

Matthew Eckl gets Ronald Reagan and Top Teke award

by Courtney Straub
staff writer

Matthew Eckl of Penn State Behrend was selected for a 2002 *Top Teke* Frater Award. Out of 9,400 collegiate Fraters in the United States and Canada, only eight men received the award, and he was one of them.

To be chosen for the *Top Teke* award the Fraters had to maintain a grade point average above 3.0,

demonstrate positive leadership in at least one other campus or community organization, and exemplify the core fraternal values— scholarship, character, leadership, teamwork, service and brotherhood—in their daily lives.

Eckl also won the Ronald Reagan scholarship, which is given by the Teke Education Foundation to one outstanding senior brother of a TKE Fraternity. The TKEs are a nationwide fraternity, so to be the one person chosen for the scholarship

is an amazing honor.

The award is named for Reagan, a brother of the TKE fraternity. Other famous brothers include legendary singers Elvis Presley and Willie Nelson.

The brothers in the fraternity are very proud of Eckl.

"Anybody that's ever met Matt knows how hard he works to get what he wants," said Brad Getkin, a TKE brother at Behrend.

Eckl has done many things for the fraternity. During his presidency, the fraternity increased from 13 to more than 40 brothers. Year after year, he worked hard to make it a prestigious chapter.

"He goes above and beyond his call of duty," said Ryan Sunseri, the current Teke president.

Eckl believes that being a part of the TKEs has enriched his life. He urges anyone who is not a brother or sister to pledge to Greek life.

"Everything I have done was to help make everyone else in my fraternity better," said Eckl, "because my fraternity has made me a better person."

Last year eight awards were given out to the different TKE chapters. The TKE chapter at Penn State Behrend won five of the awards, which included alumni relations, community service, membership recruitment, and academic standards.

"Our chapter is accomplishing so much and I'm very proud of it," said Sunseri.



PHOTO BY ROB WYNNE / BEHREND BEACON

Matthew Eckl, former president of Behrend's TKE chapter, is the recipient of the 2002 *Top Teke* Award and the Ronald Reagan scholarship.

Taiwan native Wang joins Behrend's Engineering faculty

by Erin Scott
staff writer

Wen-Li Wang is one of Behrend's newest faculty additions. An assistant professor in both Computer and Electrical Engineering, he also teaches Software Engineering.

Wang attended both high school and college in Taiwan, studying at ChengChi University and majoring in Management Information Systems (MIS). He joins the Penn State system with the dream of becoming a computer scientist and earning his doctorate degree.

"(I hope to) build up a good software engineering program here at Behrend," said Wang. "Therefore, students will have the options to choose from three strong programs—Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, and Software Engineering."

He has yet to visit University Park, but chose Penn State because he liked the idea of resource sharing.

A native of Kaohsiung, Taiwan, he grew up like most city boys. He flew kites, captured frogs, played Monopoly and ball games, and wheel skated. He lived with his father, mother, and younger brother.

"Since it is a small family, the family members are all very close; caring for each other. However, the discipline is very strict with few exceptions," said Wang.

His father has been retired now for a number of years, but his mother still works in a small, labor-intensive company to keep herself busy. Wang currently resides with his wife and 2-year-old son, Kevin.

Wang offered advice to his students.

"Don't wait till the last minute to ask questions," said Wang. "Problems are usually resolvable in the early stages. To survive, put your standard one level up and work on it. For example, if you are always getting a 'B' as your average grade...think about improving it, put yourself to a 'B+' standard, not an A. You will notice yourself improving and the workload becoming moderate. Surprisingly, you may really get a 'B+' average."

Dr. Wang concluded with these words: "I don't want to be famous, but I would like to do a good job at teaching and research in my own field."

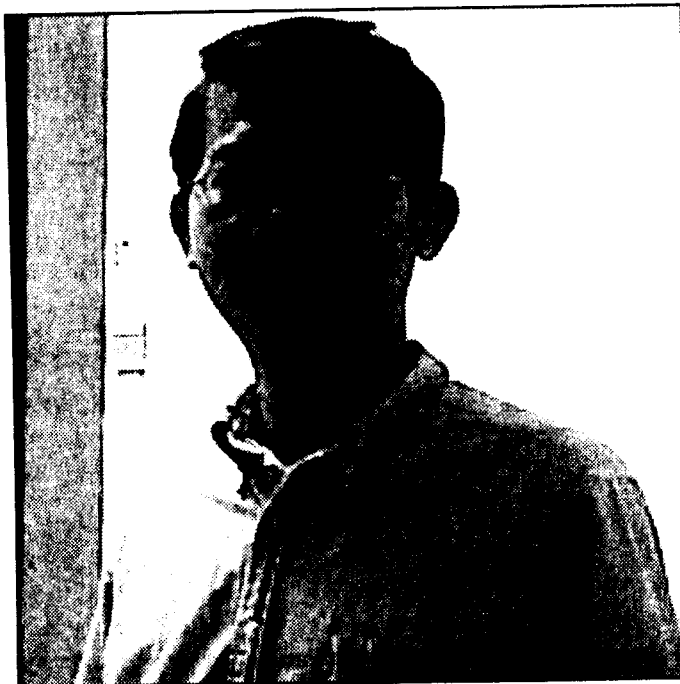


PHOTO BY ERIN McCARTY / BEHREND BEACON

Wen-Li Wang, assistant professor in Computer and Electrical Engineering, is new to Behrend this fall.

