

University Park or Capitol -- Heindel autonomy challenged

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system, demonstrated it with visible pride, first to the library staff in the morning and then to the Administrative Council that afternoon.

The acronym LIAS stands for Library Information Access System. It is a computer system that has been under development at University Park since 1975. Its memories now contain around 4 million files, the complete catalogs of holdings at the 17 Commonwealth Campuses as well as most of Pattee's catalog.

Increasingly powerful and sophisticated subsystems allowing access to more and more detailed databases including commercial indexing and abstracting services (such as OCLC's ODIN described in last month's *Capitol Times*) are under development and expected to be on-line by 1985. These will permit preparation of bibliographies with a speed and ease students could only dream of before.

LIAS will be used by the librarians to check books out and in using a light pen and a bar code on the books. Each patron will have a magnetic card (available to all students, staff, faculty members and residents of Pennsylvania) for

secure identification. The computer will also keep track of fines and prepare overdue notices, and will be used for the cataloging of new acquisitions.

Dr. Forth took the floor during the Council meeting after the question of administrative control had been raised. He frankly stated that he wanted to integrate the two de facto autonomous libraries in the Penn State system (Heindel Library and the library of the

improvement in our book budget if we integrate. "I have to fight my own librarians now to help you."

He further pointed out that Pattee's research specialists have no responsibility to aid Capitol and Hershey's faculty and students, while they would if the libraries integrated with the University. A faculty member later remarked, "He was assuming we cared without asking what did concern us. It

college libraries ranging geographically from Juniata to Bucknell to Lebanon Valley to Gettysburg, plus the State Library in Harrisburg. Any student or faculty member at Capitol can obtain a green ACLCP courtesy card at the circulation desk in the library. With this card, one can check out books at any library in the system just as if he or she were a student there.

When Dr. Forth was asked privately if the proposed change in library administration would preclude membership in the ACLCP, he replied that ACLCP "is not a big deal," it is just a convenience. The Dean did not unambiguously state then or in the Council meeting that Heindel Library could remain in ACLCP. Gordon Rawlins did assure those attending the meeting that local organization affiliation would not be affected by LIAS.

Several faculty members, though reluctant to be named in print, have expressed since the meetings with Stuart Forth the opinion that no question of substance concerning the "administrative integration" of Heindel Library with the University Libraries was resolved—no specific commitments have been made.

"Maybe I'm wrong here. I'm making the assumption that we all want the best the university has to offer."

**Theodore Gross
Provost Dean**

Hershey Medical Center) in with the University Libraries.

The Dean said that the trend of all libraries was to increase interrelationships, to share in acquisition responsibilities avoiding duplication of expense and effort. He wants to develop the collection with a system-wide strategy and wants access for CC to the LIAS database to the 80 to 90 thousand titles unique in Penn State.

Dr. Forth pointed out that since the book and journal budget is a system-wide responsibility of his, we might see an

was inappropriate."

At all the meetings held over the past two weeks a concern of particular interest to students was briefly touched on, but not resolved: since Pattee and the Commonwealth Campuses' libraries are not permitted to join local library cooperatives, would the Heindel Library have to relinquish membership in ACLCP after administrative integration with the University Libraries?

The Associated College Libraries of Central Pennsylvania (ACLCP) consists of 15

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