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Mercyhurst University

Transferring to a new university can be hard on any student, but picking the right school can make the transition much smoother. Two transfer students from Mercyhurst University have said that the university was helpful during the transition. Jen Phillips, a third year student, attended Mercyhurst North East before the closure of the school. It was hard at first when Phillips found out about the closure.

“I was sad, I have always known that I wanted to go to that school. It was a great community and everyone knew each other,” Phillips said.

The adjustment was not difficult for her, as she stated that many Mercyhurst North East staff members were also at the main campus now. Phillips said that she liked knowing that they still had her back even though they were not in North East anymore. Although Phillips misses the North East campus, she is enjoying her time at the Mercyhurst University main campus.

“I am taking different classes than I would normally be taking, so I’m not used to the topics I’m learning about,” Phillips said, “it’s a different variety.”

Phillips is glad she has transferred to Mercyhurst main campus. It has provided her with more educational opportunities, and she believes she will have a great experience at the main campus.

Alina Kotok, also a third year student, transferred to Mercyhurst University from Gannon University her sophomore year of college. Kotok said that the transition was not hard for her.

“My advisors helped make it a smooth transition. They helped me and guided me through any questions I had.”

She found that the staff was more helpful at Mercyhurst and the programs were overall more beneficial for her education. When Kotok first visited the campus, she enjoyed the environment.

“The campus felt way safer and more like home. It was more comfortable from my previous experience at Gannon,” Kotok said.

Her favorite parts about transferring to Mercyhurst University were her major, professors, and the opportunities. Mercyhurst has lived up to Kotok’s expectations of the school.

“Mercyhurst has gone above and beyond with many different aspects,” Kotok said, “I believe the small things add up to make a great experience.”

Being a commuter at a new school can make it hard for students to make friends and create relationships, but Kotok as a commuter, said it was not hard for her to make friends at Mercyhurst. Kotok was able to meet new people because of the commuter club, and the other activities Mercyhurst University has to offer. This has been a big help in making Kotok's transition a smooth one. Kotok believes that Mercyhurst is giving her more opportunities than Gannon.

"They are exposing me to more real life situations," Kotok said. "I would recommend students to come to Mercyhurst. They have a good campus environment, good classroom sizes, dining varieties, and major choices," Kotok continued.

Overall Kotok is very pleased with her experience transferring to Mercyhurst.

"I feel by having this educational background it'll make me more confident in my career," Kotok said.

Phillips and Kotok are having positive experiences at Mercyhurst University main campus. Transferring schools can be hard on all students, but when handled properly the transition can be a great one. They both would agree that Mercyhurst University has given them an excellent transfer experience.