

Grant scarcity makes many sign dotted line on loans

By ANITA J. KATZ
Collegian Staff Writer

A scarcity of higher education grants has pressured more students to take out student loans, University President Bryce Jordan told members of Congress last week.

"Higher education costs are increasingly squeezing families who are attempting to support their children's postsecondary education," Jordan said in a presentation before the House Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education. "Because of the scarcity of grant dollars, our students will document financial need are turning to loans to finance their education," he said in his statement.

Jordan said more than one half of the University's students participating in the National Direct Student Loan program must also borrow from the Guaranteed Student Loan program to meet their education costs.

Testimony from Jordan and other university presidents came before the committee during a hearing concerned with the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

The act, which outlines government aid to several higher education programs, is scheduled to expire in September 1985. A bill to replace the act was introduced by Rep. Paul Simon, house committee chairman, during March and hearings on the bill began last week.

U.S. Rep. William F. Clinger, R-central Pa., said the bill "looks like it contains some fairly sweeping — and some good — changes."

Clinger said he supports the bill but that it will likely undergo many changes before it is presented to Congress for a vote.

Several of the changes Simon has proposed are concerned with the student aid programs under Title IV of the act.

Title IV funds include: Pell Grants, Guaranteed Student Loans, National Direct Student Loans, College Work-Study and Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants.

Under Simon's proposal, the Pell Grant program would be maintained and the maximum award amount would be raised to \$3,000 per year. A cost of living adjustment would increase award amounts annually in relation to the rises in the Consumer Price Index. The grants, which now cover up to 50 percent of tuition costs, would also be extended to cover up to 75 percent of tuition, fees and required books.

Students would be eligible for grants for five years as undergraduates and for their first year of graduate or professional school.

Jordan said he is pleased with the committee's "initiative to incorporate inflation adjustments into the Pell Grant formula" but that the proposed programs still does not represent student costs accurately. Jordan said a University survey showed that

students' costs for room and board are greater than those given in Pell grant "attendance allowances."

A proposed change in the allotment formula for the College Work-Study program would link the allotments to the number of Pell grants and Guaranteed Student Loans made to students at the institutions the previous year.

Changes in the GSL program include the elimination of a five percent origination fee made to lenders, and a provision to make interest rates on GSLs and unsubsidized loans sensitive to rising and falling Treasury bill rates.

Maximum loan amounts would increase so undergraduate students could borrow up to \$3,000 per year and graduate students could borrow up to \$7,000 per year. Parent borrowers would be permitted to borrow their parent contribution in unsubsidized PLUS loans (Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students).

Students would also be given the option of consolidating their student loans, prior to entering repayment, with a lender holding any one of the outstanding loans or with the Student Loan Marketing Association. Repayment periods may be extended from 10 to 15 years.

Eligibility for loans would not extend to students with family incomes more than \$65,000 a year.

John Brugel, director of the University Office of Student Aid, said he disagrees with the proposed eligibility ceiling for GSLs.

"If a family has an income of \$65,000, has 10 kids and four of them are in college, they are still a needy family," he said.

The bill proposes an institutional block grant that would merge three student assistance programs: National Direct Student Loans, Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants and State Student Incentive Grants. Institutions would have the discretion to make grants, extend or expand awards under the work-study program, or establish an institutionally based loan program.

Brugel said he is also not in favor of the block grant proposal.

The block grant, an approach fostered by President Reagan, "becomes a consolidated target for budget cuts," Brugel said. Having several aid programs reduces the likelihood of funding reductions, he said.

"We would be in favor of (the block grant) if there was some assurance of funding," Brugel said.

The bill proposes that allocations to institutions for the grant be based on the same allotment formula as proposed for the work-study program. Institutions would be guaranteed to receive a grant equal to what they received for the three programs in fiscal year 1983.

Jordan said that during the 1983-84 academic year, total documented financial need for undergraduates at the University was \$92.8 million.

However, after all existing aid sources had been taken into account, unmet need for students totaled \$22.8 million, forcing students to "take on frequently alarming loan burdens," he said.

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Jordan also said increasing numbers of graduate students are turning to loans to finance their education. In the last three years, the number of graduates using loans has increased 34 percent, he said.

Jordan said graduate student access to Title IV funds should be increased to encourage graduate students to continue their education and not be pulled towards industry.

Correction

Because of a reporter's error the nature and details of this week's Peer Contraceptive Education Program information sessions were incorrectly reported in yesterday's Daily Collegian. The sessions are intended for students considering becoming volunteer educators for PCEP and wanting more information about the program. Attendance to a session is not required for volunteers, but they must train Fall Semester by taking a two-credit course and attending eight workshops.

Bangkok 'traffic children' a growing problem in city

By PETER ENG
Associated Press Writer

BANGKOK, Thailand — Eleven hours a day six days a week, 9-year-old Srimon Maliwan and five of her brothers and sisters dart through several lanes of heavy traffic at a shopping district intersection selling newspapers to motorists.

They are among the hundreds of "traffic children" who peddle papers, flowers, mats and other items in the streets of Bangkok and pose a growing social problem for city authorities.

