

HISTORY OF THE HAZLETON UNIVERSITY CENTER

This year our University Center celebrates its 20th birthday. For a number of years, The Pennsylvania State University (until this year the Pennsylvania State College) received requests from the Hazleton area to provide work of collegiate grade in this area.

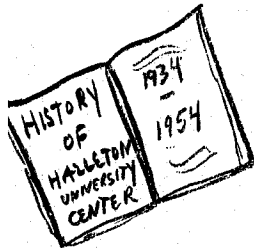
As a result of these requests, plus a number of surveys, The Pennsylvania State University established the Hazleton University Center in September, 1934. Classes were first held in the Markle Banking and Trust Building with 86 students and six staff members. However, the Center grew so rapidly that in three years the size of the student body, now numbering 101, had grown the quarters, and it was necessary to relocate the Center. In June, 1937, the Center moved to quarters in the Broad Street School where it remained for 12 years, with the addition of some rooms at A.D.Thomas and Walnut Street Schools. In 1949, the Center moved to its present location at Highacres where the beauty of the campus makes studying much more pleasant.

As the Center has grown in size and prestige, its policy has undergone constant change. During the years 1936-37, the American Association of Collegiate Registrars accredited the Hazleton University Center on a Junior College basis. In 1937-38, the Board of Trustees of the University adopted a resolution making the Centers a part of the services of the Pennsylvania State University. In 1939-40, the Hazleton University Center was admitted to full membership in the American Association of Junior Colleges, as well as to the Junior College Council of the Middle Atlantic States. In 1944, the Hazleton Educational Council was incorporated with its purpose to support, promote and encourage educational institutions in Hazleton and with its primary job to aid and advise the local Center. Also in 1949, the Center became a member of the Pennsylvania State Association of Junior Colleges. Last fall, when the Pennsylvania State college became the Pennsylvania State University, the Center also gained added prestige.

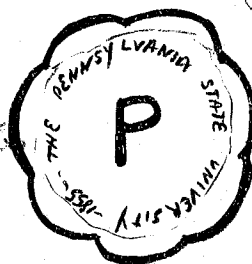
1946-47
385
47-48
476
48-49
413

As the Center grew, its faculty and Administration Heads changed too. The first Administrative Head was R. F. Eide, who served until 1939 when Coleman Herpel took over the position. From 1943 until 1951, when he was succeeded by our present Administrative Head, Mr. Merle Campbell, Mr. Amos A. Goss was Head. Mr. Frank Kostos will succeed Mr. Campbell next year, when the latter assumes a new position with the University.

The Center has indeed grown over the years and it has played an important part in the life of the community. It is hoped that the Center will continue to succeed in its worthy endeavor to bring higher education within the reach of more people.



Danielle
Bloomer
MT in Berwick
MT Tanawana, Center



Cook
Allentown 42 yrs
Hay 20 yrs
Pottsville 20 yrs
N.B.
Scranton

