

C.C. reader

Volume 11, No. 2

10 April 1980

Update

Faculty Voices Opinion Over Division Change

By Joan H. Klein

The C.C. Reader reported on March 6 that a consolidation of divisions is planned for July. The administrative view was that "changes should have minimal effect on the student body." It was also stated "there has been resistance to the plan on the part of individual faculty members... however, ... objections can be overcome."

Objections have not yet been overcome. Faculty Council reported, March 12, on the results of ballot returns on the proposed divisional structure. The ballot was set up with an "approve-disapprove" format with an invitation to comment.

Seventy-one persons voted. That was little more than half of those eligible. Of those, 44 approved, 21 disapproved, and 6 abstained. There was significant disapproval by those who voted in the Science, Engineering and

Technology Division.

The overall results indicated majority approval. The comments, however, suggest other possibilities:

"Voting on a decision that has already been made serves no useful purpose. I will abstain..." "This ballot is, literally, preposterous. Decisions... were made with faculty consultation more than six months ago." "This is a stupid question!" "A very unimaginative proposal!"

"Oh! How administrators like to build bureaucracies!" "Technology will be lost..." "There is no real sense to this 'merger' except maybe administratively."

Some comments were favorable. One respondent wrote, "I will be happy in this division." Another felt, "This structure will provide us with vast opportunities for the future..."

Such provocative comments invited further inquiry. An unsuccessful effort

was made to uncover their authors.

The C.C. Reader sought to determine whether faculty morale is at a low ebb at Capitol Campus and if the proposed changes would affect students. As far as affect on students, the general consensus is that it will not except that "what affects teachers affects students."

"Faculty are demoralized," said one professor. "They are frustrated. Those comments on the ballot are screams for help. The tally indicated only six abstentions, but many more elected not to vote." Not voting, in his view, was a protest.

A professor in favor of the changes saw the abstentions as an indication that many feel the consolidations are, primarily, of administrative interest. He could foresee no difficulties with the proposal and, in fact, thought there were some plus factors to be considered:

"Combined faculty have mutual interests; there can be a crossover of faculty expertise. Both areas will be aided through cooperative efforts, e.g. funding opportunities will be greater through combination."

The term "funding" triggered critical responses. One detractor felt faculty could accept these and other financially relevant changes if the administration were honest and admitted these are tough times and we, along with other colleges and universities, are in financial difficulties.

"What we are promised," he said, "is that this campus is going places -- that we are developing. What we get is second class status in comparison with faculty at University Park. We have a history of improvising and scrimping," he said, "and the consolidation of divisions is another instance of cutting back."

Effect on students will be indirect according to one professor. "We are no longer working with the traditional academic model, i.e. to provide students with an optimum learning environment in which to get the best education possible. Instead, we have an industrial model where the bottom line is finances," he said, "and the industrial model generates industrial results."

"Faculty members feel harassed. There is an overload of courses and an increase in the number of students per class. Individuals, teachers and students lose their identity as the administration becomes more impersonal. Program heads are chosen, in this industrial model, because they are good managers. Fine teachers are denied tenure; others leave for greener pastures where their excellence will be recognized. continued on page 2

Long Lines Anticipated Over Parking Policies

Students applying for a parking registration sticker this term found to their dismay that it was necessary to fill out--again--a complete vehicle registration card, the same as was done at the beginning of the fall term. This is in contrast to the recent method whereby the registration form filled out in the fall term was good for a one-year period, with a new sticker being issued for each succeeding term merely on presentation of the registration stub and payment of the parking fee.

The reason for the change was explained by Mr. Jim Paul, Safety and Police Specialist (and Vehicle Registrar). According to Mr. Paul, University Park has issued a new policy for

vehicle registration for all Commonwealth Campuses, to become effective with the 1980 Fall Term. This new mandate would require that the vehicle registration form be filled out at the beginning of every term, and in a much more complicated fashion than is presently the case.

Mr. Paul has been conducting time studies in the course of the current registration period in an attempt to justify Capitol Campus' request for an exception from the proposed new policy. According to Mr. Paul, the method which has been used at Capitol Campus requires only 5 1/2 minutes the first term, and less than a minute each following term to accomplish the registration.

In addition, Mr. Paul stated; "To process the parking stickers this way necessitates only an annual compilation of alphabetical and numerical files, with an updating of the alphabetical file each term thereafter."

Paul noted that this program has usually met with student approval when used in the past, but as required by University Park this term and every term hereafter, the vehicle registration card will have to be completed and processed every term.

Students having experience with either system of registration are invited to write a note to Jim Paul or Jerry South expressing an endorsement of either program.

Oswald Update

Dr. John W. Oswald, president of Pennsylvania State University, has been on a normal work schedule since March 31. He was released from the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center on March 27.

According to Mary Dunkle, asst. Manager of the News Bureau at Penn State (U.P.), Oswald's discomfort was diagnosed as "deep muscle pain, the result of his strenuous exercise program."

Oswald, who was in the area to attend the Pennsylvania State University Board of Trustees meeting, was taken to the hospital on March 22.

Next Issue

The C.C. Reader is going to have a special SGA election issue next Thursday, April 17, 1980.

Decal No	Car License No.	State	Name: Last	First	Middle	Term	Decal Number	Code
Please print, using a ball point pen and complete red items on both sides of first card								
Code	VIOLATIONS							
Make of Vehicle:	Date	Code	Area	Time	Point	Fine	Late	Disposition
Model: _____ Year: _____								Init
Student Number: _____								
Name: _____								
Street: _____								
City & State: _____ Zip: _____								
Summer \$ _____	Fall \$ _____							
Winter \$ _____	Spring \$ _____							
Additional violations may be listed on the back of this form.								
				SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	

Shown above is the form currently in use for vehicle registration. Unless Capitol Campus is granted an exception to a new University Park mandate, this vehicle registration form will be replaced by a similar form with a serial

number. The result of this change would probably cause students to wait in very long lines to register their vehicles fall term