

University testing new artificial heart

By ROBERT MCGOWAN
Collegian Staff Writer

The University's bioengineering department and the University's Hershey Medical Center are testing two artificial heart designs that are powered by electricity rather than compressed air.

On Dec. 2, 1982, surgeons at the University of Utah implanted an artificial heart, powered by compressed air, into Dr. Barney Clark. However, the mobility of a recipient of this type of heart is limited, according to David B. Geselowitz, head of the bioengineering department.

The advantage of an electrically powered device is that a battery-powered rechargeable battery pack would give the patient added mobility, he said. The 370-pound pneumatic power supply of Clark's heart was connected by two 2-meter tubes and did not allow him much movement.

Most specialists agree a briefcase-type arrangement seems reasonable for artificial heart patients because they are not in a condition to travel much. These patients may only want to move about their house.

Graduate students at the University's Artificial Heart Lab, 24 Hammond Building, are working with two designs that may be used as either a ventricle assist device or a total artificial heart, Geselowitz said.



Kirsten Hanson (graduate-bioengineering) stands with her hand on an experimental electric heart in Hammond Building. Next to her is Steve Kern (graduate-bioengineering).

A ventricle assist device can be converted to a total artificial heart by adding a pump to the other side of the mechanism, said Steven Kern (graduate-bioengineering). Ventricle assist devices allow the heart to rest and strengthen, he said.

Both designs operate on the principle of converting rotary motion into linear motion, Kern said. One of the designs uses a cam to provide a heart contraction for each rotation back and forth.

The electrically powered artificial heart weighs about two pounds, as compared to 10 to 12 ounces for a human heart. Although the device is wired to the ribs, it should not cause discomfort for the recipient, Kern said.

The heart designs are studied in the lab using a mock circulatory system which simulates variable pressures of blood vessels. The system is filled with a glycerol and water solution with the same density as blood. It is connected to a computer and an electrocardiograph where vital signs can be monitored, he said.

The hearts have been implanted in cows at the Hershey Medical Center by Dr. William S. Pierce, chief surgeon and head of the project, Geselowitz said. Four cows there are now living with artificial hearts — two powered by compressed air and two by electricity, Kern said.

The Penn State project is purely experimental and the group has no plans for human implantation, Kern said.

HOPS campus office closing

Lack of student participation is main cause, president says

By PATRICIA DIACONT
Collegian Staff Writer

The president of the Homophiles of Penn State said Friday that due to a lack of area resident and student participation, the organization will close its campus office sometime in April.

Rayman Bortner said he would like to open an office in the downtown area, but no formal plans have been made. "We are not effective in serving the student population as a student group," Bortner said. "It's time to re-evaluate."

Bortner attributed the lack of participation to the fact some people have about being openly homosexual and the effect it could have on their future.

"I, myself, by being 'out,' have taken a great risk because it definitely has had an effect on my personal and professional life," he said. "This (group) is the only one — you're stigmatized if you're in."

Bortner said that a lack of continuous help in running the organization, as well as low membership, made him decide to shut down the office located in 211 HUB. He said that most people don't become involved until their third academic year and leave after graduation.

"We're constantly training new people, that's our biggest problem," he said.

Individuals trained in areas of biology, sociology and psychology are needed by the organization to answer questions. Often, it is difficult to find people willing to do this, he added.

"Our best resources are ourselves," he said.

The organization has also been harassed, Bortner said. Such harassment has added to the decrease in membership and makes it hard to keep things running smoothly, he said.

"Last year, 40 percent of our phone calls were for harassment," he said.

If it relocates its office in town, Bortner said the organization would either be less structured and regulated than a student organization, with more member input, or like a non-profit corporation, with a board of directors.

Money, he said, would be obtained through grants, foundations and fund raisers.

Bortner said his main concern is to move HOPS off campus and generate the interest of residents.

"By being away from campus, out of a formal academic setting, we'll be able to encourage people to come to us without fear of being known on campus," he said.

Bortner said that once the office closes, those interested in information can contact The Center for Counseling and Psychological Services, the Psychological Clinic and the Sexual Health Awareness Resources Program.

Six Ag internships available

By TIM EYSTER
Collegian Staff Writer

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is offering six internships for qualified students in the University's College of Agriculture, the liaison between the department and the college said.

Terril L. Reinhart-Rallis said applications will be available beginning Feb. 27 in 217 and 342 Agricultural Administration Building. Any student enrolled in the college who is at least a junior, has at least a 2.0 grade point average and has obtained permission from his or her faculty adviser may apply for an internship.

All internships will begin May 30 and end Aug. 7. The interns will work for one of the six bureaus within the state Department of Agriculture headquarters in Harrisburg, she said.

