

Engineering seeks more funds; projected student increase

By NEIL F. AXE and IRIS NAAR
Daily Collegian Staff Writers

A projected 50 percent increase in undergraduate engineering enrollment has led the College of Engineering to seek additional funds from alumni, corporations and the community, said Edward H. Klevans, assistant dean of research of the College of Engineering.

Undergraduate enrollment in the College of Engineering increased by 63 percent from 1974 through 1979, Klevans said. He said enrollment is expected to grow through 1983, with a possible 50 percent increase over 1979 figures. Most of the increase will occur in the chemical, electrical and mechanical departments of the college, but Klevans said enrollment is stabilizing.

However, despite increases in undergraduate enrollment, graduate enrollment has declined 2 percent each year from 1973 through 1978, Klevans said. "Penn State needs to increase its attention to graduate enrollment programs and course offerings at the graduate level," he said.

"Graduate programs are not healthy," Klevans said, adding, "It is time to restore the graduate standing at the University."

Klevans said that because of increased enrollment, University Provost Edward D. Eddy granted special funds to the college to help finance the hiring of new temporary and permanent faculty in several departments.

The hiring program has not been completely successful, and there are several positions yet to be filled, Klevans said. Increases in enrollment have caused the faculty to shift its priorities, Klevans said. Although instructors have had to teach larger classes, he said, no decline in instructional quality has resulted.

Several factors have contributed to the enrollment increase, Klevans said. The job demand for graduates in the engineering field is high and this demand receives a lot of publicity, he said.

In addition, Klevans said the entry-level salary for engineering graduates with bachelor of science degrees is usually between \$19,000 and \$20,000, higher than salaries for graduates in most other fields.

Also, in the last 10 years women have become more willing to consider engineering as a career, which adds a new category of potential students to the College of Engineering, he said. About 17 percent of the college's students are women, he said.

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Klevans said employers are seeking graduates with both bachelor's and master's degrees. Financial opportunities for graduates are so attractive and the net increases in potential salary so small that the initiative to attend graduate school is lower than undergraduate training, he said.

The graduate school system is not attractive to some students, so many of them are acquiring master's degrees in night school programs, Klevans said. Many students also receive funds for graduate study from their employers, he said.

McMurtry said many of the college's departments need foreign graduate students to conduct research. Klevans said faculty members need the help of graduate students to carry out effective research, they need the help of graduate students.

One of the interests of the faculty is to carry out research activity as part of academic involvement in University life," he said. "The teachers are responding to provide first rate education for students," he said.

The college is reassessing its programs for attracting graduate students, Klevans said. The major appeal the graduate school offers students, he said, is an intellectual one. In the long run, students who complete graduate school will acquire more responsible management positions and greater job satisfaction if they are bright students, he said.

It is important to talk to juniors and seniors in the undergraduate level, Klevans said, to point out the reasons and advantages for continuing into graduate school. In the past, declining numbers of students in the graduate school were passively accepted by the faculty, but this attitude is now changing, he said.

Klevans said a problem exists in trying to keep foreign graduates within the United States after they graduate. Many of them come to this country for the educational benefits, but do not make use of those benefits here, he said.

He said the problem is further complicated by the government, because it is very difficult for foreign students to retain permanent residence privileges once educational visas expire.

The number of American undergraduates with bachelor's degrees continuing their studies in graduate school is declining, he said. In order to make up for this shortage, more foreign students are being accepted, Klevans said.

George J. McMurtry, assistant dean of the College of Engineering, said 50 percent of graduate students are foreign students in some departments.

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IFC phone-a-thon added to marathon

By REBECCA CLARK
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

The Interfraternity Council has decided to conduct a phone-a-thon in an effort to raise additional funds for this year's IFC Dance Marathon, marathon chairman Mike Richards said this week.

"It is only going to help," Richards said. "A person not in the general area of the students collecting can call and donate some money."

Richards said the phone-a-thon will be held during the 48-hour marathon scheduled for Jan. 30 and 31 and Feb. 1. The Marathon will be held in the White Building, Richards said.

Sign-ups for dancers began yesterday. Interested persons should apply in 203-B HUB Jan. 16.

In addition to the phone-a-thon, the council prepared a booklet which contains tips to help morale persons deal with dancers. The booklet also contains tips and regulations for morale persons to follow throughout the marathon, Richards said.

Richards said IFC will be choosing about 130 male persons for this year's marathon. He said a meeting of persons interested in becoming morale persons will be held at 7 tonight in 102 Forth.

Participants in a two-day event. "We rescheduled it mainly because of requests by participants in the Tales and health in our house," Cook said. "We'll hold the Tales after Christmas because we feel we wouldn't have a lot turnout this weekend; participants in the event are involved in other things this weekend."

Phi Kappa Tau Tales program has been rescheduled until after Christmas break. Phi Kappa Tau brother Carrol Cook yesterday said the program has been rescheduled for Jan. 23 and 24. It was scheduled for this Friday and Saturday, but Cook said the event was rescheduled at the request of several Phi Kappa Tau brothers and other participants in a two-day event.

Hendler said the fraternity will set up tables in the HUB basement today and tomorrow to collect donations for the victims. He said the fraternity will also be carrying down next week to raise additional money.

Alpha Phi Delta, a fraternity for those of Italian heritage, will be collecting money for victims of last month's earthquakes in Italy, said Greg Henzler, coordinator for the fund-raising event.

Hendler said the fraternity will set up tables in the HUB basement today and tomorrow to collect donations for the victims. He said the fraternity will also be carrying down next week to raise additional money.

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