

Penn State Wilkes-Barre kicks off campaign for a high tech center

This is an architectural drawing of the Center for Technology

Wyoming Valley, in fact all of Northeastern Pennsylvania, moved closer to a prosperous future recently when Bell of Pennsylvania channeled \$400,000 of a \$1 million gift to Penn State into what will prove to be one of the most exciting, economy-lifting ventures of the 1980s: A new Center for Technology at Penn State Wilkes-Barre in Lehman.

In this new building, Penn State will develop people to do more than follow a blazed path to prosperity. They will be the pathfinders for the region's industry, for the region's economy, for the region's family.

"We see it (Bell's gift) as an investment, one from which we expect to receive a direct return in the form of having an excellent pipeline for potential employees who will be well trained in the technical field of telecommunications," said Gilbert Wetzel, president and chief executive officer of Bell of Pennsylvania.

Bell's gift is the largest donation a corporation has ever made to a major research university in support of a two-year, associate degree program. Of the \$1 million, a total of \$600,000 will be spent here at

More than a center for education

The Center for Technology is a bold yet highly practical response to Northeastern Pennsylvania's need for expanded and more sophisticated facilities in engineering technology, said Jim Ryan, executive officer of Penn State Wilkes-Barre. The Committee for Economic Growth (CEG) considers this center to be a key element in the region's economic development because it will provide:

- High-quality, inexpensive technology and engineering education for local students who want to remain in the area.
- Necessary manpower for the region's major growth in industries.
- Resources to meet employee development needs.
- Information and technical assistance on advances in technology.
- Opportunities for regional manufacturers to test and develop new products and ideas to improve efficiency and profits.
- A home for innovative management development programs to bolster the effectiveness of executives, managers and supervisors.
- An auditorium for state-of-the-art teleconferences on technical, managerial and economic topics.
- A more marketable position in the technological and industrial future of America.



Dr. Jim Ryan
Campus Executive Officer

Penn State Wilkes-Barre: \$400,000 to help build the Center and another \$200,000 to support the program telecommunications technology. The rest of the grant will be used at Penn State

campuses in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia where programs will be modeled after the one in Wilkes-Barre.

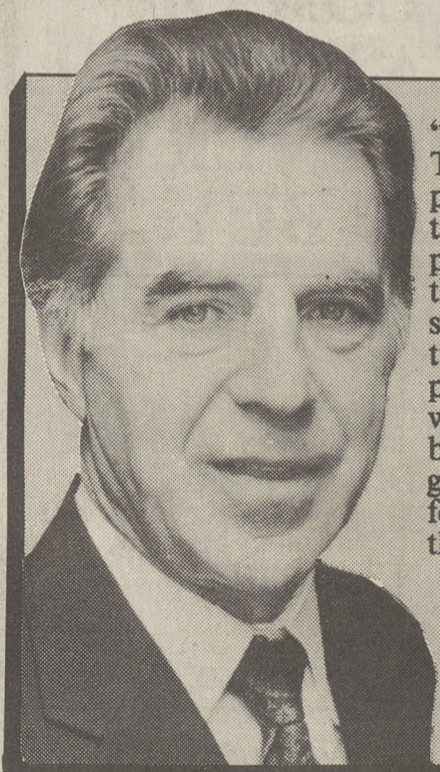
The grant is also one of the largest ever made by Bell of Pennsylvania.

The Center will mean a lot to this area. By having the resources here at hand, major industries looking for new homes will find the region attractive as they consider a move. Also, the entire economic family of this area, from the shoe retailer to the banquet hall manager, will benefit from Wilkes-Barre housing an advanced technology center which is part of the nation's ninth largest university.

In addition to preparing our young people for the jobs they can find at home, the Center will act as a technology resource clearinghouse companies can use to access national and international industry research data.

Bell and many other local industries and business leaders have already shown their support to the Center through generous gifts, assuring the community that the Center will, in essence, belong to them and their children.

Others are needed to raise more than \$2 million to help put this region at the center of the technological map of the future.



"The Center for Technology has the potential to be what it takes to impress local people and industrialists that this Valley is serious in its intent to turn things around. I'm proud to be associated with this campaign because I see it as a great resource—not just for Penn State—but for the community."

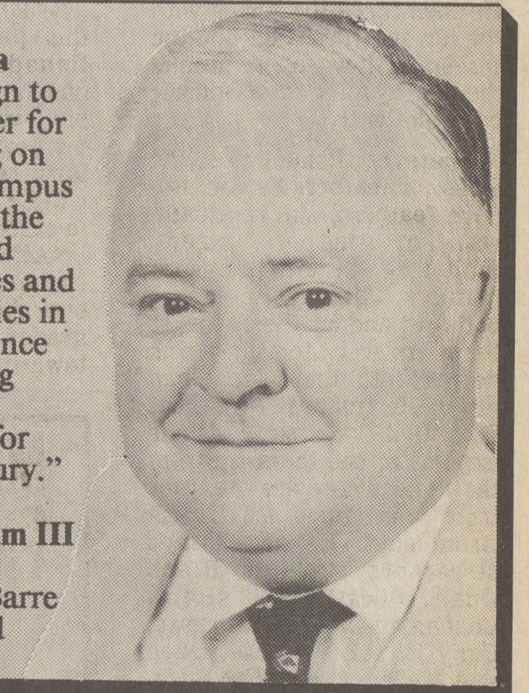
Michael Hudacek
Chairman
Campaign for the
Center for Technology

The Center will house today what the region will need tomorrow:

- Laboratories for:
Mechanical Engineering/CAD
Electrical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Telecommunications
Biomedical Engineering
Manufacturing/ CAM including robotics
- A technology demonstration room and clearinghouse
- Teleconference auditorium
- Astronomy dome
- Classrooms and faculty offices

"I am committed to a community campaign to help provide a Center for Technology building on the Wilkes-Barre Campus because I know that the reward will be reaped directly by businesses and local citizens. Families in this area will experience the benefits of having their sons and their daughters educated for jobs of the 21st century."

John N. Conyngham III
Chairman
Penn State Wilkes Barre
Advisory Board



The people behind the campaign

The campaign to raise the walls of the Center for Technology has just begun. Yet, a good portion of the area has already shown a commitment to see the Center become a reality. These people are donating their skills and their time to help this area grow:

THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Michael Hudacek
Bill Mainwaring
Bob Fortinsky
Pauly Friedman
Tom Robinson
Karen Keefer
Sol Lubin
Dr. W.R.A. Boben
Jack Conyngham III
Jim Chester
Mimi Coppersmith
Bob Harcharik
Fred Hartwigsen
Jay Karnofsky

Jack Kolesar
Anatol Kuczura
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Abram Nesbitt III
Frank Orloski
Helen Patella
Paul Radick
Harold Rose
Wesley Simmers
Don Smith
L.W. Townsend

CAMPAIGN VOLUNTEERS

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Priscilla Allison
Richard Aston
John Baloga
John F. Banks
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Walter Sowa
Joseph Stec Jr.
Daniel Stelmack
Douglas Trumbower
Jerry Wall
Al Wasley Sr.
Barry Yelen
Mark Zalewski

Anyone interested in volunteering to help the campaign should contact the Office of Development and University Relations at Penn State Wilkes-Barre at 675-9228.