

# Dr. Bruhn Retires After 37 Years in Academia

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academia in general is a lack of continuity from one administration to the next. He added, "We tend to start and stop with new administrations. I think it's only realistic to think that someone could come in and have different priorities and take it in a whole different direction than I did."

Bruhn knows a thing or two about college administration. He started in academic administration in 1962 and has spent 37 years moving toward the position of Provost and Dean for Capital College.

Former posts include Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research at University of Texas, El Paso and Dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences at University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston.

I asked Bruhn to reflect on his tenure with a nudge from a September 1995 introduction letter published in The Capital Times shortly after his arrival. In the letter, Bruhn lists his objectives. It's an impressive list of objectives and Dr. Bruhn was pleased to reflect on the progress made during his watch.

His smile widened as he realized how much of what he proposed in 1995 had moved forward.

Bruhn's objective of improving participation and open communication on campus was promoted through quarterly staff forums, monthly "no-agenda" coffees and

a good idea contest that resulted in improvements such as the MAC and stamp machines.

The development of academic partnerships advanced through building dual admission agreements with community colleges and joint degree programs with Hershey Medical School and Dickinson School of Law.

Bruhn's marketing goals moved forward with the hiring of Rebecca Gardner, full-time Director of Marketing, who, among other things, has created a family of brochures for each academic program.

In the arena of improved community outreach, Bruhn mentioned his work with Middletown Mayor Barbara Layne to create the Community Arts and Crafts Fall Festival, which raises funds to support Middletown's youth programs.

In addition, Bruhn told me that plans are underway for a \$1.8 million swimming and fitness center on campus that will be open to the community.

Bruhn is also proud of his work with Harrisburg Mayor Stephen Reed on several initiatives including Harrisburg's sister-city relationship with Pachuca, Hidalgo in Mexico. One outcome is an exchange program for education majors between Capital College and the University of Hidalgo.

Closer to home, Bruhn highlighted the efforts of Director of Development, Lois Jordan, and the development office. Penn State

University recently embarked on a capital campaign and Capital College's assignment consisted of raising \$10 million over seven years.

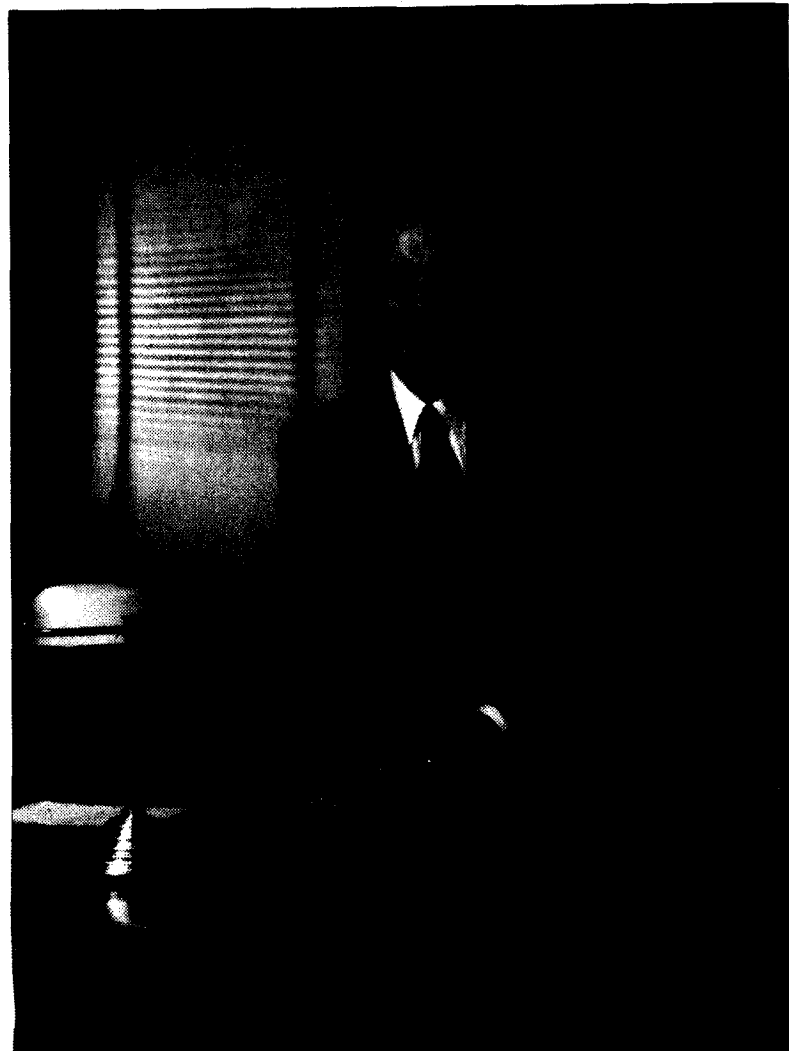
Our development office raised 75 percent of the assignment in two years. In addition, Capital College now enjoys an endowed chair, the Quentin Berg Chair in Engineering. Judging by his pleasure in telling the story, this accomplishment will bring a smile to Bruhn's face for some time.

The list went on. Bruhn is proud of our new honors program, the progress on the library, the plans for new student housing and the plans for combining dining facilities in the space vacated by the current library. He also shared his enthusiasm with Gayle Yaverbaum and Susan Richman's laptop computer project and by the computer center proposed for the current Lion's Den area.

So why only a B+ or A-? According to Bruhn, there are other things he hoped to accomplish. Looming large on his list is the lack of a \$4 million naming donor for the soon-to-be-completed library.

Coming in second is the lack of forward momentum on course offerings in downtown Harrisburg and other outreach initiatives.

Overall, Bruhn is pleased. He is also quite aware of the campus-wide team effort responsible for making it happen.



Outgoing Provost and Dean Dr. John G. Bruhn has some final comments: "This college is a real gem waiting to blossom in the future with all of the developments going on here and I think the biggest thing is to keep spreading the word. I think the quality of programs here are superb and I think that students, graduates, alumni need to just keep promoting this college and it will continue to grow and prosper. I've had a good time and I leave with good feelings and ready to now enjoy other things other than administration."

## Interim Provost Leathers

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The interim position continues for one year while the search is underway for our next Provost and Dean. If the search results in the selection of a replacement sooner, Leathers will step down.

In the meantime, Leathers is taking his role seriously. He is moving into University housing and has rolled up his sleeves to get to work.

## Library to Open in January

By Matthew McKeown  
Capital Times Editor

It's a busy period expansion on campus. The \$17 million library project is rapidly coming to its completion. Exterior construction is finished and interior construction is scheduled to be done by October, according to Hevner.

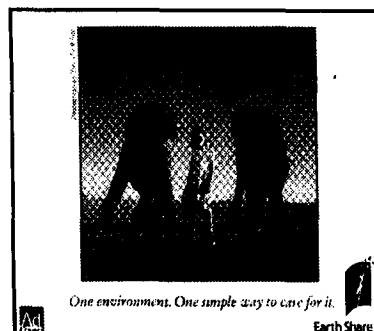
Then the contractors will then check all the equipment, including computer ports, light switches and doors, to make sure everything is ready.

The new library, which has yet to be named, will open in January. Its opening will mean that Heindel Library on the first floor of the Olmsted Building will close. But the space will be used for student services, said Director of Student Affairs Donald Holtzman.

He said that a new food service area will open in most of Heindel Library's space.

The rest of it would most likely be used as a "Town Square" where the Student Government Association, The Capital Times, radio station WPSH, and other student activities would be located, according to Holtzman.

However, the town square concept is still in the preliminary stages and nothing will be acted upon until the new library opens.



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