



A guide to  
the 2003



Candidate  
Platforms



# Student Government Association Elections

Elections will take place April 8 & 9  
outside of Bruno's & online from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

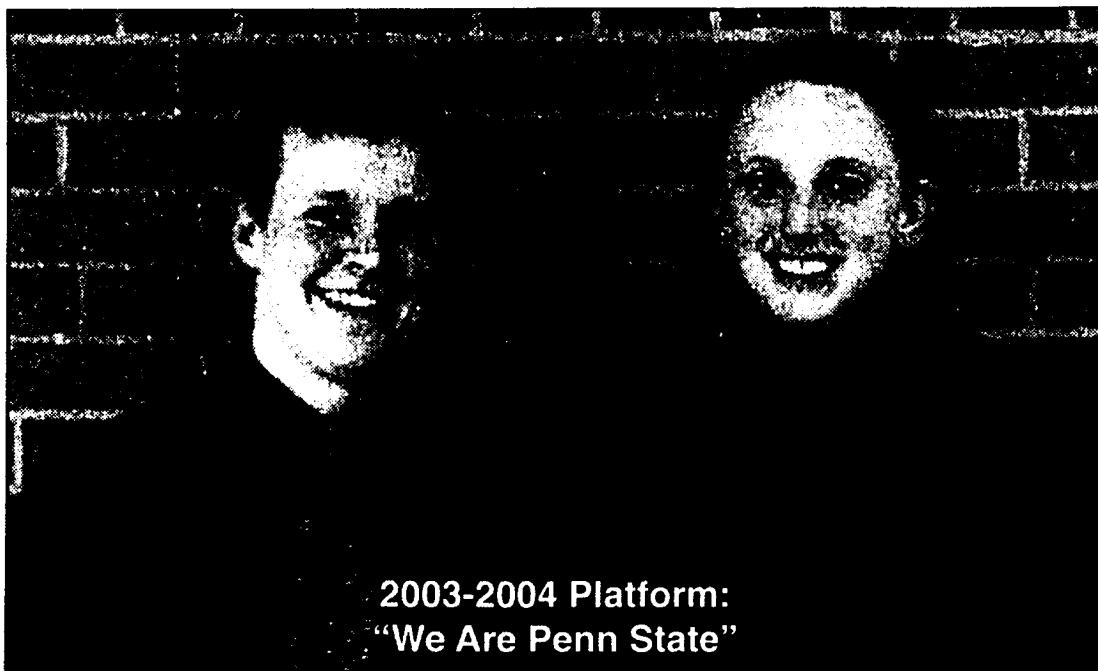
**Scott Soltis, Presidential Candidate; Jennifer Sutter, Vice-Presidential Candidate**

The Pennsylvania State University has its share of issues, and our campus is no exception. Behrend is intrinsically linked to University Park in the concerns that we face. Therefore, if something is going wrong at UP, it will hurt Behrend students and must be addressed. For this reason several of our goals will require hard work alongside the rest of the University.

The four major goals of our administration improve Behrend's present as well as its future. We want to fix past and present problems as well as continue to develop successful endeavors. As the students of Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, We Are Penn State, and we must strive to improve our university.

1. *Tuition* - Penn State Erie students are suffering increasing debts at the hands of state legislators. Tuition will not come down until politicians care about students. This process began this year with meetings with state legislators. Next year, we will reach out to more state and local legislators to give the student body more political allies when it comes to funding Penn State.

2. *Diversity* - There are many segments of this college that are greatly



2003-2004 Platform:  
"We Are Penn State"

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

underrepresented. However, things are slowly improving. The Diversity Committee in SGA had lofty ambitions that were the start of something big. However, a lack of Faculty Council meetings in the Spring stymied their progress. We will push the committee to

continue with their goals until Behrend is a more diverse place.

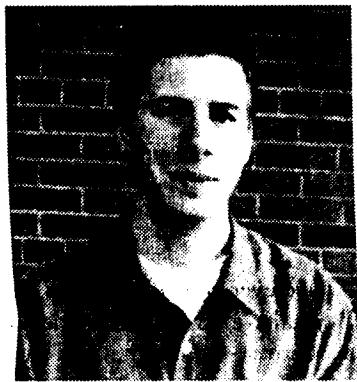
3. *THON* - The 48 hour dance maraTHON for kids with cancer is one of Penn State's shining jewels. Behrend's participation in this event has grown to the point where we nearly

contributed \$10,000 to the fund this year. Next year, we hope to become the largest commonwealth location contributor and break the mark set last year.

