



Early Learning Center Attains Accreditation

The Early Learning Center at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, has retained its accreditation as a National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Academy for Early Childhood Program—a standard the center has maintained since its initial accreditation in 2005.

“There is a major component to this accreditation that is worth noting—participation is voluntary,” said Eunice Moore, director of the Early Learning Center. “We are committed to providing the highest quality of care possible to the children and families who we serve, and we want to ensure that standard of care is maintained year after year.”

NAEYC requires an early childhood program to complete four steps to achieve its initial accreditation. Once accredited, programs are required to submit annual reports, maintain changes in NAEYC standards and criteria, and are even subject to random, unannounced on-site visits. NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood accreditation requirements were developed with input from early childhood educators and are designed to increase the accountability of the system for children and their families.

The Penn State Behrend Early Learning Center opened in the fall of 1993 and has been in its current location in Knowledge Park since 2001. The center provides services for children between 6 weeks and 6 years of age with staff-to-child ratios that are better than those required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, is a comprehensive residential college offering 34 bachelor’s, six associate, four pre-professional and two graduate degree programs with 22 minors to more than 4,600 students. Focused on providing a student-centered environment, Penn State Behrend connects its students to a major research and land-grant institution on a campus enriched by more than 110 clubs and organizations, 21 NCAA varsity teams and 19 intramural sports. Penn State Behrend is named in recognition of a donation by Mary Behrend, widow of Ernst Behrend, who founded the Hammermill Paper Co. in Erie in 1898. The Behrend family lived on the 400-acre Glenhill Farm, which is the core of the Penn State Campus today. For more information, visit behrend.psu.edu.

A Look Inside:

- ◆ Intern to Speak in Guatemala
- ◆ Ben Franklin Technology Investment Grew Economy
- ◆ Upcoming Events

PSB Music at Noon Concert Series

Proudly celebrating their 19th season of exposing audiences of all ages to the diversity of chamber music that exists today. In a free *Music at Noon* series, listeners are treated to dialogue and interaction with world-class musicians in an informal setting where lunches and casual attire are welcome.

The Logan Series is made possible by generous support from the Kay Logan Trust, the Arts Council of Erie, the Penn State Behrend Student Activity Fee, Pennsylvania Partners of the Arts, Mid-Atlantic Foundation, the Erie Arts Endowment, and Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour. **Stop by the Reed Union Building, McGarvey Commons on Tuesday, March 31st at Noon to hear THE ALBERS TRIO perform.**





Ben Franklin Technology Investment Grew

PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY BY \$9.3 BILLION, PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY LEAGUE STUDY SHOWS

Impact study shows job creation, 3.5 to 1 payback for every dollar invested

HARRISBURG, PA – Government investment in early-stage technology companies and in innovation in established manufacturers in Pennsylvania from 2002 to 2006 injected billions into the state economy, returned \$3.50 for each \$1 spent and created thousands of new high-wage jobs, according to a new study released by the Pennsylvania Economy League.

The economic impact study shows that technology companies funded by the Ben Franklin Technology Partners (BFTP), a statewide economic development network, boosted the state economy (gross state product) by \$9.3 billion from 2002-2006.

“The study shows that as federal and state policymakers look for proven ways to stimulate the economy, investments in new technology companies and industries should be a priority,” said Rebecca Bagley, deputy secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

Ben Franklin funding comes from the Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority under guidelines that target promising companies in technology-driven fields such as information technology, biotechnology, nanotechnology, electronics, communications, advanced manufacturing, advanced materials and alternative energy and green technology.

“We found that companies and communities across the Commonwealth have experienced real benefits from the assistance provided by Ben Franklin,” said Economy League of Greater Philadelphia executive director Steven T. Wray. “Ben Franklin companies have developed new products, established production capacity and contributed new jobs and income. They’ve also expanded the state’s tax base.”

“From 2002 though 2006, the Commonwealth received more than \$517 million in additional state tax revenues as a direct result of Ben Franklin programs,” added Stephen P. Brawley, president and CEO of Ben Franklin’s regional Partner in University Park, Pa. “That represents a 3 ½ to 1 payback to the state on its \$140 million investment during the same period.”

Ben Franklin Technology Partners CNP provides operational assistance and investment capital to emerging tech-based companies, as well as existing manufacturers for the purpose of creating and retaining jobs in Pennsylvania. Contact the main office of Ben Franklin in University Park at (814) 863-4559, or see our website at www.cnp.benfranklin.org.

EDCEC Intern to speak in Guatemala

William McAndrew of the Economic Development Corp. of Erie County will be traveling to Guatemala City, Guatemala on April 5-7, 2009 to attend the 2009 Association of Private Enterprise Education (APEE) International Conference hosted by the Universidad Francisco Marroquín at the Westin Camino Real. This conference is dedicated to teaching the ethical, legal, and economic principles of a society of free and responsible persons. In the past economists such as Milton Friedman have spoken at APEE on topics ranging from school vouchers, monopoly, healthcare, drug control, and human freedom. In April, William will be discussing research he has done on the impact economic freedom has had on air emissions in the continental U.S.



William McAndrew, Senior in Finance & Economics at PS Erie.



Celebrate Spring with Knowledge Park!

March Happy Hour at Molly Brannigans

Join the fun on Thursday, March 26th at Molly Brannigans (506 State Street) from 5 to 7 PM! Celebrate spring with free appetizers and half off select drinks! RSVP by Friday, March 20th to 899-6022 or rslomski@edcec.org. See you there!



Blood Drive at Knowledge Center

Knowledge Park's first Blood Drive of the year is March 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Jordan Room at Knowledge Center. Please help others in need and donate!



American Cancer Society

Daffodil Days®

Give Daffodils. Give Hope.™



Daffodil Delivery week of March 16th!

A special thanks to the following Knowledge Park Tenants for Donating:

Harborcreek Historical Society

Economic Development Corporation of Erie County

Jameson Publishing

Knowledge Park raised \$227!

All contributions to Daffodil Days will support the American Cancer Society's efforts to fund groundbreaking cancer research, provide up-to-date cancer information and education, advocate for public health policies that benefit the community, and offer free services that improve the quality of life for patients and their families.



Don't Miss These Upcoming March Events!



- Daffodils will be delivered to Knowledge Center during the week of March 16th and will be available for pick up!
- KP Blood Drive March 16th at Knowledge Center from 9 to 1 PM!
- KP Tenant Meeting March 18th at 8 am in the Board Room at Knowledge Center.
- Celebrate Spring at Molly Brannigans: March 26th from 5 to 7 PM!
- Music at Noon Concert Series, The Albers Trio March 31st at the Reed Student Union Building.

Spring Ahead to more Daylight!

Don't forget to change your clocks one hour ahead on Sunday, March 8th!
Spring is just around the corner!!



Junker Center Spring Break Hours



Friday, March 6	7 to 5 PM
Saturday, March 7	Closed
Sunday, March 8	Closed
Monday, March 9-Friday, March 13	Noon to 5 PM
Saturday, March 14	Closed
Sunday, March 15	4 to Midnight

