

HACC builds tech labs

By Ken Stiggers

About a year ago, Penn State Capitol changed the look of the campus when the new \$2.1 million Science and Technology Building was constructed. The building was finished just in time for fall classes.

Last spring, Harrisburg Area Community College (H.A.C.C.) began construction of a new \$5.1 million technology center to be known as the North Hall Technology and Laboratory Building.

Funding for the new technology building resulted from the combined efforts of the federal and state governments, H.A.C.C. and the private sector. A federal grant of \$600,000 was awarded under the Vocational Education Act, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provided half of the total cost. H.A.C.C. provided over \$1 million. Also, private funds of \$78,000 have already been pledged, and the State Public School Building Authority will finance the remaining costs.

Since 1979, H.A.C.C. has experienced an enrollment increase of 33.4 percent and faces a severe shortage of instructional space, particularly in the area of technology education,

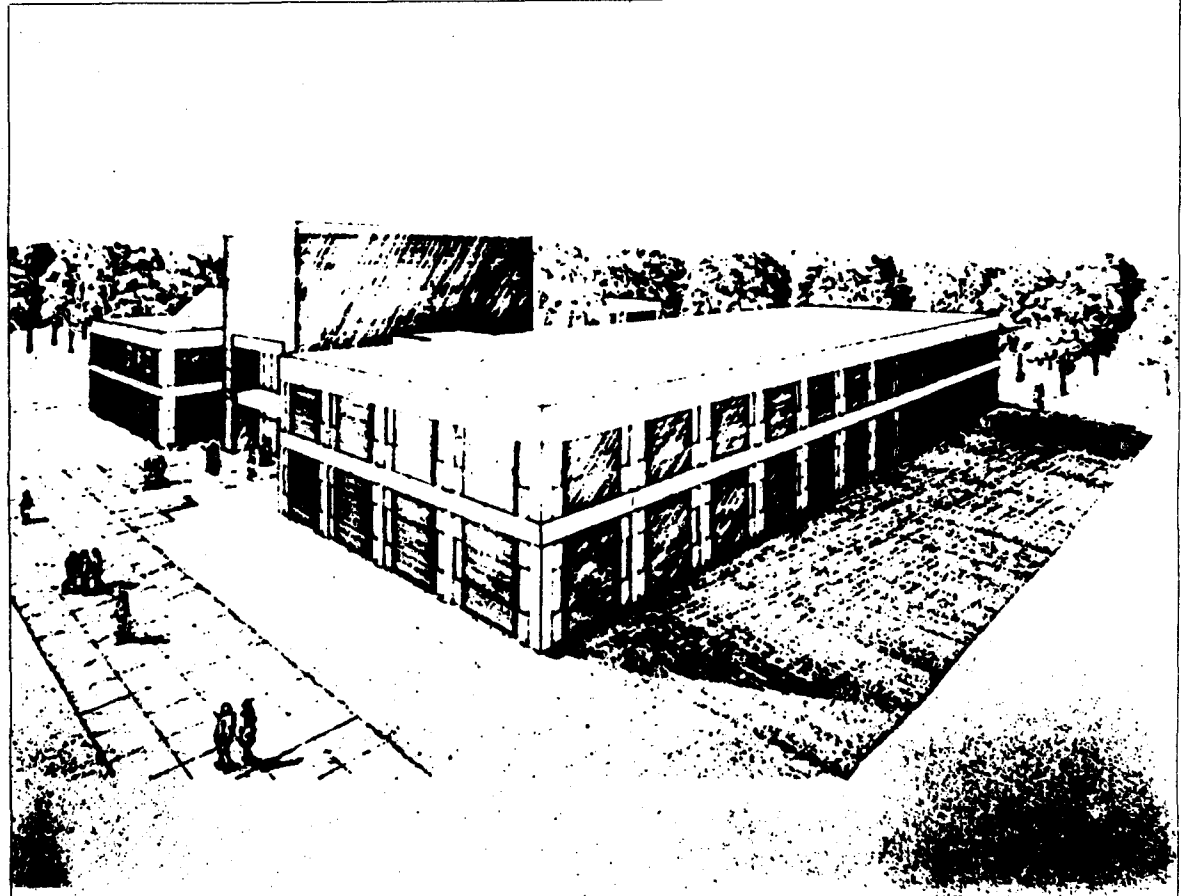
as stated by Dr. Kenneth Woodbury, president of the Board of Trustees at H.A.C.C.

One-third of the North Hall building will be used for the new high technology programs, and the other two-thirds will be used for the existing programs at H.A.C.C. Also, new equipment will be provided at the North Hall building. New programs in microcomputer accounting, computer-assisted design and drafting/computer-assisted manufacturing, microcomputer applications and mechanical robotics technology will be offered when the North Hall building is finished.

