

desperately needs more support services and more funding in order to enhance the quality of learning and faculty development.

"Also, I intend on having new space built onto the Kostos Building. This new space shall be used for more classrooms, additional offices for the faculty, a theatre, and special purpose rooms.

"I'm also working on getting funds from the administration at University Park and fund drives throughout the greater Hazleton area in order to establish a scholarship--academic program endowment fund and make necessary and much needed restorations on the campus - such as the South Building, the Administration Building, and the Maintenance Building.

"Right now, these are important and are only some of the things that I am working on in order to make the Hazleton Campus a better educational institution for the students, faculty, staff, and the community in general."

As we continued our discussion, I learned about other items that were on his agenda that pertained to both the students and the community. Here are a few of those plans: to explore the possibility of providing an extended baccalaureate degree in General Arts and Sciences and other upper division and/or graduate offerings at the Hazleton Campus; to carry out Phase 2 of a 3-year plan to double the Physical Therapy Assistant enrollment; and to enhance the community leadership role of the campus.

These plans originated with Dr. William J. David, former CEO of the Hazleton Campus. Dr. Pierce recognized the influential role that these plans would have on the campus and the community if they were completed. He made it perfectly clear to the faculty and staff that these plans and some others were of top priority and needed to be addressed immediately.

What you have just read is an overall view of the work that Harmon Pierce

had in store for this campus. He was a proud man and a bold one, for he gave us the impression that he would get whatever he wanted, despite the odds. He would not let anything stand in his way of accomplishing the goals that he had set for himself and this campus.

Dr. Pierce also believed strongly in getting involved in the community. With the help of his wife, Anne, Harmon Pierce left a lasting impression on the Hazleton community. Together, they had already attended many social events with the citizens and many of the local organizations. By doing so, they gave the people the feeling that the Hazleton Campus truly is a benefit to the community.

Dr. Harmon Pierce made a name for himself during the brief span of time that he was here. There were many times when he could be seen strolling around campus, stopping students along the way and asking them how their schoolwork was coming along. He also spent some time eating in

the Commons Building and in the Dining Hall and in both of those places he again would spend time conversing with the students. Because of his outgoing personality, many of the students knew who he was. They liked him because he would take time out of his busy schedule to spend time with the most important factor of college life: the student.

Unfortunately, the Pierce's were only here for a short time before their tragic deaths. We will never know what they would have accomplished for the campus, its students, and the community. One can merely speculate. In the opinion of this reporter, however, Harmon Pierce would have made a tremendous impact on this campus despite all of the bureaucratic "bull" and runaround that takes place within the Penn State system.

Earlier in this story, I stated that when a tragedy strikes and loved ones or friends are killed,