

NEWS

Campaigns held for six open SGA senator positions

By Maureen Koffler
staff writer

On Wednesday, September 21, at 5:20 p.m. the annual Student Government Association (SGA) Meeting was held. There were around thirty students in conference room 114 in the Reed Union Building for the meeting. All of the members of SGA were seated around the tables, while five students sat in the back. Those five students were students that wanted to be elected into the group.

Several important items were discussed during the meeting. Roll was taken first and then everyone got down to business. News was discussed, both old and new. There was a meeting held on April 27 that the minutes had been lost. Everyone in the room voted unanimously that there was indeed a meeting then.

There was a representative from Bruno's Café at the meeting who answered everyone's questions. The questions varied from, "What sort of cheese do you use on your pizzas that make them so

greasy?" to "Can you extend the hours of Dobbin's from 4:30-7:30 so the athletes have time to eat as well?" The representative tried to answer as many questions as possible. He said he would talk to the Bruno's staff as well as the Dobbin's staff to institute some changes in the coming months.

There are many different committees within the SGA, so each elected member of each group would go around and tell the other members if there was a particular event happening in the coming week. The rest of the meeting was about the upcoming elections for the SGA. There are six available positions to be filled. Students can run for either freshmen senators or upperclassmen senators. There are only four positions for the freshmen senators and two positions for the upperclassmen senators. There were petitions sent out on September 8 to write down names of people interested in these fields. On September 21 those petitions were due back to the RUB desk. On September 22 the candidates were contacted and were asked to pick up campaign packets. The actual

campaign will begin on September 22 as well. The elections will be held on September 28 and 29.

There were six final names announced for the upperclassmen seats for senators. Those students names are as follows: Cody Earhart, Stephanie Ivanca, Lauren Wagner, Danielle Brown, Jason Della Sala and Christopher Baran. There were five final names announced for the freshmen senator seats and they are also as follows: Malorie Parry, Amanda Tyler, Mike Bergstrom, Heather Simendinge and Julie Elkins. Most of the upperclassmen students running for senator are beyond their third semester, meaning they will have ideas as how to make SGA run smoother and more efficiently. The freshmen running for senator will be new and inexperienced at this job, but hopefully they will get the hang of things very quickly.



David Greco/THE BEHREND BEACON

The Greener Behrend Task Force works to beautify the campus with trees, fences and landscaping.

Greener Behrend strives for preservation *Environmental efforts continue through construction*

By Justin DeSantis
staff writer

If things look a little greener, don't thank the Greener Behrend Task Force. If there are people trying to conserve the beauty of Penn State Behrend, well, go ahead and say thanks.

That's the task taken by the Greener Behrend Task Force. Task force seems appropriate, as Dr. Thomas Wortman explains. "I don't like bureaucracies," laughs Wortman. "I like [agencies] to work simply." The simplest way to work is obviously the way that Wortman operates. He and his eight member crew of faculty and students work towards the preservation of the "gift of Mary Behrend," as Wortman says.

But there is something important to note: Wortman and his task force aren't primarily concerned with preservation. They are much more concerned with conserving the resources Penn State Eric has already.

"Preservation for the sake of preservation isn't good. Conservation is," said Wortman, in a phone interview. "Great portions of land that are set-up as ecological reserves...do nothing," he explains. Most of the ecological preserve lands are hard to be viewed by people, as that can disrupt the balance of that and. Wortman appreciates that here exists a tenuous balance

between preserving land that exists and moving forward with new construction.

Sometimes, that balance is hard to uphold. Hence, Wortman and his team try to stay "moderate" and do as much as they can without hindering the natural growth of the campus. That expansion, and the tranquil splendor of the Behrend campus, is that middle-ground that the GBTF is shooting for.

Take, as an example, the new Red-C building that is being built. A large portion of land is being used to combine two schools together for the first time. These areas of natural beauty are being utilized for the benefit of all Behrend students.

"Could we function without it? Yes," explains Wortman. "But could we be the best we could be without it? No."

That high wire act, trying to appease everyone, is just one of the many things that the GBTF is involved with. A good example of taking what we have was the GBTF's decision to stop cutting the grass behind the Behrend science building.

The order was clear: stop cutting the grass in certain areas. The idea wasn't an act of laziness; it was to cultivate the ecological system in those hills.

Soon, there were wildflowers, snakes and field mice. A bevy of the nature that Behrend students coexist with

day in and day out, and may never see. Not only did the "no cut" rule increase the flora and fauna, but it also cut out pollution caused by the noise and oily smoke created by the maintenance crew.

And, as Wortman adds, "It looks pretty cool."

Not only concerned with conserving the land, GBTF has also come up with an idea to conserve the energy of its most valuable resources: the students. Soon Bruno's will provide information on healthy eating and living. There is also the Arboretum, a task that combines the different species of trees seen all through the campus.

That idea, to keep what is without hindering what will be, is the matter Greener Behrend Task Force takes so seriously. University Park suggested that Behrend attempt to maintain sustainability; Wortman and the whole of GBTF wanted more.

"Call it a 'major push,'" quips Wortman. That major push should continue well into the future.

If anyone is interested in finding out more information, or would like to join the Greener Behrend Task Force, they can contact Wortman at twortman@psu.edu or check out the website for the goals of GBTF at www.greencampus.psu.edu.



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Behrend Briefs

William C. Lasher, Ph.D., associate professor of mechanical engineering at Penn State, The Behrend College, has been elected a Fellow of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

Peg Thoms has written a new book, *A Guide to Recruiting, Selecting and Retaining Effective Leaders* (Praeger 2005) tells audience how to hire the right leaders.

Police and Safety

9/15/2005
Possible party in gorge. See incident.

9/18/2005
Student reported that the cover to the intercom in the elevator is missing stairtower. It appears that their might have been a cover on the intercom if their was it been missing awhile.

9/18/2005
While at the stairtower observed the fire gate at the end of Aquarius Dr is damaged the right gate was broken caution tape was put across so the vehicles would not enter the area LASPE sent to M&O