New laptops enhance library instruction

by Katie Hinman
staff writer

Recently, the John M. Lilley Library purchased 24 new laptops. The computers are primarily for library instruction classes; however, this past Monday they were put into circulation for the first time.

Before these computers were ordered, classes would go into a library classroom to learn about the various sources that can be used. The students would be instructed on parts of the library, such as the reference section, the card catalog and more. Then the class would usually be given an assignment and go out into the library in order to complete this task. Now the laptops are convenient enough for the classes

to use during this time.

"The students are now able to experience the tools and resources that the library has to offer on the computer that is right in front of them," said Anna Pilston, assistant librarian. "The laptops will provide for more of a hands-on experience and learning during these classes will be more effective. Also, the students will not have to leave the room to complete any assignment; they can do so in the classroom with their instructor."

The laptops are located in Room 107 of the library. They are available after 6 p.m. during the week and all day on the weekends. Any student can sign out a laptop but must not take it out of the library.

Laptops must be returned a half an hour before the library closes each night.

"Having these laptops will give the students more of an opportunity to use a computer," said Pat Gainer, library assistant in circulation. "Students come to the library because sometimes there aren't enough computers at the Computer Center. This way, we will have more computers available for students to use anywhere in the library."

The laptops will also be accessible during the day when there are fewer instructional classes being held in the library.



PHOTO BY ROB WYNNE / BEACON

MISC tech Ryan Anthony displays the new library laptop collection.

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Campus Ministries welcomes students to Smith Chapel

by Courtney Straub
staff writer

Many students walk right by the Smith Chapel and never realize what the campus ministries offer. This year, the chapel promises to be a busy place.

This year there will be many opportunities for students to get involved in the Protestant Campus Ministry (PCM) and the Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM). While the PCM and CCM are two separate ministries, they coordinate almost all of their activities together. Students of every faith are welcome to get involved in all of the ministry programs.

Every Monday at 5:30 p.m. Art Good, local minister from the United Methodist Church, holds a Bible study program.

On Tuesday nights from 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. a woman's group is held. The group will read "The Unexpected Teachings of Jesus," by John Coleman, a Behrend graduate and the pastor of Abiding Hope Lutheran Church. Participants will eat supper and discuss the book.

In October two retreats will be held. The first retreat, which will be held on Oct. 18 and 19, is an off-campus retreat that is open to any first-year students. The second retreat, a Busy Student Retreat, will be held from Oct. 27-31 on campus.

"This retreat is tailored to the needs of the students," said Lynn McNeil, the coordinator for the PCM.

Students who attend this retreat will pray by themselves a half hour each day using a Scripture passage. Then, at their convenience, they will meet with a director to talk about their prayer experience.

All of the retreats are led by local clergy and music, food, and entertainment is often provided by volunteers.

The PCM and CCM also offer many

opportunities for students to decide what the ministries do. They are always available to talk if anyone has ideas.

"We are consistent and committed to students," said Sister Mary Drexler, the CCM coordinator.

The Newman Association is the CCM student group. Students lead the group by organizing the services and planning social activities. In the past, the social activities included picnics, bowling, and caroling at Christmas time. Also, every year the CCM has a paid student intern. One job of the intern is to coordinate the readings and music for the Catholic worship services.

PCM has many peer ministers who work closely with McNeil.

"PCM is really all about the students. I want them to take ownership. I just help put it all together," McNeil said.

The PCM and CCM both offer weekly worship services. On Sundays at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. the PCM has interdenominational worship services. Every week clergy from the community come to lead the services. The clergy have been doing this for years. The PCM thinks it is a great opportunity for the students because they get a different experience each week.

Father Allison holds mass on Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. He works full time at Mercyhurst College, so he is only part-time at Behrend. Because he is part time, students can make appointments if they want to talk to him.

"He has made it known to students that he will help them in any way," said Sister Drexler.

McNeil and Sister Drexler said that they are very excited about this year. With all of the events being held, students have a chance to get involved in many ways.

"We both desire to help meet spiritual needs of student," said Sister Drexler.