

Behrend takes one from Michigan

by Reagan Warner
Collegian Staff

Penn State may have lost the "big game" to the Michigan Wolverines, but Behrend did gain a Michigan doctoral graduate to teach mechanical engineering.

Dr. Jack Young received his Ph.D. in bioengineering from the University of Michigan in 1972 after finishing his undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame.

After Michigan, he went on to the University of Toronto to complete post-doctoral work.

Prior to teaching at Behrend, Young spent fourteen years at American Sterilizer as the assistant director of research and then as director of research. He also does consulting to keep informed of the current needs and developments in the industry.

Young now teaches junior and senior level mechanical engineering courses in thermal sciences, as well as a senior mechanical engineering design project course.

Young believes students gradually warm up to his teaching style.

"Overall there is initially an adjustment period," Young said.

Instead of having the students copy notes from the board during class, they receive handouts.

"This allows students to cover a large amount of material, and

it gives the students a chance to ask more questions," Young said.

He feels his most rewarding teaching experience has been "seeing graduates leaving here with a self-confidence."

"They're getting over being a student and becoming functional, working professionals to compete in the working world or in graduate school," Young said. "As a professor, I really enjoy the interaction with the students."

In reference to how college has changed since he was a student, Young said he has not seen much of a change in the lectures, but has seen computers develop in importance.

"When I first came back, the thing that struck me was that it hasn't changed that much in terms of lecture," Young said. "However, students can do much more because of the computer technology."

He is interested in interdisciplinary research requiring the application of engineering principles to biological systems.

His current work involves conducting experimental microbiological and physical studies, along with computer simulation to understand and develop guidelines for steam sterilization of complex biotechnology equipment.

Two of his former students are working on another project for him. Those students are Barbara Ferko, a biology graduate, and Rich Gaber, an engineering graduate.

"I enjoy the interaction with the students in the research just as much as I do the interaction I have with them in teaching."

He, along with Ferko, wrote a paper titled "Temperature Profiles and Sterilization Within a Dead-Ended Tube."

The paper appeared in the

July/August 1992 issue of the Journal of Parental Science and Technology.

The Parenteral Drug Association recognized it as the best paper published in the journal for 1992.

The co-authors are to receive the Fred Simon Award at the PDA annual meeting in Orlando, Florida in November of this year.

As for out-of-class activities, Young's hobbies and interests

consist of gardening and wood working.

He also says his 115 year-old house is something that keeps him busy. He has to keep everything repaired.

Young resides with his wife Jean in Cambridge Springs. They have three children.

Their eldest daughter, Jennifer, is at the University of Virginia. Their son Jason is a high school senior, and their youngest, Janel, is in ninth grade.



Craig Brown/Collegian Photographer
Faculty Profile of the Week: Dr. Jack Young, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Students teaching students



Craig Brown/Collegian Photographer
Reading, writing and arithmetic: LaCresha Hall, a 5th semester Psychology major, offers a helping hand to a student at Diehl Elementary School.

by Kristin Wasilewski
Collegian Staff

If you've ever been interested in helping children learn, Penn State has a program for you to get involved in.

The program is set up between Behrend College and Diehl Elementary School.

Penn State students have the opportunity to go to Diehl and tutor students who need some extra help.

The tutoring program takes place Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of every week. The Diehl students stay after school and tutoring begins approximately at 2:30 p.m.

Mrs. Ellen Brzezicki is one of the Diehl teachers who watches over the program. She is very enthusiastic about the program.

"It's really been a good thing," she said, "seeing college students gives the kids hope that there is something out there, and that it is worthwhile to study."

The program was in effect last year also, but there is one difference this year. Now Behrend provides transportation for the tutors to and from Diehl.

Brzezicki said, "It's going to be better than last year. The

biggest difference is reliable transportation for tutors."

Twelve Diehl students are involved in the program. There are enough tutors so that students get some one-on-one attention.

According to Brzezicki, "The tutors get to know the kids more personally. The students build up a trust."

The tutors themselves seem to have a positive outlook on the program also.

Debbie Miller, a third semester sophomore, said "I definitely think it's a good thing. There are a few children who need extra help and it's good that we have students at Behrend who are willing to go out and help these children."

Kimberly Epps, a first semester freshman, thinks, "It's a good program. It's more beneficial to the (Diehl) students. It's not as equally beneficial to the tutors."

Leigh Barnes is the head of the Diehl program on the Behrend side. She says that after a student turns in an application, "I make contact with the student, and give them a set of guidelines for the program."