

When lectures just don't cut it

by Kristin Wasilewski
Collegian Staff

The Learning Assistance Center (LAC) changed locations this year by moving into the second floor of the library.

Bob Patterson, director of the LAC, believes the move from behind the Glenhill Farmhouse will help a lot.

"Once the tables get moved into the library, this will be a great new location," Patterson said. "This will definitely be more convenient."

This is the first time that the LAC will have adequate space and facilities to accommodate students and tutors, Patterson said.

The LAC is a free tutoring service provided by Behrend. The Center served about 1,000 students last fall and spring, and Patterson hopes it will serve even more with its new facilities.

Tutoring is available in various subjects including math, science and foreign languages.

Specifically, freshman subjects are the most popularly requested tutoring services, Patterson said.

The LAC is primarily staffed by upperclass students.

Although the tutors do get paid for their efforts, most of them participate to help other students.

One of those tutors, Chuck Holmes, said he tutors because he enjoys it.

"You have to enjoy helping people."

Jennifer Obbenreder, another tutor, added that she finds it very personally rewarding.

"Tutoring is definitely not easy work," Obbenreder said. "It also requires a lot of time and patience."

The Center has a sign-up system, but walk-ins appointments are available. However, the sign-up students are taken first.

Some of the tutoring sessions occur because of recommendations by professors, Patterson said.

Also, professors receive notices if a student in their class attends a tutoring session. This is so a teacher knows if students are having problems with his/her class, Patterson said.



Jen Colvin/Collegian Photographer

Two students enjoy the new Learning Assistance Center, now on the second floor of the library.

Child Care Center begins first year of operation for Behrend community

by Hal D. Coffey
News Editor

The Penn State-Behrend Child Care Center opened for business on August 16 after six years of planning.

Elsie Diduch, Child Care Center Director, said she was very excited about the facility.

"It enables single moms or returning adult students the chance to come back to school without having to worry about where to send their kids during classes."

The Center's purpose is to provide child care services to student, faculty and staff of Behrend, as well as the local community, Diduch said.

"We try to provide developmentally appropriate curriculum for each of the ages."

The Center, on Station Road, provides day care and pre-school services for 76 children, ages six weeks to 12 years. They are taught by 10 regular adult staff and six part-time ~~week~~ study students.

The staff use a hands-on approach to teaching, Diduch said. "We teach by learning through the senses and individualized attention."

However, the children are encouraged to develop at their own pace, Diduch said. "They



Craig Brown/Collegian Photographer

Children at the new Behrend Child Care Center take time out of their busy schedule to smile for our camera. As you can see the center promotes fun education for everyone!

are challenged at their own level. We provide enriching activities for each child."

Fees depend on age of the child and frequency of visits. There is a variety of fee options

available, Diduch said. Those associated with Behrend are given a reduced rate.

The types of programs vary from one hour per week to full-time (7am-3pm).

The entire project was conceived by the Child Care Task Force Committee in 1987. It was designed to look into the need for child care for students, faculty and staff at Behrend.

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