

The Penn State Harrisburg  
**CAPITAL  
 TIMES**

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# Jack Frost harasses heatless Heights

*Kate Sherman  
 Capital Times Staff*

At least six houses in the 900 section of Meade Heights have been without heat in the largest bedroom since the fall '92 semester, said Jo Ann Coleman, manager of housing and food services.

Though winter is still upon us, housing services has not yet found a permanent solution to the problem. Coleman said she is not even sure what is causing the problem.

"The piping is underneath the slabs the houses are built on, so, I don't think it's something we can fix right away," Coleman said. "We have called a plumber in."

According to maintenance worker Jim Matinchek, the plumber found no problems with the pipes or heaters.

Coleman said that housing services is considering installing baseboard heating systems in the homes, but it doesn't look like a decision will be made soon.

In the meantime, housing has provided

bedroom space heaters for students who reported the heating problem. Coleman also suggested that students leave their bedroom doors open to allow heat to drift in from other rooms and that they close their storm windows.

Coleman would not release the exact house numbers or names of the students affected. However, a few came forward to share their comments on the matter.

Frank Heimbach, a senior business major, said he has had a heat problem since November. No air blew from the vents in his room and cold air came from the vents in his roommate's bedroom, he said.

"As long as they provide heaters for us, I don't think it's that bad," Heimbach added.

Heimbach's neighbor, Cherie Pucciarella, a junior secondary education major, is not taking it so well.

"The first two nights I was here, I froze," Pucciarella said. "Why the hell

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Photo by Jen Walker

**SHIVERING VIDEO** -- Two Meade Heights residents bundle up to watch their favorite TV shows as heatless houses set students shivering. The cause remains a mystery, and portable heaters don't quite warm the room.

## Library plans approved; wait continues

*Susan Jones-Yurkiewicz  
 Capital Times Staff*

Penn State Harrisburg's long awaited library has finally made it on the list of capital projects the state plans to build, but when there will be money for the project remains uncertain.

The library plan survived Gov. Robert P. Casey's vetoes of over \$800 million in other higher education projects, said Sue Grimm, spokesperson for the governor's budget office.

More than half of Penn State's building projects for other campuses were cut, Penn State Provost Ruth Leventhal said.

The \$17.33 million project, needed since 1973, was approved by the governor on Dec. 29.

His approval is just the first step in what may turn out to be a lengthy road to

completion. The next step is releasing the funds to finance the work. This could take place in the next 10 years or longer, said Leventhal.

Funds approved in 1971 for a building on the Altoona campus were recently released, said Dave Schuckers, Penn State government relations specialist at University Park.

"It may or may not be this governor who releases the funds," Schuckers said.

The release should take less than 10 years if Rep. Frank Tulli Jr.'s efforts succeed.

Tulli is one of several legislators who worked to get the project approved initially and is continuing to work on the fund release.

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## Humanities renovation creates hassles for staff and students

*Ed Paukstis  
 Capital Times Staff*

In recent weeks, Humanities Division Head William Mahar has been doing business from a secretary's desk or any place he can find an available phone and computer.

Mahar has been a floating administrator since the beginning of December when the humanities division launched a thorough renovation of its office suite, W-360.

The renovation increases the number of offices in the division from 18 to 20, permitting part-time faculty, who were in the photo lab, to be accommodated in the suite.

"At this time there is no more space available to accommodate any new faculty members," Mahar said. "We have reached the limit of what we can do with space in W-360."

The renovation will also improve security.

"We've had some instances in the past where various items were reported missing, so this project will attempt to resolve any additional problems with security," said Simon Bronner, coordinator of American studies.

The renovation which is being done by the university's maintenance staff working both day and night shifts, began when the division was granted \$4,000 from Penn State central administrative funding to take care of the construction, painting, and the relocation of phone lines, Mahar said.

The renovation has created an awkward environment for some staff members. At least 10 humanities division faculty had their offices moved or reconstructed.

"It has been extremely hard to work in these conditions," said Louise Hoffman, coordinator of the graduate program in humanities and associate professor of humanities and history. "I didn't feel like coming to the office (because) I was inaccessible to students."

Mahar said the funds had to be allocated for this fiscal year--July 1, 1992 to June 30, 1993.

Mahar said that the division would like to have spared the faculty all of the inconveniences but realized that many staff members would not be present during the summer months.

"We wanted the faculty to be able to supervise the movement of their offices so that they could voice their opinions and collect personal items that could be lost during the construction," Mahar said.

The division was forced to start the project during the Christmas break because of the maintenance administration's busy schedule.

"We hoped to have the project completed before classes resumed, but it proved to be a bit more involving than we had anticipated," Mahar said.

In the new layout, people will enter the suite through one door, instead of two as in the past. Secretaries' desks have been consolidated in the center of the suite, Mahar said. The layout will resemble those in the business and public affairs divisions.

The renovation will also free the photo lab for photography courses, its intended purpose, Mahar said.

The renovation's scheduled completion date was Jan. 29, Mahar said.



Photo by Michael Starkey

**BUILD WE MUST** -- A university worker lines up a new wall as the humanities division suite grows from 18 to 20 offices. Faculty advised students in hallways and shared phones while temporarily without offices.