

The Behrend College Collegian

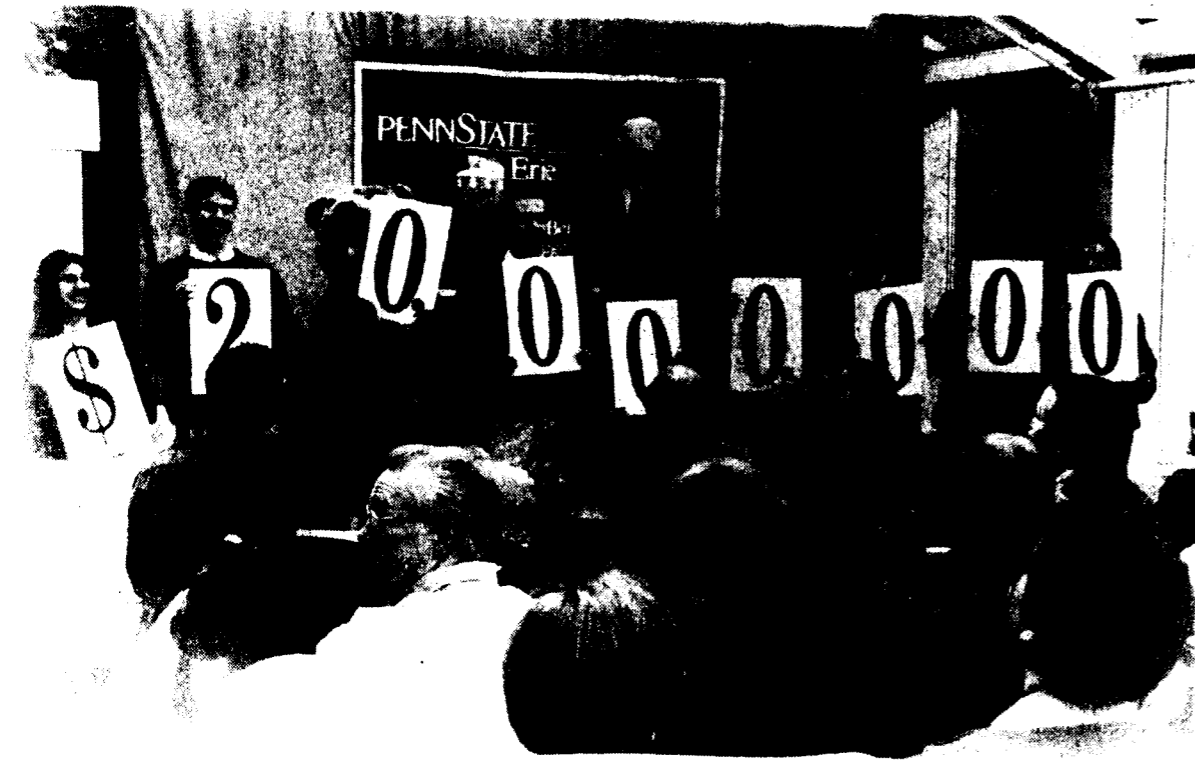
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Anonymous donor gives \$20 million to School of Business



Provost and Dean John Lilley stands behind the presentation of the \$21 million donation. The special guest Behrend Lion proudly displays one of the zeroes

photo by Jason Blake

SGA to send letter to faculty about book prices

by Joet Kolano
staff writer

How much did you have to pay for your books this semester? Michael Zampetti, President of Student Government Association (SGA), is taking action in lowering the prices that students have to pay for their books. Besides trying to enact a book exchange, he will be sending a letter to Behrend's professors asking them to make themselves more aware of the prices that students are charged for their book purchases.

SGA realizes that some students do

not have the funds to afford all the books that are necessary for their courses. Some students even share the books in order to split the cost. This limits the amount of time that one student can use the book. The letter simply asks of professors to "make price one consideration in your choice of textbooks."

Zampetti "hopes that it (the letter) will create an awareness" in professors about the expense that college students must pay in order to get the most out of their classes. Zampetti said that he is "not expecting every-

one to notice but I am hoping that at least some professors will look into pricing."

The Student Life Committee has been delayed in issuing its report on the allocation of businesses across from campus on Station Road.

For students who are interested in becoming a part of SGA next year, petitions are now available in the Office of Student Activities. All SGA positions are open including senators, secretary, vice-president, and president.

by Mark Greenbank
staff writer

"20 million dollars! Wow!" These were the words of Dr. John Magenau Director of the School of Business yesterday, after the announcement was made that the Business School had been given a gift of \$20,000,000. A large portion of the student body, as well as faculty and staff members, showed up due to rumors being spread that a large monetary gift was being presented. To help make the announcement, Provost and Dean John Lilley was accompanied by Graham Spanier, President of Penn State, Ted Junker, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Penn State, and Dr. John Magenau. News had also spread around campus that a surprise guest would be in attendance to present the news. Many individuals though Joe Paterno might make an appearance, but the special guest turned out to be the Penn State Lion mascot who appeared and added to the atmosphere and the feeling of Penn State pride.

