald's (422 East College Ave)
Noodles & Company—pasta dishes (244 West College Ave)
Panera Bread—Salads, soups & sandwiches (148 South Allen St)
Qdoba—Mexican (208 West College Ave)
Penn Kebab—Middle Eastern (418 East College Ave)
Pho 11 Vietnamese—146 North Atherton St
Pita Cabana—Lebanese (334 East Calder Way)
Pita Pit (218 East Calder Way)
Seoul Garden Korean Restaurant—Korean (129 Locust # 1)
Sichuan Bistro—Chinese Sichuan (332 West College Ave)
Spats Café and Speakeasy—Cajun (142 East College Ave)
Starbucks (232 West College Ave)
Subway (100 South Burrowes St)
Taco Bell (310 East College Ave)
News & Local Resources

- Accuweather - www.accuweather.com
- CATA Bus Services - www.catabus.com
- Centre Daily Times - www.centredaily.com
- The Daily Collegian - www.collegian.psu.edu
- Onward State - www.onwardstate.com
- Penn State LIVE - www.live.psu.edu
- Schlow Centre Region Library - www.schlowlibrary.org
- StateCollege.com - www.statetcollege.com

Happy Valley Annual Community Events

Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts is better known as Arts Fest and is held each July in downtown State College. Over the course of four days, the streets are lined with hundreds of art vendors ranging from sculptures and wood working to photography and jewelry. Past entertainment has included singing and musical performances, dancers, films, sidewalk art, and even sand sculpting. www.arts-festival.com

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Used Book Sale is held every May. The Ag Arena at Penn State is transformed over four days for one of the largest book sales on the East Coast. Hundreds of thousands of books are donated over the year and are sorted into 25 distinct categories. www.aauwstatetcollege.org/booksale.html

The Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, better known as THON, is the largest student-run philanthropy in the world. It benefits the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital, which helps the fight against pediatric cancer. Each February, people fill the Bryce Jordan Center to watch students dance without sitting or sleeping for 46 hours. www.thon.org

Central Pennsylvania 4th Fest is a daylong Fourth of July celebration held on the east campus of Penn State. Events include the Parade of Heroes, Firecracker 4K Race, music performances and a spectacular firework display choreographed to music. www.4thfest.org

The Centre County Grange Encampment and Fair, otherwise known as Grange Fair, is located in Centre Hall, PA and takes place every August. Campers live inside this “city within a town” for a week. The fairgrounds include 950 tents, 1,300 campers and over 7,000 exhibit items, rides and livestock. Established in 1874, the fair is considered a family tradition that generations continue to enjoy great food, music, crafts, competitions, and more. www.grangefair.net
Happy Valley Shopping & Dining

The Nittany Mall is located in State College and within 10 minutes from campus. With nearly 70 stores, the Nittany Mall is also on the CATA bus route. [www.shopnittanymall.com](http://www.shopnittanymall.com)

The Logan Valley Mall is located in Altoona, PA and features over 120 stores on two levels. [www.shoploganvalleymall.com](http://www.shoploganvalleymall.com)

The Berkey Creamery is the largest university creamery in the nation. The Creamery is another Penn State tradition that dates back to 1896. There are usually 20 flavors of ice cream, frozen yogurt, and sherbet to choose from at any point in time. No visit to Penn State is complete without a visit to the Berkey Creamery. [www.creamery.psu.edu](http://www.creamery.psu.edu)

Farmer’s Markets are abundant in the Centre region. Fresh produce, baked goods, and flowers are just some of the things you’ll find at the downtown farmer’s market. [www.statecollegecentral.com/scc2/market/farmers.html](http://www.statecollegecentral.com/scc2/market/farmers.html)

Happy Valley Entertainment

The Bryce Jordan Center is a 16,000 seat entertainment facility that is located on the Penn State campus. It hosts Penn State basketball games, THON, career fairs, circuses, family events, commencements, and music concerts, as well as home improvement and bridal exhibitions. Past performances include, Billy Joel, Garth Brooks, Bruce Springsteen, Lady Gaga, Keith Urban, Bon Jovi, Jay Z, Jason Aldean, Kanye West, Cirque du Soleil, and Sesame St Live. Upcoming events include Colin & Brad, and ZEDD. [www.bjc.psu.edu](http://www.bjc.psu.edu)

