

# BEHREND

# BEACON

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## Computer problems addressed

### Students question Auguston about Technology Fee

by Katie Galley  
editorial page editor

"It's not just a couple of bucks anymore," Demian Blair said, commenting on the Information Technology Fee that all students are required to pay each semester. Blair is chairman of the Student Government Association committee that met with Gary Auguston, President of the Office of Telecommuting, when he visited Behrend on Wednesday, March 22.

Auguston, along with several students on the committee, including Blair, Melody Sherosky and Andrea DiPlacido, and Dr. Jack Burke, Senior Associate Dean, and Ron Hoffman, Manager of Network and Information Systems, met to discuss problems with Behrend's computer system and offer suggestions in how to improve it in the future. While problems ranging from slow connection times to the almost stand still pace the development of the student radio station has taken were dis-

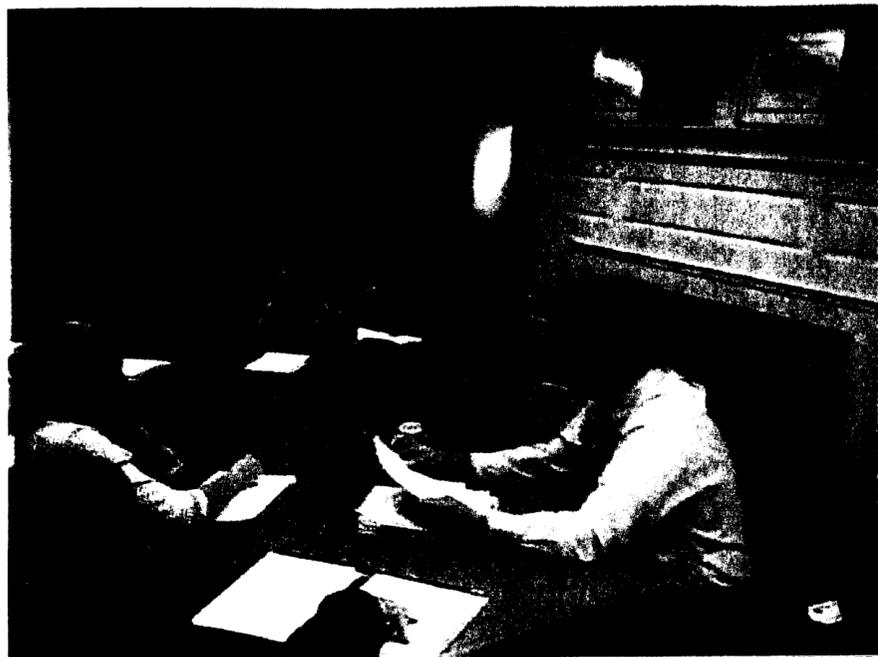


PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

Students talk to Gary Auguston, President of Telecommuting at Penn State, in the Glenhill Farmhouse.

ussed, it was the Information Technology Fee that took precedence.

The students in the committee that were in attendance wanted to discuss forming an Allocation Board to make the decisions on how the students' \$100 fee is spent from year to year. At the present time there is only an Advisory Board, which the students in the committee are not satisfied with. The ITF committee is most concerned with the fact that administrators at Main Campus do not give students enough say in where their money goes, and they believe that an Allocation Board would solve the problem. "I think an Allocation Board

would more accurately represent the students' needs," Blair stated.

Students at Behrend aren't the only ones concerned about the lack of an Allocation Board. Students at 19 commonwealth Penn State campuses work together on the CCSG, or the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments. While this council covers more than the ITFR, or the Information Technology Fee Regulations, it is greatly concerned about the future use of student's money. Auguston agreed with attending students stating, "student input on how to serve your needs is critical." However, committee members feels that there was

no real progress made in the meeting. "It'll stay Advisory, but I'd like to see Behrend more involved in every step of the process," Blair said.

Other topics discussed at the meeting included trying to provide Behrend with a new T3, which would supply more bandwidth to the campus, and make student downloads faster. The T3 would also increase the speed of streaming audio and video, which is crucial to the proposed Real Audio radio station. The meeting ended with Auguston touching upon the Penn State deal with Microsoft. "We're done with Microsoft for now," Auguston said.

