

Editorial opinion

Wake Up

Extra effort needed by all to keep campus beautiful

Members of the University Park community are privileged to study and work at one of the most beautiful campuses in the nation. The variety and abundance of natural beauty — flowers, ornamental shrubbery, green lawns, trees from all over the world — create surroundings which are remarkably beautiful.

To their credit, those responsible for the University's maintenance are largely successful in their efforts to preserve the beauty of the grounds. Also, the day-to-day upkeep of the buildings continues with unappreciated regularity and dependability.

How unfortunate it is, then, that those who benefit most from a pretty campus and pleasant indoor facilities sometimes do less than their share to keep the University beautiful. The students, faculty and staff who constitute the campus community often abuse the beauty of the University through small acts of carelessness or thoughtlessness.

The indoor facilities of the University should be an equally important aspect of this generally attractive appearance. Classrooms, hallways, lounges, offices and dorm space are all part of the University environment.

These abuses may be as minor as walking on an off-limits patch of grass — just once, in the middle of a deluge when late for a class — or as obviously destructive as uprooting new vegetation. Plain laziness in the form of litter strewn

about the lawns represents another form of disrespect for the campus. Buildings show more visible signs of abuse, but in addition to outright vandalism they are also the victims of a more subtle form of neglect. Bulletin boards become useless masses, advertisements for this event or that party cover windows and doors, trash piles up near garbage cans and the appearance of the whole building is ever so slightly unsightly.

It would take only a small amount of effort on the part of each member of the campus community to keep off the new grass, smell the flowers but not pick them, or remove outdated information from bulletin boards.

Unfortunately, those who use these grounds and facilities often treat them with little respect. The result is usually physical damage. This abuse costs the University money and detracts from its appearance.

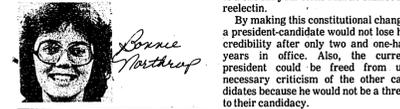
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THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY

Carter should stay in race to White House

Last week while reading The Washington Post, I came across yet another commentary on the Iranian situation and the current administration's handling of the crisis. The closing paragraph disturbed me, for it stated that the best way the president could help the situation would be to withdraw from the presidential race and concentrate his energies on solving the problem.



Some desire to serve a utopian goal or some need to play some part in the history of the nation must be present. To have that part be chastized in contemporary society and those of future generations is not a pleasant thought for anyone.

Yet the public, both here and abroad, has branded Carter a politician and a candidate. With this title comes a lack of credence to any act he may try and a motive behind his every move. This is sad. The public in its ever-popular and archaic quarterback has destroyed an image that America tries to display every time a foreign country intervenes in its affairs — the of "this is my country, do or die" attitude.

The public screams because other countries have a poor opinion of America and the image our country is faltering. This of course comes not because the citizens are ignorant critics, but because of a political president.

Everyone states his opinion on what to do and yells at the president for not seeing the simple realities of life. Just as the quarterback should know what all his fans see and misunderstand, so should the president.

But just as the fans cannot understand the whole situation, neither can the bar stool critics. Carter, like any public official or decision-maker, has many variables to study and many situations to handle before he can come to a reasonable decision.

Just like the quarterback, he is not infallible and can make mistakes and misjudgments. Many people seem to forget this and expect the president to not only solve every crisis, but also to create a utopian world for them to live in.

I'm not suggesting that the public or the media stop criticizing the government. I am suggesting a little more understanding on the part of all with respect to their expectations and judgments concerning government.

Along with this is the responsibility of the populace to not just sit and criticize from their living room easy chairs, but to become involved in the government in some capacity. Maybe then the expectations and the limitations of the people and their government can be better aligned.

There is no way to solve the problem of a political president because politics is criticism and the constant eye of the media and the public cannot be entirely repaid by a simple chance at glory.

By making this constitutional change, a president-candidate would not lose his credibility after only two and one-half years in office. Also, the current president could be freed from unnecessary criticism of the other candidates because he would not be a threat to their candidacy.

The six-year term would also give the president time to try to accomplish some of the promises he made during his campaign. Now, the president is elected and when he finally gets used to his office and settled in, he has to go out and stump for reelection or gets kicked out and called worthless.

There are many problems with this idea of a lame duck president. There is also the added fear of "being stuck" with an inept man for six years instead of just four. But it is an option that should be looked into.

This will not solve all of the nation's problems overnight. No plan will, nor will any human being. However, many of the senseless critiques of current policy by our candidates could be stopped or at least curtailed a bit.

No governmental system is perfect. Neither are the people. As our society's problems continue to become more complex, the solutions are not going to become any easier. However, the people, with their never-ending complaints to friends and neighbors, are not going to solve anything. Constructive discussion and action can, with time, work.

