

# Trustees to reconsider budget, tuition decisions

By PHIL GUTIS  
Collegian Staff Writer

With Gov. Dick Thornburgh's approval of a 4 percent increase in the University's state appropriation, what was largely a philosophical question may now become one of the liveliest policy debates the University Board of Trustees has seen in several years.

Thornburgh's approval of the non-preferred state budget — which includes the University's appropriation — ensured that the University would receive \$149.3 million from the state, \$2.9 million more than the governor originally proposed. His approval, announced Monday, also made the question of what might be done with a larger state appropriation a very necessary one, rather than the philosophical exercise it had been.

Since the budget controversy has ended, the University has begun rescinding several actions taken by University President Bryce Jordan about two weeks ago.

At that time, Jordan announced that all increases in salaries for 1983-84 would be held until the state budget was finalized. He also froze the increases in departmental allocations that were included in the 1983-84 budget.

The University has freed funds for all salary increases, which will be retroactive to July 1, said Loren M. Furtado, director of the Office of Planning and Budget. Also, the University is now beginning to free funding for departmental allocations at the levels approved by the trustees, Furtado said Tuesday.

Faculty members and non-unionized employees will receive their salary increases — which do not include any across-the-board hikes — in their August checks, Furtado said. The only freeze remaining in effect is the one of technical service employees who received an 8 percent salary increase because of a contract negotiated with the Teamsters Union three years ago.

The trustees approved salary increases of 1.25 percent for non-union employees who are performing their jobs satisfactorily, 1.75 percent for "merit" and 0.5 percent made available for "market" considerations.

When the trustees met near Scranton earlier this month, their approval of a general funds University operating budget of \$310 million was based on a \$146.3 million state appropriation — the most University officials thought they could hope for in light

of a very uncertain state budget situation.

Therefore, the University's budget officers are now attempting to resolve the potentially politically divisive question of what to do with the extra \$3 million. Two branches of thought have developed on the issue.

One group, which first emerged at the July trustees meeting, wants to see a reduction in the 9.2 percent tuition increase also approved by the trustees earlier this month. A second group, following the guidance of Steven A. Garban, University senior vice president for finance and operations, sees much more pressing needs for the extra money.

Lining up behind these two groups are various members of the board, who, contacted by phone in the last two days, expressed significant disagreement on what the additional money should be used for. Students, represented by Emil Parvensky, president of the Undergraduate Student Government, are also adding their support to the reduce-tuition group.

Remaining quiet on the issue is President Jordan, who must approve whatever option is ultimately presented to the trustees in September.

Beyond repeating his statement that tuition is too high, Jordan said it is too early to say what he will recommend to the trustees. The first meeting of the University's Budget Task Force to consider a proposal will be held tomorrow or Monday, Jordan said.

Walter J. Conti, president of the board, said the answer to the problem will be debated by the trustees after they receive the administration's recommendation. Personally, as a member of the board, Conti said he thinks the University has many needs not adequately taken care of in the budget approved this month.

But comments from trustee Mimi U. Coppersmith, president of Barash Advertising of State College, are representative of the pro-tuition-reduction trustees.

"The mood of the board is that at least part of that (increase) be passed on to the students in the form of a decrease in tuition," she said. "We were going to get along with 2 percent — so my feeling is that we should pass on some part of that (increase) to the students."

But Coppersmith also acknowledges the needs Garban outlined at the trustees

meeting, saying that "some attention will be given to the students and some attention will also be given to the list that Garban presented."

Garban's list of priorities included funding payments of the employer's share for the State Employees Retirement Fund, and equipment purchases or repairs, departmental allocations and deferred maintenance.

Trustee Jay B. Claster, president of M.L. Claster and Sons of Bellefonte, said he "tends toward Steve Garban's recommendations," as do other members of the board.

"I'm aware of the importance of the symbolism of a tuition cut, but I'm not sure that a token cut would have more than a symbolic effect — and there are some programs that need attention," he said. "The entire board is becoming interested in improving the quality of education that Penn State offers and some of the moves (to increase quality) might take some money."

And at the meeting, trustee H. Thomas Hallowell Jr., chairman of

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# Reagan answers questions on foreign and domestic issues

WASHINGTON (AP) — Here, at a glance, are highlights of President Reagan's nationally televised news conference Tuesday:

## CENTRAL AMERICA

- The president said naval and troop exercises in Central America are not a step toward a Vietnam-like war, but "underscore once and for all" the administration's determination to thwart insurgencies inspired by the Soviet Union and Cuba.
- Reagan said the dispatch of warships to both coasts of Nicaragua — and troops to neighboring Honduras — bears no comparison to the early stages of U.S. involvement in Vietnam "and there is not going to be anything of that kind in this."
- When asked whether the United States was preparing to start a blockade or quarantine in the area, the president said a Soviet freighter carrying military equipment is currently approaching a Nicaraguan port and "no one's shot at them."
- He said peace is the goal in the Central American region, but if the government of Nicaragua were to openly attack a neighboring state, it would require action by all American states. He declined to say what America's response would be if the leftist Nicaraguan government were to attack Honduras, an American ally. "We would have to deal with that problem when it arose," he said.
- The guerrilla conflict in El Salvador represents a threat to the security of the hemisphere, Reagan said, but he does not see it as threatening a war that would involve American forces.
- The president said the American people are not as aware as they should be about the Central American

situation, but those who understand it support his policies.

• He said planned military exercises are nothing new, and compared them to U.S. land and sea training operations in the region since 1965. He said if the United States were to withdraw militarily, it would be "the wrong kind of signal to send if we want peace in that area," because it would offer no response to revolution exported from the Soviet Union and Cuba.

