

Psi Chi advances psychology

Student group plans service project, psych events at PSB

JULIA BAKER
H&SS writer • psychology

One of the various organizations offered on campus, Psi Chi, a nationally recognized psychology honor society, is very popular. Like most other groups, Psi Chi has student-held positions like president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

Psi Chi is dedicated to advancing the science of psychology. Students are not only involved in research, but they also do numerous activities throughout campus and around Erie.

Some of the things they do outside of research include Habitat for Humanity, an Alzheimer's walk, the annual psychology picnic (held in the spring each year), and a dinner for the new inductees.

There are benefits of being part of the organization such as: research competitions, grants for research, regional conventions, and official recognition of the accomplishments of the members.

Psi Chi was founded in 1929. Its purpose is to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship, while advancing the science of psychology.

Psi Chi has a national service project, Food Drives: A Psi Chi Service-Education Project. It also has two publications, Eye on Psi Chi and Psi Chi Journal of Undergraduate Research.

In order to become a member of the honors society, a few prerequisites are required. They include completion of at least 9 semester hours of psychology, valid registration of either a minor or major in psychology, and at least 5 hours of community service each semester. In addition, undergraduate students accepted into Psi Chi must also rank in the top 35 percentile of their class, and earn an average of a "B" or better in all psychology courses.

Psi Chi allows students to gain advanced knowledge of research and research methods, while interacting with other students within the psychology major. It helps students get out of classroom-based learning and into the research field of psychology.

The meetings are held on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm and are open to both undergraduate and graduate students. If you are interested in finding out more information you can contact either Dr. Dawn Blasko or Dr. Victoria Kazmerski. You can also get information from the national website, <http://www.psiichi.org>.

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Dr. Noyes honored with award

EMILY RAE BROUGH
H&SS writer • creative writing

Knocking on Dr. Tom Noyes' office door, I encountered a contradiction: a teacher relaxing in an office chair, surrounded by organized bookcases and clean desk space, and yet busily checking emails, responding to student concerns. As I enter and get seated, he puts aside his business and gives me his attention. Leaning back, he smiles and waits.

He knows I'm here to discuss his recent accomplishment and yet there is a reserve in his relaxation. The reason is soon revealed - he feels humbled and honored by an award that came unexpectedly, albeit with a delighted smile.

The Council of Fellows Excellence in Teaching Award is an award that Penn State Behrend distributed once a year to a single member of Behrend's faculty. The recipient can be from any department.

In order to receive the

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TOM NOYES

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF CREATIVE WRITING

award, fellow instructors and department heads put together a board of nominees and then the committee awards one teacher the award.

In the 2009/2010 academic year, the honor was awarded to Dr. Tom Noyes, professor of english and creative writing.

"It must be awfully hard to give teachers awards," Dr. Noyes stated, "because there are so many good teachers both at Penn State Behrend and in the English and Creative Writing departments."

Dr. Noyes expressed his pleasure at being recognized for his contribution while at the same time knows that teaching requires continuous work.

He professed that, "I've worked hard and think I've become a better teacher," but the honor of the award mainly served to humble him and remind him of the good work done by the many teachers on campus every year.

As he continued, Dr. Noyes reminded me that this is an award that is "given by teachers to other

teachers", and expressed his gratitude to the instructors who work at Penn State Behrend and continue to strive for excellence in and out of the classroom.

As I leave Dr. Noyes' office, I notice the plaque that marks his achievement. It showcases his most recent academic accomplishment.

Dr. Noyes truly does deserve this award. He has taught fourteen different english courses at Behrend, ranging from basic english courses, such as English 015 (Rhetoric and Composition), to much more challenging courses, such as English 437 (The Poet in America).

He has two published collections; *Spooky Action at a Distance and Other Stories* and *Behold Faith and Other Stories*. Of the four faculty members to have received awards for the academic year, Dr. Noyes is the only recipient that teaches in the school of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Quote of the week:

"You cannot dream yourself into a character: you must hammer and forge yourself into one."

- Henry David Thoreau

MATT DEFUSCO
H&SS writer • creative writing

New York Times Best Seller List:

Hardcover Fiction:

- 1) *The Postcard Killers*, James Patterson and Liza Marklund
- 2) *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*, Stieg Larsson
- 3) *The Help*, Kathryn Stockett
- 4) *The Cobra*, Frederick Forsyth
- 5) *Star Island*, Carl Hiaasen

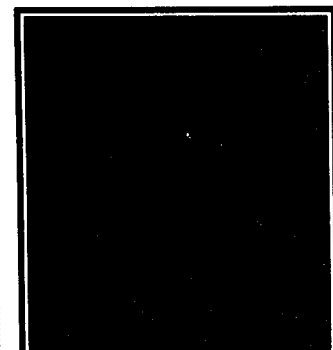
Four H&SS faculty promoted

ANDREW TARR
H&SS writer • creative writing

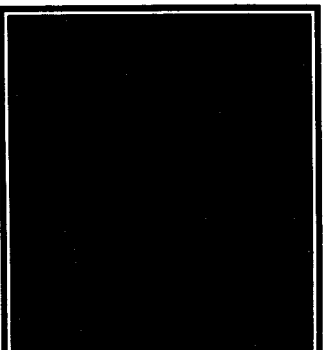
Three Humanities and Social Sciences professors were tenured and one was promoted to professor.



