

WPSE loses activity fee money

by Scott Woznicki
Collegian Staff

The Behrend radio station, WPSE, will no longer be funded by the student activity fee, starting the next fiscal year.

Last year, \$40,000 was allocated to the station as a loan to get the station back on its feet. This money was allocated from the \$25 student activity fee that every Penn State student pays as a part of tuition. "The only place that I know of where money is actually going is WPSE, but it isn't funding; it's a loan. They are just borrowing from Peter to pay Paul," said Valerie Engelleiter, the Traffic Manager for WPSE.

WPSE-AM 1450 is a 1,000 watt commercial station that airs the Business News Network, CBS News and Sports, the Penn State

Sports Network, as well as other community programs.

The station has to pay back this \$40,000 loan and is well on the way to its goal. The goal of WPSE and Penn-State Behrend is for the station to become fully self-sufficient, and not have to rely on donations or University funding.

Last year, University Park cut the budget for all commonwealth campuses and Behrend had to decide which programs were the biggest priority for funding. "We did not put it at the top of the priority list," said Chris Reber, Dean of Student Affairs. When University funds could not be gathered, the administration decided to use the student activity fee monies to give the station a loan as a last ditch effort.

Ron Slomski, station manager of WPSE stated, "I am very pleased

that student activity allotment of \$40,000 was made to WPSE for the 96-97 academic year. This allotment has enabled the station to solidify its financial standing and build for the future. For the first

time in its history, this station has projected to be self-sufficient through advertising funds. We will be entering the next year with advanced sales commitments to replace the \$40,000 which was invested in us this year."

WPSE has made a lot of ground with its new Partners for Business program, in which chairmen and CEOs from prominent businesses

around the Erie area pay for the airing of one to four minute advertising spots.

However, the station is also

undergoing major transformations to an automated system, which means less student involvement. "The automation will limit student involvement . . . Students won't really get a chance to do much anymore," said Jack Marroni, a board operator at the station.

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These other experiences were stated by Slomski to be "interviewing, editing, and producing segments resulting from contacts with the business community."

This semester there are no students taking the radio practicum class, but a handful are working at the station for pay.

Many students do not consider the station to be a student activity for this reason.

The student activity fee allocation committee, consisting of seven students and three faculty/staff, recently met to propose future allocations. Some of the allocations, which are subject to change, may be for the blue bus, the fitness room, a new varsity track and field team, intramurals, all registered student organizations, and a part time student government account clerk.

Think about content

Dear Editor,

I have never written a letter to the editor. I am so angry, however, I feel that this needs to be said. Recently a poster, requesting a boycott of the campus newspaper, was brought to my attention. I would like the opportunity to speak to the author of this poster. I am a returning adult student, I also happen to be a Biology major. Whoever wrote that poster is in for a rude awakening when he/she enters the real world. First of all, any work experience is relevant, regardless of your chosen field. Work experience that shows organizational skills, communication skills, leadership skills and the like are always relevant to prospective employers and may often be the difference between getting hired or not. So wake up!!!

In reference to the stipend paid to the editor, I am curious as to what he/she thinks the pay scale at a large corporation is like. With responsibility comes compensation. This is true in the business world, in science, in education and any other field you can think of. Regardless of who does the work, ultimately it is the editor's responsibility to see that the paper gets to press on time. That is what the editor is getting paid for. It's called management.

Next, I would like to address the fact that people in the humanities and social sciences seem to believe that scientists do not know how to write and communicate their ideas

effectively. Excuse me!! Has the author of this poster ever picked up a scientific journal and actually read it? Granted, the writing we as scientists do is extremely technical and often tedious. That, however, makes literally skills even more important. It is a constant challenge to write in a manner that is intelligent, concise and readable. I wonder how many grant proposals, original research papers, or laboratory reports the author of that poster has written in the last year? I know that I personally have written five of the above in the last week alone. The professors in the Biology Department are constantly stressing writing and communication skills whether the course is designated writing intensive or not.

Finally, if this person has a problem with the use of press lines, I hope he/she never picks up a local newspaper, or listens to the local news broadcasts. They all use press lines for their stories. That is how information is passed, and the last time I checked, information is what a newspaper is all about. The next time the author of that poster gets the urge to go public with his/her thoughts, perhaps they will think twice about their content. The author was misinformed and thoughtless to say the very least, in addition to being way out of line!

Jane Stidd
Senior BIOBD

Shocked by flyer

Dear Editor,

I was shocked to see the anti-Collegian postings around campus at the beginning of this week. Apparently the party who designed the signs was not aware of the writing requirements bestowed upon a Biology major once they are enrolled. On this campus, a Biology major must take two classes in their major which are writing intensive, English 202C (a critical writing

course), and English 15 (a creative writing course). Biology majors need the experience of editing just as much as an English or Communication major. I feel the chance to edit a school paper could only make a person's writing and grammar skills stronger, which would help later down the road in the writing of a scientific paper, journal, or book.

Kim Wolbert
08 BIOBD

Scholarships for science/engineering

by Sara Prosser
News Editor

As of Spring '97, only 185 of the 377 students enrolled in science majors at Behrend were women, according to the Division of Science. In Fall '96, the School of Engineering reported that only 54 of the 444 students enrolled in engineering majors were women.

To help encourage more female students to get involved and continue their interests

in the science and engineering programs, The Women in Science and Engineering Institute (WISE) has awarded funds to support two undergraduate scholarships for women in science and engineering at Penn State.

