Continuing Education and Police New parking lots planned and Safety offices relocated

By Floyd J. Csir Collegian Staff Writer

The relocation of the Continuing Education and Police and Safety offices are just the start of Behrend's expansion plans over the next few years.

So far, Continuing Education is still in the same location off of Jordan Road, but is actively looking for a site in downtown Eric. The current Continuing Education building will be demolished to make room for the new library/academic complex scheduled to be built in the next few years.

Janet Patterson, director of Continuing Education, eagerly awaits the department's move to a site off-campus.

"The college has grown so quickly we need to answer the needs of business and industry in expanding our services to benefit students and clients," she said.

Out of the eight to ten sites proposed, one is currently being negotiated for a lease. Until the agreement is finalized, the chosen racility won't be announced, said Patterson. She expects to sign the lease within ten days.

Search for a new location began in January, with selection criteria including "office space, classrooms and conference facilities," said Patterson.

The move will not affect

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continuing education classes. mostly because of a low number of classes presently taking place, Patterson said.

"The new site will provide a better working environment for clients and students," said

Although most classes will be conducted at the new facility next semester, some engineering courses will still use classrooms and laboratories on campus.

While Continuing Education is still looking for a home, the Department of Police and Safety has found one.

Once located at the South Cottage, Police and Safety outgrew its offices and moved to a new location on the east side of Jordan Road.

Not only was space a problem but communication was difficult for Randy Hoffman, manager of Police and Safety, whose office was in the Glenhill farmhouse and South Cottage station, said secretary Pat McClellan.

Advantages to the modernized station include increased ability to answer phone calls, a student patrol office, and interview rooms for potential criminals.

Moving into the Jordan Road location during registration week proved difficult, said McClellan, yet except for a few office space adjustments the transplantation was a success and without injury.

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price tag isn't known, Ream said the lot is within the budgeted \$500,000.

When both lots are completed, more than 460 new parking spaces will have been made.

"The lot behind the maintenance building will hold 232 cars, while the lot to be built behind the Hammermill and Zurn buildings will have a 233 vehicle capacity," Ream said.

In the meantime, Police and Safety says it 's taking a relaxed approach to regulations.

"We're trying to cut as many people a break as we can," said Hoffman, "While we're not ignoring parking regulations, we realize parking is really tight right now and we're trying to accommodate everyone."

Hoffman said most of the parking rules and regulations haven't changed since last year.

"The biggest change, as far as rules go, is regulations and definitions are spelled out more, which makes it easier for us to enforce them," he said.

The biggest change students will notice, however, is the price of parking permits.

Last year students had to pay \$15 a semester or \$25 a year to park on campus. This year students now must pay \$30 a semester or \$55 a year.

Faculty and staff must pay \$8 a month to park on campus, which translates to almost \$89 a year. Wage payroll employees will be charged \$.05 per hour worked, with a \$3.70 maximum per biweekly paycheck.

Originally, administrators also considered charging students \$8 a month as well, but those plans changed.

'Apparently the administration

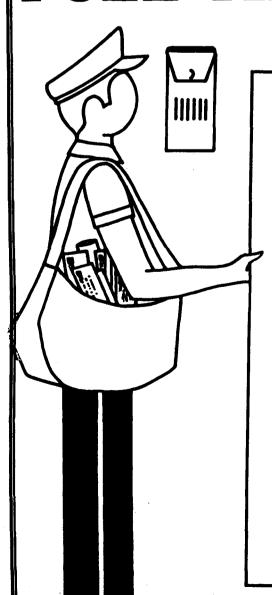
decided that \$89 would be a little steep for students." Hoffman said. Administrators said the increase in parking stickers will support the new parking lots, as well as

upkeep of the older lots. Another change is the increase in traffic fines and citations.

"The price of tickets and citations were increased at the end of last year, mainly to provide a method for getting people to comply with the parking regulations on campus," Hoffman

"The fines are the same as the ones at University Park and will hopefully decrease the number of violations on campus. We've already seen a big decrease in the number of citations and will probably see a bigger drop after the two lots are finished."

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