Also, the facility will allow the expansion of the new General Motors Product Training Center and further development of job-related programs at H.A.C.C.

The State Public School Building Authority awarded contracts to construction companies from Carlisle, Lewisburg, Harrisburg and Reading for general construction, heating ventilation, air conditioning, plumbing and electrical construction.

The building will be a two-story 60,000 square foot structure. Completion is scheduled for spring of 1985.



H.A.C.C.'s North Hall will house high-tech programs.

Building improves campus image

By Ken Stiggers

About a year ago Capitol Campus changed the look of the campus when the new \$2.1 million Science and Technology Building was finished just in time for fall classes.

This new facility became the first to be constructed solely for the academic purposes in the campus' 18-year history. According to Dr. William Welsh, head of the Division of Science and Technology, the engineering program has experienced enrollment increases since 1975. These increases in enrollment caused a shortage of instructional space in the Mechanical Engineering Program, and the new building provided the needed space.

The twenty-thousand square foot facility will be used for class lectures, laboratory work, and research. The Mechanical Engineering Technology department will move into the old Engineering Lab Building next to the University Apartments. The building consists of four labs and eight rooms: general chemistry, civil engineering and materials, en-

vironmental, and physics; two classrooms, two rooms for faculty and student research and four faculty offices. The building also features a chemical instruction lab, an organic chemistry lab and incubation room.

The architectural firms of Hayes, Large, Suckling, and Fruth of Harrisburg and Altoona designed the building. The Wohlson Construction Company of Lancaster was general contractor for the project. The Frey Lutz Corporation installed all of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning for the facility. Other firms involved in construction of the Science and Technology Building were Eshenaur's Inc. of Harrisburg, plumbing; Howard P. Foley Company of Harrisburg, electrical; and Laboratory Furniture of New York City, science equipment contractor.

Was the new technology building designed with the intentions of being compatible with H.A.C.C.'s technology program? According to Welsh, that was not the case with the Science and Technology Building.

Leventhal positive on Capitol's development

By Tony Perry

In two weeks, Capitol Campus' new provost will have been in office for four months, and as she moves the administration into a "strategic planning phase," she is optimistic about the task of improving and promoting Penn State's only upper division commonwealth campus.

"I'm going to be positioning Capitol Campus as the regional center for higher education in South Central Pennsylvania," said Provost/Dean Ruth Leventhal, recently.

"It's not getting easier and it's not getting any harder," she said. "It is enjoyable. People have helped tremendously."

Leventhal said the recent appointment of John H. Joseph as planning officer for the campus is the start of an intensive effort to get Capitol's immediate goals into a final plan of action by March.

Composed of faculty, students, alumni and members of the campus community, approximately 27 separate committees are being formed to "study and make recommendations about the kinds of things we could do," Leventhal noted.

A "campus-wide" committee will be examining the campus in the areas of academics and student life, she said.

The provost noted that curricula currently being con-

sidered includes telecommunications technology, food service technology, and computer science applications.

The committees will also be soliciting ideas and opinions from other members of the campus community.

"If you don't know what someone wants," Leventhal said, "you can't give it to them."

As an example, Leventhal noted that she has spoken to several members of the campus' black student community in order to learn more about their needs. The provost said she was concerned about low minority enrollment at Capitol.

"It's a problem here and it's a national problem as well," Leventhal noted. "There is a legal mandate in Pennsylvania but I have a personal and moral commitment as well."

Capitol Campus has a "particular opportunity" to help increase minority enrollment, Leventhal said, because of its location. Also, Leventhal added that she has been working with Ken Woodbury, president of Harrisburg Area Community College, to establish a strong recruitment program that would encourage young people to prepare for college at an early age.

"Our problem is, as an upper division campus, we are further from the high schools," she said. Leventhal added that the low number of minorities and women preparing for col-

lege is due to the way many perceive college life. She said that perhaps the reason many women are not entering the engineering technology program here -- and are avoiding similar programs at other schools -- is because they don't believe they are welcome.

"They aren't taking their maths and sciences" in high school, she said, because they don't think they have a chance of success. Leventhal said it is up to schools like Capitol to approach the high schools and encourage students to consider the college career of their choice. "It's an investment we have to make."

The provost also indicated that Capitol's administration will be looking for ways to "generate its own resources." Funding of various projects on campus will be examined, she said.

Leventhal also said she is still in the process of meeting with people within the campus community as well as legislators and community leaders to strengthen Capitol's image as a center for higher education. She also proposed that one member from each of the four nearest commonwealth campuses -- York Campus, Berks Campus, Schuylkill Campus and Mt. Alto Campus -- be added to Capitol's board of advisers to improve the current recruitment efforts.