PSH NEWS

PSH continues recycling effort

Karen Putt Capital Times Staff

A recycling program that began at Penn State Harrisburg in October continues with successful results.

Ken Witmer, Manager of Facilities and Maintenance, said the program for recycling white paper and aluminum is gradually growing.

"We're finding more people are using the program each time we empty the containers. When the program began, collections were made whenever the receptacles were full. Now the custodians empty them almost every other night."

The recycling program has collected 32 cubic yards of white paper and approximately 4,000 cans over the eight weeks it's been in service. Besides the receptacles in the hallways of the Olmstead building, collection areas are also in the dorm lounges as well as every office.

Most of the white paper recycling is done by the offices.

"Every desk at Penn State Harrisburg has a cardboard box on it for recycling," Whitmer said. "We put a list of the recycleable materials right on the front so there are no questions in people's minds. It's also a reminder for them to change their behavior."

The change is one which most people are more than willing to make. Though Pennsylvania's mandatory recycling law called for recycling programs in 197 municipalities, over 300 have instituted programs. Some areas are having problems getting started because they have not received their recycling materials and information yet.

Penn State faced a similar problem but did not want to wait for the Department of Environmental Regulation (DER) to supply them with program materials. The cardboard boxes used on the desks and the large cardboard receptacles for aluminum cans are Penn State originals. The program has been supplied with some blue plastic containers (made from recycled plastic, of course) which you can find spread across campus.

Though the recycling program is new to Penn State this year, recycling itself, is not. For years maintenance has been composting leaves, annual plants and

composting leaves, annual plants and shrubbery. The compost is then used in place of purchasing top soil for planting.

Not your usual bathroom grafitti Pamphlets outline cancer concern

Victoria Cuscino Capital Times Staff

Students found new reading material in the colleg restrooms during the month of October at Penn State Harrisburg.

Pamphlets about breast and testicular cancer were posted on stall doors and lay on the tables to serve as sources of factual information about the diseases.

Marylou Martz, Coordinator of Health Services posted literature about breast cancer in every stall of the women's restrooms and a work study student helped her post literature about testicular cancer in the men's stalls.

Martz said she wrote on every pamphlet where people could go with their questions or concerns, so people hopefully would not think the effort was a joke.

"I wanted to do something different and make a splash for Cancer Awareness Month," Martz said.

"If we could hit one woman (or man) during that month, it would help and be an accomplishment," Martz said.

Since cancer statistics continue to rise, Martz said she wanted to do something that would promote the awareness of cancer and be "a constant reinforcement."

Martz said she received positive feedback about the effort, so she feels successful in her goal.

Students had mixed personal reactions about the literature, but felt the effort was overall a good idea to promote awareness.

"That's the last thing I have on my mind when I am going to the bathroom," said Barbara Turk, a junior communications major. Turk also said that since cancer is a serious subject, the pamphlets serve as good reminders and give information to those who need it.

John Masterson, a junior SDCET major said he thought someone distributed the literature as a joke because of the graphic pictures that show how to perform a self-examination of the male testes.

Masterson said he read the pamphlet out of curiosity and thinks Health Services had a great idea. "My grandfather died of prosrate cancer a few years ago, so I already knew something about it," he said.

"I read them," said Paula Styer, a senior communications major, "because every woman needs to know about it."

These students said they do not plan on performing the self-examinations and did not give reasons for their decision.

"A lot of people are afraid to do the exams because they are afraid of actually finding a lump," Martz said.

Dave Seaman, a junior communications major said he plans to perform the examination if he remembers because the literature sparked an interest and concern about the subject of testicular cancer.

He said he never thought about this type of cancer before because the common topics are usually breast cancer and rectal cancer.

Anyone with specific questions about health issues should go to Room W-102.

Expansion plans offer 'better visibility'

Paula Styer Capital Times Staff

In the past few months, discussions about the possibility of Penn State Harrisburg becoming the third four-year college in the Penn State system have been in progress.

Some professors said they think the change is a good idea, citing benefits to both students and the university.

"From the point of view of the school," said Robert Brow, professor of business administration, "the benefits outweigh the disadvantages because it would enable the Capital College to round out the program."

The students, said Brown, will benefit by the increased resources and facilities that a four year school would offer.

A four year school would allow a basic preparation during the first two years of college and allow for more advanced courses during the last two years, said Rie Gentzler, professor of behavioral science.

"We get good students now," she said. "If this school becomes a four-year school, we'd have those students for four years. There would be a more cohesive program for them."

Oya Culpan, professor of business administration, said that it will offer more options and give the school and students more visibility in the community.

"Better visibility would mean more openings for future business interaction," as well as more research and internship opportunities, she said.

Professors also expressed concern about internal changes that must take place. One is money.

"We can't do it without money from the state, "Gentzler said. "If we can get that commitment in terms of money from the legislature, I think it is a good move."

Another concern is spacing. More area is needed to provide classrooms and housing for the increased amount of students, Culpan said. "As the number increases, so must the campus," she said, "and so will the academic and non-academic activities."

Desert Christmas

long, drawn-out conflict. We like immediate action and immediate results. We lose interest and our support begins to dwindle," he said.

The professor sees vacillations already in America's allies. "Japan and Germany are already hesitant. You can promise money and material, as Japan has, but it is tied up by red tape," he said. "They promised tanks and trucks, but the Japanese dockworkers refuse to load them."

Many countries donate food, but after Hussein intercepts it, he distributes it to his military. He allows some food to get through to save his political face, but for the most part his troops receive it, Sadarananda said.

Sadarananda warned of the dangers of Hussein's nerve gas.

"The fact that you can be overcome, attacked, and killed by an unknown and unseen agent is psychologically damaging," Sadarananda said.

The gas Hussein would use is a lethal skin irritant, requiring troops to wear chemically treated uniforms. These uniforms make normal bodily functions and the use of military weapons difficult.

"If the gas is used it will not be the soldiers who are killed but the civilians," American hostages and Kuwaiti and Saudi civilians, Sadarananda said.

Sadarananda said it is difficult to say what motivates men like Hussein. Hussein could not have assumed that he could make such a move without U.S. protest, said Sadarananda. "Maybe he miscalculated, or on the other hand, it could be a part of a carefully thought out policy. He may be waiting us out." Sadarananda said, "If this is his strategy, he may pull it off."

It will be a long wait, but nothing should happen over the holidays. "Saddam's best hope is to wait," the professor said.

Capital Times Staff:

There will be an organization meeting during the first week of classes in January. Please look at signs for specific day and time or see Jon. T.J., or Dr. Parisi

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