

Opinions and Comments

It's time to change

The term calendar, put into effect during the 1961-62 academic year, is expected by 1984 to be replaced by the semester calendar. Supporting this conversion University President John W. Oswald said, "I believe that a semester calendar provides a preferable learning environment. The Highacres Collegian shares this opinion.

The motive behind the conversion to a term calendar in 61 was to increase summer enrollment. The term calendar failed to provide a significant enrollment increase, and therefore was unsuccessful in fulfilling its main objective.

The term calendar also contains certain drawbacks. The duration of a term, ten weeks, allows students a limited amount of time for research and study. In depth research for a paper is seldom feasible. Christmas vacation creates a disturbing division in the winter term. Also, the long classes are an additional burden to the student.

The semester calendar, however, composed of two semesters a year, contributes a more expanded amount of time for study and research. Christmas vacation within the semester timetable does not impose a hindrance; it provides a break between semesters opposed to the winter term's split. Shorter classes are also contained in a semester calendar.

The term calendar was unsuccessful in its main objective. It has been subjected to examination, modification, and reexamination and it still contains flaws that will lead to more modification. The semester calendar, on the other hand, adequately served Penn State before the term calendar was adopted. The semester timetable overrides many of the shortcomings found in the term calendar. The semester calendar would be more advantageous to the students and should be reenacted as soon as possible.

Schedule may ease tensions

by Dr. Cote

How many times have you heard yourself complain, "I never have enough time to study?" Do you find that you begrudge your family the time you spend cleaning your room, washing dishes, waxing the car? Are you irritated when friends ask for help with math problems or writing assignments? Your family and friends are probably a bit frustrated, too, because they don't like to be considered an imposition by a person who previously was always available. You may be able to reduce these tensions by setting up a somewhat flexible study schedule. Some of the following suggestions may be of value to you.

FIRST: Set up a certain time for study each day. Choose a time and place that is relatively quiet to avoid distraction. Be certain that you select a time when you are not overtired.

The most important aspect of this schedule is to publicize it: in other words, let your family and friends know when you are, and are not, available. You will find that you are more relaxed because you can count on time for class preparation. Your family and friends will be happier, too, because you will be more fun to spend time with.

SECOND: Evaluate your attention span. Many people cannot

read, write, or study the same subject for more than an hour. So, if you are fortunate enough to have two or three hours of uninterrupted time, work on two or three different subjects.

THIRD: When you are attempting to absorb material for a test, try to verbalize the information. Remember that, if you can't explain the idea to someone else, you probably don't understand it yourself. Studying in a group is sometimes helpful, if the group is really studying.

FOURTH: Keep your college life in perspective. A good rule of thumb is to ask yourself how much a particular event that is disturbing you is going to matter in five years. This is not to say that exams, papers, and courses are not important, but only that a more relaxed attitude often results in better writing and retention.

FIFTH: Take advantage of small intervals of free time. For example, develop topics for papers or try to recall main points of a lecture while walking down halls or driving to and from school. You will be surprised at how much you can accomplish in a few free moments.

College is a new experience, but it need not be a distressing one. Quiet, organized study may help to relieve the pressures caused by new and immediate demands on your time.



Collegian welcomes new advisor

Dr. Margaret Cote, assistant professor of English for PSU at Hazleton, is replacing Dr. Michael Santulli as advisor of The Highacres Collegian. Dr. Santulli, presently teaching philosophy at this campus, has been invited by the Philosophy department at University Park to be a visiting professor for the coming winter and spring terms.

Dr. Santulli asked Dr. Cote to replace him as advisor because "she is enthusiastic." He has observed in the past that she commits herself to projects that she becomes involved with, and he feels that "she would do a good job." Dr. Santulli added that Dr. Cote's background as an English teacher qualifies her for the position.

Dr. Cote has been teaching at the Hazleton campus since the fall of 1978. Prior to that time she taught in Connecticut. Although she has no previous experience as an advisor of a newspaper, Dr. Cote is not new to the world of journalism. As an undergraduate student she edited and wrote articles for her college paper.

Dr. Cote does not foresee any major changes in the management or editorial policy of the Collegian. She sees herself solely as an advisor, not as having the final word as to what goes into the paper. She feels the Collegian is

and should be a student project.

The new advisor was impressed with the organization and presentation of the students last year and will encourage them to continue in the same manner. She also commented, "I want to encourage well-rounded coverage of all campus events."

From the Editor's Desk

THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN got off to an excellent start this year. We were very pleased by the tremendous response from students willing to devote their time to the publication of this newspaper. Our 49 member staff worked diligently to publish its first issue for 1980-81. With such enthusiastic support from the students, this newspaper is sure to accomplish its objectives: to provoke your thoughts and keep you informed of the news and happenings at Highacres.

We would like to hear your ideas also. If you have any comments on campus issues or would like to take an active part in the COLLEGIAN, please stop by our office in the South Building during lunch on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday or write a Letter to the Editor and drop it in the COLLEGIAN mailbox in the Student Affairs office.

Wishing everyone a most successful year at Highacres,
The Executive Editors
THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN

HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN

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The office of THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN is located in Rm. 108 in the South building. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 12:05 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. Other hours can be arranged by appointment.

Unsigned editorials represent the official view of the COLLEGIAN. Views expressed in bylined articles are those of the individual contributor and do not reflect the official view of the COLLEGIAN. Responsible comment is invited. Letters To The Editor should be signed and mailed or delivered to THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN office.

THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN is published twice each term by the students of the Hazleton Highacres Campus of the Pennsylvania State University.

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