

Campus Opens Childhood Development Center

The ravages of Hurricane Agnes will long be remembered but not all of her long-range effects are destruction and devastation. One of the more beneficial results will be the establishment of an Early Childhood Development Center at the Capitol Campus of The Pennsylvania State University.

What does a hurricane have to do with an early childhood program?

Dr. George Wolf, Head of the Division of Humanities, Social Science and Education, explained, "When the University made the land available for a temporary housing community for those left homeless by the flood, our faculty recognized this as an opportunity to develop an early childhood educational program. Secretary of Education Pittenger already had approved plans for our Division to institute such a program and the temporary community not only stimulated this development but also provided another means by which Capitol Campus could help meet the community needs."

The new center will accommodate children of those living in the temporary community presently located on campus and also will incorporate the program presently being conducted in St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Middletown. This day care center, operated under the auspices of the Dauphin County Child Services, was flooded out of its previous home at the former Non-Commissioned Officers' Club at the Harrisburg International Airport.

This Childhood Development Center is the brainchild of Dr. Kathryn T. Starkey, Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology at Capitol Campus. Not only did Dr. Starkey conduct the initial survey of families in the village and develop profiles (age, income, number of children) therefrom, but she has played an important role in the negotiations with State and County officials for the establishment of the program.

After conducting the initial survey, Dr. Starkey conferred with Dr. Wolf and Dr. Stanley N. Miller, Education Program Chairman at Capitol Campus, and the group began outlining the objectives of the program. This committee in turn met with Samuel Yeagley, Executive Director of the Dauphin County Child Services and Bertie Shank of the Pennsylvania Welfare Department's Office of Child Services.

Based on observations of the University's Early Childhood Education Centers located at State College, the local campus faculty had developed a program of self-initiated learning for the new center. The new program combines the best elements of those responsive environment, behavior modification and cognitive developmental

programs the committee observed.

In discussing this new program, Dr. Wolf emphasized that the University's main concern is not custodial care but education. The interest expressed by Dr. Wolf and his cohorts is in early childhood education and he views this as an educational project with great research potential.

Dr. Wolf explained, "The program is based upon the primary concept that self-initiated learning of the child responding to his interest and maturity is the most desirable and effective kind of learning and that it best takes place in a setting which is supportive and free from anxiety."

The \$50,000 renovation planned for the two buildings will offer a desirable physical setting for approximately 60 pre-schoolers as well as those 40 school-aged children who will be attending the center after school hours.

The first floor of one building will contain an activity and craft area, a conference hall and an observation gallery for professional educational personnel and students. The second floor will have medical facilities, including an isolation area for those who might become ill while at school, and a rest area.

This building will be connected to the second with an enclosed corridor which will permit the children to go to the dining hall without going out of doors. In addition to the kitchen and dining area, the second building will contain a study and game room, two craft rooms and a music room. Both buildings will have proper lavatory facilities.

Plans for the renovations were drawn up by Ronald Leaman, an architect and member of the faculty of Penn State's York Campus. Dr. Francis Ferguson, Chairman of the Regional Planning Program

at Capitol Campus and a registered architect, has served as a consultant on the planning.

The new center will be staffed by a center director, an assistant director, three professionally accredited teachers, eight teacher aides, cook, cook's aide, custodian and secretary-bookkeeper.

Funding the program through June, 1973, will be \$158,000 in funds granted by Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Another \$100,000, made up of 75 percent federal, 25 percent county funds, will fund the program until January, 1974.

American Artists Exhibit

A gallery exhibition of prints by the American Artists Group is currently on display in the Gallery Lounge, W-107.

The exhibit is sponsored by the Pennsylvania State University's College of Arts and Architecture, the Museum of Art, the Office of Continuing Education, and Capitol Campus students.

The exhibit contains 15 works by such noted artists as Howard Cook, Wanda Gag, Adolph Dehn, Will Barnet, Federico Castellon and Raphael Soyler.

Among the prints are lithographs, etchings, stencils and woodcuts. Topically, the prints vary from Wanda Gag's beautiful "Ploughed Fields" to a charming colored woodcut by Will Barnet entitled "Peter and Toy" to a stark, precisionist influenced stencil by Henry Billings of "Marine Elements." A full range of artistic values and visions are represented in the city scenes, landscapes, portraits and wildlife scenes.

The show in the Gallery Lounge is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until January 29.

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XGI Enrollment Increases

University Park, Pa. Veteran enrollment at The Pennsylvania State University has climbed to 4,167 this year, a gain of more than 250 over the 3,914 registered a year ago and a sharp increase from the 1,641 reported five years ago.

The total this year, according to William H. Cox, veterans officer in the Division of Admissions, Records, and Scheduling, consists of 1,754 veterans at the University Park Campus and 2,413 at the Commonwealth Campuses across the State.

There are 2,147 veterans enrolled in baccalaureate degree programs, 331 in associate degree programs, 556 as graduate students working for advanced degrees, 721 in continuing education programs, and 412 as adjunct students.

The enrollments at the Commonwealth Campuses are: Allentown 40; Altoona 274; Beaver 122; Behrend at Erie 122; Berks at Reading 123; Capitol at Middletown 412; Delaware County at Media 114; DuBois 93; Fayette at Uniontown 190; Hazleton 64; McKeesport 111; Mont Alto 53; New Kensington 116; Ogonitz at Abington 184; Schuylkill at Schuylkill Haven 90; Worthington Scranton at Dunmore 117; Shenango Valley at Sharon 56; Wilkes-Barre 60; and York 72.

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