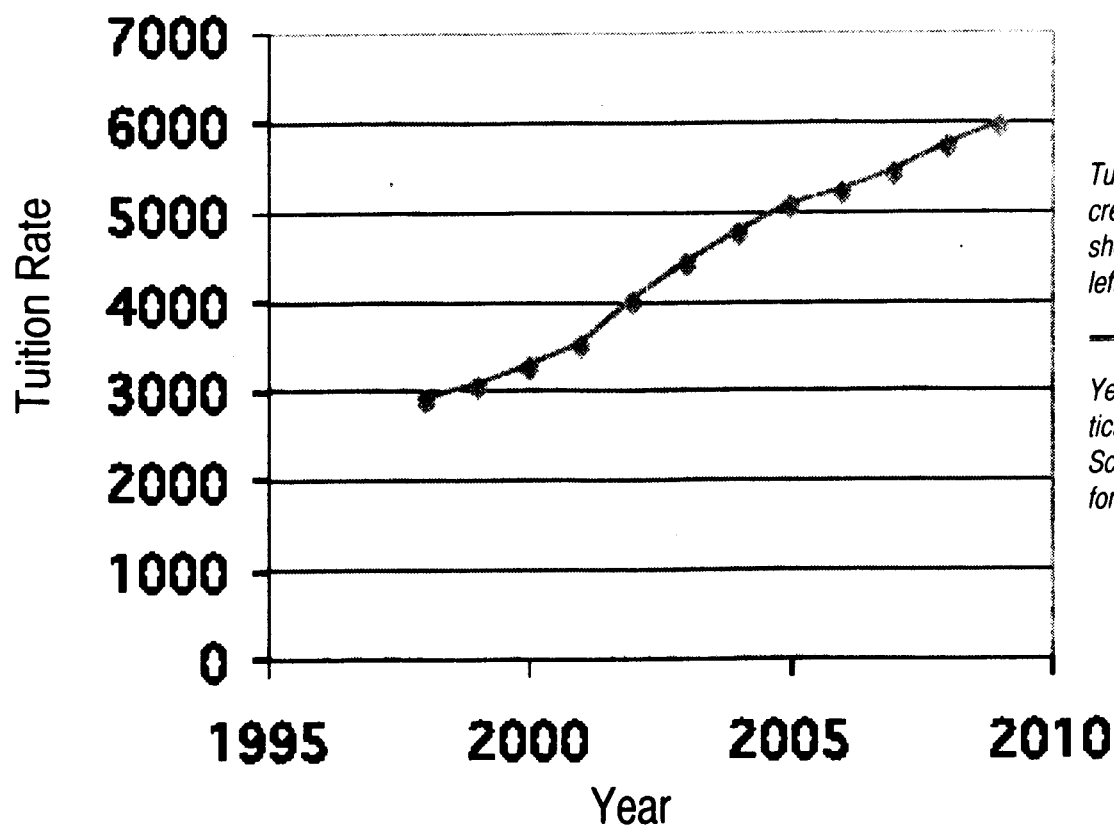


Tuition Per Semester For Full-Time Lower-Division PA Residents



Tuition continues to increase each year as shown by the graph on left.

Year and tuition statistics given by Sue Scarpino, Coordinator for Public Information

Tuition increase

continued from front page.

I've been here and this is my 29th year. I would say that there is a chance, but I don't think that's going to happen. The university would more than likely try to muddle through. They have already told us to prepare for the possibility of temporary budget cuts during the year.

"And I've been here long enough to know, that you always prepare for cuts because I've said that we've had cuts every year this century."

Miller said that there is a chance the tuition will increase between semesters, but that is a nightmare scenario and has a low chance of occurring.

"It depends a lot on the state budget," said Miller. "There is a lot that Behrend is changing as far as frugality, not saying we're not already frugal, to cut costs and save money."

Burke explained that Penn State is anticipating another de-

crease in money from the state, although the university doesn't know the number yet.

"I can tell you that every year in this century we have had budget cuts at the university," said Burke. "We've raised our tuition but in addition to that, we've had budget cuts and the reason for the budget cuts primarily is because the state appropriation, the money we get from the state, has been either frozen or gone down."

"And in addition to that, we've added 14,000 students to our university because people want to go (to Penn State), but then the state appropriation does not follow. The state appropriation is not tied to the number of students."

Looking forward to next year, Burke is uncertain about what the tuition situation. He said that a lot depends on what happens in the economy.

"I think what is kind of keeping the state of float at the moment is the stimulus money or the promise of stimulus money."

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION

Metzgar building: brick by brick, a portal for Behrend

BY HEATHER MCGOVERN
news editor

University officials hope that eventually, the Robert and Sally Metzgar Admissions and Alumni Center will be a portal for campus. The first thing students go to for admissions, the first thing they come back to for alumni relations.

For now, it serves a different purpose: headlining as the largest of many construction projects at Behrend.

In response to the difficulty students experienced from traveling to separate buildings for various admissions offices, Behrend decided to consolidate the admissions and alumni offices into a newly constructed building in between the Kochel Center and Reed Union Building.

The Robert and Sally Metzgar Admissions and Alumni Center aims to make it easier for students to access Behrend's career guidance. It will be the "go-to" building for college career consultation.

The construction, which began during the month of April 2009, is estimated to extend as far in the future as May 2010. The building is

estimated to cost around \$4.7 million and cover an area of 11,700 square feet.

According to the Penn State Behrend website, it will house the offices of five key departments—admissions, financial aid, alumni relations, bursar, and registrar—in one central location.

The convenience of having all five departments in one location will hopefully appeal to students pursuing careers on campus and all visiting alumni.

Thanks to a request made by the Metzgars, architecture students have the opportunity to incorporate personal designs modeling specific structures: the Metzgars' house, Cobham Castle, the Glenhill Farmhouse, Lilley Library, Kochel Center, and Reed Union Building. Incorporation of student design into the Admissions and Alumni Center

"The center will be the first place Penn State Behrend students visit on campus, and it will be the same building that welcomes them back as alumni," remarks Chancellor Jack Burke on Penn State Behrend website.

The primary donors for the Admission and Alumni

Center were no other than Robert and Sally Metzgar, donating a generous \$2 million to aid the construction project.

Robert Metzgar, an influential Penn State alumnus, attended Penn State Behrend for two years whereupon he finished his business administration degree at University Park.

Metzgar's post-graduation involvement far exceeds the devotion typically extended towards Penn State by alumni. As listed on the Penn State University website, Metzgar is currently part of "the Penn State Behrend Council of Fellows, the Nittany Lion Club, the President's Club, and a life member of the Penn State Alumni Association." Metzgar is a well deserving individual to name the new Admissions and Alumni building after.

Addition of the Metzgar building will only simplify current student's academic pursuits.

"There's a whole lot less running around for students during their college careers and a lot less running around for family during the admission process," says Ken Miller.



Daniel Smith / The Behrend Beacon

Over the summer, work often stagnated on the new building due to various holdups. University officials say that steel structures will begin to take precedence in the construction area this week.

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