

News Briefs

No PSU, there will be no Christmas tree

No Christmas tree will grace the Old Main rotunda at Penn State University Park this holiday season. Individual offices are permitted to have decorations and the Old Main building will have candles placed in its windows. The University has no policy on concerning holiday decorations.

Administrators felt that not putting up the tree would prevent any one religion from being represented or offended. Dr. Graham B. Spanier, University president, did not comment on the situation. However, according to Karen Rugh, director of University relations, "Dr. Spanier felt that a public lobby in an institution of this size is not the place for religious decorations."

At Behrend, the Christmas tree was removed from the Dean of Students office without any influence from University Park.

More jobs for college grads

LANSING, Mich.-New college graduates will find it slightly easier to turn their degrees into paychecks next spring, especially if they have an internship on their resume, a hiring survey released Monday shows.

The survey by Michigan State University projects a 4.7 percent increase in the number of new college graduates who can expect to get jobs, the third straight annual improvement.

"It remains a very competitive job market out there so the graduates by no means will find it easy hunting," said Patrick Scheetz, the survey author. "It is a modest improvement."

Scheetz, director of the Collegiate Employment Institute at the school, also said the best job prospects are for engineers, computer scientists, business majors, health professionals and science majors.

Starting salaries offered to new college graduates will inch up only about half a percent compared to last year, he said.

Chemical engineers will draw the biggest pay--\$41,183--while journalists will be offered the lowest starting salaries--\$20,154.

Scheetz said despite the projected increase, hiring still will be below the levels of 1988-89.

Open season in the restroom

BILLINGS, Mont.-Hunting season made its way into Duniway Hall at the University of Montana last weekend. The heads of a buck and cow elk were found in a men's bathroom in the north end of the hall about 4:30 a.m., Saturday.

The horns were removed from the deer and both heads were wrapped in plastic before they were left in the urinals, said Ken Willett, director of Campus Security. Willett said there are no the case. A custodian removed the animal heads.

Counseling and Advising Open House

All faculty, staff and students are invited to an open house hosted by the Counseling and Advising Office on Thursday, December 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The office is located on the ground floor of the Reed Union Building.

Astronomy open house

Dr. Roger Knacke, head of the Division of Science, will discuss theories of the Star of Bethlehem in the College's continuing series of Open House Nights in Astronomy. His presentation, "The Christmas Star," will be held Thursday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. in room 101 Behrend Science Building.

Following the lecture, there will be astronomical viewings with the College's small telescopes, weather permitting. Admission is free, but reservations must be made in advance by calling the Division at x6105.

Windows 95

Two satellite seminars will be held Thursday, December 7 in room 69, the studio in the Academic Building. At 12 p.m., Windows 95: Overview will feature a general overview of Windows 95. Upgrading from Windows 3.1, multitasking features, mobile and remote access features, Internet access, multimedia and games will also be presented.

Office 95: Excel and Word will begin at 1 p.m. with an overview of Excel (a spreadsheet), its data analysis features, and more. An overview of Word (a word processor), its styles, automatic formatting, and other features will also be included in the seminar. Reservations are not required and all are welcome to attend.

Faculty, staff celebrate at Behrend

BEHREND-Seven members of faculty and staff at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, were honored at two receptions recently, on the occasion of their 25th anniversaries with the University.

Colleagues gathered together to pay tribute to Dr. A. Daniel Frankforter, professor of history, Dr. Roland E. Larson, professor of mathematics, Loretta May, staff specialist in the School of Engineering and Engineering Technology, Dr. Donald M. McKinstry, associate professor of biology, Dr. Richard A. Mester, assistant professor of philosophy, Dr. Anthony A. Salvia, professor of statistics and Clifton R. Sando, financial officer, all of whom joined Behrend in 1971.

Dr. A. Daniel Frankforter's most recent publication is "The Shakespeare Name Dictionary" (Garland: New York 1994), a reference work covering every name, title, place name and proper name in the complete works of William Shakespeare. He is currently rewriting Prentice Hall's best-selling western

civilization textbook, "The Western Heritage" (Kagan, Ozment and Turner).