4. *Bridging the Gap between State College and Erie* - Too many times at Behrend, students are told that they cannot do something due to University Policy mandated by University Park. If a policy is unfair, it should not be adhered to, but questioned. With our presence in the University Faculty Senate and in the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments, this administration will fight to see changes made for the good of the students.

SGA will be undergoing many structural changes next year to adapt to the changing student body's needs. As partial architects of this new structure, we will ensure that it runs efficiently to help achieve the goals outlined here as well as any other issues that students raise to us. We also have every intention of enforcing the SGA Constitution to the letter to help provide order. We Are Penn State and we plan on making it a better place.

## Student Government Association Senatorial Candidates



Alexander Henderson  
Political Science; 02

As one of the few candidates with senate experience Alexander Henderson is an excellent choice for election to the senate. His experience as Chair of the Constitutional Review Committee, as a member of the Governmental Affairs Committee, and as a member of the Budget Committee makes him an invaluable member to the senate. Henderson supports all efforts to help reduce student tuition and he is highly involved with the future of the SGA as the primary author of several new council constitutions. To support the current goal of SGA and to help with a bright future, re-elect Alexander Henderson.



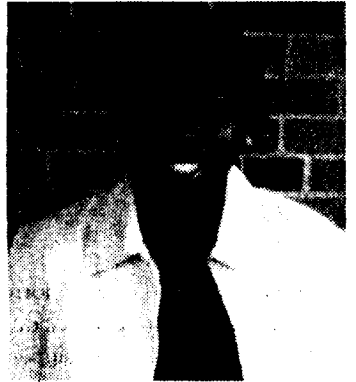
Erin Strayer  
Marketing; 06

Hi, how are you doing today? I'm well, thank you for asking. You see I am just like you; the only difference beside physical features is that I want to hold an SGA office. I want to know and do what you/us the student body would like to change about Behrend. Don't worry; whatever effects you affects me, that's why you should vote for ME for SGA Senate.



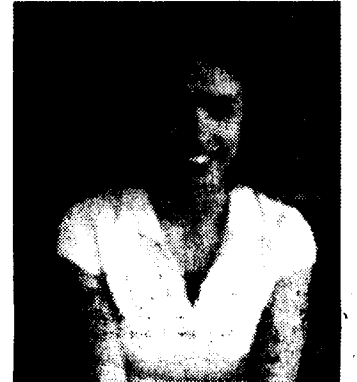
Paul Haupt  
Psychology; 06

1. Get a band to play at Penn State Behrend...other than Shaggy or Sugar Ray.
2. Cheaper parking passes.
3. Set up email for students not on SGA to voice their opinion.



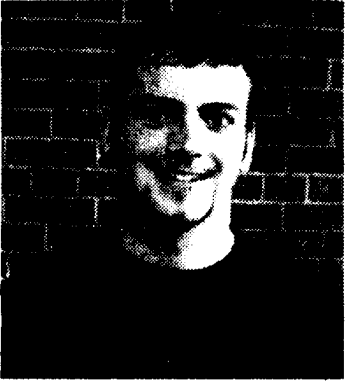
Gillian Young  
Computer Engineering; 02

I should be on SGA. I am here for the students. If there is a problem or anything that needs to be brought before SGA, I would do it because that is my duty/responsibility as a SGA senator. I will also fulfill my duties/responsibilities that include attending every SGA meeting. Not because it is imperative but because that is the time when the senators can bring what is going on and will be going on with our campus. Also, attend my clubs and organizations meetings, and report essential information. People should come out and vote for me because I already have experience as a SGA senator and I already know what is required of me. Yet I'm still open to anything new that is and will be brought to SGA.



Claudia Caracci  
Mechanical Engineering; 02

As a Senator in SGA, I will uphold the responsibilities designated by the principles of the organization with the most important being a representative of the student body. A representative should be someone actively involved in any number of activities and organizations. This person should also be familiar with the many different aspects of student life so that he or she can help to improve it. I am that qualified, go-getter type who is always willing to do more for Penn State Behrend and the betterment of students' careers and as a Senator, I will be able to do all that and more!



Nathan Snyder  
Business Management; 06

Re-elect me for SGA senator so I can continue to be the voice of the student body. I am currently on the Elections and Governmental Affairs committees. Presently I'm working towards stopping high tuition increases that Penn State has experienced this past year as well as a possible increase this year. I will be attending the Rally at the Rotunda in Harrisburg to fight the tuition increases. If re-elected senator I will bring up any questions or concerns that you, the student body, has about this campus. I will be the one to help you make a difference at Penn State.



