

CAMPUS

PSH clubs face funding problems

Derrick Stokes
Capital Times Staff

Funding problems place the future of Penn State Harrisburg clubs in uncertainty.

The Student Government Association and its Finance Committee cite the lack of a budget increase for this year as the problem of adequately fund the growing number of clubs. The Finance Committee has been severely criticized by club presidents for their handling of student activity funds.

According to Janet Widoff, the Director of Student Activities and the advisor for SGA, the school received \$31,900 this year. The Finance Committee received the same amount last year to allocate to 28 clubs. This year the number of clubs has increased to 35 with a possibility of two clubs being added.

Members of the Finance Committee refused to be interviewed by the Capital Times individually. They did agree to talk to reporters as a committee.

Michelle Noecker, SGA Treasurer and Finance Committee Chairperson, Mitch Sklar and Jim Bailoni attending the conference. Judy Farina, Carol Kilko and Lynn Jesuitt failed to attend. There are no business majors on the Finance Committee.

"We've got to work with what we got," Noecker said.

"We work with what is present in the budget," added Mitch Sklar. Sklar, a SDCET major, served on the Finance Committee last year.

Dr. James D. South, the Assistant Provost for Student Affairs, said a budget task force sent their budget requests to the provost last spring. Dr. Ruth Leventhal negotiated those requests at University Park. He said there is no formula for determining SGA's budget.

"Our's is based on a need analysis basis," South said.

"Our pitch has been that it should be increased," he added. "(One year) we were able to get a 20 percent to 25 percent increase in the student government budget."

The Capital Times has learned that in the 1987-88 school year SGA received an initial budget of \$23,946. They received an additional \$10,000 later that year. Last year, SGA received \$10,000 at the end of the school year that brought total of appropriations from University Park to \$41,946.

"We would like to expect it (money), but it's all up to University Park," Noecker said.

Dr. South said that new limitations will be imposed on the university for next year's budget requests. He said that

Penn State Harrisburg will not be allowed to ask for more than a five percent increase for SGA's budget. South explained that if the total college budget is \$100, the most the school can ask for is \$105.

"The fiscal reality is that the university cannot fund some programs," he added.

Clubs will have to organize fund-raisers to generate additional income.

"There is some expectation that clubs will do something in their behalf to generate some income," said Janet Widoff, SGA advisor. She added that clubs that don't put forth the effort to raise money independently can't expect to receive additional money from the university.

The Capital Times and WPSH radio station had the highest budget requests.

Head of the Humanities Division, Dr. William Mahar said that SGA should consider the records of performance of the Capital Times and WPSH. He called the two organizations "educational enterprises" that provide a "vital service" to the school.

"The Capital Times and WPSH have good organizations," he said. "Both of them are vital to this campus."

However, he said the humanities division will not provide economic assistance to the two clubs. He said he

thinks a fiscal relationship between the campus newspaper and the radio station would weaken their independence.

"It will create a conflict of interest," he added. "The Cap Times should be free of interference."

Although Mahar said that the humanities division would do everything they could to help, that doesn't include financial assistance.

"I believe the money should come out of the Student Government area," he said.

on paper what funds the clubs can expect if anticipated revenues are received.

SGA

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recommendation of the Finance Committee.

Committee members at first said that there have been cuts in the funds they will have to work with, however, advisor Janet Widoff later said that the SGA will not receive as much money as last year.

"(The committee) has just decided to do it differently this year," Widoff said, adding that the members of the committee are new and inexperienced.

The foray ended as Finance Committee members agreed to put down



Maria Jordan, Public Policy, and Francelia Arnold, Sociology, talk in stairwell about the class they just left.

photo by Denina C. Benson

The Capital Times hereby challenges any other campus club or organization to a game of walleyball. Any group foolhardy enough to accept should notify us in W-337, or via our mailbox in room 216 or call at 944-4970. Good luck...you'll need it!

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The Student Assistance Center (SAC) will offer the following workshops to Penn State Harrisburg students:

Graduate School Preparation
A workshop for prospective graduate students. Tips on how and when to apply, making choices, developing useful strategies

Facilitator: Linda Meashey
Monday, Oct. 9, 1989
12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Register by Oct. 8

Assertiveness Training
Learn how to express yourself openly, honestly, and directly.

Tuesdays, October 10 and 17, 1989
from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Register by October 9, 1989

Communications Skills
A workshop that teaches you how to get your message across, both in your

personal and professional life.

Section I

Tuesdays, October 24 and 31, 1989
from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Register by October 23, 1989

Section II

Wednesdays, November 8 and 15, 1989
from 5:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.
Register by November 7, 1989

Career Concerns

Tips on career decision making, resumes and cover letters, job search strategies, and interviewing techniques.

Facilitator: Karl Martz

Thursday, Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, 1989
12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Register by Oct. 25, 1989

The SAC will announce additional upcoming workshops in future additions of the Capital Times.

The SAC also sponsors the following support groups: Gay and Lesbian Issues, for the homosexual

community; Survivors of Sexual Abuse, for victims of incest, rape or other forms of sexual abuse; Mothers Without Custody, for mothers without child custody; and Separating/Divorcing Students, for students in the process of marital separation or divorce.

Students interested in these support groups should contact Dr. Ed Beck, Coordinator of Counseling Programs, at the student Assistance Center, Olmsted, room W-117, or call (717) 948-6025.

The SAC regards all inquiries as confidential. Arrangements will be scheduled to suit student needs.

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