Dr. Roland E. Larson is the founder of Larson Texts, a leader in calculus, pre-calculus and high school mathematics. Today he is deeply involved with the organization as an author.

Loretta May manages the office and supervises the staff in the School of Engineering and Engineering Technology. She is currently working on her associate degree at Behrend in letters, arts and sciences.

Dr. Donald M. McKinstry has published numerous works in a variety of professional journals including the Journal of Wilderness Medicine and the Ohio Journal of Science. His research has included the study of amphibian and reptile populations at Presque Isle State Park.

Dr. Richard A. Mester is an active member of the American Philosophical Association, and has often served as reviewer and editor for texts in logic and ethics

for the Macmillan Publishing Company. He has chaired Behrend's United Way Campaign for the past two years.

Dr. Anthony A. Salvia is the author "Intro to Statistics" (Saunders College 1989), and has contributed chapters to several books in his field. He is a frequent presenter of research findings at the annual meetings of the American Statistical Association, and recently received over \$40,000 in grants to establish a statistics lab at Behrend with his colleague Dr. Balasubramanian Narasimhan, associate professor of statistics.

Clifton R. Sando has provided leadership in developing the Integrated Business Information System used by Penn State, which includes all the University's business functions from purchasing to human resources. Through his guidance, Behrend has served as a test site for many of the financial documentation systems now implemented system-wide at Penn State.

Students rally against racism

by Steven R Landon
Collegian Staff

In November nearly 2,000 Penn State students at the University Park campus demonstrated against racism and intolerance. The rally was prompted by graffiti around the campus.

According to administrative officials at Penn State, swastikas appeared in two campus dormitories and a dining hall, while K.K.K. was scrawled on the door of a black student.

The rally, which had been dubbed "Take a Stand," has been billed by some as the largest student rallies in the history of Penn State.

Tuvia Abramson, director of the Penn State Hillel Foundation, opened the rally by encouraging everyone to fight hate groups.

"We must stand up and say 'Never, never again should this kind of thing take place here or any other place,'" Abramson said.

Terrell Jones, vice provost for educational equity, stressed the importance of making the University a place where everyone feels welcome.

"We must make Penn State a place where all of us are proud to say 'We are Penn State,'" Jones said to a cheering crowd.

The incidents at University Park are not the only ones in the Penn State system. Reports of racial conflict have been reported at the Beaver campus as well as some unofficial reports from students at the New Kensington campus.

Here at Behrend there have been no official reports of these kinds of problems but there have been complaints of intolerance of homosexuality in the residence halls.

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.

SGA President Timothy Mallon announced in his president's report that the University has asked Behrend to look into trimming its budget by approximately 1 percent, or \$130,000. A committee has been formed to study possible areas of cutback.

A motion to accept the Society of Women Engineers' new constitution was tabled to give the senate more time to receive clarifications and for revisions to be made.

The Taekwondo club's new constitution is also being held up, although for the club's 'high risk' status. New organizations deemed 'high risk' must be given special University approval before receiving recognition.

The SGA constitution was amended so that commuter and resident senators are required to attend their respective council meetings.

Another set of motions intended to amend the constitution and relax eligibility requirements for election was automatically tabled for two weeks.

Money was reallocated within the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship to pay for office supplies. The money was originally budgeted for an orientation week burger bash.

A separate motion to reallocate IVCF funds to pay for a variety of pamphlets preaching different aspects of Christianity was tabled while SGA receives clarification as to whether or not it is within University policy to fund religious materials.

Two new senators were accepted into SGA. Tina Fomich and Bruce Bennett will fill two of the vacant commuter senator seats.

Police and Safety Report

December 1: A student reported that someone had taken property from her room in Perry Hall.

December 1: A second student reported the theft of property from a room in Perry Hall.

December 4: It was reported that someone had taken the volleyball net from the sand volleyball court at the Athletic Fields.

December 4: A staff member at the Health and Wellness Center reported that they were treating a student who was in a fight. An investigation showed that the student was involved in a fight with another student at Niagara Hall.