

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

A particular problem that has bothered me since the beginning of my first semester here has not in the least subsided or improved, so I feel I should address it to the entire campus community. The cause for my anger, as well as many of my fellow students, is the extremely poor attitudes of some of the administrative employees in the Olmsted Building.

Every time a question regarding registration, adjustment of schedules, financial and billing concerns, or even general student information arises where better to go than the administrative offices for resolve?

Unfortunately, due to the rudeness, impoliteness and insensitivity on the part of some of the secretarial staff, other students, as well as myself, would rather not seek help. For example, in the beginning of this semester, I was looking for a certain student department so I went into the registration office and inquired, although it was much to my humiliation because the women chuckled ignorantly and seemed appalled at having to tell me where it was. After discussing this problem with many students, I found that they were as disillusioned as I. They complained of some of the women being actually nasty and harsh, unhelpful, and totally unfriendly.

Since the moment I applied at PSU at Harrisburg, until the time of my enrollment, I received several letters and

brochures extolling "the education with a personal touch" theme. I'm sure this is well intended from the administrative and academic heads of staff but the theme certainly hasn't filtered down to the employees who we have to make contact and communicate with to relieve our educational questions.

I understand and realize that everyone is entitled to his share of bad days and moods, and that the employees have had to deal with certain students who were anything but understanding of the pressure they are sometimes under, especially during registration, but this does not justify their being unpleasant and often times ignoring students while doing other things that don't even involve school matters.

I feel that some are stereotyping students as a bother and a chore most of the time instead of trying to know and help the students. I surveyed about 50 students and over half of them said they encountered unnecessary and undeserving hardship or rudeness. Of those I questioned, most had complaints against the registration office (not just at registration time), the finance office, the business administration office, and the engineering office.

I did not seek out support for my opinion, I only sought truth and figured if enough people reacted the same as I, then that was a reason for me to send this letter.

Sincerely,  
Christine Collins  
Full-time student

Dear Ms Editor

The recent hullabaloo over the *Capital Times* advertisements is quite distressing. Pro-life? Pro-choice? Pro-something ad nauseam. If these opposing parties desire to spar, let them create their own forum for debate. Next the pacifists will demand equal time to reply to the military ads and then the anorexic nervosas will be dying to respond to the grocery ads. Will it ever end? Certainly the sprouting *CT* has more important student issues to address.

Allow me the dubious honor of addressing one such issue, the library problem. Or should we say what appears to be a library here. Yet, we students gleefully swallow the swill that lack of funds prevents the school from upgrading their superannuated book collection. For reasons never fully explained, it has not prevented the book collectors from remodeling an office within the library three times in as many months. One knows how admincrats dislike conflicting color schemes.

Remodeling notwithstanding, the painting experiment doesn't quite work from an aesthetic point of view. Enough with the painting and redecorating! Improvements to the

book collection system, not the walls, are needed.

May I humbly suggest a novel idea to the Chief Book Collector, modern man calls it automation. Imagine that!

Henry B. Wise

(Ed. note: Author's real name held on request)

Dear Editor,

I am a graduating senior and have been looking forward to graduation for 7 years. After checking the schedule in the fall, I made plans for a January 3 graduation. Last week I picked up a green "This Week" in the Lion's Den and read that graduation has been changed to January 10. I have plane reservations for a trip on that weekend. I ask, Why weren't graduating seniors notified weeks ago of this change? I cannot change my reservations without being penalized one half the fare. I will not be attending graduation now. I am not the only graduate that has been inconvenienced. Spring Graduates—you better check the Lion's Den in April.

Judy Rush

Dear Editor,

As a senior mechanical engineer student I understand that an additional \$100 is added to my tuition for the purchase of much needed laboratory equipment.

Recently however, it was brought to the attention of the mechanical engineering students that Provost Leventhal is holding this money for remodeling of the engineering lab. Although this may seem like a nice gesture, it is not the responsibility of the civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering students to provide funds for this project. This money should come from the same sources that provided money to build the Science and Technology building and the Bookstore. What is going to happen when a new library is built, will the "Library Majors" supply money for this.

Although the campus beautification that Dr. Leventhal is so infatuated with is important, I feel it is much more important to have equipment that will keep the students at the leading edge of technology, not with a bunch of pretty flowers that die off every year.

If you think about it, there is an analogy there. If Dr. Leventhal continues spending money on plants that die off every year, instead of on engineering equipment, the engineering program will begin to die off.

John A. Rauch

Dear Editor,

Well, the Spring estimated bills are now here and so is the surcharge. All engineering technology students here at Capital must pay an additional \$100 surcharge which enables each department to purchase needed equipment in order to keep up with today's fast-paced technology.

As a senior mechanical engineering student, I became very irate when it was learned that Provost Leventhal is going to hold all of the surcharge money. The understanding, which I have, is that she plans to use this money to remodel the engineering lab building. This is not only unfair to the electrical and civil engineering students (since they don't use the facilities much) but it is unfair to all engineering students. It is not our responsibility, as students, to raise funds for building expansions.

In the past the money has been put to good use for equipment such as CAD systems, a CNC milling machine, computers, oscilloscopes, and much other needed equipment. So, Provost Leventhal, it is the equipment which we as engineers will benefit from, not buildings. Use the surcharge money where it benefits us as students most, in our education.

David A. Skotek

Nittany Kings



This thing has no registration, no insurance, no running lights and no campus parking permit. What are you doing out here?

Kings  
12-86

### Registration Stickers Available

Students with FALL 1986 parking stickers, who will register for Spring classes, need to acquire a SPRING 1987 sticker. SPRING stickers are available now in the office of Safety/Police Services in the CRAGS Building or during registration. **FALL STICKERS will be INVALID as of January 12 and ticketing for No Permit or Sticker will begin January 26th. There is no charge for parking stickers, however a VALID sticker is required to park an auto on University property.**

### Do You Need Child Care Facilities?

The Graduate Student Union is in the preliminary stages of planning a child care center on campus. Toward this end, a visit is being planned to PSU/New Kensington campus to tour their new facility. Anyone interested in the January trip should contact Janet Widoff, Student Affairs, Room 212, or Jeanette Brinker, SGA President.

## MAKE THESE TWO COLLEGE YEARS REALLY PAY OFF.

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The point: the Army has lots of ways to help you make the most of your two college years. Find out how. Call your local Army Recruiter.

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