Guest Speaker

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By Patrick T. Glass
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Guest

Our class guest speaker was Dr. Ruth Plueger. She is the director of the Learning Resource Center that is located in John M. Lilley Library on the Penn State Erie, Behrend College campus. The Learning Resource Center (LRC) promotes the academic success of the Penn State Erie student through peer tutoring, supplemental instruction, and study skills. It provides support for students completing graduate school applications and encouraging students to study abroad, providing information about the possibilities, advantages, and logistics of spending time in another country.

Tutoring

The Learning Resource Center offers tutoring services to students in the areas of math, writing, engineering, computer programming, and study skills on the Behrend campus. The math tutors are located in the Roche Hall and in the Lilley Library. The writing tutors are located, in the Lilley Library in the Learning Resource Center area of the Library. The engineering tutors are located in the Research and Economic Development Center (REDC) on the Behrend campus.

Opportunities

The LRC provides guidance in preparing an application and writing application essays for Graduate School applicants. Education abroad is an opportunity for students to study in another country where the student can learn the culture of the host country. The cost of going to school can vary with scholarships and other types of grants and a 3.0 or better grade point average for the different schools in the different countries. It is easier for engineering students to go to Ireland and Austria to study because those countries speak the English language.

Theme

Dr. Plueger presented an abstract with ideas for the student to find details about information on their own using help of tutors and other students. She talked about the Levels of Critical Thinking. The Levels of Critical Thinking is a six steps process. The steps include recall, comprehension, application, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis. Usually students only do the recall and comprehension when in high school. This is what most high school teachers require. Too many high school teachers just want to pass students because they do not want to look bad on the standardize test or around their peer. College students should do recall, comprehension, application, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis in their class to get the grade that they need. A worker needs to use recall comprehension, application, analysis, evaluation and synthesis to perform most jobs. I agree, with Dr. Plueger because we all want to get that job that we wanted in the first place and not have to work at other job that we do not want at all. We would like to
get our first engineering job and not work in a fast food job for the rest of our life. In today’s economy, jobs are getting harder to find with so many people out of work.

**POINTS**

The main ideas or points present were those of educational philosophy and learning theorem. These ideas are harder to master as freshman in college, but a senior may have a better understanding of what is being said in a class. This can help a student in the long runs, but in the shorter run, the student may be taking short cuts just by taking a class. In life, we are always in the short runs because things are always changing in life. In classes, changes are going on from one day to the next day, things change, due date’s change, when work needs to be complete change, and information changes.

**LEARNED**

Dr. Plueger said, the big thing that people have problems with is the detail of things like describing an object. They cannot remember the detail of the object from day to day, such as, detail about what being say in a class. She gave us an example her dog. She plays with her dog by throwing a stick and the dog gets the stick. She also, play ball by threw a ball and the dog get the ball. The dog is a mix breed. The dog is part Labrador retriever and Chow. The most important thing that I learned from the talk was to remember the details. Details are the most important parts of life. The details can hurt someone or they can help someone. The details can bring a C student up to a B student; it is in how things are lay out in the written form on paper or when giving a speech for class.