

Group aids Africa environment

By RON WATERS
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

A five-year project to help African countries overcome such environmental problems as drought has been undertaken by a group of American universities.

The Southeast Consortium for International Development, of which Penn State is a member, is organizing seminars to be conducted in Africa to train technicians and officials on a variety of topics.

"They will cover everything from drought control to metals and pesticides to almost anything you can imagine," said project coordinator Earle Buckley. "It depends on the needs of the area."

Buckley said the project is intended to go beyond teaching technicians.

"The good thing about this program is that it is being done in Africa," he said. "We're not just training individuals but helping to assist institutions so they can set up seminars on their own and eventually the Africans can do all the training themselves."

The project is to cost \$8.5 million and is being funded by the Agency for International Development, he said. The main expenses are traveling and setting up the seminars.

Buckley said the first seminar last month was held in Tanzania and covered pesticides and heavy metal pollution that is found in soil, water and air. "The regional seminar lasted almost two weeks."

"To the best of my knowledge, everybody who attended

the meeting thought it went really well," he said.

Other projects scheduled for this year are:

- in Kenya, resource management and regional planning;
- in Sudan, drought monitoring and desertification;
- in Botswana, drought management;
- in Cameroon, environmental considerations in urban development;
- in Nigeria, water and industrial pollution;
- and in Ivory Coast, developmental planning and resource management.

In addition, negotiations for future seminars are underway in Zaire, Upper Volta and Malawi, said Buckley.

He said each seminar will last one to six weeks, while longer programs offering aid in resource management may last up to three months.

He said the biggest problem is communicating over the long distances. A regional contractor from Clark University in Massachusetts has been stationed in Nairobi, and another representative will be sent to Addis Ababa this summer, he said.

"Environmental needs cover a lot of different topics. We have 32 institutions; from them we can draw a wide range of expertise for the project," he said.

Although the University has yet to participate in the program, any qualified professors or graduate students should contact Robert McAlexander of the College of Agriculture.

Valley's water lecture topic

The geological aspects of the Nittany Valley water supply will be the lecture topic of Richard R. Parizek, professor of geology and geophysics, at 7:30 tonight in the Fairmont Avenue school auditorium, 411 S. Fraser St.

Parizek's lecture, titled "We're All in the Same Bathtub," will examine the problems and benefits that are unique to a water supply based in a limestone valley. The event is sponsored by the Clear Water Conservancy.

Parizek will discuss the problems confronting independent communities and institutions that are all drawing water from the same watershed.

James McClure, president of Clear Water, said many of the water supply problems in a limestone region are due to the chemical properties of limestone. Specifically, limestone can be dissolved by a weak acid such as rainwater.

McClure said Parizek's discussion will examine the land area from the University Farms, located west of Pine Grove Mills, to Milesburg. The features and problems in this area are typical of any

limestone region, McClure said.

Dissolving limestone creates sinkholes and allows runoff and pollution to enter the recharge area of the water table, McClure said.

He said Parizek will explain the problems of water supplies in a limestone region for "a general audience."

—by Jon Hoover

ABLED sponsors awareness day

Changing people's attitudes toward physically handicapped people is the goal of Disability Awareness Day, being held today in the HUB main lounge.

The event, sponsored by the Association for Barrier-free Living, Environment and Design will begin at 9 today, and continue until 4 this afternoon.

"What we are trying to do is to make people aware of what it is like to be disabled," ABLED President Tammy Cuthbert said.

Joe Paterno is scheduled to play pinball and video games with disabled and machines that have been adapted for disabled players at 11:30 p.m.

A modified van and car for handicapped drivers will be demonstrated from 9:30 to 11 this morning outside the HUB.

—by Ron Waters

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By IRIS NAAR
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Though many students use both marijuana and alcohol, University officials and students said alcohol consumption is much more common.

"The drug of choice right now is alcohol," said Donald Sult, director of the office of conduct standards. "Alcohol is a very large problem."

Sult said that while alcohol use has increased recently, marijuana use has not increased — and, if anything, has dropped.

Alcohol use is partially the result of society and pressure, Sult said, because students at a party think they must have a drink.

