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Letter: Columnist lauded for ESF support

Props to Laura Kelly and her Nov. 13 column about ESFers. I've only been here for three months and I'm already sick of automatically being labeled a "dirty hippie" because I go to the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

True, for the most part we are environmentally aware and want to change things for the better. But that shouldn't make us ashamed to say that we go to school across the street. We are not dirty, smelly or "insane." By the way, like three-quarters of all freshmen on The Mount, I, too, am from Long Island.

Not a lot of Syracuse University students know the offering and sharing of classes works both ways. That's right, SU students can take ESF courses anytime they want. Also, ESF students in certain curricula have an option to stay an extra year to pursue an SU degree in their chosen field. Our forest engineering majors can stay a fifth year to earn a degree in civil engineering.

I don't see many SU students making fun of Le Moyne College, the Upstate Medical School or any other institution in Syracuse. Why hassle people that you live and learn with?

- Danielle Tommaso
freshman, environmental and forest biology major
SUNY ESF

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