Stung that the president should withdraw from the race in order to gain credibility seems insane. The change in thought does not have to start with the candidate, but with the people. It seems society is beginning to play politics more than the candidates. Maybe it's time we all stopped and looked at our motives.

Bonnie Northrop is a graduate secondary education major and is a columnist for The Daily Collegian.

Females underrepresented in University community

Fact. Male students at Penn State University, as of fall 1979, account for 57 percent of the total enrollment, and female students for 43 percent. Yet male tenured and tenure-eligible professors, according to March 1980 figures, account for 90 percent of the faculty.

Fact. Even in colleges where female students are in the majority, female professors are still in the minority. Women students in the College of Liberal Arts total 57 percent of enrollment; women professors total seven percent of the faculty.

Fact. The College of Engineering experienced a relative increase in women students of 97 percent since a decade ago, but women professors in this college still account for only one percent.

Fact. Of the 10 colleges, none have a majority of women professors, while four colleges have a majority of women students. In fact, in seven of the colleges, female professors account for under 10 percent of the total faculty.

The list goes on. But the point is made. Female professors, tenured or tenure-eligible, comprise a severe minority of educators at Penn State which is not reflective of the number of female students being educated. Just what do these figures really mean?

Any college or university on a federal contract must have an affirmative action program requiring employers to advertise all open positions. What this means, according to William Asbury, Affirmative Action Officer at Penn State, is that "we are no longer interested in giving preferential treatment to men."

Richard P. Chait, assistant provost, agrees. He holds that affirmative action "is very much one of the factors taken into account in hiring and firing of faculty."

The statistics from the American Association of University Women show that nationwide, only eight percent of full professors were women. Not only is this figure still improved much in the last six years, but the percentage hasn't improved much in the last six years.

According to Rosemary Furman "The View from the Ivy Tower," Working Woman, Aug. 1979) all affirmative action requires a university to do is interview women; there is no obligation to hire.

As Asbury pointed out, while affirmative action has "forced a more careful look at the people who are hired," this does not deny the fact that the person getting the position is the best-qualified.

In addition, Furman says that while women are often hired at the same rate as men, they are not hired at the same rank or as readily promoted.

At Penn State, tenured women professors in all colleges total seven percent, while tenure-eligible women total 19 percent. But this is no guarantee that the latter group will move up into tenured positions. The reasons for this are many.



Asbury said he believes one reason is that in dual-career couples, "women still follow their husbands." This means that a married female professor, in his view, is more likely to leave a university position if her husband's job demands it than she is.

Furman offered another opinion. She said that for a female professor, "the message is clear. Go into male-dominated fields and keep your mouth shut."

It seems that there is a good chance that a woman who has struggled through college, especially in a non-traditional field, and persevered long enough to get a teaching degree, will have acquired at least a few feminist notions along the way.

But as Furman says, "the feminist with tenure are so endangered a species as to interest a zoo."

One female professor at Penn State said she believes that this is because outspoken feminists can be eliminated by review boards which can grant or deny tenure.

(All female professors quoted here will remain anonymous in order to present their views while protecting their jobs.) About her department, she said, "I don't think this school is committed to affirmative action."

She added that she feels no remorse about leaving if the need arises. "Who wants to stay in a university where they don't like you?" She said that she has more constructive plans than "beating (her) head against a brick wall."

Ignoring subtle discrimination is not a concept foreign to other female professors either. As one woman put it, "You have to be able to overlook things. You can't create a climate where it is difficult to work."

Or another, "There are times when it is better not to express an opinion."

There are other times these women face. Of all the problems, the one that is most disturbing to most of the women is what Roseabeth Moss Kanter, in her book "Men and Women of the Corporation," described as becoming the representative woman.

What this means is that as a minority, the female professor is held up to the faculty and students as an example of what all women can do.

One professor said, "It's annoying being judged all the time. I resent being an example. You can't make the mistakes other people make."

She added that she sometimes feels that the message she is getting is: "You better do everything and you'd better do it well."

Despite these pressures, most of the women interviewed displayed an unwillingness to overcome the obstacles. This seemed to operate on both an individual and group level. One woman professor explained her success this way:

"I was very aggressive. I asked every time I wanted something. . . No one trends on me."

But there has also been a growth of what Furman refers to as the "new-girl network." This means creating support groups for professional women.

Andrew Rodgers, an advisor for the new Women's Studies Option, described the program as a way to bring the faculty women together in order to create a "strengthening effect on the stature of women at Penn State."

The program will also make it more accessible for faculty women to publish their own research, thus raising their professional integrity.

But Asbury said he feels that this clanning keeps women from breaking into the "old-boy network" (the traditional and older male group) where most of the hiring is done.

