

THE CAPITOLIST

"All The News That Fits . . . We Print"

Vol. VIII, No. 8

CAPITOL CAMPUS - MIDDLETOWN, PA.

November 9, 1972

Dr. McDermott installed as Provost

The first provost of Capitol Campus was installed in formal ceremonies on October 29 in the Auditorium.

Dr. Robert E. McDermott, an experienced educator and administrator, was invested into office by President of the University, Dr. John W. Oswald. More than 500 guests witnessed the installation and attended the reception held following the ceremonies. Prior to investiture of office, Dr. McDermott was lauded in comments by University officials and other academic dignitaries.

Included among those were A. Wayne Readinger, member of the Board of Trustees; Warren E. Ringler, Assistant Commissioner for Higher Education; and Dr. Russell E. Larson, University Provost. Dr. Clyde E. Blocker, President of the Harrisburg Area Community College, offered greetings on behalf of the collegiate community; and Dr. Thomas J. Knight, Chairman of the Faculty Council, and Michael Dini, Student Government Association President, extended congratulations from their respective organizations.

Dr. Oswald, before offering the oath of office, commented, "In American Education we have probably experienced already the explosion of expansion influenced by increased population and widened interest and desire for higher education. The rate of growth in enrollment and in facilities is levelling off. But there is another type of growth which must not diminish. This is growth toward excellence, growth toward stability of service and mission."

"For this dimension of growth we look to the administrator of a program. It was for this dimension of growth in excellence, in profundity that the position of provost of the Capitol Campus was devised."

In commenting of the provost's position, Trustee Readinger remarked, "The functions of this position will include the responsibility and commensurate authority for the total operation and management of the Capitol Campus within University policies and procedures."

Dr. McDermott's achievements in both teaching and administration have prepared him well for his new responsibilities. Formerly the Dean of the Graduate School and Director of University Research at the University of Arkansas, he also held top administrative posts in



Continuing Education and the Graduate School of Pennsylvania State University at University Park.

He holds an Associate of Arts Degree from Wright Junior College, a Bachelor of Science in Forestry and a Master of Science in Botany from Iowa State University. In 1952, he was awarded a Ph.D. with a major in botany and a minor in forestry from Duke University.

Concluding his comments on the University's selection of Dr. McDermott as provost, the University President stated, ". . . the new position came to focus on a specific person and we were fortunate indeed in luring -- and I use the word carefully -- in luring Dr. Robert McDermott back to the Pennsylvania State University. Here was a man known to the University, respected by colleagues and associates, familiar with the nuances and complexities of our University, experienced, well-trained and -- it should be mentioned -- amiable. A dour administrator is a blight to be avoided. Robert McDermott agreed to come as the first provost of the Capitol Campus and thus we now arrive at this happy moment."

THIS WEEK IN THE SGA

by R. W. Bonaker

This week's Student Government Association report is a continuation of the regular senate meeting of October 30th. In the November 2 issue of the CAPITOLIST, the circumstances involving the selection of John Sheridan as the new SGA vice-president dominated the regular column.

Before the business portion of the meeting began, Michael Pierce took the oath from Student Court Chief Justice Harry Franzreb, and assumed the duties of the Senate. Also, SGA rules and voting and time limitation on issues to be debated were discussed.

Treasurer Tom Dixon reported the Finance Committee allocated \$25 to the recently formed Do-Nothing Club. The organization had earlier submitted a request for \$440. Don Snyder, new elected co-chairman of the Social Committee, reported on re-organization of the committee into a policy-making board composed of the seven sub-committee chairmen and the co-chairmen. The committee spent \$200 on the Halloween dance as well as \$20 for trophies for the bike race which had been postponed until yesterday due to unfavorable weather conditions.

Senator Elyse Paul (Sr., at-large), Chairman of the Campus Community Affairs Committee, stated that an

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invitation to Shirley Maclaine to be the featured speaker at the June 1973 Commencement had been written and submitted to Mrs. Betty Duke, Public Information Officer and Provost Robert E. McDermott. She also announced the establishment of an open forum for all students to voice sentiment concerning Commencement, the wearing of caps and gowns and any other topic which may come up. The forum will be staged on Tuesday, November 14, beginning at 12 Noon in the Auditorium. Plans for the spring dinner dance and a Christmas party for area children (with Sam Randazzo portraying Santa Claus) are being finalized by the committee.

Robert (Bipper) Lipton, a student representative on the faculty organization Committee on the Library reported a new change in the over-due book fee policy. A student, according to the report, may have up to \$7.50 in delinquent fees and still be able to register for an up-coming academic term. He also announced a committee decision to allow undergraduates to take out periodicals overnight. The program will begin during the winter term, on a trial basis. Don Snyder reported the faculty organization Committee on Academic Affairs is now working on the 1974-75 academic calendar. Snyder asked for student input, as the final plans must be readied by March 1, 1973. He related that the status of the 1973-74 calendar is currently being reviewed in University Park and its current status was unknown at the time.

President Mike Dini appointed an ad-hoc committee to investigate the possibility of Capitol SGA becoming a member of the National Student Association. Presently, Capitol does not belong to any organization of that kind. A one year introductory membership would cost \$5. Senator Bill Mathews (Jr., at-large), was appointed chairman of the committee which also includes senators Joe Kubiak (Sr., at-large), Bonnie McSweeney (Sr., Humanities) and John Murphy (Jr., at-large).

Dixon announced that he had received the August telephone bill that week. The charge totaled \$28. The SGA office has a WATS line, consequently, it would signify that during August, when there are a limited number of students on campus, there were \$28 worth of out-of-state toll calls.

parents' permission for an abortion.

The Pennsylvania Abortion Coalition, which AWS is sponsoring at University Park, to express the individual woman's right to decide whether or not she will have an abortion. Commonwealth Campus SGA Presidents will receive copies of this petition at the next Council of Presidents Meeting. In addition to the petition, AWS is providing postcards for students at University Park to write to their Senators to support liberal abortion legislation. The association would like the campus SGAs to do the same. AWS is supporting Senator Henry Messinger's Bill No. 928, and is hoping that it will pass. This bill would remove abortion as a crime in the state penal code, and will allow a woman to decide for herself if she is to have an abortion.

No more legal Pa. Abortions?

UNIVERSITY PARK (APS) The Association of Women Students, (AWS), at University Park is issuing a plea to all students of voting age at the Commonwealth Campuses. The AWS is encouraging students to write to their respective State Senators, and inquire how they regard abortion legislation, particularly Senator Martin Mullen's Bill No. 800.

Mullen's Bill, passed 257-34 by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, has been in committee since July. It is to come up for final approval on Nov. 13.

If passed, this bill would deny a woman a legal abortion, unless she has been declared on her deathbed by a trio of doctors from the hospital she is in. It also denies victims of rape or incest to have an abortion unless on this deathbed. A married woman would be required to have her husband's consent, and a girl under 18 would need her