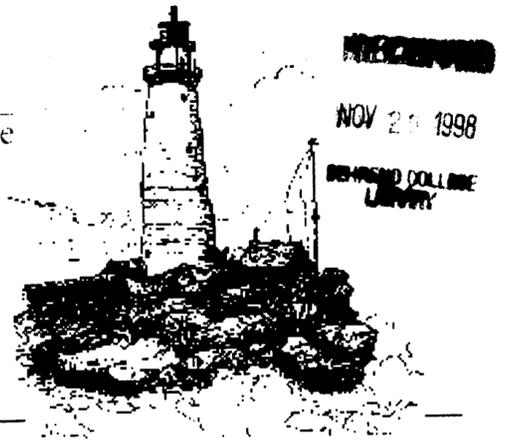


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Penn State reaches record high enrollment

By Shannon Weber
staff writer

There has been a 4.3 percent increase in enrollment this fall semester at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College. There has been a 10 percent growth of upper division students who have chosen to remain at Penn State Erie for all four undergraduate years. The number of junior and senior level students at Penn State Erie was 985 last year. This year that number has increased to 1,084.

"Growth in the upper-division levels is a central goal of the college," said provost and dean Dr. John Lilley, "so we are very pleased with this aspect of our increase."

Although the number of four year

full-time students has increased, the number of associate degree students and the number of part-time students have decreased. This change has been evident for the past five years. At the graduate level enrollment went from 153 to 159. There has also been a slight increase in the out-of-state students.

For all Penn State locations, fall enrollment this year is 80,787, an increase of 1,831 from last year. "We are growing, but we're growing at a managed rate. And we're also hiring more faculty and redesigning many of our programs so that we can better meet the high education needs of all Penn State Students, no matter where they live or which Penn State location they want to attend," said Graham Spanier, Penn State president.



The former Kanty Prep building located on 38th Street.

photo by Andrea Zaffino

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Citizens demonstrate concern for rehab center Gateway Program's zoning appeal decision delayed

By Anne Rajotte
editor in chief

Signs reading "Gateway Go Home" and "Keep our Kids Safe Say No to Gateway" lined the walkway to the Harborcreek Municipal Building at Tuesday night's meeting of the zoning board.

Over 100 citizens came to the meeting to hear the Gateway Rehabilitation Program's appeal of the revoca-

tion of their zoning certificate. This would have allowed Gateway to open a substance abuse treatment center in the former Kanty Prep building on 38th Street. The zoning board will hand down a decision on December 15.

A majority of the citizens at the meeting were present to show their opposition to the proposed facility. Debbie Goodman, a Wesleyville resident and member of the Wesleyville

Neighborhood Watch, stated, "we have been working to make our community safe and this is very disturbing." Emily Dickson, another Wesleyville resident, said that the Department of Corrections should, "treat them in prison." She suggested that a rehabilitation center should be built as part of the Albion Prison.

Zoning board member Richard Fry addressed the crowd at the meeting: "We will not make a decision on the

number of people standing in support of something... Being in favor or against what someone says— you can't cheer or boo."

Gateway originally applied for a zoning certificate earlier this year. In a letter from Gateway's vice president Steven Roman to Rick Hall, Harborcreek's zoning administrator, Gateway described their chemical dependence rehabilitation and work release programs. They also specified

that the participants in the program would be referred from the Department of Corrections. The letter stated that the program would have "minimal impact on the community."

On July 17, Hall sent Roman another letter awarding him a zoning certificate, but two months later Hall revoked the certificate stating that the

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Provost's speaker series: Dr. Mary Chisholm discusses "The Baffling Sense of Smell"

By Will Jordan
news editor

"So many molecules, so little time." Dr. Mary Chisholm, Associate Professor of Chemistry, lectured yesterday in Reed about the "Baffling

Sense of Smell." Dr. John Lilley, provost and dean, introduced her. She was the first speaker of the provost speaker series for this semester. He spoke about her research and several awards that she has won. One of the awards was from Behrend for her research. It was because of this

award that she was asked to speak in the provost speaker series. Dr. Chisholm received her doctorate from the University of London. She was hired to work at Behrend in 1968.

Dr. Chisholm opened her lecture by thanking several of her colleagues and her husband. She also stated, "I think

that the people who do research here do make a difference." Dr. Chisholm said that she tries very hard to be a good teacher and to get students involved in research. She classified herself as an experimentalist and said that they are very rare here at Behrend. The goal of her lecture was to "show how fickle the sense of smell is." Dr. Chisholm had a lot of audience participation and a computer image projector to accompany her lecture. She had a couple of people pass small vials around which contained an odor that National Geographic had used in an experiment. In National Geographic's experiment approximately 1.5 million people participated. She reenacted the experiment with the approximately 100 people in attendance. The odor which was used in the experiment had a different scent to different people. In the National Geographic experiment, one third of the people thought that the scent was pleasant and bearable, one third of the people thought that it smelled very strong and disgusting, and the other one third of the people didn't smell anything. When the audience was asked to raise their hands for what they thought it smelled like, the results were very similar to the results in the National Geographic experi-

ment. Dr. Chisholm went on to speak about "aroma interactions" and "flavor perception." There were three categories under "flavor perception." They were aroma, taste, and trigeminal, which is being able to tell if something is hot, spicy, soft, or sharp. "Smelling something through the nose is different than if it goes through the mouth," Chisholm said. Odor is associated with the nose and aroma is associated with the mouth. Dr. Chisholm said that odor has a spectrum much like color does.

In her research, Dr. Chisholm studies several different molecules that produce different scents. She breaks the molecules down into parts per billion (ppb) to see how strong a scent they have. "Its like throwing a sugar cube into an Olympic size pool and the cube breaking down," Chisholm said. Dr. Chisholm trains her students to be able to smell certain molecules or scents. For this, she uses a flavor wheel. The students use a computer with a piece that looks similar to a microphone. The piece that looks like a microphone gives off a scent and the students data is based on how long they smell a certain scent. Dr. Chisholm said that one of the most asked ques-

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Dr. Mary Chisholm, Behrend chemistry professor

photo by Andrea Zaffino