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Student Senate gives nod to phoney constitution

by Todd J. Irwin
Collegian Editor

A revised constitution for the Student Programming Council containing serious violations of University policy was temporarily passed by the members of Behrend's Student Senate last week.

The constitution called for a \$1000 salary per semester for the organization's president and a salary of not more than \$200 each for members of the SPC executive board. In addition, an allowance was made for the president to use SPC's credit card for personal expenses.

These bogus revisions were written in by SPC President Brent Vernon and David Mahoney, President of the Student Organization Council, to illustrate that some senators were neglecting their responsibilities.

"We did it to prove the point that most of the senators never read the constitutions that they approve," Mahoney said.

According to Mahoney, SGA President Stan Washington and Ted Hacker, President of Commuter Council, were the only members other than himself and Vernon who knew of the improper insertions.

"We did it to bring about the point that a majority of the senators are failing terribly in their obligations to the students who elected them," Vernon said.

Two weeks ago, the revised constitution was presented to the student senate for approval. A copy of the constitution posted in the SGA office. The senators were supposed to read the constitution before their next meeting.

At the meeting this past Wednesday, the new SPC constitution was voted on and passed despite the inappropriate allowances. After the vote, a motion was made by Vernon to void the vote.

Mahoney then pointed the unusual stipulations out to the

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President of Carnegie Foundation to speak at Behrend

by Tony Olivito
Collegian News Editor

Dr. Ernest L. Boyer, president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, will speak at Behrend Thursday February 15 in the Reed Lecture Hall.

His lecture is part of Behrend's celebration of Black History Month.

Boyer has led a distinguished career in the field of education. He served in national commissions to Presidents Nixon Ford and Carter. These committees examined women's education programs, financing postsecondary education and

international education.

As Chancellor of the State University of New York (SUNY) from 1970 to 1977, he directed 64 institutions comprised of 350,000 students. At SUNY Boyer initiated a new rank for Distinguished Teaching Professor and negotiated an undergraduate exchange program with the Soviet Union.

His peers have selected him as leading educator in the nation. U.S. News and World Report also acknowledged Boyer's contribution to the field by naming him one of the top educators in the country for five consecutive years.

Provost making rounds



photo by Rick Brooks

Gabbing: Dean and Provost John M. Lilley speaks with alumni during a recent home basketball game in Erie Hall.

Behrend students celebrate Black History Month

Some think more should be done all year

by Daniele Sadres
Collegian Staff Writer

February has been designated Black History Month, a time set aside to highlight the accomplishments of blacks throughout history. However, many blacks feel such a month should not be necessary, stressing black history belongs in schools all year round.

"For us as Americans to move forward, we must understand where we are coming from and how we relate to each other," said Behrend student Gary Ford. "History should highlight and bring forward each person's (black, white, etc.) contribution." He added "Black History Month is a stepping stone to bring all history together, not to separate."

Fellow student Sina Clark expressed similar views. She stressed the need for more black

history to be taught early on in schools. "I feel cheated sometimes," Clark stated. "Why should it take me this long to find out important inventions contributed by blacks? As many years as we were taught the same thing in history, I think one of those years could be spent on black history."

Until there comes a time when Black History Month is no longer felt necessary, Student Services Assistant Elvage Murphy hopes Black History Month will raise awareness and promote "self pride, self awareness, self respect, and dignity" among blacks.

Murphy also hopes the month will help to bring about better understanding between blacks and whites. "Black history isn't going to be the savior of racism in this country," Murphy stated, though he hopes it will help to "break

down the stereotypes."

Increased awareness of the role of blacks in history can benefit people of all ethnic backgrounds.

Murphy pointed out a better understanding of others can be rewarding in many ways. "You are more marketable if you can deal with people who are different from you," he stated.

Behrend freshman Bridget O'Donnell expressed "We can all be proud of the accomplishments made by black Americans as well as Americans of all ethnic backgrounds. It is inspiring to hear about things that Americans have invented and contributed to history. We are cheating ourselves out of part of our heritage as Americans by leaving out blacks."

This February, Behrend College is promoting black history through a series of programs offered to students.