Officials fear that if no solution is found soon, hundreds more such children — many of them exploited by their parents and others — will take to the streets in search of a living.

"What these children are doing is illegal," said Akon Soranuschart, a member of a special legislative committee on traffic children.

A survey taken by the Social Welfare Department in February 1983 found there were 421 children 5 to 18 years old working the city streets, a third of them 12 or under.

Random surveys by the department also found that almost 11 percent of the children have never attended school.

Officials say that because child labor is deeply ingrained into the economy of Thailand, the traffic children problem cannot be tackled simply by enforcing the laws, which bar the employment of children under 12 and prohibit selling on the streets.

In a recent meeting, the traffic children committee decided to eventually approach all the unemployed parents and offer them work so their children can attend school.

The committee also proposed that children already in school be allowed to continue selling if they agree to be trained in other work.

State College Borough Voting Precincts

Below is a list of polling places for the April 10 primary election. Voters can use the map to determine their voting precinct. Polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Listings by map number, precinct name and polling place.

- 1 — North — Church of Christ, Social Room, Martin Terrace.
- 2 — Northeast — College Heights School, Chalfont.
- 3 — West Central 1 — Hamilton Lounge, Hamilton Hall.
- 4 — West Central 2 — State College Municipal Building, council chambers.
- 5 — Northwest — YMCA, 412 W. College Ave.
- 6 — East 1 — Findlay Union Building, East Halls.
- 7 — East 4 — Pollock Dining Hall, Room 129.
- 8 — East Central 1 — Glenland Building, 137 S. Pugh St.
- 9 — East Central 2 — Zeta Psi Fraternity, 225 E. Foster Ave.
- 10 — East Central 3 — Phi Sigma Kappa, 501 S. Allen St.
- 11 — East 2 — Stephens Hall, South Halls.
- 12 — East 3 — Grace Lutheran Church, Social Room, S. Garner St. and Beaver Ave.
- 13 — South Central 2 — Christian Church, Rec Room, Easterly Parkway and William Street.
- 14 — South Central 1 — State College Area Senior High School, Main Entrance, Western Parkway.
- 15 — West 1 — Elementary School, Room 101, 600 Western Parkway.
- 16 — South 1 — State College Area Intermediate High School, Main Entrance.
- 17 — South 2 — State College Area Intermediate High School, Auditorium Entrance.
- 18 — Southeast — Elementary School, Front Entrance, Easterly Parkway.
- 19 — Hastings, Stone, Stuart and Snyder are in College Township and residents of those halls must vote at the College Township Municipal Building, 1481 E. College Ave.

Map courtesy Centre County Planning Office, Voter Precinct Atlas

The World Agriculture Service Society presents Dr. James Diamond speaking on "Mail Agricultural Officers Program" 112 Armsby Tonight 7:30 p.m. Everyone Welcome

UNIVERSITY CALENDAR Tuesday, April 10

ARHS meeting, 6:30 p.m., Room 225 HUB.
Gamma Sigma Sigma meeting, 6:30 p.m., Room 75 Willard.
Circle K Club meeting, 7 p.m., Room 319 HUB.
Student Union Board meeting, 7 p.m., Room 307 HUB.
P.S. Students For Life meeting, 7 p.m., Room 304 HUB.
P.S. Science Fiction Society meeting, 7 p.m., Room 304 Boucke.
Phi Beta Lambda meeting, 7 p.m., Room 445 Davey Lab.
World Agriculture Service Society meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 112 Armsby Bldg.
College Democrats meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 308 Willard.
Student Foundation for the Performing Arts meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 227 HUB.

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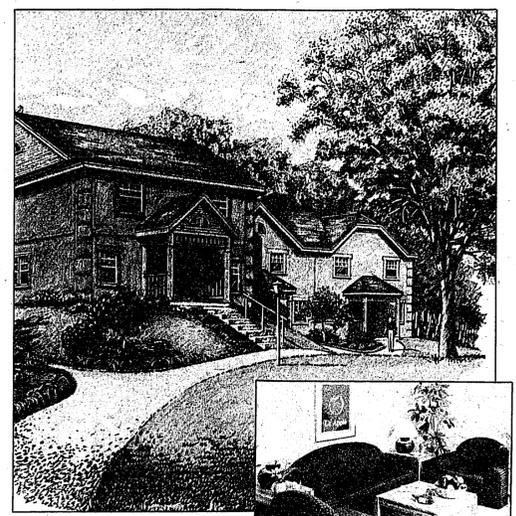
ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA FRESHMAN HONOR SOCIETY PROUDLY ANNOUNCES TONIGHT'S INITIATION OF 291 NEW MEMBERS

7:30 pm Room 301 HUB

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Rustum Roy

Election of new officers will be held at this time.

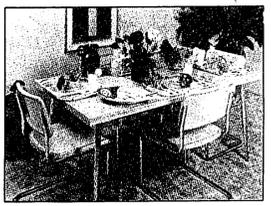
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Chair sleepers	Bunk beds and mattresses
Cocktail table/end tables	Chests and nightstands
Bookcase or entertainment center	Desks

ACCESSORIES	
Bed sheets and pillow cases	Glasses
Towels and wash cloths	Shower curtain
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