## Behrend professor chosen editor of Bangladesh journal

by Libbie Johnson  
associate editor

Dr. Syed Saad Andaleeb, associate professor of marketing, has been chosen to edit the *Journal of Bangladesh Studies*. Two organizations, the Bangladesh Development Initiative and the Association for Economic Development Studies on Bangladesh, are sponsoring its publication. Andaleeb has also served as an editorial board member of the *Journal of Transnational Development* and as a reviewer of many journals.

Andaleeb said that the *Journal of Bangladesh Studies* is the only one of its kind. "[The *Journal of Bangladesh Studies*] is an academic journal dedicated to fostering greater understanding of the problems of development in Bangladesh from a comprehensive perspective by addressing social, political, economic, legal, ethical, technological, and related issues. This multi-disciplinary approach is important because development must embrace the concept of diversity - the diversity of expertise, methods, analyses, and prescription to provide better, more meaningful, and practicable answers that have continued to elude strategists, planners, administrators, and researchers involved with the development of Bangladesh."

Andaleeb, who was born in Bangladesh, has a special interest in this journal. He said that there has been discussion for the past two years about publishing the journal because professionals have wanted to do something meaningful about and for Bangladesh. He feels there is a need for a journal that focuses on a specific country in need of ideas, solutions, and intellectual support.

Some other problems and issues which plague Bangladesh are inflation,

investment problems, unemployment, lack of productivity, resource and leadership shortages, public health concerns, and technology improvements.

Andaleeb says many forums have focused on the issue of identity. "Whether the people of the land are Bangladeshi or Bangalees, and whether religious or cultural heritage should come first, has apparently generated notable disagreement and discontent among sections of the country's thought leaders. . . . how can we also explain the reign of terror that has been unleashed with regularity upon the masses, and to what extent has it crippled the process of social and economic development?"

Andaleeb also said that the problem of corruption and its impact on development has been studied, but that there has been little effort to discover how traits such as self-respect, self-esteem, and dignity are related to corruption. ". . . it is important to understand why is it that these core values have deteriorated so drastically, especially among many in positions of power, such that indulging in corrupt practices is, apparently, not viewed as a despicable and socially undesirable act any more."

Andaleeb hopes to receive creative ideas from contributors. "The alternative perspectives are expected to provoke broad-based debate and discussion; they are also expected to challenge policy makers and practitioners to redefine the problems and prospects of development and to seek pioneering solutions that make a real difference."

Publication has already begun; the first issue was completed in December 1999. Issues will be printed every June and December. Andaleeb wants this journal to become well known and widely used, and sought by those who research development.

## Behrend spring sports preview

- Softball looks to repeat as AMCC champs

- Lions baseball hopes to avenge 1999 AMCC heartbreaker

- Behrend golfers back into the 'swing' of things after break

- Track and Field enters second season

- Tennis to make 'racquet' in the AMCC

full coverage in sports section



## Lecture focuses on undergraduate research

by Daryl Ploss  
staff writer

On Thursday, March 16, Dr. Michael Campbell, assistant professor of biology, gave the latest installment of the Provost Lecture Series in the Reed Lecture Hall at noon. The topic of this lecture was "Can Undergraduates do Significant Research?"

The crowd was small for Campbell, who has been a professor at Behrend since 1994. Most of the onlookers were not students, although a few students took a break from their daily routines to attend.

Campbell's talk dealt with current issues in biology, such as: how the knowledge base goes up every year, how professors are teaching to a diverse career field, and how the job

market is changing.

The example that Campbell used to answer the question, "Can undergraduates do significant research in the classroom," was that of genes in blue plants. Through humor and a good level of speech energy, Campbell was able to keep the crowd interested.

By the end of the talk, Campbell concluded that, yes, undergraduate students can in fact do significant research, but that the level of significance may be low. However, students can contribute to science. Also, students must want to do the research. Plus, the faculty must be willing to put in the effort, as this is seen as "untraditional."

The speech attempted to give undergraduate students confidence that they can do significant research.

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