## MIDEAST

• Reagan said he hopes a partial withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon would be part of a phased withdrawal. He opposed a partitioning of Lebanon, saying "that would be awful. We set out to help Lebanon regain its own destiny."

## GENDER GAP

• The president defended his record on women's policies when questioned about the all-male makeup of his commission on Central America. "We are no longer seeking a token," he said, adding that his administration has appointed over 1,000 women to positions within the government. "It's just a case that our record isn't known."

## BRIEFING MATERIALS PROBE

• Reagan reiterated his charge to administration officials that they tell FBI investigators all they know about how briefing materials from the Carter White House ended up in the hands of his campaign workers in 1980. "I've told them to get to the bottom of this so that everyone in the country can know the truth," he said.



## thursday

### inside

- The Senate approved by a 58-41 margin Tuesday night the deployment of the first 27 MX nuclear missiles in underground silos in Wyoming and Nebraska. Page 3
- Leo Rautins a 6-8 1/4, 217-pound forward who played college ball at Syracuse, has been signed as the Philadelphia 76ers' No. 1 draft choice. Page 6
- Singer Bette Midler, suffering from exhaustion and an upset stomach, collapsed offstage during a performance in Pontiac, Mich., a hospital spokeswoman said yesterday. Page 8

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### weather

Stunning sunshine and warm today, high of 88. Clear and comfortably mild tonight, low of 63. For tomorrow, hazy, warmer and more humid with a high near 90.

Today's sunshine scale is 9. Tomorrow's will be 8.

—by Jim Kosarik

# Asbury appointed executive assistant

By PHIL GUTIS  
Collegian Staff Writer

University President Bryce Jordan has promoted William W. Asbury, the University's affirmative action officer and assistant to the provost, to the position of executive assistant to the president for administration.

The move, announced yesterday and effective Monday, moves Asbury into the policy-making level of the University administration — making him directly responsible to Jordan.

Yesterday's announcement was the second major personnel shift Jordan has made since becoming University president this month.

On July 1, the day he took office, Jordan announced the appointment of James B. Bartoo, dean of the University's Graduate School, as the new acting executive vice president.

In making yesterday's announcement, Jordan said Asbury will be "responsible to the president for providing primary administrative support and advice on a broad range of matters."

"He will, for example, serve as liaison between my office and other University offices for implementation of Penn State's Title VI plan for equal opportunity, and on other affirmative action matters," Jordan said in a news release.

"I am pleased to promote Mr. Asbury, who has excellent administrative skills, into a position with expanded responsibilities," Jordan said. "In his seven years with the University, he has earned the respect and confidence of faculty and administrators on all campuses."

Asbury's new duties will include investigating and evaluating issues, drafting reports and position papers, representing the president on certain occasions and serving as a communication link between the Office of the President and other University offices, according to the news release from the University's Department of Public Information and Relations.

Contacted by telephone yesterday, Asbury said one of the most interesting aspects of his new job will be working with the new president, whom Asbury



William W. Asbury

described as a "forward-looking person who has the best interests of Penn State in mind."

With some details about the job still sketchy, Asbury said he thinks he will serve as a link between the Office of the President and the Office of the Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer — the University's new second in command.

When the appointment of Bartoo as acting executive vice president was announced, Jordan said he was not sure if the position of provost would remain at Penn State. Asbury's comments yesterday indicate that the executive vice president will now permanently assume the duties of the chief academic officer, formerly held by the provost.

Jordan envisions a close relationship between his office and the executive vice president, Asbury said.

Therefore, Asbury thinks he will become more involved with academic matters, in addition to handling some external relations and liaison work with other University offices, he said.

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# Latin American policy to be tested in House

By MIKE SHANAHAN  
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WASHINGTON — House Republican supporters of President Reagan's Central American policies moved yesterday to weaken a proposed cutoff of U.S. secret operations in Nicaragua.

An amendment sponsored by Rep. Bill Young, R-Fla., was expected to provide a test vote today on legislation to drastically reshape the administration's efforts to limit the success of leftists in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

The legislation, sponsored by Rep. Edward P. Boland, D-Mass., chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, would bar support "directly or indirectly, to military or paramilitary operations in Nicaragua by any nation, group, organization, movement, or individual."

Boland said Congress should cut off covert aid to rebels in Nicaragua because "it doesn't work, because it doesn't serve the interests of the United States and because it is illegal."

Young's amendment would require that before any cutoff could go into effect, the Nicaraguan government would have to agree to cease any support it had been giving to guerrillas in other Central American nations.

The leftist Sandinista regime in Managua would also have to permit verification that it was no longer helping ship military supplies to rebels in El Salvador or other countries in Central America.

Some members of the Senate, meanwhile, said Secretary of State George P. Shultz and National Security Adviser William Clark had failed in a special briefing for lawmakers to answer key questions over the administration's latest moves in Central America — including whether a naval blockade or quarantine is in the works.

The House suspension of covert aid in Nicaragua would end the CIA's not-so-secret backing of "contras" seeking to overthrow the Sandinista government, for which the spy agency already is overspending a \$19 million budget. Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill said a day earlier he expects the ban to be approved in the House. But it likely will face tough sledding in the Republican-controlled Senate.

Shortly before the House began its debate, Shultz and Clark conferred with several members of the Senate in an effort to win support for Reagan's latest actions in Central America, including naval and troop exercises.

But some senators clearly weren't satisfied.

"I feel neither better nor worse," Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio said. "All of the questions certainly were not answered. Are we carrying live ammo? Is there going to be a quarantine in the area, or a blockade or whatever? Those things were not answered this morning."