

# Conflicts in Goals Arise at University

By ELLIE HUMMER

The University faces contradictions in its economics, status, services and admissions which affect the faculty, the student body and the Commonwealth, Lawrence E. Dennis said Monday.

In a talk to the Faculty Luncheon Club, Dennis, vice president for academic affairs, outlined a few of the "Troublesome Penn State Contradictions." These contradictions, explained, may take the form of either "believe a and do b" or "do a and b at the same time."

One of the main contradictions which the University is constantly trying to reconcile deals with economics, he said. "We are constantly being pushed to improve the quality of the school, but on the other hand," he pointed out, "no one seems ready to accept the increase in revenue which this would necessarily mean."

The legal status of Penn State itself is a contradiction, he said, with the question being whether or not it is public or private. "Some people say that we are a public institution during the years when the legislature in Harrisburg meets and a private one during the off years," Dennis said.

Contrary to what most people think, however, Penn State actually is not a state university, he said. Pennsylvania is the only state which has never chartered a state university as such, although the functions, name and title of such an institution belong to Penn State, he pointed out.

Another troublesome contradiction deals with the services which the University is supposed to provide, he said, and "whether we must render services to all, some or none of the people in the state."

"In the question of admissions we are faced with the problem of selectivity versus the open door policy," Dennis said. "Should the University go on with its present policy of selectivity or should it work to provide educational opportunities to all who qualify?" he asked.

A very important contradiction facing us concerns the balance of instruction and research. One group advocates the strong development of the liberal arts and general sciences, he pointed out, while others say we must drastically strengthen our technical and professional areas.

## Leonides Council Plans to Study Election Changes

A change in the manner of electing Leonides Council members will be studied by a committee formed at the council meeting Monday night.

The committee will propose an amendment to the constitution that new representatives be elected to the council by a screening committee instead of by popular election. The applicants would be judged upon their service to the organization.

This system of election had been used for the fall council elections with special permission and not by authority of the constitution, Patricia Hagan, member of the Amendment Committee, said. Other members are Judith Benson, Patricia Schaaf and Nancy Hughes.

Under new business, the council decided to hold a tea for the residence hall staff in February. It will be open for all independent women to give them the opportunity to meet the dean of women's staff.

The council also approved the following people as being eligible to wear the Leonides pin: Sara Peterson, Joan Ostovich and Sylvia McClellan. Eligibility is based upon participation on Leonides committees.

Suzanne Rumbaugh was appointed co-chairman of the Gremlin, the Leonides newsletter, to fill that vacant position.

### Cars for Freshmen—

(Continued from page one) vice president for business administration. Diem said he had voiced no objection to the rule, since the men are of legal age and should be mature enough to follow University regulations.

## TOCS Give Views On Walker Letter

By CAROL KUNKLEMAN

"Stop I can't stand it!" shouted Arthur H. Brayfield, professor of psychology.

"Those cliches are killing him!" explained Ray Pepinsky, professor of physics.

These were some of the comments made last night on station WDFM when members of the Thoughtful Observers of the Contemporary Scene aired their views on President Eric A. Walker's letter sent to the faculty in October.

The letter began, "... thoughtful observers of the contemporary scene..." and resulted in the organization of a TOCS group on campus. They are part of a 400-member group in nine states and the District of Columbia.

Other panelists besides Brayfield and Pepinsky were Edwin R. Fitzgerald, professor of physics and Henry W. Sams, professor of English.

H. William Simington, professor of speech, was moderator.

The TOCS bell was rung during the reading of the letter, indicating the presence of a cliché. Commenting on the amount of clichés in the letter, Sams said, "Well, now, if a student should hand me a sentence like this 'thoughtful observer' howler, I'd stop this business of addressing his themes to posterity."

Fitzgerald said his biggest single objection to the letter is that it uses a "Madison Avenue Sell" technique.

"If there are academic advantages to the four-term plan, and there are some, these should have been stated," he said.

Fitzgerald added that the letter is "symptomatic of a far larger

and more serious condition" which is present in universities throughout the country.

"The number of vice presidents or 'veeps' increase daily," he said.

The old adage "A form a day keeps the administrators at play" is no longer true, he said, because two and even four-form days have been reported.

"We are fortunate at Penn State in having a president with an academic background rather than one with military, political or business training. Then too, we have so far only five veeps, whereas some universities have as many as a dozen," he said.

The panelists then seriously defined a University.

Sams summed up their discussion by giving this definition: "A university is a center of independent thought," he said.

He said the faculty's most important lesson to teach is the process of independent thinking; members of University administrations should recognize the aims of a university and facilitate their achievement.

"We invite our colleagues... to join us... to stop observing the contemporary scene and take a look at what's going on around here," he concluded.



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