Eisenhower Auditorium houses the Center for the Performing Arts at Penn State. This venue has hosted commencements, musicals, theatre performances, concerts, lectures, ballets, and orchestras. [www.cpa.psu.edu](http://www.cpa.psu.edu)

The State Theatre is a community-owned theater in downtown State College. It regularly screens classic films, documentaries, live broadcasts of the Metropolitan Opera and various film festivals. Theatre performances and concerts are also held here. [www.thestatetheatre.org](http://www.thestatetheatre.org)
Amusement Parks Near Happy Valley

Hershey Park in Hershey, PA offers 65 rides ranging from large roller coasters to kiddie rides. The Boardwalk is home to various water rides and attractions including a wave pool. Also on the premises is Zoo America, an 11-acre zoo that's open year-round. www.hersheypark.com

Knoebels is an amusement park in Elysburg, PA and is the largest free admission amusement park in America. It has a variety of rides and activities appropriate for the whole family including a pool, camp sites, and a golf course. www.knoebels.com

Happy Valley Sports & Activities

The State College Spikes are a minor league baseball team that is currently affiliated with the St. Louis Cardinals. The Spikes play in Medlar Field at Lubrano Park on the Penn State campus beginning in mid-June until early-September. www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t1174

The Altoona Curve is a minor league baseball team that is currently an AA affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates. The regular season begins in early-April and runs to early-September. www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t452

Beaver Stadium seats over 106,000 people and is home to Penn State Football. Penn State’s All-Sports Museum is located inside Beaver Stadium and documents the athletic history and heritage of 29 varsity sports.

Stadium: www.gopsusports.com/facilities/beaver-stadium.html
Museum: www.gopsusports.com/museum

Rec Hall is home to Penn State men’s & women’s gymnastics, men’s wrestling, and men’s & women’s volleyball. There are also extensive fitness facilities, two gymnasiums, racquetball/squash courts, an indoor track, aerobics room and adaptive weight room on site. www.athletics.psu.edu/rec/rechall

Pegula Ice Arena is home to the new Division I Penn State hockey teams and is open year round for figure skating and public sessions. The state of the art facility recently opened in 2013 and has the ability to accommodate NHL games in addition to professional ice shows and local hockey programs. www.gopsusports.com/pegula-ice-arena

McCoy Natatorium is located on the Penn State campus and is available year round for instruction, competitions, IM/club sports, and special events. www.athletics.psu.edu/rec/nat
Happy Valley Sightseeing & Recreation

Penn’s Cave & Wildlife Park is nestled in Centre Hall, PA and earned a place on The National Register of Historic Places. Penn’s Cave is America’s only all-water cavern that you are able to tour by boat. The Wildlife Tour is given by bus and explores 1,500 acres of preserved natural habitat for birds and animals. www.pennscave.com

Centre Region Parks & Recreation is responsible for all of the areas parks, swimming, sports leagues, and special events. www.crpr.org

Bald Eagle State Park spans 5,900 acres in Howard, PA and offers a wide variety of landscapes, such as forests, fields, and wetlands. The park is open year round for hiking, boating, swimming, fishing, ice fishing, ice skating, camping, and picnicking. www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/baldeagle/index.htm

The Nittany Lion Shrine is located on the Penn State Campus (near Rec Hall) and was dedicated on Homecoming Weekend in 1942. It has since become a symbol and tradition for the Penn State Community.

Mt. Nittany offers approximately nine miles of maintained hiking trails with varying degrees of climbing difficulty. There are no better views of Happy Valley than from atop Mt. Nittany. www.mtnittany.org

Tussey Mountain is located about 15 minutes from State College and offers a variety of summer and winter activities, including skiing, snowboarding, snow tubing, go-karting, golfing, and outdoor concerts. www.tusseymountain.com

The Arboretum at Penn State is on the outskirts of the Penn State campus and is open to the public. It’s a beautiful place to tour and explore. www.arboretum.psu.edu

The Palmer Museum of Art resides on the Penn State campus and admission is free. It offers 11 galleries, a print-study room, and an outdoor sculpture garden. www.palermuseum.psu.edu/index.html