

Behrend aids in National Sea Grant Program

by Raechel Kiska
staff writer

Penn State Behrend is highly involved with the program, and the main goal

grams have included work with the Benedictine Sisters at their environmental education center and involvement with the Bayfront Center for Marine Studies in order to provide information, background and support to the public about the ever-changing environment.

The other component of the Sea Grant Program is continuous research and development. Lilley feels that it is very important for the professors and students of Behrend to be actively involved with the research. He said that the "faculty is expected to be great teachers and scholars because this is a preeminent research university" and having professors like this is a direct benefit to the students. Currently, professors of the university are conducting research on different

species of fish found in the lake and also on the environment of the area.

The university, as part of the program, has begun many projects in the area, which also gives students the opportunity to gain first hand experience in their field of study. Dr. Robert Light, Director of the Pennsylvania Sea Grant Program, stated that at the present time there are only a few positions available for students helping out with research, but there are some large projects coming up in the future that will require additional help.

"This phase of the Sea Grant is directed to outreach," Lilley said, "but the next phase will be more focused on research." The future holds a great deal for the Sea Grant program. For instance, Eric Obert, Coastal Environ-

mental Specialist, said that money to build a visitors' research center at Presque Isle was allocated and Penn State and the Sea Grant Program were asked to head the research. Plans include 10,000 square ft. of laboratory and office space, but the facility won't be finished for about five years.

"This is early in the planning process. They brought us in sooner which is nice to see that we are part of the community," Steve Curcio, Coastal Tourism and Communications Specialist, commented. "What's been encouraging is that local media have been turning to us for information."

To help promote the birth of our state's project and get the word out about it, the Pennsylvania Sea Grant has produced a number of promo-

tional items including Sea Grant mugs and water tight money holders, perfect for a day at the lake. Also, in conjunction with the Safe Boating Task Force, whistles were made that easily attach to life vests in case of an emergency. Light said, "We are just trying to get the word out that we're here."

In the short time since its onset, the Sea Grant program has accomplished a great deal and more benefits are still to come. Lilley summed up the program's actions by saying that it has done "well enough to attract national attention. People who have reviewed our work have been complimentary and praised it and used it as a model which is a direct credit to Dr. Light and the Sea Grant staff."



is to promote awareness while working hand in hand with the community. Provost and Dean Dr. John Lilley stated, "We are here to serve the community. Having a Sea Grant and Land Grant is a major outreach program. We have a special commitment to western Pennsylvania."

So far, the community outreach pro-

A year and a half ago, Pennsylvania became involved in the National Sea Grant program and since its inception Lake Erie and the surrounding community have been drastically improved.

The National Sea Grant program began in the mid 1960s in order to promote the wise use of coastal resources. The program is administered out of the Department of Commerce, and almost every state that borders salt water or one of the Great Lakes is involved.

Pennsylvania joined the Sea Grant Program to promote awareness of the economic and environmental issues associated with the Lake Erie region.

Administration continued from front page

All in all, Behrend had \$326,136 to use in information technology areas last year.

Ron Hoffman, manager of Network and Information Systems at Penn State Behrend, and Dr. Jack Burke, Associate Provost and Dean, met with a committee of students from the Student Government Association about what the Information Technology Fee money is spent on, and who decides how the money is spent.

Mr. Hoffman and Dr. Burke would like to see two students from each academic school at Behrend on the Information Technology Fee Committee. This would create a much more well-rounded plan on how the money from the fee could be spent to benefit all of the students at Behrend.

\$360,649 of the money collected in last year's Information Technology Fee went to upgrades in the public labs across campus. These upgrades included new computers in various

computer labs across campus, free laser printing for students, repairs to computer lab furniture, a new e-mail kiosk in the Academic Building, and payroll for student consultants for the Computer Center.

Commuter students will also be seeing the benefits of paying their Information Technology Fee. The Computer Center is planning on adding twenty-four new modems, bringing the total for students who use a dial-up connection to 120 modems.

This hopefully will cut down on the amount of busy signals that off-campus students now receive.

The other fee that students are paying this year is the Transportation Fee. This is a new fee for University Students this year. Each student is required to pay \$14. All of the money collected from this fee will remain at Behrend.

At University Park this fee is used to fund the Loop, a bus

that transports students to various locations across campus. The Transportation Fee that University Park students pay allows them to ride the Loop free of charge.

It is still unclear at this time exactly what the Transportation Fee at Behrend will be used for. Dr. Burke said, "The Transportation Fee is to be used for on-campus accessibility issues." Some of the items that the fee

could go for are: no user fee for the Blue Bus, paving new sidewalks, and creating new parking areas. One benefit of this fee that can already be seen by Behrend students is the new Behrend Loop. The Behrend Loop runs from the dorms to the front of the Reed Union Building.

Question of the Week

WHAT DO YOU THINK SHOULD BE DONE WITH LION CASH?

"I think the system's all right now. In the vending machines would be nice, though."

-Dan Midberry, 01, Computer Engineering



"They should be added to vending machines because I get hungry at night."

-Kimberly Miller, 01, COMM



"In local stores we should be able to use them like credit cards."

-Stacy Miller, 01, CMDIS



"There shouldn't be two separate accounts [on your card]. They should combine Lion Cash and the meal plan into one."

-Ryan Nease, 01, METEO



"I think you should be able to use it at the Bookstore."

-Lacy Micale, 01, DUS



"I think you should be able to get cash back off of the card."

-Nettie Digel, 01, BIOL



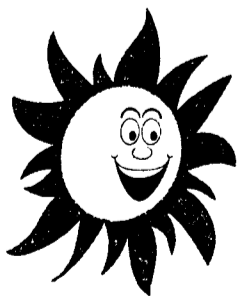
Police And Safety REPORT:

- 9/23/99 A complainant reported a student acting suspicious.
- 9/24/99 A complainant reported that, enroute to campus, he had a problem with another vehicle on Station Road. The other vehicle was driving recklessly and followed the complainant onto campus.
- 9/24/99 A student went into the Police and Safety Office and "became irate."
- 9/25/99 While on patrol, duty officers discovered three individuals around a small fire.
- 9/25/99 There was a one car auto accident on Jordan Road which damaged PSU property. Police and Safety assisted until the Pennsylvania State Police arrived to take the report. One of the old stone entrance pillars was hit by a student and was knocked over.
- 9/26/99 A complainant reported that his hood ornament was stolen from his vehicle.



WEEKEND WEATHER OUTLOOK

OCTOBER 1-3, 1999



Friday

MOSTLY SUNNY. HIGH IN THE LOWER 60'S.



Saturday

CHANCE OF SHOWERS. HIGH IN MID-60'S.



Sunday

CHANCE OF SHOWERS. LOW IN MID-40'S, HIGH OF 60.