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New Library Video

Collection Consists of 200

By Andrea Abolins

A collection of 200 videocassettes, including movies, documentaries, and stage productions, is now available in Heindel Library for use by Penn State Harrisburg students and faculty.

"The films were selected to encourage students to engage in individual learning," said Dr. Charles Townley, head of Heindel Library.

Two years ago, he and Dr. Eton Churchill of the Humanities Division saw a need for videos that could be used for individual review.

film's instructional and entertainment value.

At a cost of about \$3,500 to \$4,000, 40 percent of the committee's chosen films were purchased.

The library received the VHS videocassettes this summer.

The films can be checked out from Heindel Library at no cost.

There is a seven-day checkout period which, according to Townley, allows for students who come to campus only once a week to borrow the tapes.

Faculty members may reserve films for students in their courses to watch.

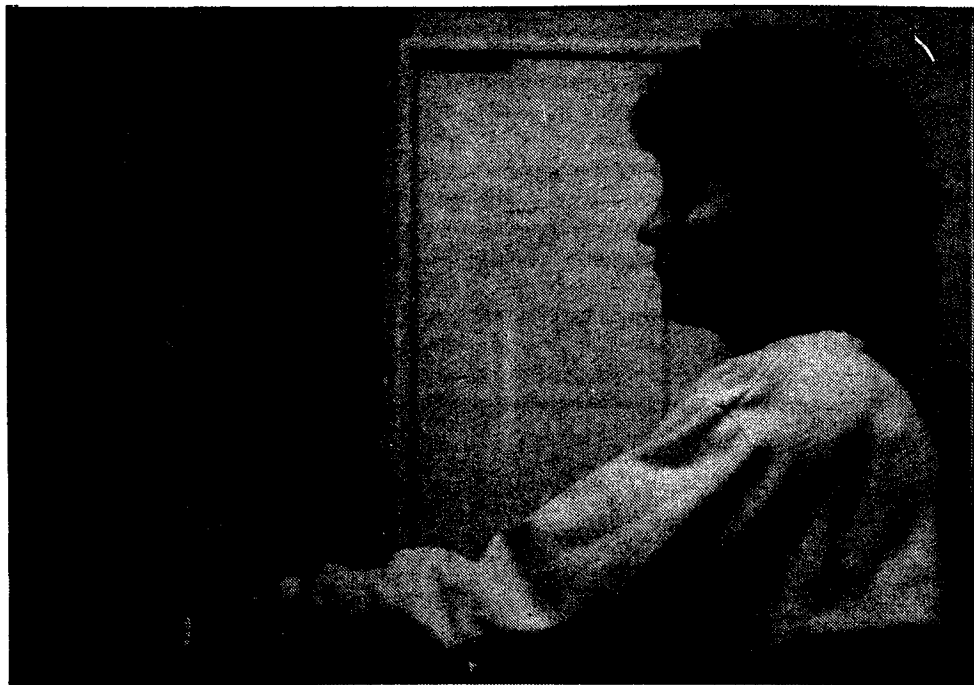


Photo by Joe Kupec

Librarian Fay Youngmark organizing part of the library video collection

A committee was formed to select the films and funds were allocated from the Humanities Division, the Student Government Association, and the Heindel Library for the project.

Members of the film selection committee included Townley, Churchill, Dr. John Patterson, professor of American Studies, Dr. Lynne Diamond-Nigh, professor of Humanities, Judy Bard of the library staff, graduate student John Nigh, and undergraduate student Kyle Weaver.

Their choices were based upon each

In this situation, the faculty member sets the circulation time for the tape.

LIAS, Penn State's computerized card catalog, has each film listed in its terminals.

Students can either look up the videocassette's number by film title or through an accessions list.

Once the film's number has been found, it can be requested at the checkout desk located at the front of the library.

The circulation desk has an alphabetical listing of all videocassettes in the library.

False Alarm

By Deann Hess

Tuesday, Aug. 30 began like a typical evening in the dormitories. People were studying and relaxing.

At 9:30 p.m., the new fire alarm system had accidentally been triggered.

Joanne Smith, resident assistant on duty in Wrisberg Hall, notified Police Services that the alarm was activated.

"No one knew how to shut down the alarm system."

--Police Supervisor Charles Askey

Police Services called the Dauphin County Controller and asked for an emergency vehicle to be dispatched.

Two volunteer firefighters followed R.A.s Smith and Mark Olenick in their inspection of the buildings.

After discovering no alarms had been pulled and no fire existed, Maintenance was called to shut down the alarm system.

Charles Askey, police supervisor of the campus police, said, "No one knew how to shut down the alarm system."

"The unit was activated because a student turned on the power to his room by way of the main switch box," he said.

"This caused a power surge. Contractors should have placed a black tape over the switch so it would not be accidentally triggered," said Askey.

Askey said he feels that it was the contractor's responsibility to inform staff that the alarm was connected.

The system will not be fully operational for another week or so.

In the mean time, Housing has a "fire watcher" walking the dorm hallways from 12:00 a.m. until 7:00 a.m.

It is his duty to look for smoke and/or fire and inform Police Services.

Once the unit is fully operational, mandatory monthly fire drills will be held.

The new system is an in-house alarm system.

Police Services department is responsible for the planning and carrying out of monthly fire drills.

ET Department Receives Money

By David Blymlre

Plans are in the works for improvements in Penn State Harrisburg's ability to serve the educational needs of its engineering technology students.

Among the planned improvements is a program to renovate the Mechanical Engineering Laboratory Building for which a goal of \$250,000 has been set by the Campaign for Penn State Harrisburg.

According to Jerry South, associate provost, the plans, so far, call for the addition of 32 feet by 80 feet of new floor space, targeting the need for an additional shop/lab area and two new standard classrooms that would also be for use outside of the engineering technology department.

The plans also call for the addition of a covered outdoor work area for students on the west side of the building.

South said that actual construction will begin when sufficient funds for the project have been acquired.

Approximately 75 percent of the \$250,000 goal has been raised thus far.

Karen Gluntz, director of Development and University Relations, said monies have been received for a student aid program that would benefit both graduate and undergraduate students; faculty support in the form of professorships; a program to allow new faculty and students to pursue departmentally approved research projects as part of their studies; and the acquisition of new equipment, as the need arises.

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