

PENN STATE CAMPUS: WHAT MAKES VICTORIA AND KARL SO SPECIAL ?

By Lisa Marques & Claire Lesquelin - October 20, 2019



As French students, we all dream about American student life. Being able to choose your major and schedule all your classes is not common in our French education system. Life seems easier and happier on American campuses with all the clubs you can join and sports you can do. But what are the real benefits of campus activities?

Victoria and Karl are two students on the [Penn State campus](#). Victoria is an art administration student and Karl a communications student with a focus on journalism.

They do not know each other but they have more in common than you think. What is it? Their extracurricular activities at Penn State University allowed them to discover some passions and appreciate who they are. Both are trying to find their path and stand out from the crowd.



Portrait of Karl - student at PennState

Who has never doubted their choices and feared for their future? Probably none of us.

[Karl](#) is one of these two American students who stand out from the crowd. First, he was excited about photography and video production, he was creative and wanted to know more about these formats. But life is not a long, quiet river and your interests can change easily. He no longer knew what he was passionate about and lost his creativity. He did not know what to do.

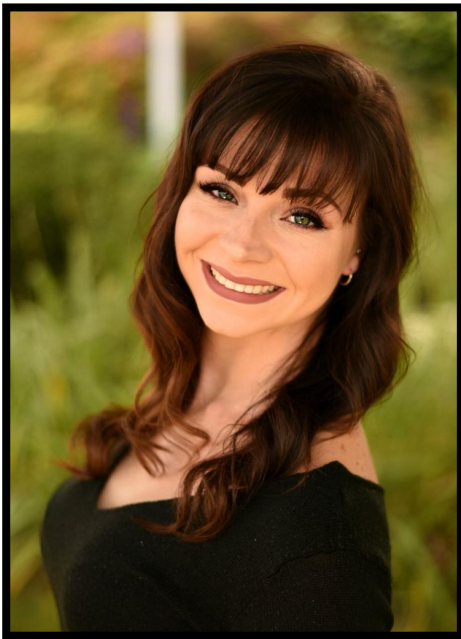
“I was incredibly lost and never thought I would find my way back.”

After several years of uncertainty about what would make him tick the most, Karl decided to enroll in Penn State Beaver for a degree in communications. Thanks to his classes and the positive environment he found his way back to his creativity.

He is now writing articles and contributes photos to the campus newspaper, “The Roar”. His passion for photography is growing and he has found his path in communications.

“Because of Penn State Beaver and the people within it, I was able to find myself again. Through my classes in communications, I found my love for creating again.”

Finding what you like to do can take time but you should not rest until you know what you want.



Portrait of Victoria - student at PennState

As Karl, [Victoria](#) is making a difference. In her daily life she loves helping others. She has been a volunteer several times during her life serving good causes. She wanted to be useful in the Penn State campus life. She was selected by a member of a student government to be a “**Lion Leader**”. He saw that she was a good candidate.

Her role is to help the new students and give them the tools to guide them. She has an important role on campus. With the other Lion leaders, they vote financial decisions, to decide how they spend money on the campus. They plan a lot of events for students like a Game Day, or even a “welcome day” to help the students settle in well.

Besides being a Lion Leader, Victoria is a student notes taker. This means that she takes notes in class, scans them and sends them to people who have a disability and are unable to take their own notes in class.

For the future, all of these activities will allow Victoria and Karl to get a better job.

“It looks much better on your application and your resume”, Victoria said. “A lot of people have good grades, so they really like to see you can offer more than that, that you are involved, you are a beneficial part of a community”.

Both Victoria and Karl know what they want and like. Being part of an association or doing extracurricular activities has a double benefit. Victoria and Karl are involved in their campus life, they are and feel useful. These are two young people who stand out from the crowd.