

Editorial...

College used to be a four year institution. It was written in stone. Students were Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors or Seniors. Not 11th semester seniors or 3rd semester freshmen. With all the diversity requirements, general education classes and elective credits needed to graduate, college is becoming a four year plus institution. What this means is more money. The longer you go to school, the longer you pay tuition.

This week on the front page of the USA Today, two University officials D. Bruce Johnstone, chancellor of the State University and S. Frederick Starr, president of Oberlin College gave their support of creating three year bachelor degree programs.

Johnstone said that he will meet with the presidents of all 64 SUNY campuses and urge them to find ways to shorten the period of time needed to earn a degree. Starr said that a three year degree would be beneficial because it would save money.

Some of the ideas presented by these officials were to increase class time or to eliminate unnecessary requirements.

This is something that all University officials should look into. Three year degrees or degrees that can realistically be obtained in four years would be a welcome change.



Letters to the editor

Budget bashing

Dear Editors:

This letter is in response to that childish piece of trash submitted by Joe Tomko last week. Mr. Tomko is upset because he doesn't want his tuition money going to fund organizations on campus -- especially those that he doesn't "morally agree with." Please.

After reading his letter, we could only ask one question: *Where was his brain?* Does he not know that some of the money allocated to organizations is *state* money? Is he ignorant of the fact that fraternities and sororities *don't* get money for their own exclusive functions? Apparently.

First of all, Mr. Tomko, the amount of money that goes toward organizations is extremely small (perhaps much less than 1% of the annual gross earnings of the University).

Secondly, your views are very bigoted. To declare that "I shouldn't have to financially

support any club that I don't support by belonging to" displays your double standard.

To declare that none of your tuition money should go to support organizations that you don't morally agree with is asinine. On moral grounds, my Jewish and agnostic friends may as well say that they don't want *their* money going to fund The Intersersity Christian Fellowship. Furthermore, since we're male, we can say that Women Today shouldn't get a dime of our money. And because we're not black, and ABC doesn't directly benefit us, your rationale says that we should deny them funding. These are silly, and outrageous. On a larger scale: "I don't want my tax money going to build bombs. I don't want my tax money going to welfare people. I shouldn't have to pay for foreign aid to Russia." It's astounding that you fail to realize that if everyone had their way, nothing would ever get done. We all know that not everyone can be pleased.

The only thing I can suggest to your ignorant point of view is to think of organizations as supplemental programs offered by the University for your enrichment. That's the main purpose of the Student Government. Organizations cannot be chartered unless they have something to offer the entire Behrend atmosphere, little did you know.

We could go on and on, but we don't have time to waste arguing with a second semester chem-major-turned-economist.

While we're the first to declare that our money should be spent more carefully, we can't lower ourselves to such closed-mindedness and bigotry.

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The Collegian

Published weekly by the students of
The Pennsylvania State University at Erie, The Behrend College

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The Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by the editorial staff, with the editor holding final responsibility. Opinions expressed in The Collegian are not necessarily those of The Collegian or The Pennsylvania State University.

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Letter Policy: The Collegian encourages letters on news coverage, editorial content and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced and signed by no more than two persons. Letters should be no longer than 400 words. Letters should include the semester standing and major of the writer. All letters should provide the address and phone number of the writer for verification of the letter. The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters for length and to reject letters. Letters should be submitted to The Collegian office no later than noon on the Tuesday prior to the desired publication date. Letters submitted to The Collegian become property of the newspaper. The Collegian is published every Thursday during the academic year on recycled paper.

Postal Information: The Collegian is published weekly by the students of The Pennsylvania State University at Erie, The Behrend College; First Floor, The J. Elmer Reed Union Building, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563. 814-898-6488 or 814-898-6019 fax.

ATTENTION!!!

COLLEGIAN STAFF MEMBERS

NEED TO TURN IN THEIR SEVEN ARTICLES, PHOTOS, ETC. TO THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE BY FRIDAY, APRIL 30. THERE IS A CRATE LABELED FOR THIS PURPOSE. FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LAYOUT CREDITS PLEASE WRITE A NOTE STATING THE DATES YOU ASSISTED.