Before the actual announcement

was made, a choked up Dean Lilley thanked the overwhelming number of people who attended the presentation. Several key individuals were then recognized for their continual support of Behrend College. After numerous

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Ted Junker

Chair of the Penn State Board of Trustees

rounds of applause and praise the ceremony began. The donor who actually gave Behrend the monetary gift has thus far wished to remain anonymous. The 20 million dollar award

was for programming in the Business School. These funds will go toward undergraduate and graduate student scholarships, research for the Business faculty, and the money will also benefit the library and related facilities and equipment.

Graham Spanier stated that, "this is a spectacular milestone for Penn State and Behrend College. This will enhance Behrend's role in the Commonwealth, and will further encourage the integration of teaching and outreach to students." Ted Junker remarked, "we need more classroom space, office space, and athletic facilities. This money greatly helps, and is an inspirational beginning." Before everyone sampled the celebratory punch and cake, Dr. Magenau gave praise by saying that the money "is the chance to bring the best of students, technology, and faculty to the School of Business and to Behrend." Magenau then concluded the ceremony by saying, "thanks to John Lilley for his efforts today and every day that he makes to the college."



photo by Andrea Zaffino

JSO president Roie Gat expresses his enthusiasm over finding new members for the Jewish Student Organization

Lack of student support affecting campus organizations

by Ik Chan Kang
news editor

When students open their mailboxes to check their daily mail or head to Bruno's to grab something to eat, they are always confronted with information about campus events that are happening that week through fliers and mail. For most of the students, their first reaction is probably to either ignore the fliers or throw away little notes of information to the recycling bin. Most students never stop to think of the people behind these campus events.

For many members and executive boards of organizations under the Multi-Cultural Council, effort and time invested tend to go unrecognized, even by many of students in the Behrend community. This was one of the primary reasons that groups like the Organization of Latin American Students and the Jewish Student Organization have to struggle to even maintain their officially recognized status.

Beginning in 1995, OLAS has been through many changes. Some were good and some were detrimental. For Angel Moreno, a former president of OLAS, one of the most difficult tasks in maintaining the organization itself was lack of student support. She stated, "We never received outside support. We struggled so much throughout the years. When the [previous] president of OLAS was un-

able to return to school due to personal reasons, and in addition when there was a lack of support from the students, we basically had to start from scratch. Even though it was a very difficult period for us, we probably made the most achievements during this period."

The difficult period didn't quite end there for members of OLAS. After this brief struggle, they were once again faced with another problem to tackle. Members of OLAS, firmly felt that they were on their own without any form of support. When Jose Orama, 02 DUS, became president during the beginning of the current semester, he was faced with very similar problems relating to participation from the student body. After a short period, he resigned the presidency due to conflicts.

When Orama resigned, Roxzana Y. Kelly became new president of OLAS. She also agrees with Moreno about the lack of participation from students. She commented, "After trying so hard, Angel basically left the presidency due to lack of support from the students." Kelly is now putting her full effort in making the best out of the organization. She is currently organizing a semi-formal "Friday Fiesta" that will be held on April 3rd from 9:00pm-1:00 am at Dobbins Dining Hall with food cooked by the students themselves. It is open to anyone and there is no fee. She stated,

"The reason why SGA allocates funds for 'Friday Fiesta' is because even they know that our event, the 'Friday Fiesta' brings the Behrend community all together."

It is apparent that a majority of students who are involved in the organizations within MCC agree that there is a definite lack of student participation in practically all of the member groups. Organizations like JSO are on the verge of disappearing due to lack of student members. The president of JSO, Roie Gat (08 MIS), says that "We didn't even budget for the next year due to a minimal number of students involved with this organization. We tried everything in order to get students' attention. Students need to participate in more activities so things can go on."

JSO and OLAS are not the only groups that are trying to provide beneficial cultural events and activities to the students within our campus. All existent MCC organizations are trying very hard to achieve this goal. There are only limited numbers of students who are actually involved in campus events. As a vice-president of OLAS Melina Fernandez (02 Psychology) says, "You see the same people and same faces for every single event. If you think of it, it is quite a sad thing."

Unlike other large institutions, Behrend is a college where there are **Support continued on page 2**



photo by Jason Blake

Frederic (Mike Lechner) sings to his band of pirates in Behrend's production of The Pirates of Penzance. The show opens tonight and runs through this weekend. See page 5 for dates and times and page 10 for review.