

# New fall orientation program lacks appeal

Stacey Simmers  
Capital Times Staff

You are sitting in a circle with a group of six other people in half of the gym at 8:00 a.m. There are other groups all around you.

You have about ten minutes to talk to the other people and find out what you all have in common.

Then you each have one minute to explain why you think you are unique.

For many of you, you tried this during "Getting to Know Each Other," one part of Orientation.

Others of you experienced something a little different during Orientation last year.

Since students said last year's program wasn't successful, so the university revised

this year's program.

According to George Young, director of residence life, students said that the old program was too long. So this year it was cut into two parts, each lasting about 35 minutes.

Group discussions replaced last year's videotapes on diversity.

Did it work this time?

Don Yetter, a junior in finance, said it didn't.

"It was too impersonal," Yetter said of the presentation. "It should be more spontaneous."

Spontaneity aside, what did people find out?

"We are all single males," one group's spokesperson announced.

Another group discovered that they all

prefer to sit in the non-smoking section at restaurants.

How well should students have gotten to know each other?

"As long as the students are interacting," Young said, "sharing any experiences is a learning experience."

Coordinator of Student Activities, Janet Widoff, agreed.

"With the amount of time allotted, intimate revelations would be difficult," Widoff said.

Pamela Meyers, a junior in accounting, thought the exercise would be more effective if the groups were organized by programs of study.

"We should meet people we will see everyday in class," Meyers said. "Not people who we might recognize in the halls as we walk by them."

Last year students heard about programs available on campus via five-minute speeches given by staff members.

This year, students found out what's on campus via a slide show, "Getting to Know Penn State Harrisburg," narrated by Duane Crider, director of athletics.

"Graduates have told me that throughout their years here, they spent a lot of money seeing doctors off-campus when they could have seen one here for nothing if they had know we had one," Crider said to students sitting in the Quiet Study of the CUB Building.

This half of the program required no participation.

"They should have had seniors run it to let us know that this place is fun," Yetter said.



## Fall picnic/concert set

Jazz music with Third Stream will open the 1992-93 Block Book Series in the Sculpture Garden on Wednesday, Sept. 9 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Third Stream's mastery of jazz improvisation has entertained audiences for 20 years.

In addition, the quartet has shared billing with other musicians such as

Herbie Hancock, Chick Corea and Jeff Beck.

Dr. Ruth Leventhal, provost and dean, along with the Student Government Association, are co-sponsoring the event, which also includes a picnic.

In case of rain, the events will be held in the dining hall between the residence halls.

## Crider lists changes at the CUB

Tim Brown  
Capital Times Staff

For those of you, who like me, were surprised to find only one entrance open at the Capital Union Building (CUB) last week, get used to it.

The rear door of the building, which is next to the parking lot between the CUB and Police Services, is now an exit-only door. You can still park in back of the CUB, but a sign now directs visitors to the main entrance.

There is a new policy in effect limiting access to the building through the main entrance only.

Along with the new door policy, students must now present their I.D. card and sign in with the receptionist at the desk inside.

All of this may sound bad, but it is being done for good reasons, according to Duane Crider, coordinator of recreation athletics.

"This is to cut down on the amount of loss in equipment and to help regulate the flow of traffic," Crider said.

The log will also be used as documentation as to the number of people using the facility.

"In order to service our students better," Crider said, "we have to be able to prove that we serve students."

By doing that, Crider said, "when there are changes or revisions, I can show our administration that needs exist because of facility use."

Once you think about it, the walk around to the front of the building doesn't seem as far as it initially did.

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