

The

# SGA Report

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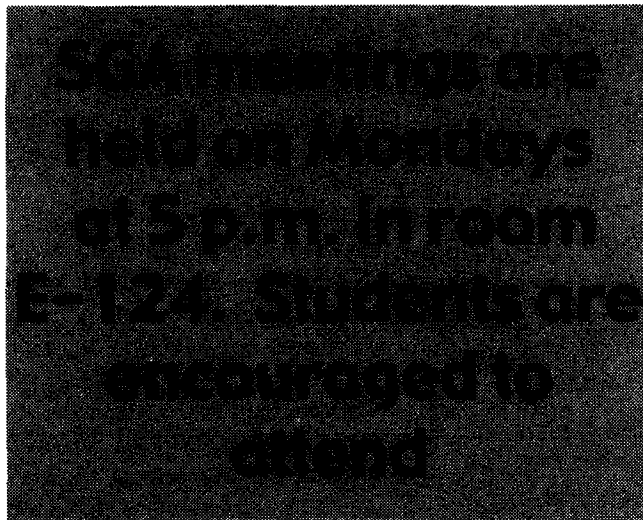
A new Penn State University Senate proposal was the main topic of discussion at the October 6, 2003 meeting of the Student Government Association. Capital College student Senator Rodney Horton briefed SGA on the proposal which is to be voted on at the October 28 meeting of the University Senate.

As currently written, the proposal would shrink the current size of the University Senate by roughly one third, while maintaining the current ratio of student representation. The University Senate serves as the main "legislative" body for the entire university, and consists of senators representing each college of the University—such as the colleges at University Park, Capital College, Berks-Lehigh College, Commonwealth College, etc.

As it currently stands, each college has one student senator to represent its students, but under the new proposal, student representation would be set at 10 percent of the total senators, which would decrease the number of student senators.

Horton mentioned that other student senators oppose the proposal because it would decrease the number of student senators, which would make it more difficult for student ideas to reach the Senate. For instance, the student senator from the Commonwealth College represents 12 campuses—Beaver, Delaware, DuBois, Fayette, Hazleton, McKeesport, Mont Alto, New Kensington, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, Worthington, Scranton, and York.

Those campuses range from Philadelphia to north of Pittsburgh. If this proposal is approved, it is undetermined whether or not some colleges would lose representation, senators would be responsible to cover more campuses, or some other arrangement would be made.



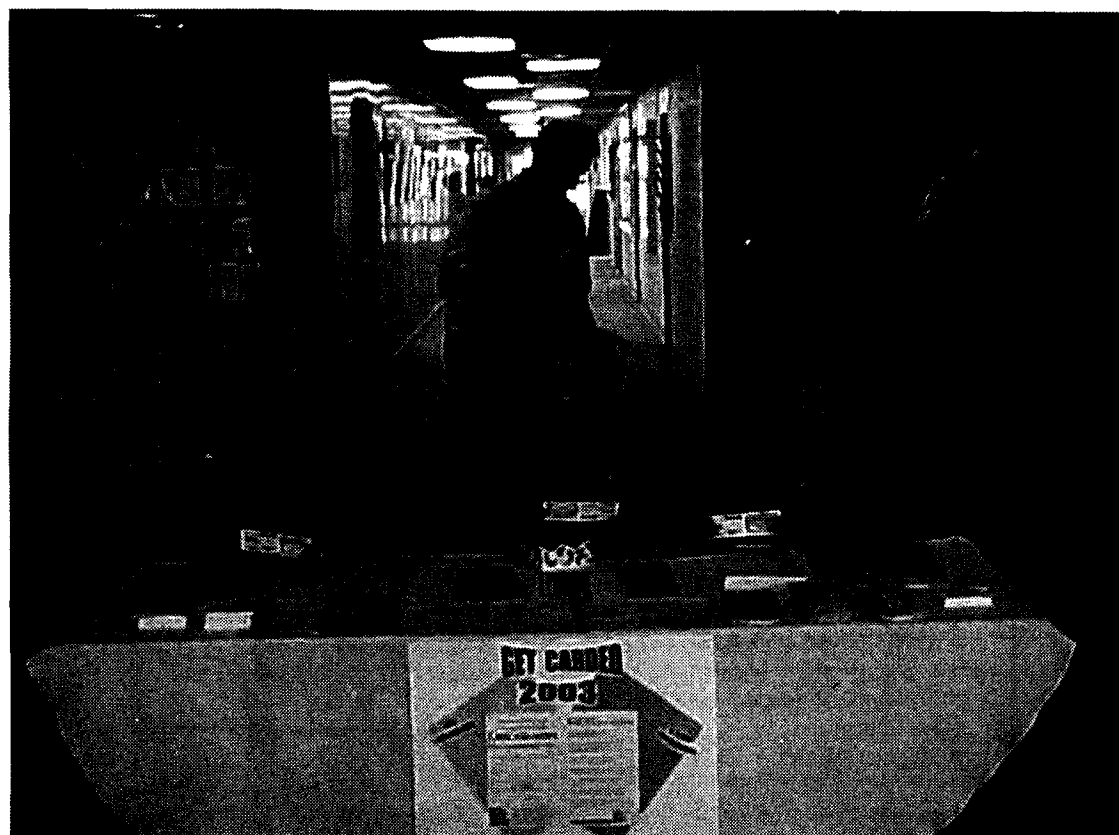
On the topic of campus security, funding is being considered for web-based security cameras to observe the parking lots. While no timetable has been set for installation, it is believed that the project could be done quite quickly once approved. According to reports from other Penn State campuses, use of cameras has reduced thefts from cars.

Last month, Robert Brinkley, director of Instructional and Information Technologies, gave a report on modem access and possible cost savings for Penn State Harrisburg. Harrisburg uses two "banks" of modems to provide dial-up access for commuting students.

Using this number of modems means that all students can dial into the PSU system without unreasonable delays. In the last year, the increasing use of Cable and Direct Satellite Link (DSL) has measurably dropped demand for Penn State Harrisburg modems.

As a cost-cutting measure, he suggests shutting down the second "bank" of modems during June, July and August. While no firm cost figure has been obtained, Brinkley estimates a savings of \$150, which he points out is equivalent to several students' IST fees.

## Get Carded 2003



**Left:** from left to right: Jennifer Allshouse, and SGA members Andrea White and Tiffany Turner help hand out wallet cards and information about the National Sexual Assault Hotline in the Olmsted lobby.

**Above:** from left to right: Tiffany Turner and Andrea White distribute Get Carded 2003 cards to female students. Get Carded 2003 was a nationwide effort on over 500 U.S. campuses.