

Plastics lab

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that is continually changing. If you teach what was taught five years ago, it'd be hieroglyphics," says Koch.

Matt Stebick, twelfth semester plastics engineering major, is very enthusiastic about the program.

He says, "It's one of the best programs around because of the experience the faculty has with the industry...[as well as] the vast variety of lab experience, computer knowledge and faculty knowledge that we gain from also."

Undergrads gain research experience

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conference will be held in Modena and Florence, Italy at the end of May.

The research that Finn and Steele have been doing here at Behrend involves the use of the scanning electron microscope (SEM).

They are working with Dr. Paul Barney, biology lecturer, and Dr. Larry Ekroat, associate professor of biology.

"Being able to work with the SEM is a great benefit," said Finn.

He collects Proptera alata (clams) from Lake Erie. From these clams, cells are taken and examined under the SEM.

"The good thing about the SEM is being able to see the surface texture of the cells. With a light microscope, the image is only two dimensional, but with the SEM the image is three dimensional," said Steele.

Steele began doing research last semester and learned how to use the SEM. She is a sixth semester biology major and plans to continue on to graduate or medical school.

Both students say they enjoy being able to do this kind of work at Behrend as undergraduates.

"I would have no chance to do this at State because it would be all graduate level," said Finn.

Behrend wins local blood drive

Behrend has been declared the winner of the "Greater Erie Collegiate Blood Drive Competition" held during Alcohol Awareness Week last October.

Of the schools that competed, Behrend won the competition with 5.39 percentage.

Mercyhurst came in second with 4.3 percent, and Gannon was third with 2.71 percent.

These numbers were calculated by dividing the number of participants by the number of individuals on the roster. This put all groups on the same level.

The competition produced 338 units of blood which were used for patients in Erie hospitals.

Tau Kappa Epsilon was the winner of the first part of the Penn State Behrend Clubs and Organizations Blood Drive Competition.

The conclusion of this event will be held during National Collegiate Drug Awareness Week, March 5 to 9.

A \$25 prize will be awarded to the club or organization that has the highest number of individuals who donate.

Behrend student to be published

Pastor Ray Sines, eighth semester English major and former Collegian staff writer, sold his first fiction short story, "The Other Side of Harry," to the Evangel, and international religious magazine with a circulation of approximately 500,000.

Sines entered his story in a contest sponsored by the magazine. His story was awarded second place out of 143 submittals.

"I didn't think I had a chance of winning," said Sines. "First, the submittal deadline was on Sunday January 15; I mailed it on the 16. Second, I competed with professional and free-lance writers."

"It wasn't much money (\$30), [but] I was just thankful to be published while being an

undergraduate," said Sines.

The roots of this story began in Dr. Michael Simmon's Communication 201 class. The following semester Sines fictionalized it for Chris Dubb's Fiction Writing 212.

He put his final touches on the story in Professor James Davis' Fiction 412 writing workshop.

"Behrend has several published writers: I feel that students need to take more advantage of this experience," said Sines. "Nothing ventured, nothing gained."

Sines is in the process of writing an autobiography for his senior project titled "The Cost of the Call."

He plans to continue his creative writing education (graduate level) in New England after finishing his book.

Survey suggests today's students are more careerist

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Boyer.

A respondent who wrote about this concern feels students expect too many answers from teachers which, in turn, takes away "the academic joy [which] comes through learning."

This particular teacher rewards those who exhibit original thinking with a higher grade.

Not all students, though, are careerists.

"...there are still a number of students who are interested in long-term personal growth and broadly conceptualized learning...," wrote George.

Separately, some Behrend faculty members expressed their dislike for the emphasis placed on

research and publication.

"There is too much emphasis placed on research and not enough on whether or not students learn. Being a good researcher doesn't make you a good teacher," responded one faculty member.

"Publish or perish" is still the main pressure on faculty, and this is certainly true at Behrend... This misplaced emphasis is a significant drawback for the students and a severe discouragement for faculty who want to devote most of their work time to teaching," wrote another.

One response suggested some faculty members should be allowed to specialize in teaching while others concentrate on

research.

While the results of some questions in *The Collegian's* sampling vary considerably from those of the Carnegie Foundation, a few responses are quite comparable.

As for whether they believe standards in higher education are lowering, 69.2 percent of those asked in *The Collegian's* survey agreed that they are lowering as did 67 percent of the faculty in the Carnegie Foundation finding.

Seventy-seven percent of those questioned in the Carnegie Foundation survey and 80.2 percent in *The Collegian's* sampling felt there are interesting developments occurring in their field of study.

Ice storm cancels Boyer speech

by Tony Olivito
Collegian News Editor

Dr. Ernest L. Boyer, president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, cancelled his speech at Behrend last Thursday because of transportation problems caused by the ice storm.

According to Dave Shields, Associate Dean of Student

Services, Boyer's afternoon flight from Philadelphia to Erie was cancelled.

After conditions improved in Erie, he scheduled another flight for later in the evening.

However, as the storm moved east, Boyer was not guaranteed departure from Philadelphia.

Shields said Boyer decided to cancel his speech because of the severe weather and the time that

would be involved traveling.

Boyer's speech has not been rescheduled.

Shields added with the many events planned for the rest of the semester and Boyer's schedule, there was no possible alternative date.

Shields mentioned that Boyer is interested in speaking at Behrend and it could be arranged for him to speak next year.

Winners of 1990 Sonnenberg Poetry Contest announced

The 1990 winners of the Kenneth Jonathan Sonnenberg Poetry Award have been announced. This year's entries were judged by Douglas Carlson, a published poet and teacher at Jamestown Community College.

First place in the competition was awarded to Ellen Goldberg for her poem "When my parents die." Goldberg, a 1989 Behrend graduate, is currently working on

her graduate degree in psychology at Clark University. She placed second in last year's competition.

Suzanne Segal won second prize for her entry "Talking." Segal is a senior English major presently working on her senior thesis in creative writing.

The third place award was given to Chris Sorgen, for her poem "at 9:15 a.m. on my 22nd." Sorgen is a Behrend

graduate in History, planning to attend graduate school to study history or mythology.

The Kenneth Jonathan Sonnenberg Poetry Award was instituted in honor of Sonnenberg, a 1985 graduate of Behrend. Sonnenberg planned to attend the University of Vermont to obtain a masters in English. He died before the fall semester was to begin.

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