

EDITORIAL

THE ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS WILL BE CANCELLED... Due To Lack Of Interest

An ad-hoc environmental committee was formed last year to plan Earth Day activities. It was a small group of dedicated students and faculty members who presented the "Fair of Life" in Middletown. Shortly afterwards, the environmental Committee fell apart...

This September brought Dan Durante to Capitol. Dan was coordinator of Earth Day activities at Montgomery County Community College, and he was eager to form an Environmental Committee here. Dan, aided by a few concerned students and faculty members, made the Environmental Committee a permanent, chartered Capitol Campus organization.

But they had no money. So Dan and the Committee lobbied SGA to budget them. Now they have \$250 to spend on educational programs, the Puppet Show, Earthy Day activities, speakers, films, legal advice, legal assistance, and hopefully, representation in court.

All's well with our Environmental Committee, right? Wrong! Our student body is not responding. It takes more than seven students and two faculty members to help solve the environmental crisis which is affecting us all.

We students are a hypocritical bunch. We realize the seriousness of an environmental crisis. We are outspoken about ecological problems... when we're in class. We act frustrated, and say, "But what can we do?" But when we have a chance to do some work with the Committee... sorry, Dan... too busy!

The last issue of the *Capitolist* reported that Pennsylvania's collegiate editors rated pollution number one of our nation's problems. Capitol Campus must not be "where it's at."

But there's always next semester. Maybe in January we'll all become concerned and involved. I hope so. As of now, the apathetic condition of Capitol Campus students and the condition of our environment are the same... disgusting.

Is The Board of Governors Valid?

Part 2 by Skip Lewis

It seems that misunderstanding and a lack of communication are so prevalent today that some people feel obliged to read into an opinion column what is not inferred or advocated. So seems to have been my misfortune, and a misfortune it is; but to decry the situation brings little (if any) results. So let me try to clarify in the hopes that Mr. Millman and the Board of Governors will not think so badly of me.

First, let me state that in my first article, I did not call for the dismissal of the Board of Governors. What I did say is that I wish every individual would ponder the question of whether it has become a wrong answer to a question still with us—how students living in Meade Heights should be represented and speak for their particular problems, without divorcing themselves from their fellow students. For those still not clear on what I mean, let me break it down to two words—unity and representation.

A unified student body with a representative system that covers each individual's and each group's particular representative need. All existing, unity, diversity, and representative system, without destroying the other.

Let us not resign ourselves consciously or unconsciously to building walls in a time when our survival as a student body depends on those walls crumbling. Let us not sacrifice unity and school spirit to the idea that in order to further individual and group interest we must divide ourselves. Let's bring togetherness into balance with diversity.

In essence, it would seem that Penn State Capitol Campus needs 1) a new constitution, 2) a completely revamped representative system, and 3) a student government Association that governs—while organizations and clubs stick to their chartered purposes of interest sharing, social entertaining, and cultural enrichment.

The C.C.S.C.

THE CAPITOL CAMPUS SOCIAL COMMITTEE CONTROVERSY

by Patricia A. Murphy

This article is dedicated to all those committed enough to an ideal or to a cause that they are able, through the work of their own hands to make it a reality. Specifically, it deals with the individuals who have been involved with the Capitol Campus Social Committee, through the bad times and through the good. They have had to meet and overcome many hassles, not the least of which was the financial difficulty with which they have been plagued in the past.

This is my second year as advisor of the Social Committee. I came here after working at a community college, the yearly Student Activities budget of which was a cool \$108,000. This money came from mandatory activities fee payments. Imagine my astonishment, and the changes necessary to adapt to a yearly Social Committee budget of \$5,000.00 to provide entertainment for a group not too much smaller than that which had the larger budget. To me, knowledgeable of the potential of a full-grown Student Activities program, five thousand dollars is a long way from home! It's the difference between Ray Charles and the Sand Hill Singers!

The Capitol Campus, until this year, had no activities fee. Its social program was provided as part of a per student allocation from University Park. The amount we worked with last year could not adequately meet the weekly social needs of a growing and changing student body. It became necessary to charge admission at some events to stretch what funds we had to the year's end, for such community projects as Carnival and Commencement Week. Two-thirds of the cost of Commencement week was met by the students, staff, and faculty who participated. The last third was a gift from the SGA. Otherwise, we wouldn't have met the expenses.

This fall, with the help of some 300 students who purchased the Activities Card, the Capitol Campus Social Committee was able to assist the Black Student Union, Business Club, Cheerleaders, Human Service Club, and the Meade Heights Board of Governors, and the XGI fraternity, in presenting all-campus activities which benefited these organizations financially besides allowing students to become familiar with their membership. In this sense, the Social Committee acted innovatively, for it is not traditionally within its "role" to bolster other Campus organizations. Yet we felt a responsibility to help others because we are more fortunate than they. However, we are more fortunate because we did a great deal of work to bolster our own financial resources.

To those of you who will insist that other organizations fill more students' needs than does the Social Committee, I urge you to prove that they do and work for your funding. If you feel no need for movies, dances, All-U-Day, Carnivals, Con-

(continued on page 4)

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