

# PSU Trustees Approve Physical Plant Resolution

UNIVERSITY PARK, PA. — The Pennsylvania State University Board of Trustees approved several physical plant resolutions today (Nov. 7). The approvals are designed to improve facilities at four of the University's campuses.

Sketch plans, designed by the University's Office of Physical Plant, for a heat recovery incinerator at The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, were approved.

"Disposal of refuse generated by the medical center had been handled by contract hauling," George R. Lovette, vice president of business and operations, told the Board.

However, he said, the fees for contract hauling of the waste had risen drastically, and landfills and incinerators in the area are no longer available for medical center use.

Plans approved by the Board call for a heat recovery incinerator, which, Lovette said, will be able to handle all of the center's wastes.

"At the same time, because of the heat generated, recovered energy will be converted to steam and piped into the adjacent central energy plant to provide an additional energy resource," he said.

In other business, sketch plans,

designed by Wallace and Watson Associates of Allentown, for a multi-purpose physical education building at Wilkes-Barre Campus, were approved.

"There is no existing indoor physical education facility at Wilkes-Barre Campus now. The need for a physical education building is clear," said George R. Lovette, vice president of business and operations.

"Although there are no resident students at this campus, a number of our students live in nearby private housing and will use the building for recreation."

The 34,066-square-foot building is planned for a grassy area near existing playfields at the campus, he said. Plans call for the building to include a regulation basketball court with folding bleacher seating, three racquetball courts, a fitness/wellness center and locker rooms.

In addition, the building will house two classrooms, to be used by the entire campus, and a multi-purpose room, to be used for aerobics, dance and various community activities.

The projected cost of the building is \$2.8 million, Lovette said.

The Board also approved sketch

plans for a bookstore at Behrend Campus. The plans, designed by the Office of Physical Plant, call for an 14,500-square-foot addition to Reed Building.

"When completed, the two-floor addition will add a large sales area, office and storage space, an entrance lobby and sitting area to Reed Building," Lovette said. "It will actually create a new, major entrance to the building."

A proposed addition to the engineering laboratory at The Pennsylvania State University at Harrisburg, The Capital College was also approved by the Board of Trustees.

The 40- by 70-foot addition, designed by the Office of Physical Plant, will add an entrance vestibule, a small lab to house several computers and drafting

tables, and a 30-student classroom, Lovette said.

The existing machine shop will be moved to a renovated area which will also include a new classroom.

The estimated cost of the project is \$265,000.

Lovette told the Trustees that bids will likely be called for the four projects in mid-1987.

## Time Fall Alfalfa Cuttings Properly

NEWARK, Del. — "Alfalfa plants probably suffer more from mismanagement in early fall than at any other time of year," says University of Delaware extension county agent Bob Hochmuth. "Careful management is the key in preparing alfalfa stands for the winter. If cut just before a killing frost, plants may not survive the winter."

According to Hochmuth, the carbohydrates stored in alfalfa roots and crowns during September and October must be at a high level for successful overwintering. Plants should have at least 10 inches of top growth to promote maximum carbohydrate storage. They will use as much as half of this stored food during

dormancy.

To make sure plants have time to produce a high level of carbohydrate reserves, the county agent advises farmers not to cut or graze alfalfa for four to six weeks before the first killing frost. In Kent County, Del., that date averages around Oct. 17.

Harvesting after the first killing frost affects alfalfa less than cutting before frost, Hochmuth says. However, if a cutting is taken after frost, he suggests leaving a 6-inch stubble to catch and hold snow and to protect crowns and roots from winter winds.

"You can't develop a sound cutting management program without taking into account the fertility status of the soil," the ag

agent adds. "High soil fertility is necessary to maintain alfalfa stands under intensive cutting frequencies of 30 to 35 days."

At a cost of between \$200 and \$220 per acre, alfalfa is an expensive crop to establish, Hochmuth says. Growers must manage their investment well to reap the benefits. Alfalfa thrives when seeded on well-drained soil, fertilized on the basis of accurate soil tests, protected from insects, and cut at the right times.



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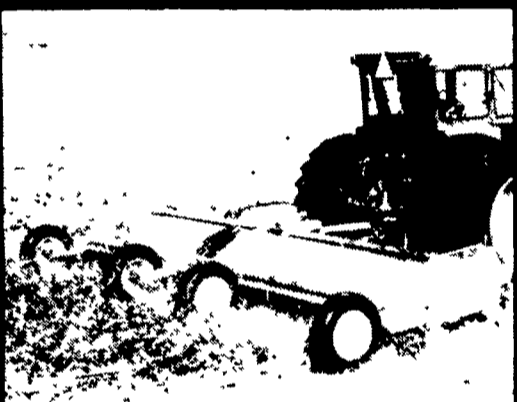
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