

## Renovations



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the maintenance staff received funding and approval to renovate an additional 16 classrooms.

"We'll continue to work on the classrooms during the semester and into next summer."

Witmer said the classrooms to be renovated will be spread all over Olmsted.

"We want to be fair about renovating areas. We don't want to renovate all business classrooms first."

Plans for classroom renovations include a block of four math/science rooms and a "high-level-classroom for business law classes" which will be the first classroom at Penn State Harrisburg to feature tiered seating.

## Improvements Bloom on Campus

by Joe Kupec

An improved dining hall, new mailboxes, and fresh paint are just a few of the changes that greeted students returning to residents halls and Meade Heights last weekend.

Muted grays and blues in the carpet and wall fabric have replaced the institutional green paint and tile that decorated the dining hall.

Baffled fluorescent lights, new chairs, a salad bar, and new air conditioning round out the improvements.

New matching tables were part of the plans to upgrade the dining facility but they will not be delivered until after classes begin.

"Until they get here, we will just have to use the old tables," said Joan Coleman, Food Services supervisor.

Coleman said the menu plan has been changed to a five-week rotation and includes theme meals with give-away items.

Improvements in the residents halls

include a new fire alarm system, corridor ceiling tiles, lights, and wiring for individual telephones.

In addition to room telephone systems, wiring was installed for future cable television and computer use in each room.

"While we had the ceiling torn up for the telephones, it made sense to run the wires for cable and computers. We can put them in later when the money is there," said Frank Williams, Housing supervisor.

The big change in Meade Heights is the cluster of mailboxes intended for house mail.

Letter carriers will be able to open the back of the clusters and sort mail into boxes for individual houses.

There will be one box for each housing unit and residents will be issued their own keys.

Forty units in Meade Heights were repainted this summer, bringing the total cost of the summer's maintenance projects to \$122,000, about \$175 per residence student.

*Anyone interested  
in forming a  
Young Democrats  
Club  
should come to an  
organizational  
meeting  
Monday,  
August 29th,  
4:15 p.m.,  
in room 216.*

## Penn State Downtown Center To Open

The Penn State Downtown Center, housing the Penn State Center for Government and Policy Studies, will be opened at 234 N. Third St., making educational programs and a primary site for governmental support services more convenient to students, state and local government, and the public.

Expected to be operational this fall, the facility will house Penn State programs conducted by Penn State Harrisburg, The Capital College; University Park colleges; and Continuing Education.

An historic landmark, the English tudor-style building is close to the Capitol Complex and parking garages. The 7,000 square-foot building will house a 50-student classroom, two 25-student seminar rooms, a reception area, faculty, student intern and administration offices and a regional office for the University's continuing education program.

The center city facility will also provide access to the Penn State Library system and provide registration services for Penn State courses at any of the University's 22 locations.

Penn State President Bryce Jordan said, "This center will meet the needs of much of the professional community of Harrisburg.

"This new location will strengthen Penn State's ties to the greater Harrisburg region and provide a site for increased services and courses for southcentral Pennsylvania," said Jordan.

Harrisburg Mayor Stephen R. Reed welcomed the plans for the new facility. "The former Ratcliff and Swartz building will be entirely restored. But the most significant aspect of the project is that it brings additional University-level education into the city. We are delighted to now have a permanent Penn State presence within our city and look forward to its inevitable growth," he said.

Dr. Ruth Leventhal, provost and dean of Penn State Harrisburg, said, "This facility has been a long-term goal of the



*This English tudor-style building at 234 N. Third Street will become the Penn State Downtown Center when renovations are completed this fall.*

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*--Bryce Jordan, PSU president.*

College and the community. The commitment that Penn State has made to Harrisburg will continue to grow and develop thanks to the ongoing support of

this community."

Dr. Jeremy Plant, head of the Division of Public Affairs at Penn State Harrisburg, said, "With the doctorate and

master's degree programs in public administration and the bachelor's degree in public policy and criminal justice, Penn State Harrisburg offers instruction to working professionals in state and local government, government agencies, legislative staffs, other non-profit organizations and health care institutions."

Dr. Irwin Feller, professor of economics and director of Penn State's new graduate program in policy analysis, said, "The existence of offices and other facilities in Harrisburg will help Penn State's graduate programs in policy analysis, public administration and political science establish, maintain and expand working relationships with lawmakers and other state officials."

Feller, who is also director of the University's Institute for Policy Research and Evaluation, said the new facility would provide offices available for faculty with ongoing research interests related to the commonwealth. An internship coordinator, handling student interns from public administration, policy analysis and political science, would also be located in the building.

Ron Melchiorre, Penn State Continuing Education regional director for the Harrisburg, Williamsport, and Mont Alto areas, said, "This facility allows us to do a better job of what we have been doing since 1929--offering quality educational programs to the Greater Harrisburg Area. It gives Penn State the opportunity to make courses more convenient and at a University facility with a broad range of services for the people who work in center city."

Melchiorre's regional administration office will move from 234 State Street into the new facility in January. Last year, Penn State Harrisburg's Continuing Education Program Office offered more than 350 workshops and courses to professionals from business, industry, government, non-profit, and health care industry.