

Editorial Page

Capital College Grows Up

By Michele Hart, Editor-in-Chief

Capital College is making the change from adolescence to adulthood. The college, begun as an experiment in the late 1960s, is preparing to move into the 1990s.

That move may not be painless.

A major facet of the college's growth was announced last week by Dr. Robert J. Graham, associate provost and dean of faculty. Graham proposes that the behavioral sciences/ education and humanities divisions be reorganized into one larger department. By doing this, he said the college will be able to create endowed professorships and scholarships, will be able to better serve the engineering and business students who go to these departments to fulfill their elective requirements, and will be able to better serve the students in the divisions by allowing for a wider range of course selections.

These are all strong reasons for making this change. The reorganization really will be a pattern for growth. But, growth at Capital College has traditionally been an anxious process.

Will this change threaten the small, specialized environment that has always been pervasive here? Perhaps.

Will students lose the identification they feel with their divisions? Again, perhaps. That feeling, however, may also be enhanced by the reorganization.

Is this a change for the better? That question really cannot be answered until the plans are finalized and the merger is implemented.

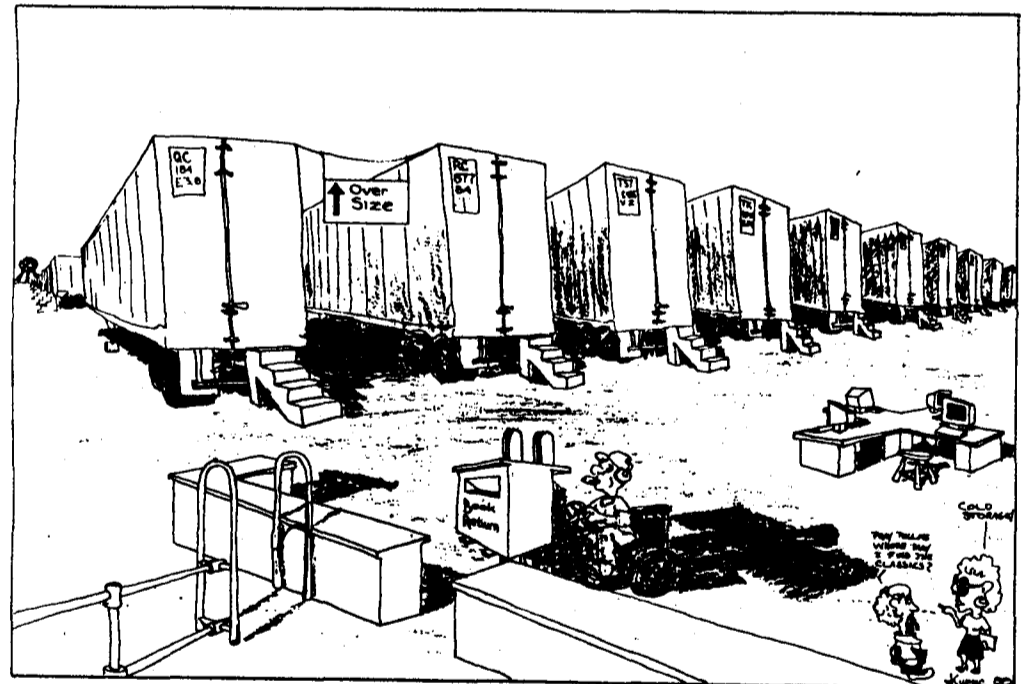
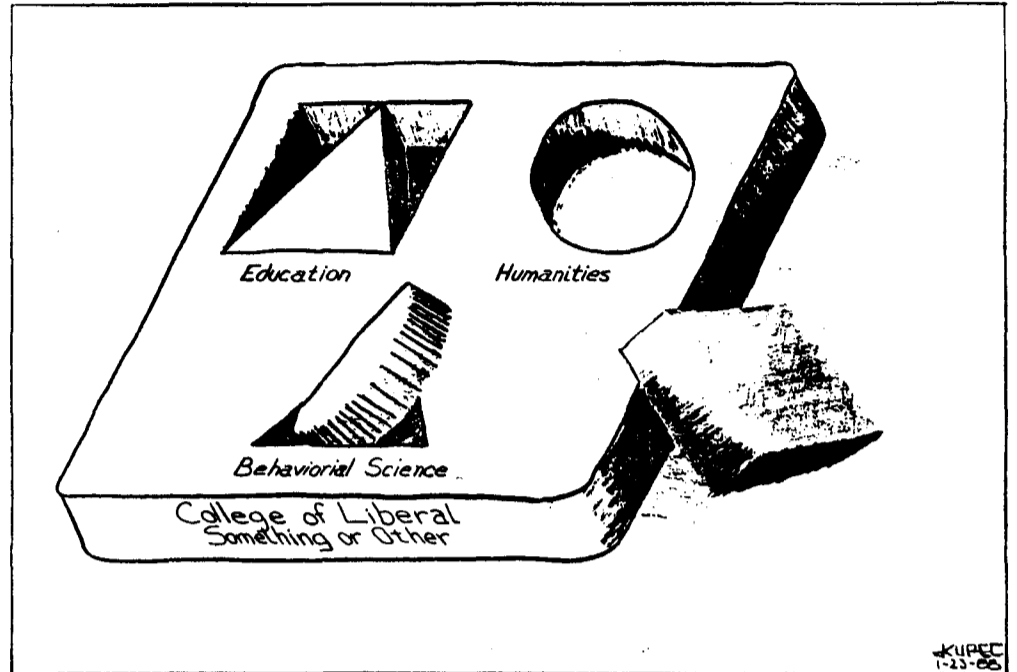
To finalize the plans and implement the proposal all of those who will be affected by it should be involved. A forum should be held to explain the details of the plan to students to calm their fears. The administration should also work closely with the faculty and the faculty council to develop the reorganization plan.

If this is done, perhaps this phase of Capital College's growth will not be as painful as others have been.

Another phase of growth for Capital College is still in the waiting stages. If the state legislature deems it so, we may get \$15 million to build a new library.

This is an exciting and challenging proposition, and yet, another one that students, faculty, and administration should work together to realize. So far the plans for the possible library are still speculative, but an exciting and inviting academic beacon could be created if all issues and aspects of the plans are examined and re-examined carefully.

Special thanks go out to Joanie in the computer center for coming to our rescue when we needed rescuing last week.



New Library in place by 1990.

Capital Times

Editor-in-Chief.....Michele Hart
News Editor.....Kimberly Anastas
Photography Editor...Kyle Weaver
Graphic Artist.....Joe Kupec

Staff: Cindi Greenawalt, C.W. Heiser, Laura Karinch, Bernie Mixon, Lisa Ridley, Kathleen Riley-King, Jan Travers, Dina Walker, Andrea Willard. Distribution-Ron Pollard

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The next meeting of the Capital Times staff will be Thursday Feb. 4 at 1:00 p.m. in room W-129. All staff members should attend and all those interested in joining the staff should also attend. If you cannot come to the meeting please stop by the office for your next story assignment. Thank you.