

Student Clubs & Organizations Directory

Students, National Society for Black Engineers, Returning Adult Student Organization, Trigon and Women Today. The council has been instrumental in planning Kwanzaa, an annual event, which is open to all students, faculty and staff.

National Society of Black Engineers- Provides a supportive environment for African-American students through programs and fellowship. NSBE also offers programs such as films and dances for the entire Penn State Erie Community.

Organization of African Students- Introduces and promotes the diverse African culture.

Organization of Latin American Students- A support group for Latin American students. The group helps coordinate the annual Friday Fiesta dance at Bruno's each year.

Trigon- Serves gays, lesbian and bisexual students, staff, faculty and their allies. This organization strives to make homosexuality and bisexuality more acceptable, and it is both a support and social group.

Women Today- A support group dedicated to the education, growth, and awareness of students, faculty and staff concerning the issues of women. Members cosponsor the Women's Film Series, encourage voter registration, and attend marches in Harrisburg, Washington, D.C. and at other locations.

RECREATION

Ballroom Dancers, Light on Your Feet- The Ballroom Dancers promote participation in ballroom dancing within the University and surrounding community as well as provide opportunity for instruction.

Chess Club- Provides opportunity for members to advance in the game of chess through club play and tournaments.

Fantasy Gamers- Students practicing role-playing games and fantasy or collectible card games.

Hockey Club- Members of the WPCA Hockey League, the Behrend Hockey club competes against other college Hockey clubs.

Lacrosse Club- Offers Behrend students the opportunity to play recreational lacrosse. Officially recognized by the National Collegiate Lacrosse League.

Martial Arts Club- Promotes skill development in the art of self-defense. The club has weekly workouts on campus and has an advisor that is a martial arts instructor.

Outdoors Club- The purpose of this club is to organize outings and various recreational activities such as snowskiing, rock climbing, camping, hiking, canoeing, biking and any other outdoors interests.

Sailing Club- The purpose is to organize events for members and student body to participate in, coordinate the use of the sailboat donated to PSB by the Bayfront Center for Maritime Studies and other sailing equipment open to all students and to educate members in the sport of sailing.

Volleyball Club- Offers the students the opportunity to participate in an intercollegiate sport.

Yoga and Meditation Club- Seeks to educate, instruct and guide the students, faculty, and staff at Penn State Behrend in the practice of yoga and meditation.

SERVICE AND HONORS

Alpha Phi Omega- A co-ed national service fraternity based on scouting principles. APO is open to all students. The group has sponsored such programs as "Giant Twister" during Orientation and its pie throw in which whipped cream "pies" are tossed at brave Penn State Behrend students, staff and faculty members. APO's annual Hawaiian Dance raises money for the American Cancer Society.

Alpha Sigma Lambda- A national honor society recognizing academic excellence among returning adult students.

Amnesty International- An independent world-wide movement working impartially for the release of all prisoners of conscience, fair and prompt trials for political prisoners and abolition of torture and executions.

Beta Beta Beta- Honor Society for biology students.

Lambda Sigma Society- A national honor society for sophomores who are elected on the basis of outstanding academic and leadership accomplishments. Among other activities, the members of Lambda Sigma sponsor a Care Package program each semester for students.

Campus Crusade for Christ- Is an interdenominational student organization, offering a safe and open environment for fellowship, encouragement, ministry training and outreach.

Commuter Council- The primary advocate for off-campus students to the college and the Student Government Association. The council serves commuting students by conveying their concerns and needs to appropriate offices. Members also volunteer to serve the Erie community through various projects.

College Republicans- Dedicated to furthering Republican principles and providing a voice for Republican students, faculty and staff.

Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship- Helps students grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ through fellowship, evangelism, discipleship and missions. The members of IVCF have sponsored a Burger Bash during Orientation Week, a Bruno's Cocoa House featuring Christian bands and an Environmental Sabbath celebration to commemorate Earth Day.



FILE PHOTO

Joint Residence Council- Relates the views of students living in residence halls and apartments to the college administration and sponsors a variety of programs and events. Recent programs have included door-and-window decorating contests for the holidays, a drive-in movie on the Reed lawn during Orientation Week and a tie-dye party.

Knights of Columbus Council- A Catholic-based fraternity founded to enrich its members, to elevate student values and standards and to motivate members to become productive in society by aiding them in promoting religious, academic and social activities.

Linux Users Group- Provides a forum for the discussion of Linux-related issues. Also offers technical assistance to participants by participants, education about and advocacy for Linux-related operating systems and open-source software.

Lion Ambassadors- Promote Penn State Erie spirit among students, alumni and friends of the University. Through spirit-raising programs, the members share their pride, enthusiasm and commitment to promote the college and University.



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Lion Entertainment Board- Plans and implements events that serve the cultural, educational, recreational and social interests of the Penn State Behrend community. The board serves as the primary student programming agency on campus. The board coordinates all weekend events at Bruno's, weekly films, and a cultural series.

Midnight Bingo Board- MBB provides an opportunity for students to build leadership skills while providing serve to the campus in the form of student life events. The primary event is Midnight Bingo, but it also hosts the Behrend Game Show Series and charity fund-raising events.

Newman Association- A Catholic-based organization that seeks to bring students closer together and to God through learning, prayer fellowship, and service. Recent events include a Shamrock Shake sale, the building of a playground, clothing drive and various social activities. The organization also sponsors the weekly Mass on campus and a fall and spring retreat.

