

FROM FRONT PAGE

NEW REGISTRAR

system. The website's goals are to "engage students in interactive inquiry for informed educational planning, facilitate faculty's access to student information, and allow prospective students to explore Penn State." Bayuk wants to make sure that the website is utilized fully.

Bayuk would also like to work on organizing the planning and implementation of scheduling. She would see less changes made to the schedule after it goes to print. She described her office as a customer service provider, and said by making changes after the schedule is released to students and faculty is not conducive to good service.

Unlike the other campuses Bayuk worked at, where she developed the semester schedule of classes herself, at Behrend the four academic schools (Business, Engineering and Engineering Technologies, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Science) develop the schedule themselves and then send it to the Registrar for final approval.

Bayuk said Behrend is at a disadvantage right now because of a lack in classroom facilities. "Everyone wants to take classes between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., and everyone wants to teach between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.," she said. "But the lack in facilities is a big

inhibitor right now."

Bayuk explained that Behrend's facility use is at 80 percent or more, and some facilities are at more than 95 percent. "The norm at other campuses is 40 or 50 percent," she added. While the problem will be alleviated when the Research and Economic Development Center is built in a few years, right now Bayuk's office is forced to schedule evening and early morning classes.

Bayuk plans to meet with the directors of the four schools in the next few weeks to discuss how the scheduling process can be more effective and organized. "I like things simplified," she said.

One change students can look forward to is communication by e-mail. Bayuk said, as she doesn't like to waste time on "snail mail." In terms of technology, she said Behrend is in "good shape." Also, several options like the degree audit keep the system effective, Bayuk added, saying most institutions don't have anything like a degree audit.

Bayuk would also like to work on making students responsible for their education. "I want to empower people to make responsible decisions." She said the Registrar's Office will continue to hold students accountable for their schedules and academic progress.

Many students who have trouble aren't in frequent contact with their adviser, Bayuk said. "If a student has been misadvised, the University will stand behind that student. We want students to do well just as much as they do." But she said that when students come to her office with complaints, they often haven't checked in with their adviser.

Bayuk will be working to make sure faculty, especially new faculty, are educated and aware of advising procedures. She explained that the Registrar's Office isn't an advising office, so she relies on advisers to assist students. She also suggested that students having problems with an adviser could also seek advice from the Division of Undergraduate Studies, which can provide general information.

"People still come to our office for advice, and that troubles me because we are not advisers. We usually tell them where to go for information," Bayuk said.

Other changes Bayuk said to look for include the end of the telephone registration system, changes in the academic calendar, and more forms available on the internet. She also has experience in website organization, so she might make changes to Behrend's Registrar website in the future.

SCHENKER

touched him personally many times, and he remains very fond of many people with whom he has interacted at Behrend.

"The week before I retired, I held a luncheon for my friends in the staff," Schenker said. "I wanted them to know I appreciated so much what they did for me and for Behrend's special self." Schenker was quick to remark that Behrend is special. He hails the faculty as outstanding, praising not only their skill as teachers but their capacity for fun and their willingness to befriend staff and students. One of his many faculty friends is Dr. James Kurre, associate professor of economics, who "roasted" him at his retirement dinner on Sept. 19.

"I thought, 'wow,'" said Schenker, referring to the humor let loose at the event. "How good it was to have a faculty member 'roasting' a staff administrator." A hearty sense of humor is a quality which Schenker has found in many of his associates, including Mike Chiteman, head of DUS, and Interim Provost and Dean Dr. Jack Burke. Among the other people who have made a great impact on Schenker's time at Behrend are the last three deans, including Dr. Thomas Fox, who hired him. "They are tremendous leaders and friends," Schenker said.

He said he misses the daily interaction with many of his long-time friends now that he is retired, but e-mail has enabled him to keep the dialogue from dying out. He is also happy to return to campus to enjoy Behrend events and visit old friends, as are many of his peers who have recently retired. The school holds a lot of memories for him, and while he says there were so many moments and so many people that contributed to his life at Behrend, one event holds particular significance for him.

"Perhaps my most lasting memory is when Mike Chiteman, [former Athletics Director] Herb Lauffer, and I were recognized for 25 years of service to the school," Schenker. "It was a tremendous opportunity to share the values that are Behrend, and many people who attended remember how special that day was for us."

Of his 33 years in Behrend's employ, Schenker spent two thirds serving as Registrar. During that time, he witnessed some major changes in the way registration is done. When he first began, all students had computer key cards containing their schedules. On the day before classes, they had to present their cards to the Registrar, usually after waiting for hours in line. With the old system, it might take up to three weeks for a student to receive his or her schedule. Now, students have several options: they can register over the phone or the Internet or stop into the office and discuss their options with the Registrar's staff.

"Scheduling used to be very time- and labor-intensive," Schenker said. "It's so much easier now, and students are so much more informed." And even more changes are on the way. Possibly as soon as November, on-line registration will include options for student evaluation of the class schedule, using such categories as time and course type.

