

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Spring Semester Penn State Landscape Architecture Project

The Danville Business Alliance has been sponsoring and collaborating with the Pennsylvania State University (PSU) Department of Landscape Architecture for the past five months, and will continue for the next four months, to develop a landscape master plan for downtown Danville. This is part of a comprehensive initiative that will result in a sustainable plan for the development and revitalization of the downtown area.

After leading several community design meetings and conducting surveys of residents during fall 2008, the spring 2009 students will now elaborate the approved design ideas into conceptual design plans.

Over the course of the spring semester, PSU faculty and eleven senior and graduate students in the landscape architecture program will visit Danville several times to develop alternative design plans that will have the potential to become future landscape projects in the downtown area.

Danville is the third Susquehanna River Valley community to take advantage of the design expertise in Penn State's landscape architecture program. Fourth- and fifth-year landscape architecture students, under the direction of assistant professor Caru Bowns, will be guiding Danville residents through a community design plan process aimed at revitalizing the downtown district.

The design will be further refined and focused at a series of community meetings over the next three months, at which there will be student presentations and opportunities for public input about issues related to development and revitalization. The meetings will provide opportunities for the students, as well, to synthesize public comment, gather more data derived from it, and assimilate other area projects into the design plan. These community meetings will be held Wednesday evenings, February 11, March 4, and April 8, at 6:00 p.m. at the Danville Ballroom, at 239 Mill Street.

The project coordinator will be James Wilson, executive director of the DBA and manager of the Main Street program for downtown revitalization. He will be the principal contact for the faculty and students of Penn State, and his office will be responsible for providing administrative support to them and facilitating their interaction with community leaders and citizens.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Jim Wilson, Executive Director, Danville Business Alliance office, 279-4254 or 244-2163, or visit the DBA office at 316 Mill Street in Danville.