The Clare Boothe Luce Scholars awards were established to encourage women to pursue science and engineering careers. The awards consist of two, two-year undergraduate scholarships. This includes a two year tuition/fee waiver, and a \$6,000

stipend for the first year with a \$7,000 stipend for the second year.

To qualify, applicants must be full-time Penn State students and be either a sophomore or a junior with at least a 3.3 GPA. Students in the pre-med program are not eligible.

The deadline for applicants is March 7, and applications can be obtained by contacting the WISE Institute at 510 Thomas Building, University Park, PA 16802; (814) 865-3342; or e-mail to wise@psu.edu.

Poster dismays professor

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my dismay on discovering a poster on a bulletin board outside the college computer center. This particular poster was advocating a boycott of the paper because of complaints regarding the management of the paper. My dismay was caused by two things. First, it was clear that the author of the poster was airing sour grapes and personal gripes in a public and inappropriate manner. A more appropriate way to handle his/her grievance would have been a letter to the editor or a personal meeting with the parties involved. Second, it is extremely unfortunate that he/she chose such a medium to publicly air his/her prejudice and lack of information regarding "biology majors." It is this second problem that I wish to address in this letter.

I have spent most of my time here at Behrend trying to convince scientists that writing is a critically important skill for EVERYONE,

especially scientists. A scientist's professional career depends upon his/her ability to write concisely and with absolute clarity. Without such skill, research cannot be published, grants cannot be obtained, and students in the field cannot be educated. Furthermore, if the general public is ever to understand and appreciate the importance of science to the non-scientist, we must train scientists as journalists and authors who can correctly, clearly, and sympathetically present science to the public in a way that makes its relevance obvious. We no longer live in a world where scientists can lead intellectually isolated lives, interacting only with other scientists.

I also have spent much time at Behrend trying to convince non-scientists that they must become scientifically literate. Non-scientists should be demanding to know the results of scientific research, and they should be insisting that the results be presented by people who

actually know something about science so that the information presented is correct. Science permeates every aspect of all of our lives, and it will affect what each of us does personally, professionally, and politically whether we want it to or not. Thus, it behooves each of us to become scientifically literate and informed. The only way that can happen is for young scientists to learn to communicate through the news media in a professional and ethical manner.

How DARE the author of that odious poster imply that biologists do not need to be able to write and never will become professional journalists or authors? Next time you read the science/technology section of the newspaper, pick up a copy of *National Geographic*, or read an article addressing the latest cancer-fighting treatment, stop and ask who wrote the words and what sort of training they had.

Dr. Pamela S. Botts
Assistant Professor of
Biology

EARN MONEY TUTORING!

The Penn State Educational Partnership Program needs tutors. They are seeking college students to tutor middle school and high school students any day of the week. Please call Katy at 871-6689 for information! Don't wait!! Call now!!

EDUCATION LOAN FUND FOR WOMEN

The PEO Education Loan Fund makes loans to qualifying women who desire higher education and are in need of financial assistance. Maximum amount available: \$5200.

Each applicant will be evaluated by PEO trustees who will determine exact amount to be awarded. For more information, contact the Financial Aid Office at 898-6162.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Penn State Erie's chapter of Amnesty International will meet on Thursday, Feb. 20 at 12:15 p.m. in Reed 3. Now in its 36th year, Amnesty provides anyone the opportunity to become involved in protecting and defending human rights throughout the world.

Nomination forms are now available for the following awards:

The Guy W. Wilson Award for Excellence in Academic Advising
Council of Fellows Excellence in Teaching Award
The Benjamin A. Lane Outstanding Service Award

Students, groups, faculty and staff may submit nominations to the Provost's Office by March 14, 1997. Nomination forms are available in the Library, at the RUB Desk, the Computer Center, Academic Unit Offices, and the Provost's Office.

The Behrend College Collegian wants YOU!

Join the staff this Sunday in Academic 41 at 5:45 pm to learn more about **YOUR** student newspaper. No experience necessary.

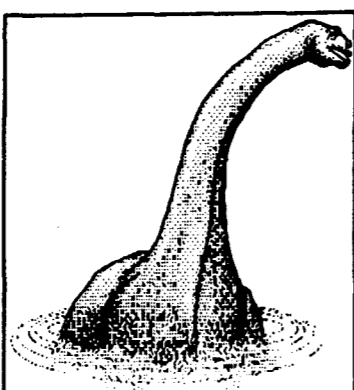
Call the office anytime at 898-6488 or email the editors at bumper1452@aol.com

LIBRARY OPEN WORKSHOP FOR STUDENTS

LIAS/THE CAT BASICS
COME AND LEARN HOW TO USE THE ONLINE CATALOG (THE CAT) AND THE LIAS SYSTEM

TODAY! 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

PLACE: LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ROOM #107



16 - Sunday

17 - Monday

18 - Tuesday

19 - Wednesday

13 - Thursday

Time Management

12:00 - 1:00

Reed 112

Reality Check

6:30 pm Reed 112

Newman

8:00 pm Reed 3

14 - Friday

IVCF

2:00 pm Reed 113

15 - Saturday

Martial Arts

10:00 am

Niagara Basement

Aurzele

Music at Noon

Reed, 12:00 pm

Personal Growth Group for Women

Commuter Council

1:00 pm Reed 112

Study Skills Workshop
12:00 - 1:00 Reed 112

SGA MEETING
5:15 pm Reed 114

**Math assistance also available in the LAC during the evening and Sunday hours and Tues. & Thur 12 - 1.