

Faculty Profile of the Week

Tauber publishes new book



Jen Colvin/Photo Coordinator

WORKING ON HIS NEXT BOOK? Faculty Profile of the Week, Dr. Robert T. Tauber, Ph. D. has had five books published. Dean's representative of education for Behrend and the in-charge person for the psychology major, Tauber's published works are available in the library.

by Jen Colvin
Collegian Staff

Dr. Robert T. Tauber, professor of education, aspires to create the optimum classroom atmosphere by using a famous Robin Williams routine.

Tauber has published two books recently, one which uses theatrical concepts to keep students interested in lectures.

His most recent book, titled "Classroom Management" will be published later this year. It addresses the theory and practice of classroom management.

Every person has their own niche to fill, and according to Tauber his niche is classroom management.

But Tauber has another book which will also be published at a later time. For this book, Tauber combined his efforts with Cathy Sargent Mester. Their book titled "Acting Lessons for Teachers" explains how acting can be used by teachers in the classroom.

"It really works!" exclaimed Tauber. "Think of (the movie) 'Dead Poets Society.' In that movie Robin Williams used suspense and surprise."

According to Tauber, that is how Williams caught the students' attention.

Most teachers are afraid of acting in the classroom, but Tauber said just the slightest amount of theater captures students' interest.

"Acting Lessons for Teachers" details how the slightest bit of

animation and acting leads to enthusiasm which eventually leads to student achievement.

Tauber said he personally uses acting when teaching his classes; and according to Tauber, one of his classes will never forget him.

While teaching a class, Tauber was reminded of Robin Williams' performance in the movie "Dead Poets Society." Sizing up the desk in front of him, Tauber decided that the desk would hold him if he jumped up on it.

Tauber jumped up on the desk, and he was right. The desk held. But the fan whirling above his head was something Tauber did not figure into the equation. Tauber missed the fan by an inch.

"Don't overpower the message," is what Tauber advises. Everything needs planning, he said. Tauber did not think about the fan being above the desk.

But Tauber is not just a writer and actor, he is also a full-time professor at Penn State-Behrend.

Tauber has two roles at Behrend. He is the Dean's representative of education for Behrend and the in-charge person for the psychology major.

Certified as not only a physics teacher, Tauber is also certified as a guidance counselor, principal, and superintendent.

With 30 years of experience, Tauber also serves on the University Senate. Next year, Tauber will also serve on the Senate Council which makes up the agenda for the University Senate.

All of Tauber's books have an "international flare" which he attributes to his travels.

Tauber has traveled extensively through Europe, and Berlin, Germany.

"It was scary going through Germany," said Tauber.

Tauber traveled through Germany before the East and West were unified. He said that the visit was a real eye opener.

"The Wall made such a strong impression on me the I named my boat after it, Dienaur," he said.

To students, Tauber advises that travel is important. He said that the PSU education abroad program is a perfect chance for students to see the world.

"It (travel) is so important. They (students) need to experience the world," he said.

"Behrend should start forming a network with other countries. Invite them here and they will be more receptive to incoming students there," he said.

Tauber recommends that students take off a month before starting work after they graduate.

Tauber grew up in McKeesport, PA and according to him, the world revolved around his town. But as Tauber moved on in his education, he said he saw that there was a whole world outside of McKeesport.

First attending Slippery Rock, Tauber later graduated from Edinboro. He received his masters from West Virginia University and completed his Ph.D. at Penn State.

Dating game

by Hal D. Coffey
News Editor

Joint Residents Council decided to celebrate Valentine's Day by putting on Behrend's own dating game.

The dating game took place on Thursday, February 10 at 8 p.m. in the Reed Lecture Hall.

The emcee of the romantic evening was Markus Rodriguez. Rodriguez introduced each contestant by reading a prepared statement that each participant wrote.

Altogether there were five rounds in which ladies asked the questions three times and the men twice.

Questions ranged from, "Complete this poem: roses are red, violets are blue" to "If I was a lollipop, would you lick me, suck me, or bite me."

One of the bachelorettes who asked questions mixed feelings about her date.

"I got a date with a hick at the Italian Oven," freshman Karin Friday said.

As for responses, most were a little too explicit to publish, but needless to say they caused more than one excited response from the crowd.

The crowd of over 100 watched as the five couples left the Reed Lecture Hall with a dinner for two from Perkins, Pizza Hut, or The Italian Oven, to name a few. All of the prizes were donated by local businesses.

Brian Schaeffer, president of JRC, said his organization put on the event in order to get their name out.

"We wanted to do something to get the word out on JRC and let people know we are here," Schaeffer said.

One of the few problems with the event was that some people who signed up did not show.

"If we had more signed up it might have been better," Schaeffer said, "but we got people out of the audience to volunteer in place of those who signed up and didn't show."

Behrend sports teams branch out to local schools

Basketball and tennis teams spend quality time with local school children; some keep in touch with children through letters

by Bridgette Jesek
Collegian Staff

Behrend's sports teams are not only active in competition, they are branching out into the community as well.

Recently the basketball and tennis teams have been spending quality time with many of the local towns children.

Each of the teams is involved in separate projects. Rosalyn Fornari, coach of the Lady Lions, traveled to Diehl Elementary School along with four varsity players to adopt the fourth grade class.

They took the class bowling for the day.

"It was nice getting the kids away from school. I love kids so it was fun to be able to make them happy," Anne Bonner, varsity Lady Lion, said.

"This is under the adopt-a-class program which we do a lot of different things," Fornari said. "During December we held Diehl night where the kids could come with their parents to watch the game for free."

Since the team has been so busy preparing for playoffs, the time they can spend with the kids is limited. However, the players have kept in touch with the children through letters.

The women's and men's tennis teams traveled to Westwood

Racket Club to give a few pointers to about 40 kids from inner-city schools.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Booker T. Washington, and J.F.K. centers, Holy Trinity school, and the Boys and Girls Club were all participants.

"We're preparing them (the students) for the National Junior Tennis League," Coach Dan Gallegos of the tennis team said.

Twelve varsity players divided the kids up and taught them basic strokes and rules.

"The only problem was when the power went out for a few minutes and we had 40 kids running around in the dark," Greg Best, varsity tennis player, said.