



# THE BEHREND BEACON

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## Junker Center ID policy re-enforced No "Drunk Bus" for us

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The policy in place at the Junker Center, where students need to show their PSU ID to get in and use the facilities, has been the cause of a lot of controversy around campus. An E-mail was recently sent to students detailing the re-enforcement of this policy beginning at the start of the Spring 2008 semester. This policy is not new—in fact, it has been in place since the building opened. Students who work in the center have been lax in enforcing the policy, so the staff at the Junker Center is making sure that this changes.

"Safety is our first and largest concern," said Behrend athletic director Brian Streeter. "If a student has their ID and something happens to them, it may be quicker and easier to help them by having access to their student medical records." Safety makes up an enormous part of the reason behind the policy, but another key reason is theft, he says.

"Theft prevention is our second concern. Knowing who was in the weight room and when they were in there plays a huge part in helping to prevent theft, or get to the bottom of a theft," Streeter said.

The last major reason for the policy is to keep control of the facilities—making sure that only members of the Penn State Behrend community can access these facilities. "Student, faculty, staff, alumni, and Knowledge Park employees make up the Behrend community," Streeter said. "We want to make sure that the facilities are taken care of so that they can enjoy their uses."

Students are assigned to sit in the front of the Junker Center and in the weight room to check the IDs of

those who come to use the buildings' facilities. Staci Roland is one of those students.

"I look to see if it's a valid ID, making sure that the picture on it matches the person showing it to me, and to see if it's vertical," Roland said. Students are permitted one guest at a time with them in the center, and must have an ID to bring in a guest. Students who have forgotten their ID can sign into a book at the front counter, but if they do so more than three times a month, they may not be able to access the facilities for an unspecified amount of time.

This policy is not a punishment, but a way to enforce safety and take care of the facilities. Students, faculty, alumni, staff, and Knowledge Park employees are all granted access, and those who work at the Junker Center want to make sure the facilities are always in good condition. The lax policy enforcement was discovered by simple recognition. Those who were in there who were not from the Behrend community did not even know about the ID policy.

Adam Dye, a student who works in the weight room, says he likes the ID policy. "It's needed to keep the balance of people steady in the weight room, to make sure they're Behrend people." Although it was not always enforced, it does not need any major fixing. "The system is good as it is," says Dye. "It works well when it's enforced."

Streeter stresses that this policy is in effect for the safety of those who use the center. "The main use of it is in the weight room—to keep track of who comes and goes and when they're doing so," he said. "In the end Junker will probably end up only having a student checking IDs in the weight room itself, since that is the main focus of the policy."

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Penn State Behrend is known for its icy roads and terrible weather conditions which make it difficult for students to get to their classes on time. On Wednesday, Jan. 30, it was recorded that black ice was present over many roadways due to a high of 15 degrees, and a wind chill of -3 degrees, an obstacle for students walking, driving, or biking to classes.

One commuter, Danielle Price, a 4th semester student and a current resident of University Gate Apartments stated, "It is hard to motivate myself to get up in the morning for an 8 a.m. class when it's this cold here."

The big question students have for Penn State Behrend is why is there no available student transportation system that can get them safely to class and home again? When this question was given to faculty members of campus housing, manager Mike Lindner said, "College kids are what they are and it's likely that this student

bus would evidently turn into a misuse and promotion of underage drinking."

At University Park, students take advantage of the White Loop, or better known as the "Drunk Bus" on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Amanda Jones felt that, "it is important for Behrend to suck it up and realize that people drink and drive because we don't have a drunken bus."

The lack of a "Drunk Bus" may be the problem. Faculty members of Behrend, specifically Police and Safety, feel that any student bus transportation would be promoting and encouraging drinking, especially underage. Kayln Nelson agreed that as a commuter she finds it hard to wake up and leave on time. "It would definitely motivate me to wake up, realize I had to be ready by a certain time, or that bus is leaving without me."

Obviously students will have the desire to take advantage of the transportation for partying

purposes. Mr. David J. Jortner stated in his Theatre class in the fall of 2007 that "drinking is a part of college. I do not approve, but what you students do on your own time, is none of my business." Police and Safety reported in the "PSU Drinking Facts" that 81.5 percent of students when partying consume zero to two drinks an hour. Only a mere 16 percent of undergraduate students claim to be clean. Tyler Eberle, an 18-year-old undergraduate student at Behrend said, "It's sad to think that the general public assumes the worst of college students."

Although Behrend does not provide its students with a "Drunk Bus" they have made accommodations for the Eric Metropolitan Transit Authority to stop every hour which students can use. Lisa Hinkston, an 8th semester senior, said she approves of the public transit available but in the four years she has been attending Behrend, "it just seems logical to help the students get here safely."



Keegan McGregor/THE BEHREND BEACON

Sabina Abbasova (left) checks Seth Hummel's (right) ID card before allowing him to enter the Junker Center, as part of an effort by the Junker Center to deny non-Behrend personnell access to the facility.

## Behrend school of engineering named a Haas Technical Education Center

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Penn State Behrend engineering students now have access to five state-of-the-art Haas computer numerical control (CNC) machine tools, thanks to the School of Engineering being named a Haas Technical Education Center. The accreditation comes from Haas Automation Inc., one of the largest CNC machine tool builders on the planet, based in Oxnard, Calif.

The School of Engineering being designated a Haas Technical Education Center not only supplies engineering students with five state-of-the-art machines, but gives Behrend students eligibility to apply for scholarships, internships and career placement programs from Haas. "Haas selected the School of Engineering based upon its nationally accredited programs, the number and quality of its students,

and its progressive manufacturing laboratory facilities," said Ken Fisher, professor of engineering and associate director of the school of engineering. "As a result of the agreement, the School of Engineering has five state-of-the-art Haas CNC machine tools available for teaching and applied research, and the machines will be replaced regularly so that students and faculty are always working with the most current technology."

Haas Automation, Inc. was founded in 1983 by Gene Haas to manufacture machine tools. The company designed the first fully automatic programmable collet indexer, a machine which positions parts for machining with high accuracy. Since then, Haas has expanded its product line to include rotary tables, CNC vertical and horizontal machining centers, CNC lathes, rotary indexers, and machine tool accessories. In order to maintain cost competitiveness with foreign machine suppliers, Haas employs the use of "lights-out" flexible man-

ufacturing systems, and robotic loaders which streamline production.

The company is housed in a 1,000,000 square foot facility in Oxnard California, the largest and most modern machine tool manufacturing facility in the United States. Haas Automation is the second largest machine tool builder in the world, second only to the Shenyang Machine Tool Group, located in China. Haas ships more CNC machines than any other machine tool manufacturer in the world, and has sold more than 53,000 rotary products and 72,000 CNC machines to date.

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