

May 2015

Penn State College of Communications

PENNSSTATE



College of  
Communications



# New Graduate Student Newsletter

## *A Note From Betsy...*

May 2015

Summer is here!

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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](mailto:brh3@psu.edu) or 814-865-3070.

Enjoy your summer!

## *Graduate Students in Communication (GSIC)*

### **Graduate Students In Communication (GSIC) Officers:**

**Fan Yang**  
fuy106@psu.edu

**Frank Waddell**  
tfw119@psu.edu

**Azeta Hatef**  
auh238@psu.edu

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 brh3@psu.edu or 814-865-3070.

## *Graduate Student Handbook*



**Review Handbook  
before Orientation**

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 brh3@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 assistantship 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 new media's ability to develop and perpetuate stereotypes through the uses of framing, cuing and priming.



**Send Bio by July 31**

## *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.



## *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 <i>Morning, HUB-Robeson Center</i>
Wednesday, August 19	Penn State Graduate School Orientation <i>Afternoon, Eisenhower Auditorium</i>
Thursday, August 20	College of Communications Orientation <i>8:30 am - 1:00 pm, Nittany Lion Inn</i>
Friday, August 21	College of Communications Graduate Orientations Ph.D. Student Orientation: <i>9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., James Building, 2nd Floor</i>  M.A. Student Orientation: <i>1:00 pm - 3:00 pm, 101 Carnegie Building</i>
Monday, August 24	First Day of Classes
Sunday, August 30	Graduate Student Fall Picnic <i>Circleville Park, State College</i>

# 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 Schmierbach**  
This course focuses on key theories in the social-scientific study the 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.

...continued on page 5

# 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/trans/disciplinary 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 materials 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



**Orientation  
Wed., Aug 19**

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](http://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 AEOCPT



**For International  
Graduate Students**

All international students are required to take the AEOCPT.

The AEOCPT 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 (AEOCPT) 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.aplng.la.psu.edu/academicprograms/ita\\_whatisaecpt.shtml](http://www.aplng.la.psu.edu/academicprograms/ita_whatisaecpt.shtml)

## Health Insurance



**Graduate Student  
Health Insurance**

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

[www.studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/services/insurance/graduate.shtml](http://www.studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/services/insurance/graduate.shtml)

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

[www.gpsa.psu.edu/healthcare/healthcare/#2015](http://www.gpsa.psu.edu/healthcare/healthcare/#2015)

Please see information sheet on health insurance included in this packet.

## Football Tickets



**Penn State Football  
Tickets Available**

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](http://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  
(866) 746-3511

[www.statecollege.apartmentstore.com](http://www.statecollege.apartmentstore.com)

## Associated Realty Property Management

456 East Beaver Ave, State College, PA 16801  
(814) 231-3333

[www.arpm.com](http://www.arpm.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](http://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.calibreresidential.com](http://www.calibreresidential.com)

## Cooper Beech Townhomes

Copper 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.cbeech.com/statecollege](http://www.cbeech.com/statecollege)

*Locations: Parkway Plaza, Oakwood, Northbrook Greens,  
Aaron, Oak Hill*

## Falk Realty

320 S. Corl St, Suite 2, State College, PA 16801  
(814) 238-8788

[www.falkrealty.net](http://www.falkrealty.net)

## GN Associates

119 S Burrowes St, State College, PA 16801  
(814) 238-1878

[www.gnrealty.com](http://www.gnrealty.com)

## Lion's Gate Apartments

424 Waupelani Dr. H-13, State College, PA 16801  
(800) 551-7603

[www.lionsgateapts.com](http://www.lionsgateapts.com)

## Meridian on College Ave

646 E. College Ave, State College, PA 16801  
(814) 231-9000

[www.meridianoncollegeAve.com](http://www.meridianoncollegeAve.com)

