

# Appropriation:

## Trustees must decide how to allocate surplus funds

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The board of SPS Technologies, meeting with state Secretary of Education Robert C. Wilburn, an ex-officio member of the board. Wilburn asked if the University planned to decrease tuition if it received more than a 2 percent increase from the state.

Also, Jordan, speaking after the meeting at a news conference and in recent interviews, said the University has "massive equipment, library and minority recruitment needs on this campus and system-wide."

While expressing his gratitude for the 4 percent increase approved by the Legislature and governor, Jordan said it "allows the University to keep up with inflation."

"If the budget had gone below current operating costs," he said, "I could see some deterioration facing us. What was done was the best the state could do and for that we are grateful."

The question of what to do if the state appropriation eventually was

approved at more than a 2 percent increase was raised at the trustees meeting by state Secretary of Education Robert C. Wilburn, an ex-officio member of the board. Wilburn asked if the University planned to decrease tuition if it received more than a 2 percent increase from the state.

In the discussion, some trustees, particularly those affiliated with state government, stressed that students should benefit from an appropriation beyond the governor's proposal.

However, as it stands now, a reduction in tuition does not "look encouraging," Garban said Tuesday. Although the possibility has not been eliminated, Garban said that as the University had started working with the budget approved earlier this month, "things have started to look more difficult."

"We are in the midst of reassessing our budget," Garban said. "We had a lot of outstanding needs — it

was an austere budget, not a budget that we liked."

Trustee Edward C. Book, vice president of the board, yesterday said he is not sure the question of what to do with an extra appropriation is being phrased correctly.

Because the trustees had originally asked the state for an appropriation of \$158.1 million, an increase of 10.2 percent, Book said, the University's officers need to go back to that original request to determine the University's most critical needs.

If the University had not received 4 percent, he said, it was possible that an additional tuition increase would have been needed before the start of Spring Semester 1984.

And Conti said the list Garban presented to the trustees should be considered recommendations from the Budget Task Force, and should be given appropriate consideration.

But even in light of that, many trustees are likely to give serious

thought to a tuition reduction. An alliance of trustees affiliated with the state and those concerned that the University is becoming too expensive may push for a decrease, with the urging of USG President Parvensky.

Parvensky said he plans to send a letter to the trustees requesting their support for a tuition reduction. However, if a tuition cut turns out to be impossible, Parvensky said he is preparing recommendations to give to Garban on where the additional \$3 million should go.

"I'd like to get the trustees and administration a little more oriented to where students think the money should go," he said. Priority items in his mind include student activities and Pattee Library, he added.

At the next meeting of the board, to be held Sept. 15 and 16 at University Park, the administration will also present its recommendations for the 1984-85 state appropriation.

# Jordan promotes Asbury to executive assistant

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Asked if his appointment could be considered as a signal of the University's commitment to minority recruitment, Asbury said Jordan is "quite clearly trying to do several things at the same time."

"Obviously many of the things he does in the first months are going to be signals of what his priorities are," Asbury said. "I think by placing me in this position, the president has tried to fill the spot with a qualified person as well as demonstrate that there are qualified blacks at Penn State."

While Asbury declined to guess where he will be in the University's command chain, he will be the University's highest-ranking minority officer.

Asbury said he would not have left his current job "if I thought I was going to a job that didn't have any substance in it."

Asbury will assume the position, with expanded responsibilities, now held by Doris M. Seward, executive assistant to the president. Seward, who will retire on Nov. 1, was former University President John W. Oswald's first appointment upon assuming the presidency in 1970. Oswald retired on June 30.

Ullyses H. Levy, University affirmative action specialist, will serve as acting affirmative action officer until a permanent successor to Asbury is selected. Asbury said no selection process has been determined yet.

Prior to joining the University in 1976, Asbury served as director of human resource utilization at Kent State University. From 1970-74, Asbury was contract compliance officer for the city of Akron. Earlier he had been a senior consultant with an employment agency.

Asbury played professional football with the Pittsburgh Steelers from 1966-69. He received his bachelor of arts degree of sociology and anthropology in 1966 and, in 1973, he earned a master of arts degree in sociology from Kent State.

Asbury serves as chairman of the Centre County Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and of the Higher Education Liaison Committee of the Region III office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs. He is also parliamentarian of the Pennsylvania Black Conference on Higher Education.

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