

Plastics Technology:**Behrend signs agreement to benefit plastics industry**

The Plastics Technology Deployment Center (PTDC) at Penn State-Behrend, has signed an agreement with the Edison Polymer Innovation Corporation (EPIC) of Ohio and the Cleveland Advanced Manufacturing Program (CAMP) to enhance the already nationally-recognized relationship the College has with the plastics industry.

The purpose of the agreement is to provide development assistance in plastics and polymer technologies to companies in northeast Ohio and northwest Pennsylvania. The three organizations share an important objective:

strengthening industrial competitiveness and economic viability in the region.

"CAMP was the glue that brought the organizations together," said Dr. Robert Light, associate provost and associate dean at Penn State-Behrend. Officials at CAMP were aware that EPIC has been charged with the task of serving smaller plastics companies, and that the PTDC could benefit from access to larger and more advanced kinds of equipment in order to serve area manufacturers more fully.

One of the most attractive features of the PTDC for area manufacturers is access to millions of dollars of software and equipment -- resources a small manufacturer would not be able to purchase on a cost-effective basis. "Through our relationship with EPIC, we'll be able to deliver more services to area industry without purchasing

more equipment right away," said Light.

The PTDC at Penn State-Behrend provides an essential link from basic research to application. While many smaller companies today have access to vast databases, the PTDC shows them how to use the information and the new technology to advance their capabilities.

Light points out that the agreement between the PTDC, CAMP and EPIC is unusual in that it crosses state lines. "The

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state of Ohio is number one in the nation in terms of the production and use of plastics," he said. "But CAMP and EPIC don't have all the processing equipment we have, especially for parts and mold design. This relationship will help avoid duplication for all involved."

According to Light, the understanding recognizes the strengths of each organization and effectively addresses the needs of plastics companies in both Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Penn State astronomer to speak at Behrend

Dr. Alexander Wolszczan, the Penn State astrophysicist who received worldwide attention in 1992 after he discovered planets outside our solar system, will speak on campus, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5.

Wolszczan, distinguished professor of astronomy and astrophysics at Penn State's University Park Campus, is the 1996 winner of the Beatrice M. Tinsley Prize for innovative and creative contributions to understanding the universe. The award honors Wolszczan's analysis of binary and relativistic pulsars, which led to his finding

planets outside the solar system.

Using the 1,000 foot Arecibo radiotelescope, Wolszczan determined that these new planets do not orbit a sun-like star, but a neutron star left over from a supernova explosion. In his upcoming lecture, "Planets Around Neutron Stars and Elsewhere," he will discuss the basic technique of planetary searches, recent detection of planets orbiting pulsars and sun-like stars, and future opportunities to identify terrestrial planets and life beyond Earth.

Wolszczan was born in Poland

and received his doctoral degree in physics from the Nicholas Copernicus University in Torun. Before joining Penn State's faculty he researched and taught at the Max-Planck Institut for Radioastronomie, at the Arecibo Observatory, and at Princeton University.

The lecture will be held in the Reed Lecture Hall, and is free and open to the public.

Astronomical viewing using the college's small telescopes will follow Wolszczan's lecture, weather permitting. For information call the Division of Science at 898-6104.

No Car Needed

As the school year begins, many of you have realized that without a car it is very difficult to find entertainment.

However, Bruno's night club offers some fun on-campus events. Bruno's, which is located in the Wintergreen Cafe, affectionately known as "The Gorge," presents comedians, hypnotists, magicians, live music, and dance. All of which is free and open to the public.

Some of the acts scheduled are Greg Behrendt, a comedian who has been seen on

MTV, A&E's Evening at the Improv, and Caroline's Comedy Hour and Gary Ewing who has had appearances on "Hanging with Mr. Cooper."

Also slated to perform is Jaz Kaner, another comedian who hails from Hawaii. He mixes music and comedy together for an entertaining evening. As for music, "The Three of Us," which for all you returning students may remember from Battle of the Bands, offers alternative/instrumental music.

In addition, Tom

Acousti brings Coffee House to Bruno's with rave reviews. And for all the financially challenged, "Blizzard of Bucks" is simply the chance for someone to jump in a telephone booth and grab at swirling money.

Another aspect of Bruno's that may be appealing to many is the alcohol-free environment. Although drinks are not served, food from the gorge is available. . . and you can't beat the location.

With such a wide variety of events there is bound to be something for everyone.

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"Coffee with the Provost"

"Coffee with the Provost" is an opportunity for students to discuss issues and concerns with Dr. John M. Lilley, Provost and Dean. The "Coffee with the Provost" series is scheduled on a monthly basis throughout the academic year. All Penn State-Behrend students are invited to attend.



Thursday, September 12, 1996 - 6:00 p.m. - Lawrence Hall Lobby
Tuesday, October 15, 1996 - 6:00 p.m. - Perry Hall Lobby
Monday, November 18, 1996 - 6:00 p.m. - Niagara Hall Lobby