

# Eisenhower Answers Student Petition

## President Announces 15% Faculty Cut; Asks for More Support from State

Editor's Note: The following article by Ron Bonn was taken from The Pennsylvania State College *Daily Collegian* March 14, 1951.

Penn State's faculty will be reduced 15 per cent for the coming biennium, because of expected enrollment drops, President Milton S. Eisenhower told a faculty meeting in Schwab auditorium yesterday.

The President also called on the state to assume a greater proportion of the cost of residential instruction, revealed an agreement to train Air Force personnel on campus, and announced the appointment of a number of new committees, including one to study the high cost of books to students.

Predicting a 20 per cent drop in average full-time enrollment during the next biennium, the president explained that the 15 per cent faculty cut is the minimum necessary. He said part of the reduction will be accomplished through assigning faculty members to research projects, which he expects to increase because of the present national emergency. A further reduction can be obtained through not filling vacancies as they occur, he said.

### Predicts Enrollment Drop

The President explained that draft legislation now in Congress would almost certainly cut average annual enrollment from its present 10,000 down to 8,000 over the biennium. He predicted adoption of a modification of the "Trytten report," with deferments for top fractions of each class.

Speaking of deferments, the President said there would probably be a large number of students taking courses this summer.

"There is some evidence that students continuously in school will receive better treatment from draft boards," he said.

### Faculty Raises

Cost-of-living increases for the faculty are now being planned, the president said. The average boost would be 15 per cent for the first year and five per cent for the second. He emphasized, however, that increases would be on an individual basis, not across the board.

Speaking of student fees at the College, the President said they are higher than at most land grant institutions. He said that here the student pays about two-fifths of the cost of his education, with the state assuming the other three fifths. The average for land grant schools, he said, is for the student to pay one quarter of his costs. The President then called for assumption by the state of a larger proportion of student costs.

### Cost Higher

He also pointed out that the per-student cost of education here is \$585 per year, and that this is far higher than at most land grant schools, yet teacher salary is lower than at most land grant schools. He suggested that the disparity may be due to the large number of courses offered here—some 3,000—although he said he was not sure.

President Eisenhower announced that the College will begin giving business courses to Air Force personnel on March 19. The contract

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## Hershey Cites Plan To Defer Students

Washington, March 16—Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey disclosed today he has proposed a plan for qualification tests to give draft deferment to high-ranking high school and college students.

In correspondence with the House Armed Services committee Hershey said he had submitted the proposal to Mobilization Director Charles E. Wilson as a recommendation. Whether it will be put into effect is up to Wilson and Dr. Arthur Fleming, manpower director under Wilson.

Officials said the number of educational deferments may increase, if the new plan is put into effect.

### Binding or Permissive?

Still to be decided is whether the proposed policies would be binding on draft boards or merely permissive. Hershey's outline indicated he wants them binding.

Hershey's plan calls for nationwide tests of high school and college students as a guide to determining whether they should continue schooling or be drafted.

High school graduates of draft age passing the test with a mark of 70 or more would be deferred to enter college.

### Another Year

First, second and third year men passing the tests with the 70 mark or better also would be deferred to go ahead with another year of college.

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## Operation Stinemeyer

Miss Ruth Stinemeyer, instructor of history at the Center, is convalescing at her home at 579 W. Maple St., after an operation at the Hazleton State Hospital. She was released from the hospital on Wednesday, March 21. The Collegian wishes her a speedy recovery.

## German Club Bowls

The German Club scored again with a bowling party at St. Johns Bowling Alleys March 19. Fourteen members and guests were present. If the volume of shouts and cheers is any indicator, they had a terrific time.

The keen competition between Miss Erlemann and Louie Guiliani rounded out one of the most enjoyable activities of the year. In future bowling parties, any new competition will be welcomed.



Campbell Ends Prepared Speech

## The Petition Committee's Letter

Dear Sir:

You are aware of conditions as they have existed at the Hazleton Undergraduate Center in the past. Much has been done to rectify these previous malfunctions. However, there remains the taint of some other quite obvious inequities, and only by meeting with us on equal terms can these conditions be revised or obliterated.

At an orderly open meeting of the student body it was decided to ask for a personal appearance of a campus official with sufficient knowledge and enough fortitude to give good direct answers without hedging and ambiguity. Double talk will not accomplish anything. Cold facts on policy, educational and administrative, are necessary to subdue the rising resentment.

