

News

Return of Continued Education

by April M. Bogdanski
Collegian Staff

Behrend College's Continuing Education has been located at the former IBM building at West Ninth and Sassafras Streets since January 1991, when the campus building that housed the program was torn down to make room for the new library/academic complex. It will be coming back to campus this fall, housed in the new 100,000 square foot library/academic complex.

"The move downtown was announced at the time as an interim arrangement to ease the space crunch caused by increasing enrollment," Dr. John M. Lilley, Provost and Dean, said. "When the library/academic complex opens this summer, we'll have new classrooms available for evening instruction and a new parking lot on Jordan Road near the classrooms." Continuing Education's administrative offices will be located next to the parking lot.

"For adults, the decision to return to higher education is a major one," Lilley added.

"Because the adult learner has a job and family obligation, convenience is a serious consideration. By returning to campus, we can offer adult students immediately accessible classrooms, parking, and administrative services such as advising and registration. Our library will be located in the same complex as the classrooms. A bookstore and a dining facility are in the adjacent Reed Union Building."

Penn State-Behrend will be holding credit and non-credit public courses scheduled through Continuing Education beginning the fall semester. "We think our adult students will be better served by an on-

campus library, satellite communications for conferences and seminars, extensive computing facilities, and a learning resource center," Janet Patterson, Director of Continuing Education, said. "Improved facilities will allow Continuing Education to offer more resources to its contract course clients and its adult students in public programs."

Penn State Erie's Continuing Education program offers an

associate degree in business administration, a certificate in plastics processing, microcomputer training courses, company-based professional development services, a quality methods and management certificate program, chemical dependency counselor training, graduate-level courses in speech communications, instructional systems and health education, and undergraduate credit courses in a variety of disciplines.

"One of our fastest growing programs is the certificate in plastics processing," Patterson added. "Those students need to be close to the Plastics Technical Center and its sophisticated machinery and computer graphics systems."

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