

## Committee Formed To Conquer Environmental Problems!

by Daniel Durante

This is an introduction to the committee and a general commentary on the problem today. Dan Durante, with the help of other students, will form the new committee. Dan is also a member of the Capitolist staff.

Our earth is going to hell, and we are all responsible directly or indirectly for its horrible condition. And, since we are responsible for its condition, it is our responsibility to fight against environmental decay, to save the earth, not to mention ourselves. Most of us are considered part of the younger generation, hence, this is our earth more than anyone else's, for we will have to live with it longer for better or worse. In our youth, we also have something going for us in our fight against environmental decay. This is one of the many reasons we make the most sense out of a bad environmental situation. Rene Dubus wrote, "The most hopeful sign for the future is an attempt by the rebellious young to reject our social values, values which mislead us to believe we are helping our society when in reality we are destroying it."

The crisis we face now is one that affects not only young people but one that affects everyone in the way that earlier crises never did, for the Environmental Crisis is one that affects the future of the entire world.

A revolution is truly needed in our values, our outlooks on economic organizations, and even the way that we deal with such crises. It has been the American way to wait until we are in the middle of a crisis before we make an attempt to do anything about it. If we deal with the Environmental crisis in the same way its effects will be irreversible and our Earth as we know it will come to an end.

This Environmental Crisis is one that basically stems from the legacy of economic and technological advances which have been pursued in the absence of ecological knowledge. Some of the other root causes are the exploding population, the massive military establishment equipped with and committed to employ from its arsenal both nuclear and biochemical weapons. A set of traditional values which may have sustained the human species in the past but now inhibits us from responding to the "present crisis".

We have to truly realize, possibly for the first time, that we are all dependent upon the natural ecosystem, and we must realize that any act performed which endangers this system should be considered a vicious and malicious act against all mankind. Pollution in all its forms is violence, environmental violence, a violence that will affect many more people than any other type of violence the earth has known, whether it be crime, war or whatever. I find it kind of amusing in a sad way, that the Judicial system of this country is set up in such a way that it has the responsibility under law to prosecute the performers of violent acts against society

and against humanity, but at the same time the most violent offenders the world has ever known bear no responsibility for their acts.

The revolution that will save our environment must happen now and it must be as effective or more effective than the revolution that this country was founded on. A revolution that stood for the rights of men. Now these rights and the more basic rights to a clean and healthy environment are being challenged and are in jeopardy of being lost. We must fight for our rights, and we must fight against false rights. We do not have the right to exploit whatever lies ahead of us without concern or regard for anyone who might follow. We have to overcome the apathy of people, we will all have to make sacrifices in this revolution as people have had to do in every other revolution, the difference with this revolution is, if we lose it, it will most likely lead to the extinction of man.

The first step in this revolution should be to make people aware of the seriousness of the problem, this will be an educational process, one which we all must become an active part of. With the new information revolution we now have, perhaps for the first time the potential for self understanding for an understanding of our relationship with each other, and with the environment. This educational process will have to harness this information revolution to man's adaptability. One of the major objectives of this committee will be to carry out such an educating process. A process that will effectively reach all the members of our local communities.

We then must make our concerns known to our political leaders, or find new leaders that will work with us. We need new laws, new institutions, new political action, action which must be initiated by the people, by ourselves.

We have to initiate a common concern for the community, the country, and the world. A concern which is impaired by our selfish tendencies, tendencies which are fed by our present socio-economic system.

Let me mention at this time, one of these systems which drastically needs change, The Corporate System. The corporate drive is to reduce corporate cost, and invest only in machinery and systems that enhance sales and profits. The social costs of this type of a procedure, pollution, the draining of our natural resources, and many more are thrust back on the people, the consumer. I have heard it said "Environmental pollution is the price of progress." Is this true progress when we have to pay for it by the destruction of the earth and all its inhabitants? Large corporations of this country assume a conservative patriotic posture when in reality they are radical destroyers of natural resources, and the most fundamental

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## Clifford Mason - New Assistant Prof

Appointment of an assistant professor of engineering at The Pennsylvania State University's Capitol Campus, has been announced by Dr. Richard H. Heindel, dean of faculty.

He is Clifford A. Mason, former research assistant at the University's Ordnance Research Laboratory, on the University Park Campus.

A liberal arts graduate of Columbia College, Mr. Mason received his B.S. from the Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and his M.S. in electrical engineering from The Pennsylvania State University.

He served as electronic engineer for the EDO Corp., College Point, L. I., and ACF Electronics, Paramus, N. J., before joining the Ordnance Research Laboratory in 1965.

Mr. Mason is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, which recently accepted for publication his paper on "The Optimum Bandwidth of a Low Pass Filter for Detection of a Pulse in Nonstationary Noise."

He is married to the former Joyce Leigh. They are the parents of two children.

## Activities Planned . . .

by Luann Berulis

The social life on Campus is coordinated through the Social Committee. This group of students works with the other organizations in planning most of the campus social activities.

For the first time, the committee has initiated a student activities card. This card is used to gain admittance to all of the activities on campus.

Working with Steve Forman, chairman, are five co-chairmen. They are Al Litwak-finances, Mike Walsh-movies, Penny Wood-keggers, Ginger Gutekunst-dance committee, and Eileen Benjamin-Senior Ball.

Membership to the Social Committee is open to any student who is interested in planning activities on campus.

The President's Council is an organization comprised of all of the Campus club's Presidents. It meets to coordinate social activities on campus. The chairman is Steve Forman, social secretary is Ginger Gutekunst, and S.G.A. representative is Rosemary Bennett.

This column is reserved exclusively for student activities. It will keep you informed of the news and future happenings of all the clubs and organizations here on campus. If any club has information which would be newsworthy to the students, please contact any member of the newspaper staff, or phone 944-5662.

### NOTICES:

WANTED! ONE BABYSITTER! Regular babysitter needed for Monday, Wednesday, Friday, from 8:30 to 12:00, or any part of these hours. For faculty wife working part-time. One child, age 20 months. Meade Heights. Contact Mrs. Fiona Patterson 944-6461