

Socialization of Prejudice in America: Panel Discussion

by Debra Malone
Collegian, Staff Writer

On March 15, 1988 five community leaders assembled in the Reed Lecture Hall for a panel discussion of local and national issues facing minorities. Presented by the college as part of its "Socialization of Prejudice in America" series, panel members

included Jo Kathy Gilliam, secretary of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); Eva Tucker, President of the Erie School Board and assistant professor of geoscience at Behrend; Fred Rush, assistant to Mayor Tullio; Dr. John Lilley, Behrend Provost and Dean; and Gertrude Simmons, senior advocate for GECAC's Area Agency

on Aging.

Since the panel addressed many local issues pertaining directly to Erie residents, the panel participants were selected on the basis of their background, their ability to present diverse views, and each was given five minutes to focus on one or two topics of their choice. The audience was encouraged to offer questions and comments during an open forum.

The discussion included implications of the Eric court ruling in the Charity case (declaring teachers' right to remove disruptive students from the classroom). Gilliam presented concerns, on behalf of the NAACP, that teachers will abuse this right and unjustly remove minority students from the class. Tucker responded with assurance that discrimination of this nature has not occurred, and would not be tolerated.

The C-average ruling, which Tucker firmly supported, was also discussed. This ruling states all students must maintain a C-average to participate in school sports. The ruling redirects the focus of the curriculum back to basic education, encouraging student athletes to dedicate a percentage of their time to classroom studies.

Rush directed his part of the discussion to city wide issues involving minorities. According to University Relation statistics in 1986 a total of 10.9% of all American families live below the national poverty level, set at \$11,650/yr. for a family of four: 8.6% of all white families were below the poverty level; 28% of all black families were below the poverty level; and 24.7% of Hispanic families were below the poverty level.

based this, in the case of blacks, on both apathy and a changing form of role models. Raney said that all too often black males are identifying with the deviant elements in society, rather than athletes or professionals. This is due, said Raney, to the fact that these are the people they see with money.

Raney said these same problems can be found in the Hispanic culture. However, she divided Hispanics into two distinct groups: those who came from Cuba fleeing Castro, and those who have arrived since. According to Raney, the first group has had few problems adapting, however the latter group has had many to deal with. Frequently unable to speak English, and often migrant workers, the number participating in government-funded job training is minimal.

These are issues which Rush said the city of Erie is currently addressing. Presently there are several Federal- and State-funded job training programs available, but most of minority workers are blue collar, and the rapid loss of industry within the city has made job placement difficult.

The issues facing minorities are vast, and the panel was only able to scratch the surface. "The purpose was not to resolve issues, but to expose the deep seated prejudices which are still present in our society," stated a representative of University Relations. The elimination of poverty, and the equal- and higher-education of minorities are issues which must be faced and resolved. Open discussions, such as this, are a first step toward actualization of those goals.

Room and board rate increases approved

Courtesy of the Penn State Intercom

The Board of Trustees, at its meeting March 12 at Penn State Harrisburg, The Capital College, approved rate increases for room and board next year.

Room and board rates for the standard double, with two occupants, will rise 3.9 to 4.4 percent in 1988-89, varying according to the meal plan chosen.

Students can choose from five meal plans, ranging from seven to 17 meals a week. The multi-option meal plan includes a set base for non-food dining hall costs. Points are then incorporated, at a value of one cent each, used to buy actual meals eaten.

"The University is anticipating increased operating costs, which include food, labor and benefits," Steve A. Garban, senior vice president for finance and operations and treasurer, said.

The standard double room and board rate for 1988-89 will increase by \$60 each per semester.

The new room and board rates per semester are:

--\$1,415, which includes meal plan one with seven to eight meals per week.

--\$1,465, which includes meal plan two with nine to 10 meals a week.

--\$1,515, which includes meal plan three with 12 to 13 meals a week.

--\$1,555, which includes meal plan four with 14 to 15 meals a week.

--\$1,585, which includes meal plan five with up to 17 meals a week.

More than 80 percent of the undergraduate on-campus population at Penn State is housed in the standard double room. There are similar increases in charges for other forms of accommodation, such as apartments and single rooms.

"The residence hall and dining commons program is completely self-supporting," Mr. Garban noted. "State funds are not used for the operation of this program."

Lilley to step down?

Provost and Dean John M. Lilley is rumored to be leaving Behrend to pursue a political career. According to a reliable source on the faculty grapevine, Dean Lilley is supposedly stepping down from his present position to run for the state senate in next year's election. His reasons for the move have not yet been disclosed.

All details remain sketchy at this time but some of the names being mentioned to replace Lilley

"According to University Relations statistics, in 1986 a total of 10.9% of all American families live below the national poverty level..."

