Penn State gets a head start where it can, like with Global Entrepreneurship Week.

The annual international event kicked off in 160 countries on Sunday, but the university's Small Business Development Center put together activities during the days leading up to GEW.

It's not hard to imagine why when considering Penn State's place among GEW partners.

"GEW at Penn State was recently recognized by the Ewing Marion Kaufman Foundation for being the top GEW partner in the United States," Penn State SBDC Coordinator Linda Feltman said. "We are excited to offer nearly 100 events that have been planned by students, faculty and the community; and a majority of them are open and free to the public."

GEW events are scheduled on campus, at local businesses and New Leaf Initiative in the State College Municipal Building.

"The event creates a connection between established entrepreneurs in the community and caring, talented students, which (may) lead to jobs or internships," New Leaf Initiative Director Galen Bernard said.

Students like senior Ryan Yosua, who have benefited from the SBDC, will participate in panels for GEW.

Other events include a Lufthansa executive's discussion on intrapreneurship versus entrepreneurship, author Anne Deeter Gallaher's dialogue for women in business and student entrepreneurs' chance to pitch ideas during events.

Branch campuses in Abington, Altoona, Berks, DuBois, Harrisburg, Lehigh Valley, Lewistown and the World Campus will also host GEW events.

A full listing of events can be found at gewpennstate2015.sched.org.
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