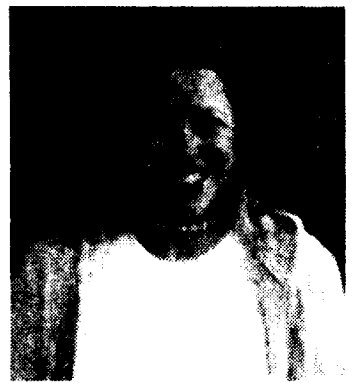
Kristin Zupancic  
Plastics Engineering; 04

Hello! My name is Kristin Zupancic and I am great candidate for senator in SGA. If I were to be elected to SGA, I would work hard to make life at Behrend better for the student body and the Penn State community as a whole. I would especially like to focus my efforts on the THON program. I would like to bring more philanthropic enthusiasm to Behrend. During my membership in the Behrend Greek system, I have held the position of secretary and worked on various planning committees. Vote Kristin Zupancic for SGA senator!



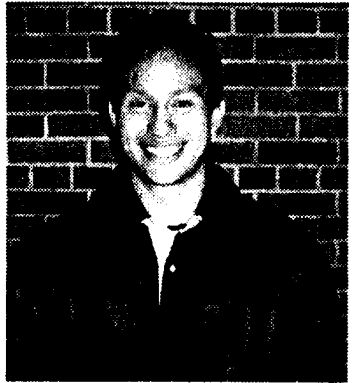
Matthew Withum  
MIS; 04

Seven dollars here, eleven dollars there, and twenty if you are real bad. Parking tickets are out of hand. Either you park a mile away in freezing temperatures or face a small fortune in parking fines. Meanwhile we walk past six "15 minute loading zone" spaces that are open among other spaces. Who loads their car at 2 a.m. on a Thursday night? This has been a big inconvenience to on campus residents, especially students in the traditional dorm buildings. The only way I felt I could have a say on these problems is to run for an SGA position and I will try to face these parking issues, among others.



Nichole Lemke  
Marketing; 04

I have taken an active role in the Greek System as Philanthropic chair, and would like to get more involved in our school. My main focus within the Student Government Association is THON. I would like to have more awareness and participation on this campus for Penn State's nationwide charity. I would also like to see some improvements being made to the academic advising program so that all students are aware of their choices. I would be an excellent senator for SGA.



Jair Carrasquero  
Mechanical Engineering; 06

As Senator I plan to enhance the diversity of the school by supporting events that promote cultural awareness. I believe that high-quality programs are an advantage for the student community because they provide students with a good educational experience. Being the secretary of the Organization of Latin American Students and the treasurer of the International Student Organization exhibits good time management and leadership skills. As a Resident Assistant I have proven to have good relationships with students and acknowledge their needs.



Sara Grant  
International Business; 04

Hi. I'm Sara Grant and these are a few things that I believe in and if elected senator would look into for the student body. I think Behrend has a serious parking problem that is only going to get worse in time, with the addition of more students. This issue needs to be resolved. I would like to make this campus cleaner, and utilize more of its resources. Behrend should be more involved with the Erie community by taking active role in more activities. I support diversity on campus, and will encourage more programs supporting it, as well. I want to look into providing more food choices on campus and tuition cost. If elected, I want to voice any other concerns the student body might have.



John Zwigart  
Accounting; 02

"Behrend Sucks!" I'm sure everyone's heard that before, and I'm sick of it. I was always taught if you don't like something, don't bitch about it, do something about it, that's why I'm running for senator. I'm sick of driving past campus on Friday afternoon, and seeing everyone's parents taking them home for the weekend. I'm sick and tired of going to the school where most people can't wait to leave. It doesn't take much to change things around here; people just have to get involved. I know this is short, but I only have 100 words, vote for me, lata.



CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY  
Jessica Burnett - English/Education; 04

The SGA is highly involved in activities concerning the student body. Frankly that is the reason I would like to become a member of SGA. I feel that I can bring some new ideas and contributions to the organization. As a student of English, I have plenty of experience in note taking hence the reason I am running for Secretary. As Secretary, I can contribute to the group by keeping the minutes and as a committee member, involved in improving Behrend for the students, I hope you all exercise your right to vote. Thank you for your time.

No platform or picture:

Jolene Daniels  
Eugene Ho  
Stacy Hrazior  
Jason Frazton  
Nana Osei-Bonsu

SGA Election  
page design by  
Rob Wynne.

The Behrend Beacon  
April 4, 2003