"The peer pressure and social pressure is so heavy," he said. "Non-drinkers are under a lot of pressure to drink, he said. Many students may have experimented with marijuana in the past, Sult said, but the drug is not used as consistently. Also, the use of other types of drugs, such as quaaludes, have dropped significantly, he said.

"I think people are a little more aware of the dangers of those types of drugs," Sult said.

However, younger users are not as wary of the dangers, he said.

Though cocaine is usually too expensive for most students, Sult said he does run across it now and then at the University.

"It's got an aura of sophistication around it," he said.

Terrell Jones, East Halls coordinator, said marijuana is hard to get and students don't seem to use it as much.

Student alcohol use on the rise

"We don't seem to see the amount used in the residence halls we might have seen five years ago," he said.

However, marijuana is much more acceptable now, he said, and many people have tried it.

Alcohol used to be considered very acceptable but people are now seeing it as a drug, Jones said.

"I do think that students drink an awful lot," Jones said. Students are very seldom written up for marijuana use, he said, because it is a much tougher drug than alcohol to pin down. A staff member may smell what he or she believes is marijuana, and can explain the laws to a resident, but the drug is hard to see, he said.

"When you really look at it it's almost impossible for us to really nail marijuana," he said.

Alcohol is easier to see when brought into a residence hall, Jones said, and it is easy to tell when a large party is taking place.

A University Resident Assistant, who asked to remain unidentified, said she sees much more alcohol use than marijuana use in the residence halls.

"I see it (marijuana) very rarely," she said. "Everybody uses alcohol."

Alcohol is much easier for people to get, she said, and people figure it causes less harm than other drugs.

Alcohol is also more of a social drug, she said, whereas marijuana smokers don't smoke socially but do so to get high.

"I don't think (marijuana) is as socially acceptable as alcohol," she said.

Amy Westlake (3rd-business) said that, although it depends on the residence hall floor, she sees more alcohol than marijuana use.

She said that "a lot more people drink here than in high school" because alcohol is readily available, and students living on campus do not have to drive home.

"There's more pressure in college," she said. "Alcohol is a way to relieve pressure."

Michael De Cocca (12th-engineering) said he sees a lot of alcohol use but doesn't see marijuana use very often. Alcohol is also easier to come by, he said.

"It's not as dangerous to have," he said.

As for marijuana, "a lot of people are turned off to it," he said. "They don't like smoking anything."

Jones said that marijuana is usually brought with students from home.

"We're just not near a large city," he said. "It's our perception that there's not a whole lot of it around."

Sult said that if a student is caught with less than an ounce of marijuana or with residue of it, he or she is usually given probation for a term if it is the first offense. If a student has an ounce or more of the drug it may be an indication of distribution, and the student can be subject to penalties from multiple probation to suspension.

Sult said he sees a lot more cases of alcohol use, which usually involve possession of it by under-age students. Normally the offender receives a warning letter, but penalties can work their way up, he said.

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DIABILITY AWARENESS DAY

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Association for Barrier-free Living, Environment and Design

When: Wednesday, April 22, 1981
Where: The main lounge in HUB

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. — Film: "Gravity is my Enemy" — An account of the life and adjustment of Mark Hicks, an artist paralyzed except for the muscles of his face and neck.

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. — "Handicappism" — A slide presentation dealing with the stereotypes that society has given the disabled.

9:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. — Demonstrations of a van and car adapted for two disabled students.

11:30 a.m. - 12 — Gary Marince, a Penn State engineering student, will demonstrate video games and pinball machines that he has adapted for the disabled. Joe Paterno will be challenged to a game of pinball!!!

12 - 1:00 p.m. — Lunch in the Terrace Room

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. — Carl Shoemaker, a blind man from Lewistown, will show a film about Beacon Lodge (a blind camp), and discuss his involvement in the founding of this camp.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. — Bob Carlson, a former president of A.B.L.E.D. and now the manager of Magic Carpet paratransit Company of Greater Allegheny County, will discuss transportation for the disabled.

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. — Steve Steinkamp will speak on assistive devices for the disabled.

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. — "Handicappism"

ALSO — 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. — "Simulated Disability Program" - this involves two groups of administrators, faculty, and students who will either "be disabled for the day" or will accompany a disabled person during the day.

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