"One of the things I'll miss most is the dynamics of Behrend," said Schenker. The year he became Registrar, the college set a new enrollment record of 1,825 students. They could choose from 10 different majors. Now, there are more than 3,800 students, close to 30 majors, and two masters programs. This year alone, Behrend's landscape has changed considerably with the construction for the highway, the Smith Chapel, and the Junker Center. Schenker said coming to Behrend was always interesting because he never knew what new things he might see. "If you like change," he says, "Behrend's the place to be."

"It was all fun," he said of his years at Behrend. "It was work, but it was fun." Schenker is eager to relate how much he enjoyed the job, and he intends to return to campus often to visit. In one of his first trips back, he was pleased to notice so many people smiling. He says his wife tells him he has been smiling a lot himself lately. He is looking forward to the retired life. Among his plans are to visit his children, do some volunteer work, and travel. "I want to explore," said Schenker. "There are lots of places in the U.S. that I want to see, and I'm dedicated to seeing them. I'd also like to travel into Europe. I just look forward to having fun!"

He has no fear of the school he leaves behind. He said although Behrend's students are probably fairly typical of college students everywhere, they seem special, and faculty and staff members who interact with them can appreciate their individuality and what they mean for the future. "I don't doubt for America's future, even in these dark times," Schenker says. "I think the students present awesome talent and leadership."

To help the students cultivate these abilities, he has the same words of wisdom he has always offered to faculty. "Do the best you can at what you do, and be honest about it," he said. "Make the kids work hard for that grade."

He advised students to establish good relationships with their advisers because a faculty advisor can be a powerful ally in helping a student work through college plans and future goals. "My wish for students is that they enjoy their learning opportunity and college experience as much as I did," said Schenker. "And smile. There's no reason to go through the day with a frown on your face. It's like the Beatles said: just 'Let it Be.'"

DOMITROVICH

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Studies, and, of course, at Penn State Behrend where she teaches a business law class. She was also the Erie County Assistant Solicitor from Oct. 1983 through Dec. 1989.

Although actively engaged with many affiliations like the National Association of Women's Judges, the International Bar Association, and the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, Domitrovich still teaches her classes here with a lot of spunk.

"I think she would do a great job if she won," said Angela Albertson, a student currently enrolled in her business law class.

"Yeah, she's really energetic teaching class," said Frank Lafuria, another student in the same class.

It's no surprise that Domitrovich's students love her classes: with the amount of educational background she has, the classroom is a very common place to find her. She was the first judge in Pennsylvania to earn a master's in judicial studies degree from the National Judicial College. In addition, she was the first female judge elected in Erie County. Other collegiate accomplishments include a B.A. in history (summa cum laude) from Carlow College, a juris doctorate from Duquesne University School of Law, and two degrees from the University of Nevada, Reno in juvenile justice and trial judges.

Even with such an intense academic career and professional life, Domitrovich still found time for family. She is married to Ronald J. Susmarski, a general practice attorney in Erie, and is the mother of two boys.

Domitrovich's career of public interaction began at a young age. She worked for her parents at the H&S Dari Mart in Aliquippa, Pa. At a time when Aliquippa was flourishing, the primary clientele of the



PHOTO BY ROB WYNNE

Stephanie Domitrovich, a general jurisdiction judge for Erie County, also teaches business administration at Behrend. Right now she's campaigning in eastern Pennsylvania for a spot on Pennsylvania's state appellate court, so her class, shown above, is left with a temporary professor.

family business was doctors and lawyers. These figures provided a lot of inspiration for young Stephanie.

"They helped me develop my career goals and the American Dream," said Domitrovich in a previous interview with freelance writer Trudy M. Gray.

Also during Gray's interview, Domitrovich revealed interesting information about her parents. Both her mother and father lived through World War II. Her father fought in the Battle of the Bulge and her mother lived through the Nazi occupation in Greece.

Aside from her personal life, Domitrovich

has established herself within the local bar community — that's the legal bar, not Calamari's.

"When I have the honor of appearing before Judge Stephanie Domitrovich, I am always impressed by her exemplary courtroom behavior, and her sense of what is fair and just," said Anthony L. Logue, Esq., the current chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Criminal Law Section. In essence, "she is very fair and equal with all aspects of the law," said Logue.

Domitrovich is campaigning in eastern Pennsylvania this week.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK



"Chastity belt with matching chaffing harness."

Chad Ballard
MIS, 03



"Soft, cotton, green boxers below a six pack — no keg here, boys!"

Autumn Brown, Dana Vaccaro
Ursula Nix

COMBA, 03; COMBA, 03; Psychology, 03



"Do they make sexy undergarments for guys?"

Julie Lafferty
Political Science, 05



"Red, racy thong underneath a school-girl outfit."

Steve Beckjord
DUS, 01



"Garter belt with red fishnet stockings"

Ryan Saxe, Brian Hays
Business, 01; DUS, 01