

PennPIRG may opt for lawsuit

By JEFF HAWKES
Collegian Staff Writer

Students for PennPIRG may decide this weekend to take legal action against the University Board of Trustees for failure to approve establishment of a Pennsylvania Public Interest Research Group, thereby ignoring PIRG support from 24,000 students petitioned last May.

Students for PennPIRG may opt for legal action because their conciliatory efforts with the University administration have failed, according to PIRG spokesman Mike Tingle.

University President John W. Oswald has refused to recommend to the Board of Trustees consideration of the student group's new compromise "refusable-refundable" funding

proposal.

Alan Rauzin, a Harrisburg attorney, has volunteered free legal aid for the student group's efforts, according to Tingle. A meeting with him this weekend may determine if legal action against the University is a feasible means toward establishing PennPIRG.

"I've been watching for sometime what's been going on at Penn State," Rauzin said in a telephone interview. "Students for PennPIRG need good legal advice and I consider counseling them a mutual coming together of interests."

"I'm very much in favor of PIRG," Rauzin said. "It's a constructive thing. It would prove to be a very important and maturing opportunity for students to make a contribution in areas they choose

to get involved."

Rauzin said most university administrations have been very cooperative with PIRGs across the country. "I think Dr. Oswald would be pleasantly surprised with the results of a PennPIRG," Rauzin said. "I don't think the administration is giving the students a chance to show this."

Rauzin said he would not advise the student group unless he thought their chances for succeeding were good. "Legal action would be a lengthy process," he said. "It would be in everybody's best interest if a lawsuit were avoided."

A meeting with Raymond O. Murphy, vice president for Student Affairs, yesterday revealed that students have absolutely no say in policy decisions, according to Tingle. Murphy claimed that the 24,000 student signatures obtained last May indicated support for a PIRG, but not necessarily for a PIRG under the mandatory funding mechanisms.

"Majority rule does not make policy at Penn State," Tingle said. "The administration resents students telling them what to do. We are left to believe that the trustees and the administration never wanted a PennPIRG."

According to Tingle, Oswald recommended a new petition drive to take place next year. PIRG called Oswald's request a "delaying tactic."

"It would take a whole year to put another petition drive together," Tingle said. "And even if we got the signature of every student at Penn State, we have no guarantee that the trustees would not ignore it."

According to Tingle, Murphy said he was in favor of public interest research, but not necessarily in favor of PIRG. Tingle said Murphy told the group they can continue trying to support a PIRG through persuasion or through confrontation.

"Murphy said legal action would be viewed as an obnoxious approach," Tingle said.

Students, faculty, administrators will attend

Academic Awareness Day to be held

By JAN SEAMAN
Collegian Staff Writer

Students, faculty and administrators concerned about academic issues can listen and voice their concerns tomorrow at the Second Annual Academic Awareness Day.

Workshops dealing with academic trouble spots will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the HUB main lounge.

Formerly called the Congress for Student Councils, the Undergraduate Student Government

Academic Assembly changed the name to Academic Awareness Day to "get greater response from all students — not only members of student councils," Leslie Evans, Awareness Day coordinator, said.

The purpose of Awareness Day, according to Evans, "is to make everyone aware of information so they can deal with problems and voice concerns."

Two sessions of three workshops will be held in the morning. Participants are

free to choose a workshop from each session.

After lunch, a panel discussion and special speaker will be heard.

Evans said secretaries will attend the workshops and afternoon activities. The information will be compiled into a reference booklet and sent to all participants and student organizations, she said.

The first session of workshops begins at 10 a.m. after registration and a welcome speech.

Workshops include: uses of the academic grievance system and problems included with the efficiency of the system; successes and drawbacks of course evaluations; and information about the University Faculty Senate.

The second session of workshops, beginning at 11 a.m., includes: the problems with advising (advisers, self-advising and student advising); problems with sponsoring career development and placement programs and problems with

communications and how The Daily Collegian affects students.

