

## Group questions Drake health study

By TRICIA WOOD  
Collegian Staff Writer

A spokesman for a Lock Haven environmental citizens group said the state Department of Health is not properly conducting a health survey associated with two chemical waste sites.

The health department is conducting a survey to determine if health problems have resulted from exposure to chemicals from the now defunct Drake Chemical Co. and adjacent American Color and Chemical Co.

"The health department seems unwilling to answer a lot of questions that we've had," said Frank Furl, president of Citizens and Laborers for Environmental Action Now (CLEAN).

CLEAN was formed after Drake Chemical, 30 miles northeast of State College, was cited for violations by the Environmental Protection Agency and underwent a \$946,000 emergency waste cleanup instituted by the EPA in February, 1982.

Furl said he thought the health department would be back in touch with the group, but it has not been contacted.

But John Patton, an environmental health specialist for the state health department, said he and Furl have been keeping in contact about the survey "right along."

The health department's survey is being conducted in three parts, Patton said. The first part questioned an exposed group of about 200 people within half a mile of the chemical plants. Now a control group of people living in the area more than half a mile from the chemical plants is being surveyed. After this second phase is completed, former employees of the companies will be questioned.

Furl said he is concerned that the control group, now being surveyed, could be biased because former employees and people indirectly exposed to chemicals are not excluded from the second group.

Furl said he is also concerned about the way the medical survey is being conducted because former plant employees, those in the most danger of exposure, will be the last group questioned.

"Classifying the control group this way doesn't make sense," he said.

Patton said the control group could consist of former employees or people with possible exposure because all factors have to be considered in this group.

"If someone says he worked at Drake, does that mean you'd leave out information that is useful," Patton asked.

Patton said he would contact Furl and that he was not aware Furl questioned the survey.

Janet Luffy, EPA Region Three director, said public meetings with Lock Haven residents will probably be held in April concerning an EPA \$475,000 remedial study of chemical contamination from the plants.

At the meeting, alternatives will be explored, plans drawn and bids taken for contracts for the cleanup plan, she said.

Money for the emergency cleanup and the remedial study comes from the \$1.6 million Superfund program.

Luffy said one reason the Superfund was established was to help provide a responsible party to finance the chemical and waste removal.

Drake's owner, Ernest Dion, declared the company bankrupt shortly after the EPA ordered him to remove the hazardous chemicals from the site in 1982.

## Academic Assembly defends computer literacy proposal

By KIM BOWER  
Collegian Staff Writer

The Undergraduate Student Government's Academic Assembly last night voted to create a committee to examine where it should send student input concerning computer literacy legislation.

Chris Reitman, faculty senator from the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, said he thought the computer literacy proposal that the University Faculty Senate tabled last week was misunderstood. The proposal would not require setting up more computer science courses, he said.

Academic Assembly President Frank Pogue said the senators only want colleges to set up an objective plan to define what their departments should do about computers.

The assembly also set up a committee to work on a new survey on academic advising. The assembly

will try to survey more students than in its last survey so the results will have more impact on advising policies in the colleges, Pogue said.

Also last night, USG President Emil Parvensky reported that student response to the organization's Best and Not So Best survey was not as large as it had hoped. Parvensky does not know yet if USG will get any conclusive results from the survey, but in both categories some specific professors were focused on, he said.


Parvensky also told the assembly that the USG Datematch was a success, and students will receive their matches in about the third week in February.

Also, Tom Thompson, faculty senator from the College of Engineering, said the committee examining test preparation services negotiated an agreement with Stanley H. Kaplan educational center.

Bill Geise, faculty senator from the College of Agriculture, said the assembly agreed to distribute information about the center, which it judged to be the best test preparation service available. Kaplan will offer a \$100 discount on Graduate Record Examination preparation classes.

In other business:  
• The curricular affairs committee reported that the assembly had received 22 calls about academic questions. Beth Roman, faculty senator from the College of Business Administration, suggested making follow-up calls to see if students have resolved their problems.

• The Division of Undergraduate Studies committee said it will talk to James Kelly, academic information program coordinator, about forming student representation in DUS.



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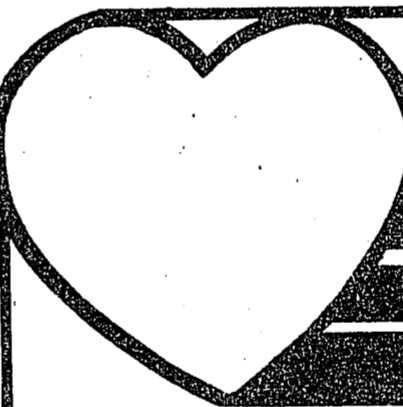
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