

Creative writing speakers

BEHREND-Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, will host the nationally-acclaimed poet Carolyn Forche, author of the controversial book "The Country Between Us" on Tuesday, October 24 in the college's Reed Lecture Hall beginning at 7 p.m. The reading is free and open to the public.

The program is made possible by the division of humanities and social sciences, its Creative Writing Program and the Clarence A. and Eugenie Baumann Smith Endowment Fund.

Forche, the author of two other volumes of poetry, "Gathering the Tribes" and "The Angel of History," has received numerous awards including Yale Younger Poets Prize, three NEA Fellowships and a 1990 Lannan Literary Award. She teaches at

George Mason University.

Dr. Constance Coiner, a critic and associate professor of English and American Studies at SUNY-Binghamton will review Ms. Forche's work on Monday, October 23 at 7 p.m. in the Reed Lecture Hall. Her lecture titled "As Essential as Bread: Carolyn Forche's 'The Country Between Us.'" She is a specialist in multicultural, working-class and radical 20th century American literature. Currently at work on a book about the poet, Carolyn Forche, Dr. Coiner was awarded the 1995 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

For more details on these presentations, please contact Penn State-Behrend's division of Humanities and Social Sciences at (814) 898-6108.

SGA REPORT

by Sean Siekkinen
Collegian Staff

The Student Government Association holds its weekly meeting every Wednesday at 5:15 in Reed conference room 114.

At a short meeting last night, SGA appointed members to its Budget Committee. Senators Mary Kay Bliel and Mike Anderson were appointed, along with Bill Mattory as the acting chairman.

President Timothy Mallon also discussed the possible formation of a Futures Committee, to be involved with as of now tentative cutbacks in Behrend's budget. Budget reductions could result in the loss of some majors, and SGA is anxious to minimize, if not eliminate, any cuts.

Dean of Student Affairs Chris Reber discussed President Spanier's visit next week. Spanier will spend the entire day at Behrend on Wednesday, October 25 as part of his tour of Penn State Commonwealth campuses.

Mallon reinforced SGA's decision to support Police and Safety's request to carry guns. At the October 10 meeting, SGA heard from the department's manager, Bill Donahue, and voted to adopt a resolution backing the move.

Although some students have voiced objections to the decision, Mallon says chances of revoking the resolution are slim.

Alumni Fellow named, James Beason '57

BEHREND-This fall Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, will honor a graduate with its annual Alumni Fellow Award. James O. Benson, '57 Associate degree in engineering, will be honored at Penn State-Behrend on October 25.

He is the retired chairman and CEO of PHB, Inc. which is one of the nation's largest corporations specializing in die casting, machining and molding, and tool and die production.

Early in his career, Benson purchased a small machining parts company and set up shop in his basement. Within two years, he had acquired a partner and business was booming. Over the years, he's owned and managed several successful companies.

When asked what he credits his success to, he quickly replies, "Behrend gave me the background and the means to accomplish my goals. The close, personal interest shared by the faculty and staff helped me develop the ability to communicate with all types of people. I've used these solid principles in successfully dealing with business associates, employees and competitors."

As one of the founders and the first president of the Penn State-Behrend alumni association,



Alumni Fellow: James O. Beason '57 has been awarded the lifelong distinction of Alumni Fellow.

Benson maintains a close partnership with the College. "I'm delighted to see the dramatic growth at Penn State-Behrend," he adds, "but more importantly, the close, personal interest in students still exists."

The Alumni Fellow award, presented by the Penn State Alumni Association, is administered in cooperation with the academic units. The Board of Trustees has designated the title of Alumni Fellow as permanent and lifelong.

Question of the Week:

Do you think Police and Safety should have guns?

"Sure. I talked to a police officer who said he sometimes needed them. They need them. They shouldn't be sent out under-gunned. They need them for protection."

Joe Gennuso, 3rd sem., Administration of Justice.

"I don't think they are necessary because nothing that serious happens at Behrend."

Diane Campbell, 1 sem., Accounting.

"I think Police and Safety should have guns in order to ensure the safety of the students on campus."

Amy Husted, 3rd sem., Elementary Education.

"I spoke with a student a few weeks ago who knew of a situation that occurred in which a female student was being harassed by a group of off-campus, non-student males. These males could have been armed, and the harassed student feared this. What would Police and Safety have done had these guys drawn a weapon? That's why I support the action: for protection."

Mike Woycheck, 5th sem., MIS.

"No, Police and Safety should not have guns. I've been here for 4 years and nothing has happened that they would need them."

Tom Waid, 7th sem., Management. "I feel that since they are considered to be regular police officers, that they should be able to have guns. I also feel that this campus is not safe. Anyone can come on campus from anywhere. I feel that Police and Safety can protect everyone if they have guns."

Carrie Phillips, 3rd sem., Management.

"I think Police and Safety should carry guns on campus. Guns don't kill people-people kill people. If we can't trust a police officer to carry a gun, who can we trust?"

John Butler, 5th sem., Accounting.

"No. They don't do anything anyway."

Rob McArdle, 3rd sem., DUS.

"No. They don't need them. When people start carrying guns and somebody gets shot, then they should start carrying them."

Matt Boarts, 3rd sem., Biology.

"No, Police and Safety can't do their jobs effectively as it is now. Guns won't make them better officers."

Steven Rodgers, 9th sem., Electrical Engineering.

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