## NDC Real Estate Management, Inc

2790 W. College Ave, Suite #5, State College, PA, 16801  
(814) 237-1004

[www.ndcrealestate.com/pennsylvania](http://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.rentpmi.com/PMIStudent/  
Pages/StudentHousing.aspx](http://www.rentpmi.com/PMIStudent/Pages/StudentHousing.aspx)

*Locations: 300 Building, Americana, Barns Lane,  
Blue Course Commons, Dorchester, Fischer, Foster Arms,  
Kissell I, Laurel Terrace, The Metropolitan*

## Southgate Apartments, State College Apartments

801 A Southgate Drive, State College, PA 16801  
(814) 238-1598

[www.studenthousingstatecollege.com](http://www.studenthousingstatecollege.com)

## The Pointe

501 Vairo Blvd., State College, PA 16803  
(814) 231-6900

[www.pointestatecollege.com](http://www.pointestatecollege.com)

## The Retreat

300 Waupelani Drive, State College, PA 16801  
(814) 231-0871

[www.retreatstatecollege.com](http://www.retreatstatecollege.com)

## Toftrees Apartments

390 Toftrees Ave, State College, PA 16803  
(888) 254-1255

[locations.rentberger.com/toftrees](http://locations.rentberger.com/toftrees)

## Trout Housing

852 Webster Drive, State College, PA 16801  
(814) 237 - 2573

[www.trouthousing.com](http://www.trouthousing.com)

## Vairo Village Apartments

10 Vairo Boulevard, State College, PA 16803  
(877) 300-1464

[www.locations.rentberger.com/vairovillage](http://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](http://www.rentwestsidevillage.com)

# Downtown State College Restaurants

## On-Campus

### In the HUB Robeson Center:

**Blue Burrito**  
**Burger King**  
**Chick-fil-A**  
**Diversions**—gelato, cookies, whoopie pies, tarts  
**Higher Grounds** – fair-trade coffee and organic snacks  
**Jamba Juice** – smoothies  
**McAlister'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 Cafe** (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)  
**Chopstick 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 (134 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)  
**Herwig'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 and 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 (128 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 Ln # 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](http://www.accuweather.com)
- CATA Bus Services - [www.catabus.com](http://www.catabus.com)
- Centre Dailey Times - [www.centredaily.com](http://www.centredaily.com)
- The Daily Collegian - [www.collegian.psu.edu](http://www.collegian.psu.edu)
- Onward State - [www.onwardstate.com](http://www.onwardstate.com)
- Penn State LIVE - [www.live.psu.edu](http://www.live.psu.edu)
- Schlow Centre Region Library - [www.schlowlibrary.org](http://www.schlowlibrary.org)
- StateCollege.com - [www.statecollege.com](http://www.statecollege.com)



**Arts Fest  
July 9-12, 2015**

## *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](http://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.aauwstatecollege.org/booksale.html](http://www.aauwstatecollege.org/booksale.html)



**THON  
February 2016**

**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](http://www.thon.org)

**Central Pennsylvania 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.4thfest.org)



**Grange Fair  
August 21-29, 2015**

**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](http://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)



**The Berkey Creamery**

## *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)



**The Bryce Jordan Center**

## Amusement Parks Near Happy Valley



**Hershey Park**

**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t1174)

**The Altoona Curve** is a minor league baseball team that is currently a 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](http://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](http://www.gopsusports.com/facilities/beaver-stadium.html)

*Museum:* [www.gopsusports.com/museum](http://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](http://www.athletics.psu.edu/rec/rechall)



**Pegula Ice Arena**

**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.pennscave.com)



**Penn's Cave & Wildlife Park**

**Centre Region Parks & Recreation** is responsible for all of the areas parks, swimming, sports leagues, and special events. [www.crpr.org](http://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](http://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.



**The Nittany Lion Shrine**

**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](http://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](http://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](http://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.palmermuseum.psu.edu/index.html](http://www.palmermuseum.psu.edu/index.html)



**Palmer Museum of Art**