The Penn State project is purely experimental and the group has no plans for human implantation, Kern said.

The bureau students may apply to are marketing, agricultural development, agricultural planning and research, animal industry, plant industry, and foods and chemistry.

Students who are awarded the internships will have the opportunity to earn from one to 10 credits for their work.

Reinhart-Rallis said she will conduct the initial screening interviews for the internships from March 29 to April 6. From these interviews, the top three or four individuals per internship will be selected.

The second round of interviews will be conducted April 17 by the department personnel who will be supervising the students while they are on the job in Harrisburg. From these interviews, the top two individuals per internship will be selected.

When the applications, resumes and cover letters are received, Reinhart-Rallis said she will contact the student applicants to arrange a date and time for the interviews.

Fenrose Hallowell, the Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, Hallowell will make the final selections and announce who will be awarded the internships on May 1.

James S. McCoy, coordinator of recruitment and Commonwealth Campus relations in the Office of Resident Education of the College of Agriculture, said the internships will give students beneficial, hands-on experience in their career areas before they go into the work force.

All internship applications must be accompanied by a resume and cover letter, Reinhart-Rallis said. The final day for submitting these three items is noon on March 19, but Reinhart-Rallis advised students not to wait until that date to submit them.

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The Penn State project is purely experimental and the group has no plans for human implantation, Kern said.

police log

- John Alge (junior-finance), 400 E. Prospect Ave., told the State College Police Department on Saturday his stereo-radio cassette recorder was missing from his first-floor room at Sigma Chi fraternity, 400 E. Prospect Ave. Police said the recorder is worth \$380.
- Leslie Wahl (sophomore-pre-med), 612 Rifer Hall, told University Police Services Friday \$60 was missing from a locker in White Building.
- Marc Verebey (freshman-business administration), 412 Hartman Hall, told State College Police Saturday his coat and set of keys were missing from Sigma Pi Fraternity, 303 Fraternity Row. Police said the items are worth \$200.
- Bonnie Gordon (junior-health and physical education), 305 E. Vairo Blvd., told University Police Saturday her purse was missing from 132 White Building. Police estimate the purse and its contents at \$148.

collegian notes

- Psi Chi National Fraternity in Psychology will hold a psychology graduate student night at 7:30 tonight in 451 Moore Building.
- The State College Weavers Guild will meet at 6:45 tonight at 126 W. Marilyn Ave.
- The Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Head Injury Foundation will meet at 7:30 tonight at the Centre-Clinton Counties Easter Seal Society, 1390 S. Allen St.
- Pollock-Nittany Residence Halls Association will sponsor all night movies at 7:30 tonight in the Pollock Rec Room.
- The Undergraduate Student Government Senate will meet at 7 tonight in 225 HUB.
- Yachad Penn State Friends of Israel will sell candy for Valentine's Day from 10 to 4:30 today on the HUB ground floor.
- The IFC Dance Marathon Kick-off Dinner will begin at 6:30 tonight at Gatsby's, 100 W. College Ave. A cocktail hour will begin at 5 p.m. at C's, 112 W. College Ave.
- All honor societies should check their HUB communication boxes or contact Dr. Moore about the Alpha Lambda Delta honors fair in 135 Bouckee or call 663-2020.
- The Management Club will hold club elections at 7:30 tonight in 307 Bouckee.
- The Association of Residence Hall Students will take reservations for the March 2 to 11 trip to Daytona Beach, Fla., until Feb. 20 in 101C HUB.
- The Penn State Bridge Club will meet at 6:45 tonight on the HUB ground floor.
- Energetics will sponsor an Energetic Exercise Hour at 5:30 today in the Assembly Room of the Weinat Building.
- Alpha Lambda Delta freshman honor society will have membership applications for all freshman students who have a 2.50 GPA or better until Feb. 20 in 135 Bouckee.
- Delta Nu Alpha will sponsor a pre-recruiting social with Bruce Boyd of Kimberly-Clark Corp. at 7:30 tonight at the Sheraton Penn State, 240 S. Pugh St. Sign-ups are in 509 Business Administration Building.
- The Penn State Outing Club will meet at 7:30 tonight in 318 HUB.

Slow brew:

Local bar owners say new low-alcohol beer not in demand here

By MEGAN O'MATZ
Collegian Staff Writer

Although a new type of reduced alcohol beer has recently been developed and is quickly becoming the growing trend in the brewing industry, some State College bar owners say there has been little demand for it in this area.

These brews are a new category of ales that contain about one-half the alcoholic content of regular beer.

Earlier this month, the Christian Schmidt Brewing Co., of Philadelphia, released its version of the beer, called Break Special Lager. The Cincinnati-based Hudepohl Brewing Co. was the first to introduce such a beer, called Pace, last October.

