



## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

- **Continuing Education**, which develops and delivers credit and noncredit education and training programs for business and industry, education, and others, and provides assistance for companies seeking grants to defer training costs.
- **WP\$E AM 1450** is a 1,000-watt commercially licensed radio station serving Erie County, Pennsylvania. The WP\$E Partners for Business™ interview series is a unique, ongoing schedule of commentary by northwest Pennsylvania CEOs and entrepreneurs.
- **Educational outreach programs**, such as College for Kids, Minority College Experience, Women in Science and Engineering, Penn State Educational Partnership Program, and Math Options.
- **More than 20 undergraduate educational programs directly related to business and industry.**
  - ▶ Engineering and engineering technology programs: mechanical, electrical, computer, and software engineering; two- and four-year plastics, mechanical, and electrical and computer engineering technology; with more than 1,000 students enrolled and nearly 190 students graduating annually.
  - ▶ Business programs such as accounting, business economics, economics, finance, international business, management, management information systems, and marketing; with more than 900 students enrolled and nearly 250 students graduating annually.
  - ▶ Other related programs including biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, and psychology
- One of only three accredited baccalaureate programs nationwide in **Plastics Engineering Technology**.
- An AACSB-accredited **MBA program** that has produced more than 250 graduates.
- A **graduate certificate in Project Management and master of Project Management degree program**.
- More than 50 engineering and engineering technology student **senior projects** annually, which provide solutions to industrial and engineering problems and questions.
- Nearly 150 **student internships** established annually.
- Annual **Penn State Erie Career Fair** bringing students, faculty, and staff together with company representatives from more than 80 local, regional, national, and international organizations.

## STATE-RELATED PROGRAMS

- **PENNSYLVANIA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (PENNTAP)** is an industrial technology extension partnership. The mission of PENNTAP is to strengthen Pennsylvania's economy by providing scientific and technological support to business and industry, focusing primarily on improving the competitiveness of small- and medium-sized manufacturing companies.
- **BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNER OF CENTRAL AND NORTHERN PENNSYLVANIA** provides loans to assist Pennsylvania manufacturers with research and development, technology transfer, and training.
- **CENTER FOR EBUSINESS AND ADVANCED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (EBIZITPA)** was developed to establish Pennsylvania as a regional center in e-business and advanced information technologies and to accelerate economic development throughout the Commonwealth. By providing opportunities and expertise in the latest e-business and information technology techniques, businesses will get the help they need to enter the digital economy and better compete.
- **PENNSYLVANIA SEA GRANT** promotes the ecological and economic sustainability of Pennsylvania's coastal resources through research and outreach including science-based extension, education, and communication.
- **NORTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA INDUSTRIAL RESOURCE CENTER (NWIRC)** is one of seven IRCs in Pennsylvania. The mission of the NWIRC is to enhance the competitive performance of Pennsylvania's small- and medium-sized manufacturers. Penn State is one of seven founding members of the NWIRC.

## KNOWLEDGE PARK AT PENN STATE ERIE

Knowledge Park is a 200-acre area of campus reserved for knowledge-based organizations, allowing them to locate near and take full advantage of the college's intellectual and physical resources. Park tenants are closely linked to Penn State Behrend's technology transfer, applied research, education, and outreach services in order to accelerate competitive advantage and regional economic development. The park is being developed in collaboration with the Greater Erie Industrial Development Corporation and currently has twelve tenants and a total of 500 employees.

## **OUTREACH CENTERS**

- **APPLIED ENERGY RESEARCH CENTER** provides research and technology transfer on innovative, patentable advanced manufacturing products that will improve energy efficiency in the industrial, power generation, and transportation business sectors. The initial research will concentrate on computational modeling and processing of ceramic and composite materials, and possibly nanofabrication of components.
- **APPLIED RESEARCH & DESIGN CENTER** provides state-of-the-art applied research and technology transfer to benefit industry in areas related to computer, electrical, mechanical, and software engineering. Selected areas of expertise include computer-aided design, finite element analysis, manufacturing systems and processes, machine vision, measurements, instrumentation and control, signal processing, fluid flow and heat transfer analysis, vibration, and data communication networks.
- **CENTER FOR CREDIT AND CONSUMER RESEARCH** examines issues pertaining to the credit card usage habits of consumers in the United States and international markets. Faculty and staff affiliates conduct empirical research related to credit card usage and provide educational outreach to help consumers manage their credit card debt. Research focuses on the ethical problems and risks associated with credit card usage among vulnerable populations in society.
- **CENTER FOR MATHEMATICAL BIOLOGY** coordinates, encourages, and promotes collaborative efforts between mathematicians and biologists and sponsors a summer research program for students. Activities of the center focus on areas of current faculty expertise: electrical activity in nerve and secretory cells, spiral wave formation in chemical and biological systems, and modeling the effects of chemotherapy on cancer.
- **CENTER FOR ORGANIZATIONAL RESEARCH AND EVALUATION (CORE)** was established to provide high quality research and evaluation for the social service base of northwest Pennsylvania. CORE staff provides cutting-edge evaluations of program effectiveness, identification of best practices, and grant-prospecting services, with a focus on healthy youth development.
- **ECONOMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF ERIE (ERIE)** collects, analyzes, interprets, and disseminates data and the resulting knowledge related to Erie County's economy. The institute's research is designed to provide an enhanced understanding of the regional economic structure and its relation to the national and international economies. The institute also developed and maintains [www.ERIEdata.org](http://www.ERIEdata.org).
- **THE INSTITUTE ON THE AMERICAN DREAM** explores the bright and dark sides of individual, ethnic, and national dreams. The institute will define, analyze and compare dreams, seek their origins, and evaluate who wins and who loses under the various definitions.
- **JANET NEFF SAMPLE CENTER FOR MANNERS AND CIVILITY** was founded to foster a civility-enriched academic experience within the college community. It provides resources for teaching, research, and co-curricular programs leading to an understanding of the global, theoretical dimensions of civility as well as to an enhancement of practical interpersonal and public communication skills.
- **RFID CENTER OF EXCELLENCE** assists businesses in implementing Radio Frequency Identification Technology, which increases productivity and reduces costs; assists them in preparing for supply chain customer compliance; expedites information technology providers' understanding of RFID technologies; conducts and coordinates applied research in the areas of RFID technology and supply chain management; and develops RFID implementation service offerings, such as executive briefings, public and customized training programs, pilot projects, and an internship program.
- **PLASTICS COMPUTER-AIDED ENGINEERING CENTER** serves as a plastic industry resource for the development and deployment of computer-aided engineering and design technologies. The center's mission is to justify the implementation of flow analysis software technologies in companies that develop, design, or manufacture plastic products and tooling.
- **PLASTICS TECHNOLOGY CENTER (PTC)** assists plastic-related companies in becoming more competitive. The center is an operating unit of the Northwest Pennsylvania Industrial Resource Center. Selected services include product and part design, process improvement, rapid prototyping and tooling, materials testing and analysis, and metal to plastic conversion.

3/16/07

*For additional information:*  
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