## Couples face problems with dual lives

**By CHRIS ZEILER** Collegian Staff Writer

Couples today find themselves seeking complete control of their lives and relationships — but this is not possible, a University assistant professor says.

Take the case of Tom and Lisa, who will graduate this spring and are planning to be married. Both have tentative job offers in cities far apart from each other. To stay together, one of them will

be forced to give up a good offer. Each feels the right to have a career and a say in where they will live. They are an example of a

symmetrical couple. In this fictitious case, said associate speech communication Professor William Rawlins, Tom and Lisa could accept their jobs, thus putting their relationship on the back burner. Rawlins said he sees many dual-career marriages as symmetrical

relationships. Or, to avoid conflict, they could accept the better job offer on the condition that the next time a similar situation arises, the person who gave up the job offer would have more of an influence on whether to relocate.

In symmetrical relationships, both partners exchange similar behaviors. For example, one partner will talk while the other listens and then the second partner will talk while the first listens.

People need to be in control because they want to feel effective and not at the mercy of the environment and others, Rawlins said. Rawlins next gave the example of John and

JoAnn, a couple in a complementary relationship - a relationship in which different behavior is

John will talk while JoAnn listens, but JoAnn

will not get a chance to respond back, or JoAnn will tell John when he can go out.

Complementary relationships have one person holding more power than the other, either because the powerful person wants the power or because the powerless person puts the responsibility for all decisions his or her partner, he said.

Once a relationship is defined as complementary, it is hard to break that definition, because one partner will try to preserve the inequality of the relatonship.

Rawlins said there two types of control, unilateral and systemic. No one can have unilateral control - complete control over others - because of systemic control which exists within the system

"People want to be in control because our sense of competence as human beings in many ways derives from the extent to which we feel we can influence what is happening to us," he said.

Power and self-esteem are scarce resources in relationships, Rawlins said. The two are interrelated because if people feel powerless in a relationship, their self-esteem will usually be low. Conversely, if people feel powerful in a relationship, their self-esteem is typically high.

"Virtually any part of a relationship can become an area of struggle," Rawlins said. "Something as simple as who takes out the garbage can become a recurring fight in a relationship. It's an indication that there is still a struggle going on for control of the relatonship.

"You participate in systems — that is, you exert some control over your relationships, but a relationship also has control over you. People are able to exercise various degrees of control within social systems, but the potential for you having

some influence over your destiny resides in the relationship, not the individual," Rawlins said. Sharon Hamilton, staff psychologist at Ritenour

Health Center's Center for Counseling and Psychological Services, said people generally have three parts to their personalities: the critical parent, the objective adult and the child.

'People want to be in control because our sense of competence as human beings in many ways derives from the extent to which we feel we can influence what is happening to us.'

- Professor William Rawlins

If both partners in a relationship are in the parent state of mind, they will criticize each other, resulting in anger and hurt, with no resolution, Hamilton said.

If both are vying for the upper hand, their problems will be increased even more, she said.

"Any quarrel in a relationship could relate to the struggle for control, but it doesn't have to,' Rawlins said. "A quibble over the TV remote control is not necessarily an indicator of larger problems because it could be an isolated inci-

"However, if it's a pattern, then it could be an indicator of larger problems," he added.

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Engineering dean to hold meeting

By CHRISTINE NICHOLAS Collegian Staff Writer

College of Engineering Dean Carl Wolgemuth will hold an open meeting for sophomore engineers and other interested students tomorrow night to discuss the college's enrollment control policy and its recent effect on students.

Some University sophomores expected to have until the end of majors. this semester to meet grade requirements for entrance into their majors, but evaluation occurred grades," he added. mid-semester.

Students who did not get their majors as a result of the mid-semester evaulation may sign up for end-of-semester reconsideration, but the number of additional students accepted depends on how many extra spaces open by students dropping out or changing majors, Wolgemuth said.

The meeting, organized by Engineering Undergraduate Council officers, will be at 7:30 in 269 Willard. Wolgemuth will explain the college's position on enroll-

ment controls and answer questions. William Gotolski, acting associate dean for undergraduate

instruction, may also be present. Since some people see the college's resubmission process as "some kind of ploy to get (students) of our backs," Wolgemuth said he will also explain how sophomores can sign up for end-of-semester reconsideration for their

"I want to offer some assurance that we are going to look at spring

The discussion will allow sophomore engineers to "know what the next step should be," Council Vice President Patty Walsh said.

Michele Burnat (sophomore-engineering) asked council officers last week what they could do to help students who believe they had been misled by University policy.

Walsh said council officers decided to work with the University system and provide information for the students "instead of fighting to get the wheels to turn back-





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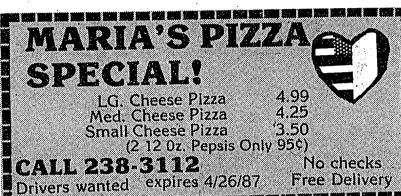
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## The Office of The University Registrar Announces The Spring 1987 Conflict Schedule

Printed below is the conflict final examination schedule for Spring Semester 1987. Only those students assigned to a conflict examination should follow the schedule outlined below. All other students will have their final examinations at the time and place announced in the originally

interpretation of the time designations used in the conflict examination schedule is as follows:

08:00 - 08:00 A.M. TO 09:50 A.M. 10:10 - 10:10 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. 12:20 - 12:20 P.M. TO 02:10 P.M. 02:30 - 02:30 P.M. TO 04:20 P.M. 04:40 - 04:40 P.M. TO 06:30 P.M. 06:50 - 06:50 P.M. TO 08:40 P.M. 09:00 - 09:00 P.M. TO 10:50 P.M.

T - TUESDAY, MAY 5, 1987 W - WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1987 R - THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1987 MAY 8, 1987!

238-9403

Conflict examinations have been determined by the University Registrar. Instructors will announce to those students for whom conflict examinations have been scheduled.

The time and place of a conflict examination for courses listed by appointment (Appt) should be arranged between the students and the instructors concerned at a mutually convenient time, but in no case in conflict with any other scheduled final examination, or at a time which reate three final examinations on the same day.

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