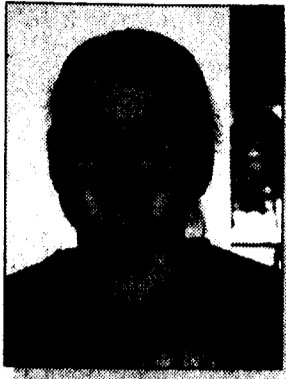


# NEWS

## Should the SGA E-Board receive a tuition break?



"No. What makes them special?"  
Amanda Charney,  
COMBA 06



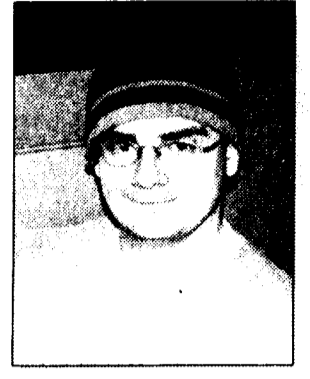
"No. What have they done around here to deserve it?"  
LaCresha Huckabee,  
BCSCN 02



"Yes, because they are humans and deserve it."  
Goran Jovanovic,  
MRKTG 04



"No, because I don't think it's fair."  
Michelle Bencho,  
ACNTG 08



"No, because public officers don't get tax breaks, why should they?"  
Rob McGahen,  
MANGT 05

Suggestions for Question of the Week? E-mail ideas to Behrend Beacon3@aol.com

## SGA officers receive hefty stipends

By Naomi Herr  
staff writer

The SGA is the representation for students, faculty and staff. It serves as an advisory and consultative group to the student body at Penn State University. Members such as the president, vice president and treasurer, all receiving tuition breaks. Each has specific duties that must be carried out as well as maintaining a grade point average of 2.5.

The President of the SGA, Scott Soltis, sits on the chair of the Activity Fee Board and not only represents the students, faculty and staff here at Behrend, but at University Park as well. He calls and presides

over meetings of the SGA and represents the student body at ceremonies.

Soltis is a full time student and not only has a full workload of courses, but has to be a member of the Faculty Council and is in charge of helping to write the budget for the SGA. He is in charge of planning and coordinating activities which can take a lot of time and effort to get finished.

Justin Curry, vice president of SGA, is also a full time student. He is in charge of assigning committee directors and assisting the president in planning activities. Curry sits on the Faculty Council and is to perform any duties that the president may not be able to do.

Soltis and Curry are the only two within SGA that have a vote in Faculty Council. The vice president is the Chairperson for the Traffic Appeals Board and the Budget Committee along with many other duties.

The treasurer deals with the financial duties of all of the clubs here at Behrend. Some of those financial issues being statements, withdrawals and deposits and balancing of funds within their accounts. The treasurer is also in charge of writing out a budget plan for the SGA.

Curry said that they are the only three in SGA that receive stipends and "the amount varies from year to year and is determined by Student Affairs."

There are three different rates for each position. Ken Miller, director of Student Affairs, explained that SGA could not afford to provide a full ride for all of them, but they do provide half of the tuition for the president, a quarter for the vice president and a third for the treasurer.

The idea for stipends came back into play a few years ago.

Miller said, "Several years ago SGA voted to reinstate stipends for three of the four executive board positions. They had been eliminated due to budget restrictions."

Miller stated that before the Student Activity Fee, there was little money for student events and after the Student Activity

Fee was brought into play, the stipends were reinstated. The purpose for reinstating the tuition breaks had to do with the amount of time the committees put into college-wide meetings.

"It's a significant time commitment that generally prevented people in those positions from working. In fact, students were not running for those positions because they needed to work and didn't feel they could do both well," said Miller.

Other universities such as Gannon and Edinboro do offer full tuition breaks for their presidents. The only other person here at Behrend that receives this type of stipend is the director of LEB, but it is not linked to tuition like the SGA's.