Furman is concerned also. She said she believes that Women's Studies can be "a trap that hallowed education seems to set for women. Once inside the higher halls, too many women go nowhere."

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GOLD AND SILVER

Leland Enterprises will be buying gold and silver at the Penn State Sheraton Inn on Thursday, May 8, between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. We are a local business located 15 miles from State College, but have noted the difficulty some students have had obtaining transportation, so we have decided for mutual convenience to buy "in town" this Thursday. We guarantee nothing but the fairness of our prices and cash settlement. Please compare. For information call Leland Enterprises 355-1642 any time.

Concerned consumers read Collegian ads. Right?

I think the students here should be proud that Penn State has arranged the showing of any supergroup more than once. By successfully bringing the Grateful Dead here again! the University Concert Committee is showing the music industry that Penn State students are special fans who recognize and want a great concert, and who are willing to pay inflationary ticket prices to see it.

As far as I'm concerned, bringing the Dead back to Penn State can only work in favor of all the concert goers in our area because the result will be a chance to have better concerts by better musicians and isn't that what we all want?

Paul F. Matthews, 6th-general arts and sciences May 5

Success story?

At one time or another during their collegiate careers, almost all college students consider joining a campus organization. Many groups at Penn State have been successful for years, but some don't even last a single term.

Have you ever considered joining an organization at Penn State? What do you look for from an organization? How influential are organizations on this campus? Do you think that students join groups just for an ego message or do they really provide a service to the community?

On Tuesday, May 13, The Daily Collegian will focus its final page of the term on student organizations: the successes and the failures. If you have a comment on student organizations on this campus, do you think Editor, 126 Carnegie. All letters must be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 30 lines. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.

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Betsy Long Editor Kathy Matheny Business Manager BUSINESS COORDINATORS: Layout, Cathy Norris, Michelle Forner, Ruth Myers; Co-op Advertising, Mary Jane Carson; Special Projects, Larry Kerker.

We must save planet Earth

Conservation must check damaging economic growth

In the movie, "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court," the 20th century hero dazzled his medieval audience with his knowledge of science and technology. Any man who could produce fire from the palm of his hand or cause the sun to go black in the sky was recognized as a wizard to be reckoned with. Back then, he who had the "knowledge of the gods" sat on the mountain of fear and ruled with the threat of the unknown.



Centuries later, with the "knowledge of the gods" converted into print and available in the nearest library, the mystical power of science and technology was replaced by the monied power of the bottom line. Whether or not the latest technological breakthrough or scientific discovery was allowed to go public now depended upon its economic feasibility. Mystery was replaced by cost analysis as the basic criteria for scientific advancement.

"Today," notes Science News Magazine, "with businesses requiring paybacks on their investments, with inflation hurting many regional economies and with multinational companies fearing nationalization of foreign investments, the trend (in science and technology) is to optimize short-term profits — often at the expense of the environment."

Irrigation of how "trendy" this tradeoff between short-term profits and environmental quality may be in today's inflation-pinched business circles, this practice is considered dangerous in today's human circles.

Alternative viewpoints regarding the coexistence of technology with the environment are thus being offered in an effort to prevent the ecological disasters that occur when profit-oriented push becomes recession-oriented shove.

One such alternative viewpoint was expressed last week by visiting professor Hazel Henderson in a series of lectures and discussions sponsored by the University's chapter of the Science, Technology and Society program. In keeping with the program's stated purpose — critical examination of the impact of science and technology on society's values, priorities and institutions — professor Henderson questioned the logic behind using one-dimensional economic criteria for making three-dimensional environmental decisions.

Describing the "non-scientific" field of economics as a "300-year-old trashbasket of opinions," Henderson criticized so-called environmental managers for reducing complex, ecological problems into simplistic, input/output propositions.

By cutting corners and ignoring issues that could arise long after they have departed, these decision makers have bent their preferred, "cost efficient" technologies until they "fill" the problem at hand.

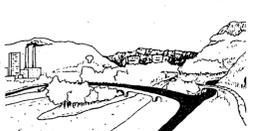


Illustration by Della Hoke

Such "ecological ignorance" said Henderson, can no longer be tolerated by a future-oriented society. Technology and the environment can no longer be allowed to crash heads, to ignore other's existence, to pretend that time is irrelevant unless we wish to "live" on an uninhabitable planet.

Uncontrolled, wasteful and environmentally damaging growth must be checked and replaced with planned, conservation-minded and socially acceptable alternatives. This does not necessarily mean a smaller economy, but a softer, less destructive one. Thus while small may be beautiful, soft is more beautiful.

While a movement towards a softer, de-energized and environmentally sound economy was started several years ago, the pending collapse of capitalism as we know it cries out for faster action.

