

NEWS

Summer Orientation Staff Prepares for "Flood"

by Kurt E. Freeman
Collegian Staff Writer

The Division of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) is preparing for the flood of 600 to 700 prospective freshmen and their parents who will attend summer orientation this year.

The program's formal title is Freshman Testing, Counseling and Advising Program, "FTCAP (Fit-CAP) for short," according to Ernest Fryer, the Behrend DUS consultant. "The program takes place from June 11 until Aug. 2, Monday thru Friday," says Fryer.

"After taking the placement tests, they're notified by mail about the date they are to be here and 23 people a day go through the program during the eight-week period," he adds.

A pamphlet that Fryer distributes notes that the tests give information about "students' academic preparation and abilities, educational plans, and occupational interests. The DUS uses this information as the basis for individual counseling and advising on orientation day," Fryer explains.

"When the students and their parents arrive on the designated day, they are introduced to the

program," says Fryer. Then parents and students are split up so they may attend separate programs. The parents attend a conference and see video tapes which show them various aspects of the university.

"I 'preach' to the students about the problems likely to be encountered in college and then they attend their individual counseling interviews," Fryer explains. "These interviews allow the student to get acquainted with their adviser and give the personal touch to the session," he continues.

"After lunch, students have their ID pictures taken. Both resident and commuter students then attend orientation programs conducted by students from Student Activities," explains Fryer. "If after going through the program, they still have questions, I want to see them in an individual family conference," he adds.

The program, which started in 1957, "is an attempt to intercept problems before they have a chance to fester," Fryer explains. "20 percent of the students change their college after going through the program. It is a preventive measure so that people

know their strengths and abilities before entering school," he continues.

Fryer says this program has been very successful, in fact, he adds, "large major institutions have observed Penn State's program and adopted it as their own, so we do have a national reputation."

Jamie Grimm, assistant dean of Student Affairs, says that the freshman orientation program, which takes place the week before school begins, is the "next step in the process which helps make the student's transition easier."

"During this week, we have a picnic, trips to Presque Isle and the Millcreek Mall, study skills workshops and other activities which introduce students to Behrend," Grimm says.

"If any present student is interested in becoming a freshman advisor, please contact me before going home for the summer," she asks. Grimm's office is located in the Office of Student Affairs, upstairs in the Reed Union Building.

Behrend to Host Summer Leadership Conference

by Kimberly Ford
Collegian Staff Writer

The annual Penn State Summer Leadership Conference will have an innovation in that this summer's conference will be hosted by Behrend College.

In past years, the conference has been hosted on a rotating basis by the Altoona, Hazleton and Capitol campuses. The rationale behind holding the conference at these campuses was the fact they are located in a central location making them easily accessible by the other campuses.

Dohn Harshbarger, dean of Student Affairs comments, "Because this will be the first time the Leadership Conference will be held at Behrend, students as well as staff professionals from other campuses will be exposed to the various academic programs here at Behrend."

The Leadership Conference encompasses student leadership and resident assistant programs.

Commonwealth campuses may bring up to eight student leaders in addition to their residential life staff.

Dr. Kenneth Varcoe, advisor to the Council of Branch Student Governments and assistant vice-president along with Joe McCallus, chairman of the Leadership Conference Committee, are an integral part of the development of this year's conference. Here at Behrend, Harshbarger and William McCartney, assistant dean of Student Affairs, will be working very closely with the program.

Each campus' Student Government Association generally subsidizes the student leaders while Student Affairs subsidizes the Residential Life staff. Last year's conference was approximately \$55 per student. At this writing the cost for this year's conference is not available.

Some goals and objectives of the Residential Assistant portion of the conference are, "to refocus the Residential Assistant's mind on the task ahead, and to allow them to share ideas through interaction," comments McCartney. The itinerary for this portion of the conference builds and expands upon the foundations received while in the R.A. training class.

The main goals of the student leader portion are to aid in the development of more effective student leaders and to give student leaders insight for working with student volunteers, which are in fact a club's membership," comments Harshbarger.

Student leaders will most likely be housed in Perry Hall, the residential life staff in Niagara Hall, and the professional staff will be housed in the new apartments.

"I think the leadership conference we've been doing for almost 10 years has been very highly evaluated, particularly because often the students finish the program feeling much more conscious of leadership," comments Harshbarger.

Due to a formal lobbying effort on the part of Harshbarger and McCartney, "We convinced the committee that we would like to and were quite capable hosting the leadership conference," says McCartney.

Harshbarger adds, "One of the major reasons for the general reluctance to hold the leadership conference at Behrend was that Erie is quite a drive for most of the campuses—it isn't centrally located."

Although this summer's program has not yet taken place, the evaluation results may show that the Behrend College is more than worth the drive.

Biomechanics Research Applied

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blood towards the outer walls of the vessel, and a marked decrease in pressure, all at the vicinity of the constriction.

With all these factors, there is a great division among biomechanists, engineers, as well as physicians, with regard to the actual cause of the bulging. No model has actually been produced that takes in all the factors mentioned above.

Khalilollahi said that his experiment took into account actual arteries where other experiments have used rubber tubing. The difference is in the characteristic of elasticity of the type of vessel. Rubber tubing is linear-elastic, that is the graph of its elasticity vs. stress is a direct, linear relation. Blood vessels, however, are non-linear elastic and Khalilollahi

was able to better simulate the actual flow in an artery by using an actual steer aorta which he acquired from the meat lab at University Park. The only drawback to his analysis of the flow was that in his experiment, he couldn't afford a pulsar pump, and pulsatile flow is the only type in which the actual distension occurs.

Still his experiment has attracted considerable attention, and he has been called upon to present an abstract of his thesis at The Forum on Unsteady Flows in Biological Systems held during the 1985 Biomechanical Symposium A.S.M.E. (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) to be held this June 24-27 in Albuquerque, NM.

Khalilollahi plans to continue his experiment this summer, vary-

ing the size of the occlusive rings which he uses to constrict the test artery. His goal is to determine



Amir Khalilollahi, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, why the distension of the artery occurs by examining exactly what happens inside the artery from a fluid-mechanical standpoint.

Eventually, he hopes his research will enable physicians to discover the way to prevent vessel bulging and thus help to prevent strokes, atherosclerosis, coronary artery disease and other illnesses which leave us victims of arterial hemorrhages.

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WBCR Elects New Officers

by Anne Waskowitz
Collegian Staff Writer

On Wednesday, April 24, Penn State Behrend's radio station WBCR conducted elections for the club's office positions for the 1985-86 academic year.

James Regalla was elected treasurer for his third consecutive semester, Nancy Owsley will fill the position of secretary, John Moscato will serve as vice-president and Anne Waskowitz will assume the presidency.

The new school year will bring many changes for WBCR. WBCR will follow a new constitution, written by all of the incumbent officers.

Inner work will also be done to help the station. Some new equipment may be purchased, including a new microphone, new cartridges, a weather radio and a time clock.

The club will begin to gather information to obtain their FM license.

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