

# NEWS

## Irwin Plans Sabbatical Leave

by Darlene D. Kasbee  
Collegian Staff Writer



Dr. Zachary Irwin Assistant Professor of Political Science.

Dr. Zachary T. Irwin, assistant professor of political science, is taking a sabbatical leave in the coming academic year.

Irwin's goal is "to relate a certain form of diplomatic behavior with changes of personnel in top echelons of the Soviet Union." He plans to conduct research in the areas of Soviet foreign policy and Soviet peace proposals for the Middle East between 1967-1979.

Irwin began gathering Soviet bibliographical material last summer at the Illinois Russian and Eastern European Center. He

plans to continue his research at the University of Illinois, in Irwin's opinion, "the best Slavic library in the country."

Irwin has a deep conviction to politics. "Soviet politics," Irwin says, "involves a lot of 'disinformation', about 98 percent is useless or irrelevant, 2 percent valuable."

His interest in Soviet policy does not only stem from the fact that Russia is our chief adversary, but, "Because their culture is opposite ours in its civic values, understanding it is intellectually demanding."

Irwin's interest in politics began at an early age. Traveling with his parents allowed him to obtain a great deal of experience of the world. This is reflected in Irwin's strong political background. Irwin received a B.A. in history at the Hamilton College, a Masters' in International Relations at John Hopkins, and a Ph.D in Political Science at Penn State.

Irwin feels research is important for a good university. "As a teacher, it is important to remain close to the content of your teaching," he states, "The quality of teaching is proportionate to the quality of education students receive." Irwin hopes to incorporate the eventual findings from his sabbatical into his lectures. "Experience reflects in the teaching," he says, "however unconsciously."

The job ahead of him will not be easy, but to Irwin it is "the fulfillment of a dream."

## SGA Revises Constitution

by Gregory D. Goldsmith  
Collegian Staff Writer

Last semester, the Student Government Association (SGA) revised their constitution. In order to find out why, the Collegian spoke with SGA President Doug Gerow. Following are excerpts from the conversation.

**Collegian:** Last year, SGA rewrote their constitution. Why again is the constitution being revamped?

**Gerow:** Some editorial changes that needed to be made were overlooked. For example, the election of an officer should be by a majority rather than by a plurality as it states at the present. It also didn't say that a resident senator had to live in the residence halls. Mainly what we are doing is "fine tuning" the constitution."

**Collegian:** Who is helping rewrite the constitution?

**Gerow:** "Joe Ledford. He and I pretty much know the constitution and where the changes should be made."

**Collegian:** What amendments have been brought to the senate to be voted on?

**Gerow:** "The amendments have come in four sets. One set was clarifying the role of the student senate when chartering clubs and organizations. Another was to add one more resident senator to compensate for the increase in the residents and to assist in issues that effect the new apartments. The fourth was a compromise amendment to give Inter-Club Council (ICC) a vote. Beginning next fall, the chairman of ICC will have a vote on the student senate, and will be elected by the student body. The Student Programming Council (SPC) formerly SUB will retain its vote and the SPC president will also be elected at large. With the amendments that have been made, the constitution is more functional and clear. We have made these changes hoping to alleviate some of the problems that we've had in the past."

**Collegian:** How was last year's constitution put together?

**Gerow:** "We used no real format, like Robert's Rules or anything. We drew it up from our past experience. It seems to be adequate enough for what we need. It's not too restrictive. It gives specific duties to specific offices."

**Collegian:** When will the constitution be ready with the new revisions for student approval?

**Gerow:** "As soon as all of the suggested revisions have been acted upon, it will be posted for students to review and then if there are no objections it will be approved as the new constitution."

For now, the constitution revision committee is composing a constitution that does not have to be revised every year. Students should note that everything SGA does directly affects them.

## SFFS Announces Winner

by Michael Shaffer  
Collegian Staff Writer

The Science Fiction Fantasy Society, (SFFS) has determined a winner for its second annual writing contest. The winner of first place was James Owens with "This Shirt is Black", second place winner was Tim Prickett with "God is Red", third place winner was Paul Baughman with "The Human Factor", and honorable mention was Todd G. Fitch with "The Boss." The

writing contest was developed to support the second aspect of SFFS, literature.

Sean Grape, president of SFFS, said, "The writing contest is used to show students that the SFFS has other aspects than simulation. With the help of a monetary prize, the writing contest attracts closet writers to participate in the club."

Each paper submitted to the SFFS was judged under strict criteria, and the dominant factor required was originality. Each paper was coded so the judges could judge the papers without knowing names of writers. The papers were then viewed by three judges who secretly ranked the top three papers. The judges then

met and ranked the papers they had each ranked individually. Because of the bad weather and the quality of the stories submitted, the judges had to extend the judging period for two weeks. The judges of the writing contest were Grape, Rhonda Thompson, SFFS vice president and Raymond Steinbacher, SFFS advisor.

Because of an increase in quality and participation, the SFFS plans to continue the annual writing contest. Until the next writing contest, any interested person can participate in simulations or literature experiences during SFFS club meetings, Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. in the Gorge.

## ABC Sponsors Blood Drive

by Kimberly Ford  
Collegian Staff Writer

In conjunction with the Erie Community Blood Bank, the Association of Black Collegians (ABC) is sponsoring Behrend's first blood drive of the spring semester. The blood drive is scheduled for Mar. 21 from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

As a blood donor, one has the opportunity to experience a sense of being a vital part of the community. With the continued support of donors, there should always be a supply of blood for the entire community.

Prior to the actual donation, a series of inquiries to the donor's health will be made. In addition, a limited physical will be conducted. The purpose of these measures is to determine whether or not a potential blood donor will be able to donate safely and to determine if that donor's blood is safe for future transfusions.

The donation time takes approximately six to ten minutes,

but the entire process, including preparation time and post-donation rest, takes approximately thirty minutes.

Although many donors are able to tolerate the donation, some may experience slight dizziness and mild headaches. The donation will be drawn by a skilled phlebotomist under the supervision of a qualified physician.

To adjust to the change in fluid volume, the body requires a relaxation period following the donation. Refreshments will be served during this short adjustment period.

The pint of blood that has been donated is sent to a laboratory to determine its type and other characteristics. The blood may

then be given to a single patient. The blood may otherwise be broken down into its components to be used in helping many patients with unique needs.

The ABC hopes to make the blood drive a direct representation of Behrend community spirit. ABC plans to challenge other area colleges to match or surpass the number of pints donated by Behrend on Mar. 21.

Statistics show that six out of ten people will need blood during the course of their lives.

NOTE: A sign-up sheet will be circulated in approximately two weeks. For any questions concerning the blood drive, please contact Kimberly Ford through the Association of Black Collegians.

# OOPS.

You have just become living proof that people read Collegian ads.

## Gorge Cafeteria

Located upstairs in the Reed Building

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4:30-7 Mon.-Thurs. Dinner

PIZZA SHOP

8-11 Sun.-Thurs.

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