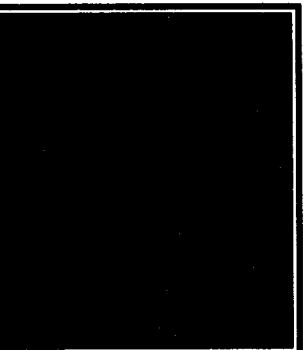
Dr. Joshua Shaw



Professor George Looney



Professor Craig Warren



Dr. Tom Noyes

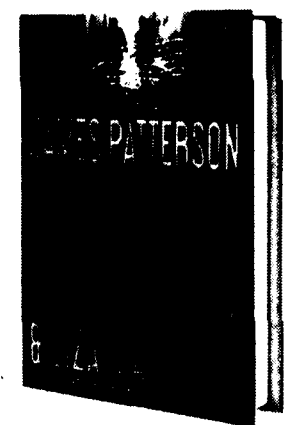
Doctor Joshua Shaw, Associate Professor of Philosophy grew up in Connecticut. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in philosophy from Bard College. He went on to earn his masters degree in humanities from the University of Chicago and his Ph.D. from Indiana University. Shaw started teaching as an assistant professor in Fall 2004. He's published a book on French Philosopher Emmanuel Levinas along with three parts of books, all of which are included in various volumes of *The Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers*. He has also written and four articles, mostly about philosophy of feminism.

Professor George Looney has been promoted to full time professor of Creative Writing. Looney, originally from Cincinnati, earned his BFA in Art from the University of Cincinnati. He went on to earn his MFA in Creative Writing from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. He was hired here at Behrend in 1999 as an assistant professor. "What I love about teaching literature/creative writing is that even if there's not a single student in the room that gives a damn about what I am talking about I get to spend my time talking about what I love and what I am passionate about and that is good writing. No other jobs allow me to do that," said Looney.

Craig Warren, Associate Professor of english and creative writing is from Springfield, Virginia, a suburb of Washington D.C. He earned his Bachelors, Masters, and Ph.D. all from the University of Virginia. He also spent a semester at Oxford University, studying at Keble College. Warren came to Behrend in 2004 as an Assistant Professor. When asked of what he likes most about teaching at Behrend he replied, "What I like most about teaching at Behrend is the chance to work with the same students over the space of several semesters or even years. It is gratifying and often satisfying to see students mature and grow as writers and thinkers."

Doctor Tom Noyes explained, "tenure is basically a commitment from the school to the professor to promise them their job and freedom of speech at the school."

Tom Noyes, Associate Professor of creative writing, is from the Buffalo area. He earned his degree in english and creative writing from Houghton College in Western New York. He went on to earn his masters degree in Creative Writing from Wichita State University. He studied at the Ohio University to earn his Ph.D. in literature and creative writing, and taught at Indiana State University for three years before coming to Behrend. He has been teaching at Behrend for six years.



taken from jamespatterson.com
The Postcard Killers is the most recent New York Times Best Seller for James Patterson and Lize Marklund

The Postcard Killers by James Patterson and Liza Marklund is a thrilling novel concerning a mourning father, Jack Kanon, who is on a touring through Europe after his daughter and her boyfriend are murdered in Rome by the notorious "postcard killer".

The infamous killer is named for his trademark act of a sending a postcard to the local newspapers concerning his next murder. By following clues and taking action, Kanon and his teammate, Dessie Larson, come closer and closer to finding the identity of the killer and where his next murder will take place.

The novel was first published in Sweden in January 2010. The English translation did not get released until August 2010.

Liza Marklund, a Swedish crime novelist, is said to be the number one best selling author in Europe. It can be easily reasoned that her experience with European culture and Patterson's familiarity with American culture is what really gave this novel its identity and believability.

James Patterson is well known for works such as *Along Came a Spider*, which was turned into a major motion picture in 2001. The film starred Monica Potter and Morgan Freeman.

His excellent style of writing has helped him to sell millions of copies of his books. He is also known for collaborating with other authors in order to write his stories. He is most well known for his on-going series of thrillers that revolve around the same protagonist.

Patterson has also written romance novels and many standalone novels as well.

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