### SGA Tuition Breaks

#### President:

1/2 off tuition  
In State: \$5,013  
Out of State: \$7,955

#### Vice President:

1/4 off tuition  
In State: \$7,520  
Out of State: \$11,933

#### Treasurer:

1/3 off tuition  
In State: \$6,684  
Out of State: \$10,607

A school year estimate based on 2004-2005 Freshman Tuition Costs

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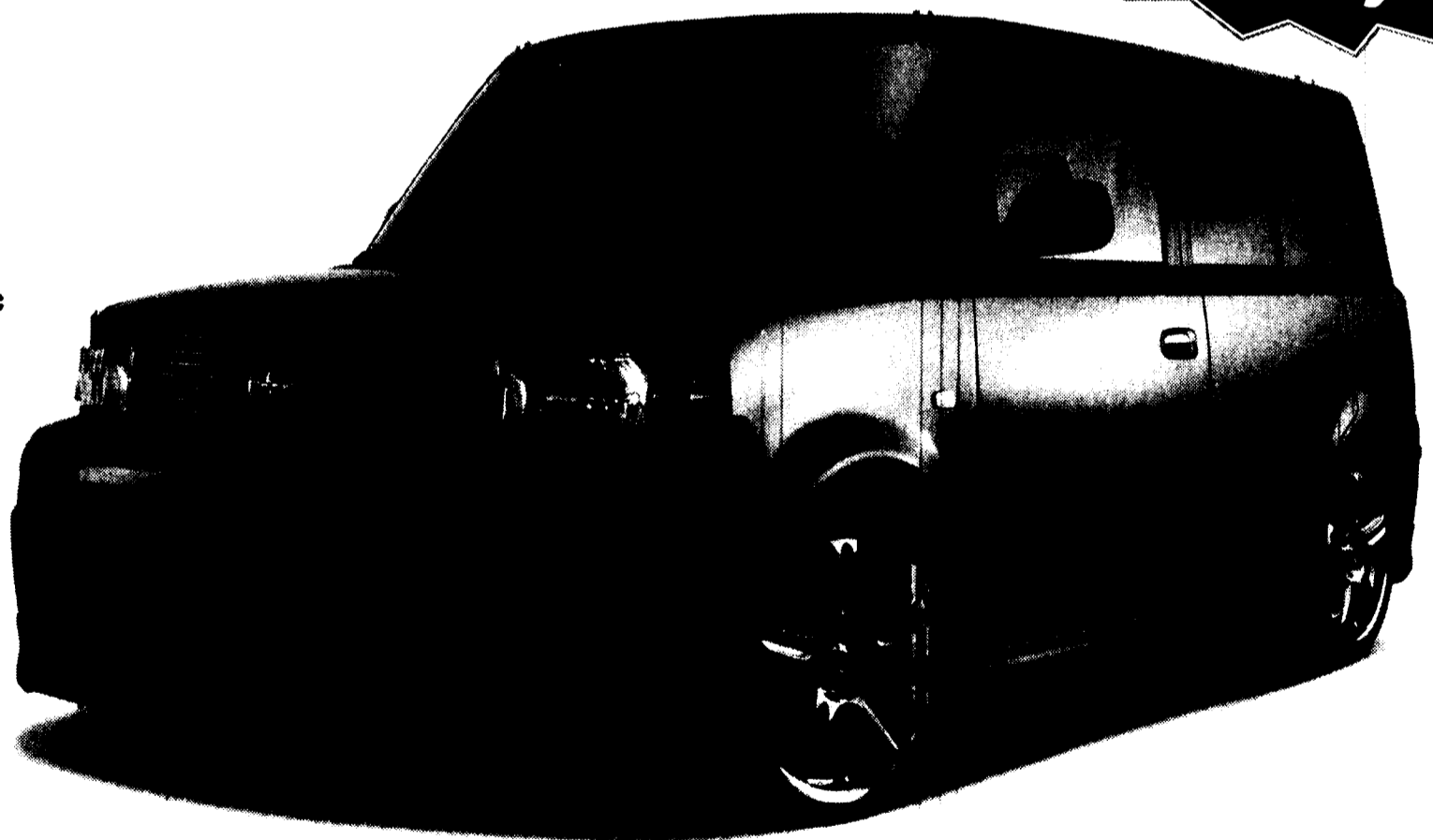
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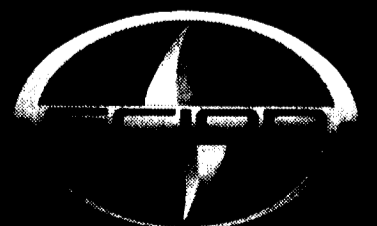
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