

Capitol admin. red-faced

"BOOKSTORE" from page 1

University Park. And, it's Bischoff who evaluates them, recommends changes, and implements those changes. However, Bischoff said, "Capitol Campus' Bookstore is considered autonomous. The manager doesn't report to me, and I have no responsibility to it, except on an advisory level, and then only if called upon."

He went on to explain that the responsibility for change lies with Capitol Campus' Administration: "They have authority over their bookstore, and for any changes in the physical set-up or the product-mix of that store."

This came as a shock to our administration. From the Provost on down, officials were surprised. Dr. Gross said: "My understanding of the reality is that the bookstore is out of my control. But, if I can do something about it, then I will do so." Another campus official, Robert Hamill, who recently took over the position of Business Manager, said, "My understanding was that there are certain limits on what we can do."

However, Bookstore Manager Kistler, a retired Army Master Sergeant, says he was really

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William Kistler
Bookstore Manager

just following his orders. In his first interview ever, he said, "In 1973, when I was hired, I knew we were autonomous, and my original mandate from the Capitol Campus' Administration was that the bookstore was going to have texts and supplies. It wasn't going to be a department store."

"Now, today, I'm just following my original mandate, and I just assumed that it went on the same way," Kistler said. "So, if the feelings have changed, then somebody in our administration must say so, and I'll be happy to do what they'd like me to."

One of the chronic problems confronting the management of the bookstore is the underordering of textbooks. "If we could get the instructors to order early," Kistler said, "then it would help the problem. With 269 course options this semester, and 229 in the spring, I've got to use a guesstimate, (Kistler makes projections, then orders the texts based on prior attendance in the course) because, with high shipping costs, I've got to stretch my budget out."

Some of our faculty members don't exactly agree. One in-

structor said, "What was I to tell the ten people in my class who didn't get books? That I'm sorry, but you're just one of the people who was left out of Mr. Kistler's guesstimate?"

Since September, 1978, Capitol Campus has had a Faculty Committee on the Bookstore. Its job was to review the operation of the store and recommend improvements. They've done their job. But, the problem has been, and still is, who were these recommendations sent to? Kistler says he responds to our administration. Our administration thinks the responsibility for change comes from University Park. And, University Park doesn't really even think about it, because in the minds of the officials, any problems are being addressed in Middletown.

But the problems aren't being addressed. And, over the years it has perpetuated to the point where students resorted to cheap-shots and personal attacks of the character of Mr. Kistler (CC Reader, Apr. 2, 1981), rather than seeking out the truth behind the lack of action.

Only one other school in the PSU System has an autonomous bookstore: The Hershey Medical School. That school's bookstore staff is well aware of its autonomous status. And, according to one source, "Of course, the accountability of this store rests with the Hershey administration. We're responsible only to them."

R.E. Zilly, PSU's Vice-President of Business, who is in charge of the system, admits "There is a problem, and we'll have to address it. Your Provost, Dr. Gross now realizes that Kistler works for him, but Dr. Gross had thought the ultimate responsibility was with us." He went on to say that the responsibility at this time, as well as in the past, was not with University Park. If there are changes to be made, then it rests with Capitol Campus' administration.

In fact, because of Capitol Times' inquiry into this story, Dr. Gross met last week with Dr. Zilly to discuss this misunderstanding.

One of the problems they may discuss will be the funding for improvements. Commonwealth Manager Bischoff said, "If your administration asked for improvement funds, we would evaluate the request, and then, if approved, we would fund it."

And so, according to Bischoff, "It's time to assign responsibility." And our administration now agrees. As Capitol Campus' assistant to the Provost, Dr. John Joseph, candidly admits, "I think we might have just gotten ourselves a bookstore."



Photo by Mark Clauser

Eng. pioneer explains new method

By Bud Smith

Truss analysis was the focus of an engineering lecture by Jai Kim, Chairman of Civil Engineering at Bucknell University, Feb. 8 in the

Gallery Lounge.

Twenty-five people attended the slide presentation and discussion entitled, Rehabilitation of metal truss bridges by an arc-hanger additional floor beam system, led by Dr. Kim.

Temps. drop, fevers rise

By Racquel Summerford

Study and prayer will help you through midterms and Capitol Campus' Health Services Center can help you make it through the cold and flu season.

"January through March is the height of the colds and flu season here at Capitol Campus," says Health Services Center day nurse, Jean H. Kresge. According to Kresge the Health Services Center has been seeing an average of 40-45 patients a day since January.

Kresge says that the majority of the patients come to the Health Services Center suffering from nasal congestion, fever, and head and body aches. These symptoms usually last 24-48 hours and may be accompanied by nausea. The treatment for these symptoms is usually aspirin and decongestants. Kresge also administers medicine for nausea if it's present as well as recommending bed rest and drinking plenty of fluids.

However Kresge warns that, "if the symptoms include a very sore throat and a fever lasting more than 48 hours, the student should come in immediately because they may

not have just a cold." Treatment in this case would involve antibiotic therapy and throat lozenges. And if Kresge or the night nurse, Bonnie Petrosino, think that you need more attention, the doctor is in every Tuesday. The doctor examines the patient, writes out prescriptions or refers patients to other physicians as needed.

There is no cost for seeing the nurses or the doctor. "That's one thing I can't stress enough," says Kresge. "I think that students sometimes hesitate to come in because they think they will have to pay but all of our services are free except for diagnostic tests."

Kresge also says many students are under the impression that treatment at Hershey Medical Center is free because it is affiliated with Penn State. "Not so," says Kresge. "Just recently a student came in after he'd gone to the medical center's emergency room with flu symptoms. He had to pay \$60 for treatment that would have been free here."

Treatment of any kind at the Health Services Center is open to all Capitol Campus students whether they're graduate, undergraduate, provisional, live on campus or commute.