Suggestion has been made that a member of the advisory board, a member of the Hazleton Educational Council and a high campus official preferably J. O. Keller, meet with the student body in open unbiased discussions.

Thanking you in advance for the democratic action we know you will take, we remain

Respectfully yours,  
Petition Committee

## The President's Reply

Dear Mr. McGee:

I have the petition of the students at the Hazleton Center, suggesting that I ask Mr. J. O. Keller to meet with you for a discussion of numerous problems. Since I cannot write to all those who signed the petition, I am addressing this reply to you.

My first reaction to the petition was mixed; I was glad you felt free to make the appeal you did, but I did not see how I could comply without seeming to express lack of confidence in several persons, including Mr. Campbell, for whom all of us in Penn State administration have the highest regard.

However, in visiting with Mr. Keller and Mr. Campbell about the petition the problem was easily solved for me. Mr. Campbell at once said that he would welcome my requesting both Mr. Keller and him to go into relevant problems thoroughly with you who are attending the Center.

I have therefore made such a request. Mr. Keller and Mr. Campbell will be with you sometime next week, the exact time to be fixed by Mr. Keller who will advise you, no doubt through Mr. Kostos.

Now, nothing constructive will be accomplished by asking either Mr. Keller or Mr. Campbell, or both, to try to carry on a round-table session with the entire student body. One can address a large group, but cannot possibly have two-way communication that yields helpful results. Consequently I am suggesting that Mr. Keller and Mr. Campbell meet with a representative group of students, not exceeding about ten. Perhaps your Student Council is of the appropriate size; in that case the conversations can be between the Council and my two representatives.

If in addition to this meeting, at which two-way communication is wholly feasible, you wish Mr. Keller to address the student body, I am sure he would be glad to do so.

May I say to you and the members of the Student Council that at considerable sacrifice we are planning to keep the Hazleton Center open even in the face of declining student enrollments. We are closing several other Centers. At all Centers, rigid economies will have to be practiced. Programs will not be as extensive as they have been. This is the only alternative to closing the Centers. Such Centers must be self-supporting;

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President Milton S. Eisenhower's reply to the letter of the Petition Committee was received shortly before the Easter vacation by Student Council President Edward McGee.

Eisenhower stated in his letter that he has requested J. O. Keller and Stuart Campbell to go into relevant problems thoroughly with students at the Center.

Since a round-table discussion with the entire student body could not possibly yield effective two-way communication, Eisenhower suggests that Keller and Campbell meet with a representative group of students, not exceeding about ten.

### Campbell Addresses Students

The chain of events leading to the exchange of letters between the committee and the President started when Stuart Campbell, director of community colleges, addressed approximately 70 students on March 8 in the Botany building as the result of the rising interest in the Goss resignation. Campbell said that the seriousness of the situation made it necessary for him to read from a prepared speech rather than to answer questions in an informal manner.

Campbell said that Mr. J. O. Keller (assistant to the President, in charge of extension) received an anonymous letter suggesting that "poor judgment" and "dishonesty" were being used in the administration of the Center at Highacres. Keller took the letter to College President Milton Eisenhower.

Unaware of the anonymous letter, Student Council President Edward McGee, in the meantime, telephoned Edward Weikel, chairman of the board of trustees for the centers, and informed him of the unsatisfactory conditions at the Center. This turned Weikel toward investigation proceedings, and he called Keller. Because of the anonymous letter and McGee's contact with Weikel, Keller sent Campbell to Hazleton to investigate.

Campbell explained that on Monday, Feb. 19, he met with Goss. He told Goss of the anonymous letter and the telephone call from Weikel and asked Goss to remain away from the Center until an investigation could be made; whereupon Goss offered his resignation. However, Campbell did not accept the resignation at this time but told Goss to meet with him the next morning after he had considered the matter more fully. Campbell reminded Goss that "because of conditions" it would be unwise to resign now because his resignation would be interpreted as an admission of guilt. Goss resigned the following day, stating that since the "faculty and advisory board weren't behind him," he thought it best not to continue as administrative head, but further stated that his resignation was "not an admission of anything."

### New Administrative Head

Campbell then told the students that the appointment of Goss' successor "will not be done hurriedly." He said that J. O. Keller has the responsibility for the appointment but

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