

# Nominations being accepted for Behrend's Faculty and Staff awards

by Erin McCurdy  
staff writer

The Undergraduate Studies Committee, in conjunction with the Research Committee, is currently accepting nominations for Faculty and Staff Awards. Four different awards are going to be given away. If you feel that one of your professors is worthy of receiving one of these awards, please take the time and nominate them.

The first award is the Council of Fellow Excellence in Teaching Award. This award was first presented in May of 1969. Its purpose is to recognize that faculty member who, in the opinion of students and colleagues, most truly fills the role of an effective teacher. If, while studying at Behrend, you have come across professors who you feel are worthy of this award, give them the honor of nominating them.

The next award is the Guy W. Wilson Award for Excellence in Academic Advising. This award is

meant to encourage and reward excellence in academic advising. It was first awarded in 1982. How many of you have walked into your advisors office with a scheduling book and no clue? I know that I have. Every time I needed my advisor, he was there to help me. Advisors are constantly taking time out of their busy schedules to help us, shouldn't we take the time from our busy schedule to say thank you? What better way to say thank you than by nominating them for one of these special awards?

The third award being presented is the Council of Fellows Excellence in Outreach and Service Award. This award was established to recognize that faculty member who in the opinion of students, colleagues, and community leaders most truly serves the college, the community, and the academic profession. This is the first year for the award. Dr. Peg Thoms, head of the Research Committee, explained the purpose of this award. She said,

"This award is meant to recognize faculty members who have had their articles published in professional journals or books." If you know of such a professor, please recognize them by nominating them.

The final award being given away is the Benjamin A. Lane Outstanding Service Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize service beyond the call of duty. A faculty or staff member who contributes to excellence inside and outside the classroom is eligible to receive this award. This award was first presented in 1986.

Dr. Pamela Silver, head of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, feels that these awards are a chance for the students of Penn State Behrend to send a clear signal about the quality of education at Behrend. She also stated that faculty members work very hard and care a lot about the student body. "As a faculty member, it is nice to know that the students recognize and appreciate how much we care. We not only care about the students, we also care that they achieve their

full potential."

The process of nomination is very easy; you can do it one of two ways. The first way is to go to Penn State Erie's homepage (<http://www.pserie.psu.edu>) and click on Look What's New. The other way to nominate someone is to fill out a nomination form. You can find nomination forms at the Office of the Provost and Dean located on the first floor of Glenhill Farmhouse. All nominations must be completed and returned no later than February 28, 2000. If you feel that you know a faculty or staff member that qualifies for one of these awards, please nominate them.

The nomination forms are very simple and to the point. They simply ask who you are and why you feel the faculty member that you are nominating deserves this award. Quality, not quantity, of the nominations is what counts. The Boards will be looking very closely at the reasons given for the nominations, not just how many nominations a

certain faculty member receives. When nominating a faculty member be as specific and as in depth as possible on the application.

After all of the nominations have been received, two different faculty boards have the task of determining the award recipients. Even though the final decision is up to the boards, the power, by way of nomination, is in the hands of the students. After the boards have reviewed the nominations, they often visit the classrooms of the nominated professors to get a first hand view of how they teach and interact with students.

The Undergraduate Studies Committee is awarding both the Council of Fellow Excellence in Teaching Award and the Guy W. Wilson Award for Excellence in Academic Advising. The Undergraduate Studies Committee is comprised of eight different faculty members and chaired by Pam Silver, Associate Professor of Biology. Dr. Tim Smaby, Associate Professor of Finance, is a four-year member of this committee. Dr.

Smaby feels that by allowing the students to nominate faculty members for these awards, the student body is being given a voice. He strongly encourages students to participate in these awards.

The Research Committee, chaired by Dr. Peg Thoms, is responsible for awarding the Council of Fellows Excellence in Outreach and Service Award and the Benjamin A. Lane Outstanding Service Award. This is the first year that Dr. Thoms, Associate Professor of Management, has chaired this committee.

All four of these awards will be presented at the Penn State Behrend Awards Banquet at the end of the Spring Semester. All students, faculty, and staff are invited to nominate any professor that they feel deserves this honor; but remember, the deadline is February 28, 2000.

## Question of the Week

### WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH ERIE HALL NEXT YEAR?

"We should turn it into club offices and have a Commuter Lounge!"

Meggan Allen, 04, ME



"We should turn it into a dance club."

Mike Mattich, 05, MET

"We should be able to play floor hockey - they took it out about two years ago because they said it would mess up the floors."

Kevin "Scooby" Mink, 08, COMMU

"I think we should be able to use it for student retreats and weekend activities."

Traci Hamm, 04, COMMU



"Tear it down and start anew."

Mike Berzinsky, 02, GEOSCI

"I think we should keep it for back-up, because the new facility probably won't be done by next year - we should still keep using it for gym classes."

Tracy Jones, 04, COMMU



## Police And Safety REPORT:

- 2/2/00 15:29 A complainant reported that someone had tampered with the fire extinguisher.
- 2/2/00 16:47 Suspicious activity was reported in Ohio Hall; gone on arrival.
- 2/2/00 18:45 Suspicious activity was reported in the Stair Tower.
- 2/2/00 20:30 A complainant reported two individuals suspected of smoking marijuana. Upon arrival no one was in the area; a search produced a plastic bag containing small amounts of leaves and seeds which tested positive for marijuana.
- 2/3/00 03:45 Officers were dispatched to Tigris Hall lobby after getting a report of an intoxicated, unruly student.
- 2/4/00 01:40 While in the S Lot, an officer observed a vehicle heading east on Maintenance Drive spin on a curve near the Maintenance building. The driver was issued a citation for not driving at a safe speed.
- 2/4/00 14:32 A complainant reported someone struck his vehicle while it was parked in the Turnbull Hall parking lot.
- 2/4/00 18:00 Hardware was removed from two computers.
- 2/4/00 19:45 An officer observed a truck fishtailing and weaving in the trafficway of the parking lot. The driver was cited for careless driving.
- 2/8/00 13:30 A complainant called and reported that a truck was on fire in the Nick North Lot. East County dispatched the Brookside Fire Department which responded to the scene and extinguished the fire.



## WEEKEND WEATHER OUTLOOK

FEBRUARY 11-13, 2000

|                                       |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
|                                       |  |  |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>                         | <b>SATURDAY</b>                                | <b>SUNDAY</b>                          |
| BRISK, WITH FLURRIES; HIGH 32, LOW 24 | CLOUDY, WITH A CHANCE OF SNOW; HIGH 32, LOW 18 | PARTLY SUNNY AND COLD; HIGH 28, LOW 24 |