

What will four-year programs mean for campus life?

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After ten years of discussion, Brevard College is taking a huge step into the future. The introduction of a four year fine arts program has created mixed feelings from the general student populace, who have many questions concerning this program.

Most feel that this is a good idea as it will attract more people, increase Brevard College's reputation and make it more diversified. However, other argue that the school will favor the fine arts major students. Others suggest that BC would lose its reputation as an academic college and only be known for its fine arts program. Above all, they are interested in knowing if the college staff will become less strict on alcohol and other violations.

I approached Steve Martin with these question, and other, to get a basic overview on what was going on. Martin disagrees with the opinion that Brevard will lose its academic standing, as he claims that, although many courses they are instituting are designed to support the fine arts program, there will still be a lot of emphasis on good, solid

academic courses. This is not to say that fine arts courses are not academic, Martin says, in some cases they are more difficult than most classes. And as Martin states "We are not willing to sacrifice our reputation."

Martin said the alcohol ban will most likely not be lifted, but it was an issue they needed to discuss. Students argue now that since many students will be of age to drink, they should be allowed to drink on campus. However, the majority of the students will not be of age, and they have to make rules that apply to the general student body. A new rule about providing alcohol to a minor will also be implemented next year in accordance to the arrival of older students. Martin also commented on the fact that the government is putting more pressure on most of the colleges and universities to become substance-free, which includes alcohol.

Another issue brought up was the fear that the amount of drugs circulated would increase with the introduction of these students. Martin doesn't feel that there will be an increase, as he stated that it is usually the freshmen that do the experimenting and he feels that the

older students will, in most cases, provide a good role model and in general create a "more mature overall student body." Even if this is not always the case, any drug abusers will eventually be caught or they will flunk out, as stated by Martin, and then their influence will not be a lasting one.

Basically, the implementation of a fine arts program means offering a Bachelor of Arts in either music or art and allows students to study for four or five years. Especially in fine arts, students tend to identify with one teacher, or mentor, and as we have excellent faculty here at BC, this will work well for students.

Why the fine arts department? It was chosen because it is believed to be the strongest program at Brevard and they figured they should go with their strength. Martin say, "There are many four year liberal arts schools, so we want to offer a four year degree in programs that students want so that they can find employment after school."

To help the fine arts major, new courses and programs are being developed. A common combination of a major in fine arts and a minor in

business management has prompted the school to offer that in a new course. Many classes will be upgraded, but not only to the advantage of the fine arts students. They have decided to have a Junior College diploma for wilderness leadership, add another sociology class in marriage and family and offer new computer programs. All these things are open to the general student body.

That is not the only effect it will have on the students. There will be more staff positions available to juniors and seniors as residential assistants, and any R.A.s currently working may want to continue in the following years.

With all these new students, a plan is needed to arrange the housing and admissions for the arrival of more students. First, Ross Hall will be opening up in the fall semester for the fine arts students. also, the policies concerning living off campus state that a student should be over 21 or in their fifth semester. A lot of students coming next fall will be applicable and will be granted permission if there is no real reason to say no.

In This Issue:

Where does your tuition go?
Page 3

Bob White brings talent to
BC
Page 3

BC to hook up with Internet
Page 4

Exam stress can be overcome
Page 4

Student Spotlight:
Justin McGuire
Page 5

Sports
Pages 6 & 7

Student Guideline Violations
down this year
Page 8

BC to start clogging program
Page 8



'They Only Know One Way To Play: All Out, All The Time'

Members of the Brevard College Women's Soccer Team pose with their NJCAA second-place trophy in Essex, Md., after their hard-fought battle with Champlain College. From left to right, kneeling, are Melissa McIntosh, Dawn Haessig, Jennifer Hill, Sheila Best, Tammy Morris and Michelle Joyce. Standing, left to right, are coach Joe Bartlinski, Tracy Pignataro, Sarah Milona, an unknown NJCAA official, Tyann Blissett, Jennifer Walsh, Jennifer Williams, Stacey Kuhr, Jennifer Bennett and Sarah Thompson of the NJCAA. For complete national tournament details, see Page 7.