

Vote Online March 30 & 31
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Listening to Student Concerns.

The HENDERSON/SONI 2005-2006 Platform

Whenever prospective students take tours of Penn State Behrend, they are always told that Behrend is student centered and that if they were to attend college at Behrend, people in positions of authority would listen to them. If we are elected to the presidency next year, the students of Behrend will notice a dramatic increase in the amount of listening done by SGA. Through listening to the students we have developed this platform, and it is our intent to listen to the students throughout the entirety of our presidency next year so that we may respond promptly to student requests.

The first place where we hear the students is on the issue of tuition and costs. If elected, we will take action to keep tuition down. We will continue to meet with local legislators and lobby in Harrisburg. We have been doing this for the past two years and we will push even harder next year. While alone, a student can do very little about tuition. As a campus, we have a much greater influence. On the issue of additional costs, we will implement a system in which book titles and ISBN numbers will be listed online; forcing the Bookstore to become competitive with other booksellers.

The second place where we hear the students is in the need for commercial development around the campus. If elected, we will work with local authorities in an effort to bring commercial development to areas within walking distance of Behrend. In the meantime, we will work with local businesses in an effort to obtain discounts to students who show their Penn State ID cards.

The third place where we hear the students is on the issue of intolerance. If elected, we promise to reinstate the Diversity Committee of SGA. In today's world where intolerance is high, it is only right that SGA have a committee to help foster better relationships and understanding between people who have different thoughts and beliefs.

In addition to listening to the students, we also want to enable them to voice their ever-changing ideas and opinions to SGA. We aim to make this easier by:

- 1) Strengthening the Council System. As the only ticket with an architect of the Council System, we will be able to implement the Council system in the way that it was originally designed. This means allowing the Councils to determine where their money is spent; not SGA.
- 2) Strengthening both the Joint Residence Council and Commuter Council by giving both councils a seat on senate. With the return of these councils to Senate, we will be better able to hear the requests of every student on campus.

From listening to the students, we have developed this platform and it is through listening to the students that we will preside over SGA next year. At a college of our size, students expect those in positions of authority to listen and it is our promise to honor that expectation.

Alex **HENDERSON** Deepti **SONI**
SGA President / Vice-President
Experience Counts.

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