Ophelia Advisory Council- A service organization that works with teenagers and young adults through mentoring programs and other campus and community activities.

Returning Adult Student Organization- Promotes the concerns of returning adult students and provides friendship and support for adult students and their families. This organization is devoted to providing fellowship for students who bring adult life experiences to their college role.

Signing Club- The Signing Club works toward educating the Behrend community on how to better communicate and socialize with both deaf and hard of hearing community members, learning basic sign language in order to facilitate that communication and socialization and learning about the culture of the deaf and hard of hearing. Open to all students.

Student Fire Safety Commission- Promotes fire safety awareness in university residence hall students. The commission is also a resource for fire-safety programming.

Young Democrats of America- Dedicated to providing an open platform for democrats to debate their issues as well as educate people under other political affiliations.

SGA President Scott Soltis' speech at 2003-04 Academic Convocation

Hi, everybody, and welcome to Penn State Erie, The Behrend College. My name is Scott Soltis, and I am this year's Student Government Association President. I just wanted to mention that the SGA office is in the Reed building, and there's usually someone there to help you with anything

I'm here today to speak to you about the importance of getting involved here on campus. Whether you are aware of it or not, you are involved in all of the clubs and activities here on campus in one way or another. You can do one of three things with this involvement.

First, you can do nothing and think you are not involved. The fact of the matter is with your tuition and fees that you pay this college you are supporting the clubs and activities on campus. You can do nothing and just let everyone else benefit from your money.

Second, you could be involved by going to events and programs. It's your money that you spent by coming here, so take advantage of what it pays for. There are programs that everyone can enjoy.

We have everything from educational and cultural events to intramural athletics to recent movies to bingo. I guarantee that there is at least one thing happening on campus this semester that interests you. Go check it out. After all you did pay for it.

Finally, you can go one step further and volunteer your time to help the clubs and groups that put on the events. Clubs are always looking for new members, even if you have a limited amount of time to devote.

There are over 80 clubs on campus to choose from, so odds are that there is one that appeals to an interest of yours. If no one joins clubs and no one has ideas for events then eventually there will be nothing to do on campus, but you would still have to pay for it.

I urge you to take the second or third option. I got involved as a freshman by attending Midnight Bingo here on campus a few times then asking if they needed any help.

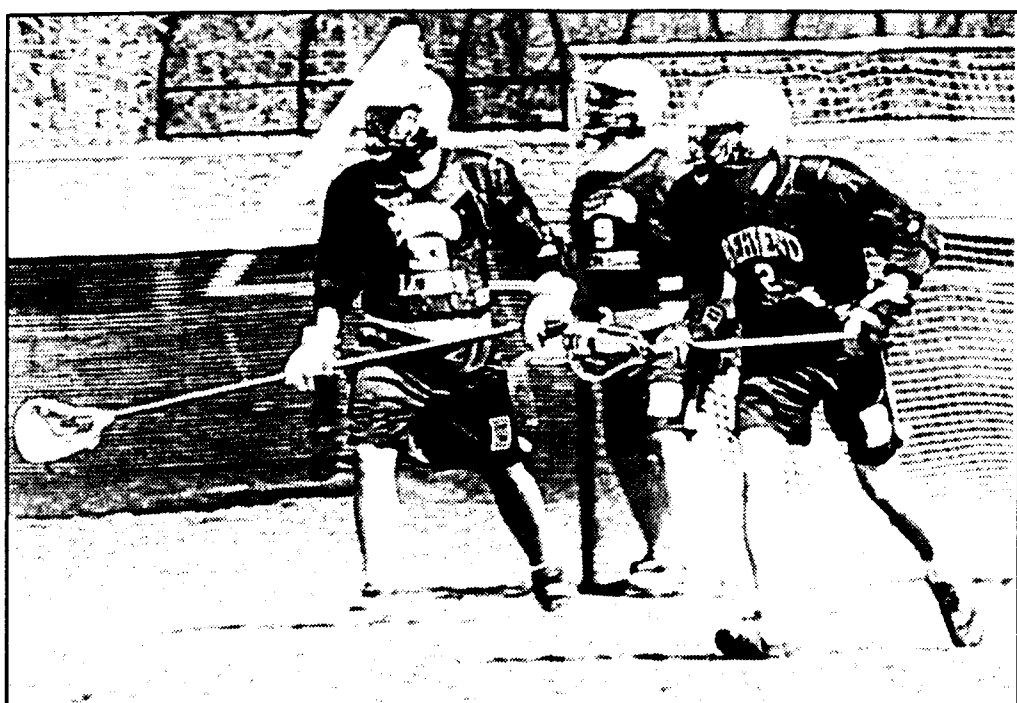
After that I heard that there was an opening in the Student Government Association, so I figured I would give that a shot, not knowing what it really was. From there I stayed involved in the SGA as a way to help all of the clubs and students here on campus. Through SGA over the past two years, I've attended many events, and it has only helped my college experience.

Go to programs that sound right up your alley, and also go to events that you never thought you would go to, you don't really know whether or not you'll enjoy something until you try it. Whatever you do, just go.

If there is nothing that appeals to you then form a club or write a proposal for an event. There are many people here, including me, to help you do those things.

By coming here you have become part of that great slogan, We are Penn State. Whether you become involved or not helps decide whether you just attend Penn State or if you really are Penn State.

Thank you, and good luck this year.



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