

## Students headed to D.C. for spring break

ANDREW TARR  
*Political Science Major*

The Political Science Program of Penn State Erie will be sponsoring a student trip to Washington D.C. over Spring Break next semester.

The class is taught by Dr. Robert Speel, associate professor of political science at Penn State Behrend.

The Political Science Newsletter for November, written by Dr. Speel, explains that the itinerary will not be determined until February next year, but on past trips, the group has met with our members of Congress, with officials at the International Monetary Fund, the Organization of American States, and the embassies of Australia, Romania, Botswana, India, Ireland, Canada, Jamaica, Estonia and Indonesia.

The students have toured the White House, the West Wing of the White House, the Pentagon, the State Department, the Department of Justice, the U.S. Capitol Building, the Library of Congress, the National Archives, and the C-SPAN studios.

"Every year I look forward to seeing something new in Washington," said Speel. "On the last trip, we visited the Speaker's Portico in the Capitol building. On a previous trip, we visited the West Wing of the White House. We often visit sections of the Pentagon I have not seen before or get briefings at embassies I have not previously visited. On our free days, I get to visit museums I haven't

gotten a chance to see before."

The trip is associated with the political science course POLSC 177 (GS), and students will be required to sign up for either a three credit or one credit version of the course in order to attend the trip.

Among the highlights of the trip will be meetings or tours with Penn State Behrend alumni who work on Capitol Hill or for federal government agencies.

"I also look forward on each trip with meeting some of our alumni in Washington who went on previous class trips and now work in government buildings and offices - those alumni who have been through the experience themselves can now talk to current Behrend students,"

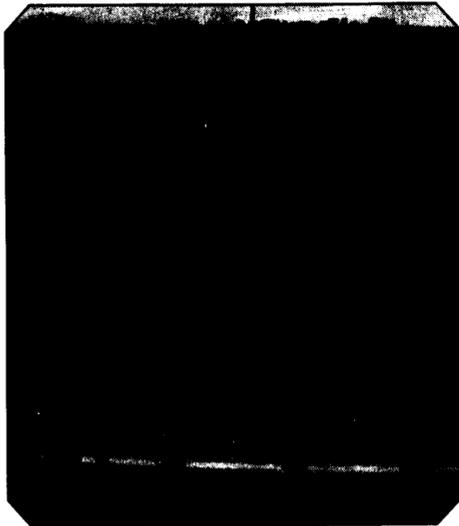
added Speel.

It is important that any student interested in going on the trip contact Dr. Speel immediately. Any student who wants to attend the trip and has not already paid the required deposit must see Dr. Speel as soon as possible.

Brochures with a full explanation of the trip are available from any political science professor and in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences office (170 Kochel).

Adam Fracassi / the Behrend Beacon

Photos are from the 2008 trip to D.C. when students traveled throughout several locations in the city.



### Quote of the Week:

"Maybe the older you grow and the less easy it is to put thought into action, maybe that's why it gets all locked up in your head and becomes a burden."

- Truman Capote  
*Breakfast at Tiffany's*

## Psych Coalition hosts two events

JULIA BAKER  
*Psychology major*

Here at Penn State Behrend we have a unique organization that meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Psych lab located in the Turnbull Hall. This organization is the Psych Coalition.

On Wednesday, Nov. 10 the psych coalition met in the psychology lab to make cards for soldiers. This meeting came at with perfect timing because Nov. 11 was Veterans' Day. The group's members decorated the cards for the residents of the Soldiers and Sailors Home in Erie. The Soldiers and Sailors Home is a home that provides support and care for veterans and their spouses.

The psych coalition is constantly finding ways to become more involved in the

community. The cards were not only a warm gesture for the holidays, but also an attempt to reach out and be more involved in the community.

Members of the organization said they had fun making cards, and it was a small thank you to those who have protected us so many freedoms.

After the fun of card making was over, another meeting was held, also hosted by the Psych Coalition. This time the meeting consisted of representatives from Alfred University, located in Alfred, New York, who spoke about graduate school for the psychology major.

The speakers mostly addressed graduate programs that are offered at Alfred University. Students were given a great deal of beneficial infor-

mation that will assist them when deciding plans for after graduation. Not only were the representatives helpful towards programs at Alfred University, but they were very helpful with any of the questions students might have had about graduate school in general.

After the speakers presented their information and experiences, the undergraduate students were given time to ask any questions they may have had in regards to graduate school.

The psych coalition meets every Wednesday in the psych lab, which is in Turnbull Hall. The meetings are every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The meetings are open to all students, regardless of major, and all students are encouraged to attend.



Adam Fracassi / The Behrend Beacon

The Psych Coalition hosts two events on Nov. 10, 2010 at Turnbull Hall.

# PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED



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## Comm. majors present senior projects

KRISSY COLE  
*Communications Major*

Being a Communication major, there is still quite a bit to learn about the business world, even after taking classes relating to the field. It's important to know how to write press releases, organize and promote events, work well with others, and most importantly, how to communicate.

Several students in the Communication program were given the opportunity to present their knowledge in these areas and more, at the Fall 2010 Senior Colloquium, after getting some real world experience through senior projects and internships.

The Colloquium was held in the Metzgar building on Tuesday, November 30, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

These students had much to present, with eight students completing an internship and one student who worked on a sound design project for a film titled, The Creepy.

The internships ranged from working with new media at Bensus Creative Marketing, to being a mobile drive coordinator with the Community Blood Bank.

Along with the completion of an internship or a project, the students were required

to give a five minute speech with a visual representation, write an essay about the experience, and create a portfolio including important documents and projects they worked on through the internship and through their career at Behrend.

Communication majors who are in their junior year were highly encouraged to attend this event, as it gives them insight and ideas as they begin planning for their senior projects. Dr. Troester, Associate Professor of Speech Communication and Communications Program Chair, advises that every student keep a file folder of advertisements, press releases, news articles, and anything else they created, in order to put together a portfolio to present to potential employers.

Troester says it's "kind of a way to tie together everything you've been doing." Employers don't want a description of your experience, they want proof.

If you have any questions about the Communications major or the senior projects, please contact Dr. Troester.

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