

## It Shows

Marly has had a great number of experiences at Penn State DuBois as both a student and staff member!

As a student, she found herself continuing to investigate and rethink her career plans, as she participated in campus government and student orientation, before choosing her degree in Letters, Arts, and Sciences. As a staff member, she is an educator who challenges students to think and investigate 'outside the classroom'. You will find Marly occupied in a myriad of activities on the campus—convinced that being active in campus activities broadens her education, thinking and opinions. Penn State DuBois students who choose to become involved can expect the same outcomes.

It's not always easy to balance a full time job, raising a child, being active in the campus and local communities, and continuing one's education at the same time. Marly juggles those responsibilities continuously. She is a great resource for Penn State DuBois students who find themselves managing many roles and who experience the stress that goes along with the 'juggling'. Marly is a sympathetic ear and coach with suggestions on how to successfully handle the many roles!

## Penn State in your career-It Shows.



Marly Doty  
Student Life Coordinator

“The college majors that I gave serious consideration involved service and working with people and I’ve found a perfect job that incorporates those two things.” That’s how Marly Greeley Doty sums up what she wanted to do and has accomplished with her career thus far.

Currently, Marly works as Student Life Coordinator at Penn State DuBois; the job allows her to be involved with a wide range of students on the campus. When she first started thinking about careers, she pictured herself working with a much younger age group --- elementary aged youngsters.

Marly did not consider any other college than Penn State DuBois when she began the college application process in high school. Initially, she came to Penn State DuBois in 2003 wanting to be an elementary school teacher. She seemed destined for that role

from an early age --- as a child, she always wanted to play “school” with her sister. She was active in Ameri-Corps in high school and had experience with kindergarten aged children as well as with 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

During her first semester at Penn State DuBois, Marly was not involved in campus activities. A move to DuBois for her second semester and sharing an apartment with a roommate changed things! Marly’s roommate was active in the Student Government Association (SGA) and in first year student orientation.

During her second year of studies at Penn State DuBois, Marly was chosen by the student members of PSEA (Pennsylvania State Education Association) to represent PSEA at SGA. A seat next

to Rebecca Pennington, Associate Director of Student Life, at an SGA meeting and a chat with her about student life soon led to Marly's involvement as a work study student in the student life office and more extensive participation in orientation.

"I liked what I was doing in Student Life and SGA and wanted to stay at Penn State DuBois." says Marly. "I knew that the Letters, Arts, and Sciences (LAS) major could be finished in its entirety at Penn State DuBois and would allow me to complete a focus in Counseling Education/Psychology and in English. Those were my interest areas when I was an Education major. LAS seemed like the perfect fit. I became a Letters, Arts, and Sciences baccalaureate degree major."

Not only did Marly maintain a better than 3.70 gpa during her time as a student at Penn State DuBois, she became the quintessential involved student. Her list of accomplishments is lengthy and gives true meaning to her own statement that she "thrives on being busy". Among her activities were Vice President of Student Government, chair of the Campus Activity Board (CAB), Lion Ambassador, THON dancer, peer mentor for Spanish, member of the Blue and White Society, peer mentor in English, and participant in the Leadership Conference. All of this along with being named to the Dean's List every semester, being in the Honor Society and in Who's Who, and working a part time job on the campus and another job almost full time!

In February, 2007, Marly began the position she currently holds – Student Life Coordinator. "I went from student to teacher. I never lost the passion I had for being a teacher. This position allows me to mentor and instruct as I would if I were a teacher, but there is so much more to the job." indicates Marly. "I am responsible for education outside the classroom, helping students plan events and set agendas as well as assisting students in leading groups and clubs."

Marly is involved in working with all campus clubs and organizations, plans student trips and fund raisers, co-advises SGA, CAB, and THON, is active in the Service Above Self Club, oversees 3 clubs directly, plans community service projects for students, and is involved in efforts to prevent drug and alcohol abuse on the campus. In addition, she is charged with developing some of the diversity and performing arts activities and contemplates other things she would like to see available for students at Penn State DuBois.

"I would like to see leadership courses here for our students. They could use the skills learned to facilitate various campus organizations and take that proficiency along to jobs and community involvement later. Next year, I also want to make the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) resources stronger and work with students to feel more comfortable in their surroundings. I want to create a 'Safe Zone' on the campus where they can come and talk and be comfortable. Whether it's through trips to Canada to involve students in something they might not otherwise do or through cultural programming, I think I have a responsibility to challenge student beliefs and ways of thinking if they are to be the leaders in helping our society function more effectively for everyone."

Marly credits the LAS degree for providing a great foundation for her current job responsibilities. "The focus on English, counseling and psychology was the best preparation for this job. When students tell me about abuse and drug usage, I have to be

able to listen. Many times, I become an unofficial 'Mom', counselor, or babysitter. Part of my job is helping students to manage stress. I need to model stress management techniques and coping skills that are effective and that they can adopt."

"The LAS degree is a great degree; the breadth of the degree is a key point. I didn't major in psychology; I have 3 other skills that make me more marketable. With LAS, it's okay not to know your direction in your first year. You can pick and choose what is important to you and what will help you move toward your career goals. LAS is a creative degree. You can basically focus on whatever areas you like as long as there are enough courses offered in that area. LAS is what you make it – what you put into it."

And, Marly is a great role model in another way! A large percentage of students at Penn State DuBois are juggling attending classes with raising children, with being involved in their communities and with work. Marly can talk easily about the time management skills needed to be successful.

In addition, to being employed as a full time staff member at Penn State DuBois, Marly is completing an online master's degree program in Higher Education and Curriculum and Instruction and focusing on raising a daughter, aged 1 ½. "I relate very well to our college students who have kids and I remind them that they have to take care of themselves first if they are to do a good job in every other arena." says Marly. Always interested in giving back, Marly is working to be recertified in CPR and First Aid so that she can teach these; she volunteers for the Red Cross and functions as a Certified Disaster Instructor and disaster action team member.

"I love my job. I love being with the students. Each has a unique story. Many students are '1<sup>st</sup> generation college students' or adult learners and it's interesting to learn how they arrived here – not just physically at Penn State DuBois but also at this stage in their lives as college students. In five years, I still want to be in higher education. I'm passionate about what I do and that's what makes this job fulfilling."

On a daily basis, Marly demonstrates the patience, motivation, interest in people, drive, concern, sense of humor, integrity, and compassion needed by an educator in any setting! As she comments, she wants to continue to be the campus "resource for anything".

For more information on the Letters, Arts, and Sciences associate and baccalaureate degree programs available at Penn State DuBois, call 814-375-4720 or visit [www.dubois.psu.edu](http://www.dubois.psu.edu).