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Activity fee allocation incites controversy

by Sean Siekkinen
Collegian Staff

Penn State University's new student activity fee is expected to bring \$150,000 to the Behrend campus. The fee will be used to increase funding for student life activities. The \$25 per full-time student fee, which will be assessed each semester beginning next fall, has been on the drawing board since the University Board of Trustees approved the concept last semester.

A Student Activity Fee Committee at University Park is currently reviewing guidelines for allocation of revenues generated by the fee. It has been determined that money raised at

each campus will remain there, and will not be used to replace current student affairs funding.

According to Kara Annechini, co-chairperson of the Activity Fee Committee, planning is still in the preliminary stages. "We haven't made any decisions yet," she said.

Lourdes Tirado, Multi-Cultural Council, and Dr. Chris Reber, Dean of Student Affairs, represent Behrend on the Activity Fee Committee.

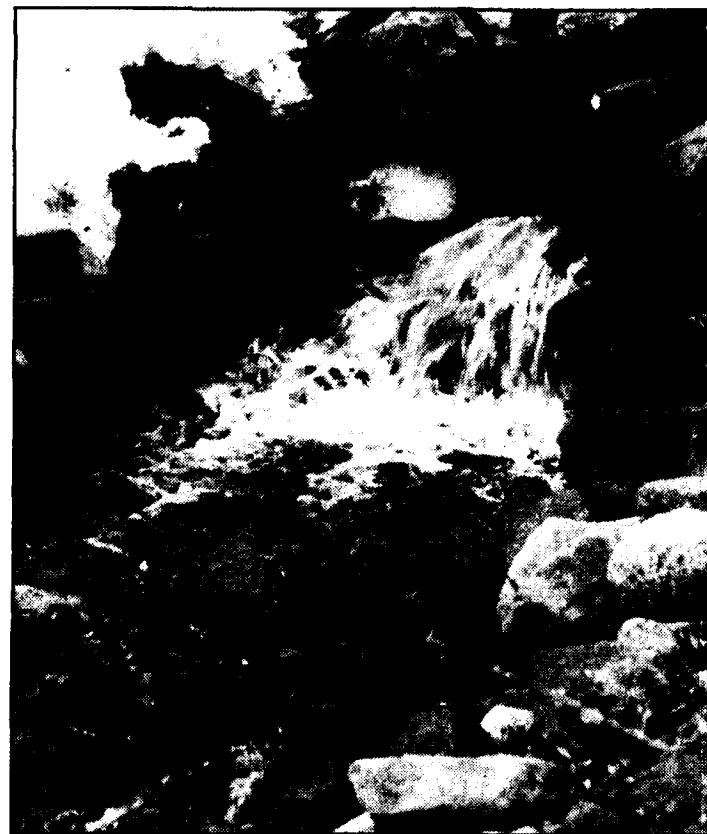
At last night's Student Government Association meeting, Reber discussed plans for allocating activity fee money at Behrend. "We haven't gotten into the details, but that is about

to happen," Reber said of the committee's progress.

SGA members debated methods of forming an allocation committee and discussed which areas of student life should be eligible to receive activity fee money.

According to Reber, difficulty arises in determining exactly what constitutes student life related activities. Although investments in the library and computer center were brought up as possible uses of activity fee money, Reber feels it is unlikely that either will meet University criteria.

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Collegian file photo

Flood Risk? President Bill Clinton has declared Pennsylvania a disaster zone thanks to blankets of snow and gushing floodwaters. Could this creek bring federal disaster funds to the Behrend campus anytime soon?

Celebrate National Black History Month

by Kyra Kindon
Collegian Staff

February is National Black History Month and Penn State Behrend is celebrating. The Association of Black Collegians is sponsoring several events throughout the month. The Residence Life staff and the Multi Cultural Council will contribute to the festivities. "All are welcome and encouraged to attend," said Shannon Jones, president of ABC. "Black History Month should not be only a month long celebration, but a life long celebration."

Events planned for the month include weekly movies Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the residence halls, a modeling presentation, a band, "World Color", the African American Drama Company, and an African Dance Group. All events are free due to Student Government Association allocations and fundraising by ABC.

"We have had some type of event(s) every year for the last eight years that I have been here," said Biddy Brooks, an advisor of ABC and associate head of the Division of Undergraduate Studies.

"They ranged from dinners and speakers to formal community events."

There will be ads in newspapers, at community centers and churches. WERG, Gannon University's radio station, is sponsoring a super soul weekend.

Neighboring universities and colleges, Gannon, Mercyhurst, Edinboro and Allegheny, are also sponsoring events for Black History Month. "Anyone interested is encouraged to call and find out more about the events," said Jones.

"We are hoping for many people to take part in the planned activities, not only members, but residents and students campus-wide," said Jones.

The purpose of ABC is to emphasize the African American culture and act as a support group for minority students on campus. They strive to insure self-pride and self-awareness through the mechanisms of unity and multiculturalism; as well as foster a polite force on campus and community. They aim to be a positive image to the campus, and would like to help increase recruitment and retention of all minority students. ABC meets biweekly.

Activities for Black History Month

Feb. 1 Thurs.	7 p.m. Niagara Lobby	Movie: "Higher Learning"
Feb. 3 Sat.	8 p.m. Reed Lecture Hall	African-American Drama Co. "Can I speak for you brother?"
Feb. 8 Thurs.	7 p.m. Perry Lobby	Movie: "Glory."
Feb. 10 Sat.	7 p.m. Reed Lecture Hall	Kuumba Night
Feb. 12 Mon.	7:30 p.m. Reed Commons	Band: "World Color."
Feb. 15 Thurs.	7 p.m. Lawrence Lobby	Movie: "I Know Why the Caged Birds Sings"
	8:30 p.m.	Mardi Gras Dance/Dixie Jazz Band
Feb. 21 Wed.	7 p.m. Wintergreen Cafe	African Dance Troupe: Kakilambe
Feb. 22 Thurs.	7:30 p.m. Tigress Suite	Movie: "Native Son."
	7:30 p.m. Reed Commons	Linda Chavez & Juan Williams
Feb. 24 Sat.	7 p.m. Reed Commons	Modeling Presentation: "A Touch of Class"
Feb. 27 Tues.	8 p.m. Reed Lecture Hall	Open Forum: "White Bashing"
Feb. 29 Thurs.	Noon Wintergarden	Logan Series: "New Art Six"

The MCC Resource Center will host films at noon on Mondays and Fridays.

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