Other breweries, such as Stroh's and Anheuser-Busch Inc., are in the process of testing and developing low-alcohol products which should be on the market soon, company officials said.

Brewery officials added that the development of reduced alcohol beer is the industry's response to stricter drunken driving laws and a more health conscious public.

Robert Pole, spokesman for Hudepohl, said the average low-alcohol beer drinker is usually an older, more affluent and better educated person.

"It comes down to the basic fact that these people are more conscious of what they're doing," Pole said. "They're concerned about their health and the effects of alcoholic abuse. This type of product fits their lifestyle."

Pole added that not only does the new beer have less alcohol, but it also contains fewer calories and carbohydrates.

In addition, most manufacturers claim the taste of the reduced alcohol beer is comparable to regular beer.

"No consumer taste tests, people couldn't tell the difference (between the reduced alcohol beer and regular beer)," said John Paul Jones, Schmidt's vice president of marketing. He added that the good taste is a reason for the cost of Break Special Lager.

"We use two special Swiss yeasts that we have to pay a royalty on," Jones said. "That's why we can provide a full tasting beer with half the alcohol."

Jones also said that Schmidt has to brew the low-alcohol beer in a separate, isolated section of the brewery. Otherwise, the air carrying yeast from the regular beer would contaminate the low-alcohol beer and cause fermentation. These two factors, he said, tend to make the beer as costly as others.

The outlook on sales for the low-alcohol beer is optimistic, the spokesman said. Pole said Hude-

phol's "Pace" has had fair results even though, "We're a small brewery and we're not in the position to market it the way we want to."

Jones said that when Break Special Lager was entered in three test markets — in Massachusetts, Texas and Pennsylvania — last December, sales exceeded the company's goals by 245 percent.

Jones also explained that Schmidt's confidence was based on the successful history of low-alcohol beer in Australia. Australia, he said, developed the low-alcohol beer in 1979 also because of strict drunk driving laws.

"They drink even more beer than we do," Jones said. "And 25 percent of the beer they drink is low-alcohol."

Despite the beer industry's confidence that the beer will sell well, there has been no demand for low-alcohol beer in State College.

Neither the Nittany Beverage Co., nor Centre Beverage Co., sell the beer. In addition, most of pressed an interest in supplying it.

Christ Papadopoulos, owner of The Corner Room, 100 W. College Ave., said he has had no requests for the beer.

"If we get a demand for it we'll put it on our inventory," Papadopoulos said. "Just like we would any new product there is a demand for."

International students bring world to local schools

By ANITA YESHO
Collegian Staff Writer

Centre County grade school and high school students are getting a glimpse of the world beyond the United States with the help of a new community program and the University's international students.

The International Classroom Program brings international students into local schools where they talk to children about the culture, history, political and economic systems of their countries.

"I hope we can establish enough interest in the schools this spring so that we can start next fall to really have a program that's moving," she said.

The program was begun because State College teachers were calling the council about guest speakers and the council was concerned that the outlying schools would not be aware that international speakers are available, said Marilyn Spaventa, administrative assistant in the Office of International Students and founder of the program.

One of the program's goals is to

coordinate by the Community International Hospitality Council, 115 Eisenhower Chapel.

A few students have spoken to classes, but because the program is new "it just hasn't been a ball of fire yet," Takei said.

"I hope we can establish enough interest in the schools this spring so that we can start next fall to really have a program that's moving," she said.

The program was begun because State College teachers were calling the council about guest speakers and the council was concerned that the outlying schools would not be aware that international speakers are available, said Marilyn Spaventa, administrative assistant in the Office of International Students and founder of the program.

One of the program's goals is to

give the international students' wives the activity, Spaventa said.

"Lots of times a student doesn't have time, but the spouse might," Takei said. "Sometimes a spouse who is not a student may feel that he or she does not know English well enough to participate in a program like this — and that's an important thing. Someone who isn't comfortable carrying on a conversation in English is probably not a good candidate for the program."

However, many international students speak excellent English, she said.

"I think (the International Classroom Program) could be a gold mine for teachers and for the internationalists who want to take an inside look at the American classroom," she said.

The program allows the international students to experience the American educational system outside the university setting, Spaventa said.

When visiting a classroom, the international students are encouraged to bring objects from their homelands — stamps, jewelry, music, musical instruments, photos and artwork — "anything that they think would get the idea across that their culture is interesting," Takei said.

International students may talk to the classes about a wide range of subjects, Takei said. They could teach a song or a dance to a kindergarten class or talk to an art class about art in other countries.

Physical education is also incorporated into the program to teach foreign games to children, she said.

Another program would include people from England, Australia and the Caribbean illustrating the varieties of the English language, she said.

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