Participants wishing to stay for the afternoon sessions will receive a \$2 meal ticket for lunch in the HUB Terrace Room.

A panel discussion about the red tape encountered at the University begins at 1:15 p.m.

At 2 p.m. John J. Coyle, head of the Department of Business Logistics, will conclude the day's activities with a speech on the future of universities.

Japanese films featured

The Japanese Speaking Society will present three films: "Tokyo Festival, Japan," "Invitation to Japan," and "The Path: The Tea Ceremony" at 7:30 tonight in the HUB Assembly Room.

The Penn State Forestry Society will hold a spring picnic at 12:30 p.m. Saturday at Penns Cave. Tickets and directions available in 106 Ferguson.

The French Club will hold a festival and picnic from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Sunset Park. Today is the last day to sign up in the French department office, fourth floor Burrows. Everyone welcome.

the Music Building recital hall.

Interlandia Folk Dancing will meet at 7:30 p.m. Sunday in the White Building south gym. Come and bring a friend.

Baha'i Fireside will meet at 8 tonight in 317 Boucke.

The University Coalition has cancelled its plans for a May Day celebration tomorrow.

The 'Free U' course, "A Taste of Nature," will be held at 1 p.m. instead of 3 p.m. Saturday in 363 Willard. Everyone will be going to Alan Seiger Monument.

The United Farmworkers Support Committee will have a benefit Mexican dinner from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the Wesley Foundation, 256 E. College Ave.

The Penn State Air-Hockey Championships will be held noon tomorrow at Funtime U.S.A., 127 S. Pugh St.

Collegian notes

The Volunteer Service Center will hold Penn State Volunteer Week from May 2 through May 9. The following activities have been planned:

The Paul Robeson Dancers will meet at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Paul Robeson Cultural Center.

The Student Nurses' Association will hold an outdoor social with the nursing faculty at 3 p.m. Sunday on the HUB lawn.

A dinner-theatre featuring "Cole Porter Revue," will be held at 8 p.m. Saturday at Kern. Tickets are on sale at the Kern information desk. For reservations call 865-1878.

—an open house at the Center May 7; Penn State volunteers and participating agencies in the Centre region are invited to stop in 203 HUB for refreshments and to talk with the staff.

Rosemary R. Ruether, associate professor of historical theology at Howard University School of Religion, Washington, D.C. will speak at the University Chapel service at 11 a.m. Sunday in Eisenhower Chapel.

The pledges of Mu Phi Epsilon will present their spring pledge recital at 8 p.m. Sunday in the Music Building recital hall. The public is invited.

There will be a flea market from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Jawbone, 415 E. Foster Ave.

—"Movin' On," a concert sponsored by the Association of Residence Hall Students, May 8 and 9 on the HUB lawn.

Katherine Eilo (grad-music) will perform a piano recital at 3:30 p.m. Sunday in Eisenhower Chapel.

The Metropolitan Community Church will feature guest speaker Karen Zeigler at 7:30 p.m. Sunday in Eisenhower Chapel.

Regatta set for Sunday

Postponed from last Sunday because of inclement weather, the second annual Sy Barash Country Regatta will be held this Sunday at the Stone Valley Recreational Area.

Sponsored by Beta Sigma Beta fraternity and Kappa Delta sorority, the Regatta will feature six canoe races throughout the afternoon plus a country fair complete with carnival booths, food and live music.

Regatta chairman Mitch Berger said that with favorable weather, 2,000 to 5,000 people will attend the event.

However, according to Collegian weatherman Tom Ross, "this is going to be a bad weekend," with rain forecast for Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday.

Berger said that if it rains Sunday, the Regatta will have to be cancelled for the year.

If weather permits, the live music will begin at 11 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. and the canoe races will be held hourly, starting at noon.

All proceeds from the Regatta will be donated to the American Cancer Society.



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