In a plan for the '80s outlined by professor Henderson, such action involves the use of non-technical communication in order that more people may understand the environmental, economic and energy-related problems that need to be dealt with immediately.

Also, their own balance sheets for their own futures on the planet Earth.

With a little common sense and a lot of public good, the current bottom line of economic growth at any cost could be replaced by the goal of human growth at no cost.

Daniel Dillman is a graduate student in journalism and a columnist for The Daily Collegian.

Getting ready to declare your major in Liberal Arts?

The Liberal Arts Student Council has information concerning all Liberal Arts majors and options.

Options presently offered include Western Studies, Western European, East Asian, Folklore, and Middle East Studies.

Stop by the Student Council Office, 134 Sparks Building, M - F from 9 - 4:30 p.m.

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ONE HUNDRED EAST COLLEGE AVENUE OPPOSITE THE MAIN CAMPUS GATE

No catering

In response to the recent criticism of WDFM, many ideas have been suggested to improve the programming. In the Thursday, May 1, letter-column of The Daily Collegian Jill Jacoby stated that WDFM "is hesitant to really put forth all of its effort to create a truly great alternative radio station."

Her recommended remedy is a one-hour program of "women's music" which she defines as "music produced, distributed, written and performed by women." However, her argument, though well-intentioned, is flawed by a failure to respond to opposing arguments, incorrect assumption and faulty categorization.

When questioned about the idea of a women's show, Dan Mushako, program director of WDFM, reiterated these arguments, saying, "First, there is no time in the schedule for a specialty show. We're trying not to subdivide too much. Second, women's music is not another genre of music. Women perform in folk, rock and jazz. If we gave an hour to women's music, we would have to give an hour to blond-haired people's music or left-handers' music."

After brushing aside these arguments, she declared that since the recent Holly Near concert attracted 700 "fans of so-called women's music," so-called Jill, you're the one who attached the label. The size of the attendance should prove to the staff at WDFM that there is a substantial portion of the community who would enjoy the women's music show. This would be true if the reason the 700 attended the concert was to hear women's music, which is not necessarily true.

According to an April 28 Collegian interview (P.J. Plate, "Near: My art form gives me a platform"), Holly Near is "outspoken on many important social matters from personal sexual preference to anti-drugs, anti-nuclear power and pro-ERA." With such a diversity of music, isn't it possible that some of the concert goers wanted to hear the category of women's music. When I attended the Renaissance concert at Rec Hall, I went to hear sophisticated, well-executed music, not to hear singer Annie Halsam because she's a woman.

All these confusions in thinking arise from her incorrect categorization of women's music as a style of music separate from other styles. Although a subjective task, the style of a musical selection is usually established by considering criteria such as instrumentation, melodic form, chordal structure and progression — not the sex of the producer, writer and performer.

Women artists have featured in widely different styles of music, from the folk songs of Joni Mitchell to the disco of Sister Sledge. Obviously,

Letters to the Editor

a program of songs with the sex of the performer as the only common denominator would lack cohesiveness, the primary goal in program consideration.

WDFM does feature women artists within the folk, rock and jazz shows, as well as highlighting the certain talents such as last Friday's 4 p.m. show devoted entirely to the music of Grace Slick. To further illustrate the error in establishing women's music as a distinct style, consider that Chopin and his lover, the Baroness Dudevant (pen name George Sand), wrote stylistically similar piano compositions which would both classify as classical, not as man's classical and woman's classical.

WDFM's classical disc jockey, Dave Hake, expressed his dislike of a women's music category, saying, "I don't like adjectives before my music." With the use of four participial phrases acting as adjectives, she confined her definition of women's music as "music produced, distributed, written and performed by women." Yet a program based on so narrow a definition would fail due to a material shortage.

Albums of the Olivia record label, a company completely owned and managed by women, would satisfy these strict requirements, but, according to Program Director Mushako, "One show devoted to one record company doesn't go over well with the FCC."

The FCC would also balk at such a show because the tight definition is almost political in nature. Remember, this is radio station WDFM — not WD-FM. It is necessary to avoid such a political overtones since, as Mushako points out, "a noncommercial station is not allowed to editorialize." It is usually established by considering the purpose of an alternative radio station is "to provide the community with information and culture that is not heard on commercial radio," but the purpose is not to cater to factional political groups who wish to manipulate the media for their own purposes.

Pete Calder, 6th-microbiology May 5

Motion, please

Tenure is defined by Webster to mean "a status granted after a trial period to a teacher protecting him from summary dismissal." For a teacher, tenure is desirable, but for a student, it can be a nightmare if the professor forgets that his real purpose is to share his knowledge with others.



Illustration by Della Hoke