Raney, of the Erie County Unemployed Council, said that the rate of unemployment in Erie is much higher among minorities. She

include Assistant Dean and Provost Jack Burke and Dean of Student Services Chris Reber.

Although Dean Lilley will be sorely missed by faculty and students alike at Behrend, the Behrend community appears to be confident in his chances of obtaining a senate seat. The Collegian would like to wish Dr. Lilley the best of luck.

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Students Up A Creek

As the shocking report of Dean Lilley's possible resignation sinks in, it is overshadowed by the ramifications of his alleged last request as Dean of Penn State Behrend. Collegian sources, asking to remain anonymous, have revealed that Dean Lilley's last request is that Behrend College secede from the Penn State system. The discovery of a new Behrend logo lends credence to this information (see "The Behrend Bear?"). As a result of Behrend's imminent secession from Penn State, students presently studying here may be required to finish their studies in Erie, or lose credits earned toward a Penn State degree. The Collegian contacted University Park officials to see what effects Behrend's secession would have on its students. David

Wood, Acting Director of University Relations, explained the dilemma. "The Penn State Charter is very tough when it comes to unfriendly secession. Article XXVII, section 13, specifically states, 'Upon hostile secession by any satellite campus, any student attending such campus will no longer be considered a Penn State student. Subsequently, all credits earned towards a Penn State degree will not be recognized and will not be transferable upon re-enrollment into any Penn State program.'"

What this means is, Behrend students that are currently in programs which must be completed at University Park will be forced to switch to Behrend majors or start from scratch at a recognized Penn State campus. As Mr. Wood put it, "Behrend students are up a creek." See MORE pg 5

Goodman at Behrend

by James Martin
Collegian Editor

On Monday, March 21st, syndicated columnist Ellen Goodman addressed a near capacity crowd in Behrend's Reed 117. During the course of her forty minute lecture, Goodman dealt primarily with the issue of social change, particularly as it has affected the lives of women. Following her presentation, Ms. Goodman fielded a variety of questions from the audience, most of which were loosely related to her emphasis on women's issues and our changing society.

Goodman, a Pulitzer prize winning columnist, writes for the Boston Globe, but is syndicated in Newspapers across the nation including Erie's Morning News.

SEE Ellen Goodman pg.9

photo by Sandy Inman



Columnist Ellen Goodman Pauses to sign an autograph following her lecture.

poem. Professor of English at Behrend, George is the 1987 recipient of the Behrend College Council of Fellows of Excellence in Teaching Award. The purpose of this award, established in 1969, is to recognize a faculty member who is undoubtedly committed and truly inspirational to the students.

Other honors George has received include the 1984 Penn State-Behrend Excellence in Research Award and a Pulitzer Prize nomination for her book Blake and Freud. She has also written several other books and is currently working on another entitled Eating Beautiful Women: Marilyn Monroe and Anne Sexton.



Dr. Diana Hume George, who spoke on the "Messy Precision of Poetry."

Award Winner Speaks

by Michelle Schneider
Collegian Staff Writer
and Kevin Kapsar

The Provost's Speaker Series resumed on March 17 with the lecture presented by Dr. Diana George Hume Ph.D.

Dr. George's speech, "The Messy Precision of Poetry" encompassed various technical aspects involved in analyzing poetry. However, realizing that most people do not have an active interest in or perhaps do not understand the technical aspects of poetry, she placed the main emphasis of her presentation upon the appreciation of poetry. To better instill the aspect of understanding poetry into the audience, she recited a selection of her favorite poems. By doing so she illustrated how one can enjoy listening to poetry and interpret the specific meaning of a

photo by Michelle Schneider

The Behrend Bear?



An anonymous source has acquired, and submitted to the Collegian, a prototype of Behrend's new letterhead from a local printing shop. This prototype, to be used if secession plans go through, features Behrend's new name, Behrend University, and appears next to a stunning new logo design. The logo depicts Behrend University (B.U.)'s newest mascot, the Behrend Bear, emerging from an igloo. The igloo sports a rippling banner which reads, "Behrend University - Ya Gotta Luv It!"

The new logo reflects many aspects of Behrend student life; the beautiful winter panorama, the tough constitution of the Behrend student, the isolation of the campus, and the indomitable school spirit permeating campus life.

Although Dean Lilley has not been available for comment, the prominent local artist, Mark Weber is rumored to be the creator of the new logo design. Our sources could not reveal the name of the printer and could not speculate on who authored the design or when the Behrend Bear would be announced as B.U.'s new mascot.

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Mailing Address - Behrend Collegian, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563
Office located in Reed Union Building
Office Hours - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Monday through Friday
Phone: 898-6221

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