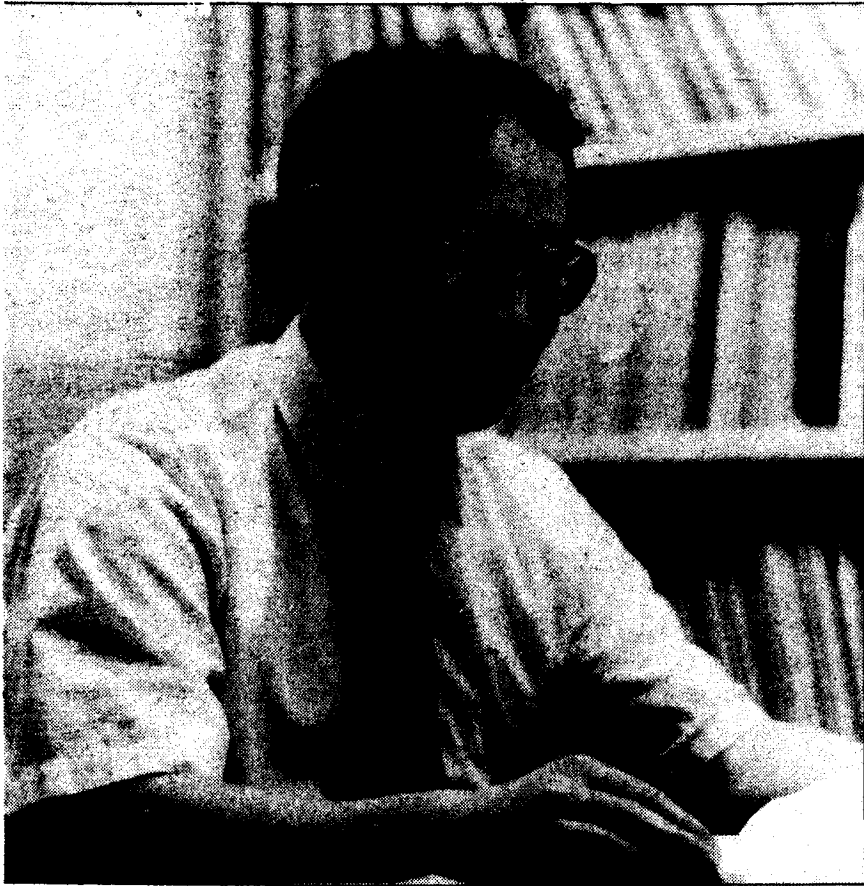


# Students protest teacher's dismissal



By Harry Lucas

More than 50 students petitioned the administration this week in protest to the dismissal of a popular engineering professor, Dr. Chin Young Cha.

Dr. Cha has been teaching at Capitol Campus since September, 1981, on one-year, renewable contracts. Under provisions of the contract, a teacher's work is previewed annually and, based on performance, is either renewed or let go.

Students' concern over Cha's nonrenewal was evident in the petition which, in part, said:

"We feel the decision to discharge Dr. Cha was made unfairly and does not accurately reflect his performance in or out of the classroom... We urge the administration to reconsider the matter and to look at all sides of the question."

Cha said he was surprised to have received notice of this decision, and was told in January by Dr. William Welsh, Head of the Science, Engineering, and Technology Division, that unless he improved his work dramatically, they would be forced to continue with the termination proceedings.

Welsh acknowledged that Cha has improved his work enough to merit reconsideration of the termination decision. Welsh further emphasized that the matter was not closed. "The faculty and I have the greatest concern that the students in the program get the best quality education they can. This decision (to release Cha) has not been made lightly."

Cha believes "all sides of the question" were not discussed, and that his dismissal was based on "negative" factors of his teaching, and not the "positive" efforts he made to the department.

Cha feels that because his English is not perfect, the administration's decision was easier. "I am not an English teacher," he said, emphasizing that one of the requirements of attaining his doctorate degree was passing the English and German competency test, and receiving a grade above the 85 percentile. He further stated that he has enough knowledge of English to get ideas across but he knows his English is not perfect.

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## Capitol Times

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## Campus, DER reach water agreement

By Jim Kushlan

Following the recent discovery of contaminants in the water system here, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources has agreed to cooperate with Capitol Campus in monitoring our water.

According to Joseph A. Kemp, Manager, Maintenance and Utilities Operations at Capitol, the campus may now choose the location whenever DER takes a sample on the premises.

"We'll take them in the areas of heavy use," he says.

DER started monitoring the water here after the discovery of the carcinogenic (cancer-causing) contaminants trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene, in wells at Harrisburg International Airport. A mixture of water from

the airport wells supplies Capitol Campus.

March 2 samplings of the airport wells by DER, through which the contaminants were found resulted in the voluntary closing of one well with the highest level of contamination.

A water sample was also taken on campus that day, and showed the presence of the contaminants in our system. Levels here were well below the DER's boil-water level, though.

An inter-office memo from Associate Provost-Dean Duane R. Smith said a March 31 sampling on campus showed only a small presence of tetrachloroethylene.

Kemp says an April 26 composite sampling of water from all the airport showed the absence of contaminants. The closed well remains shut down.

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"Rites of Spring"

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