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Holiday Shopping? Head to the Bookstore

One windy afternoon the William Paterson bookstore was empty with Christmas music playing in the background and there was Patricia Alele, a finance management major, at the cash register singing and dancing to the tunes and getting into the Christmas spirit.

According to Alele, a lot of William Paterson students do their holiday shopping at the campus bookstore for friends and family.

“Somebody spent almost \$100 and I was like what is all that for and they told me that their whole family has to have Willy P spirit,” Alele said.

Campus bookstore employees, like Alele, receive a store discount. This can come in handy for their holiday shopping.

“Heck yeah, I do get an employee discount when I buy Willy P stuff,” Alele said. “This Christmas I have to get a couple sweatshirts and a couple of pajama pants.”

During finals week the campus bookstore hums with festive music as students come in and out with lots of shopping bags and no more Pioneer money left to spend.

“Students come towards the end of the semester, when there’s only a few days left before we go into winter break,” Alele said. “Also, they come during finals week because they want to finish their Pioneer money.”

According to William Paterson students and faculty, the campus has good quality apparel and great gifts for different loved ones.

“They literally have anything there for different types of people,” said Megan Maida, a sophomore majoring in public health. “They have Star Wars themed William Paterson shirts and I thought that would be a perfect gift for my dad since he is a Star Wars fanatic.”

William Hemeleski, the textbook manager in the campus bookstore, and Maida both agree that the William Paterson campus bookstore sells good quality apparel because they are name brand items like Champion and Nike.

Vanessa Olivera and her mother, Jane Olivera, came all the way from Long Island, New York, because they are shopping for a university for Vanessa to attend. But, they also left the William Paterson campus bookstore with a couple of bags filled with gifts for their family and friends.

Most of the William Paterson students shop at the campus bookstore for holiday gifts on finals week, which leaves a little more than a week before Christmas and last minute gift wrapping.

“I feel like everyone last minute shops, even if they try not to,” Maida said. “But, they shouldn’t be judged because no one knows if that persons’ week or month led up to a certain occasion which meant they couldn’t buy a present ahead of time.”

On the other hand, Ivana Cadavid, an undeclared major, said she would shop late minute because she has to save up to buy holiday gifts for her friends and family. She expressed a very sound reason: She is broke.