

# Board approves construction

By Alex Muller  
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HERSHEY — Penn State's Board of Trustees approved the construction of two buildings at the Hershey Medical Center, unveiled a new forensic science major and appointed architects for a Life Sciences II Building at a meeting Friday.

Plans for the new Cancer Institute and the Children's Hospital at the Hershey Medical Center were also discussed.

"It's quite a vision we have for the medical center," said Wayne Zolko, Hershey Medical Center controller.

The new Cancer Institute will be about 155,000 square feet and will be situated near the medical center. It will include clinical and basic research facilities.

"We're hoping to bring a preliminary sketch plan in one year, and we hope to open it by July 2008," Zolko said. "We've started the preliminary programming for the Children's Hospital and are

already receiving support and donations."

Darrell Kirch, dean of medicine at the Hershey Medical Center, said they have almost raised one-third of their target funding for the additions to the center.

"Our goal is to raise \$65 million for the Children's Hospital and the Cancer Institute," he said. "We already have \$20 million committed to the buildings, with \$10 million of that coming from Thon."

Kirch said the additional buildings would satisfy the need for more space at the medical center.

"The Cancer Institute and the Children's Hospital are critical to our future," he said.

Dr. Craig Hillemeier, chair of the department of pediatrics at the Hershey Medical Center, spoke about another addition at the medical center — the new Pediatric Cancer Pavilion.

"Right now, the average pediatric patient has to make a 20 minute, three-quarter mile trip [around the complex]

on an average visit to the medical center," he said.

"With the creation of the Pediatric Cancer Pavilion, we will be able to eliminate long walks like this."

Hillemeier said an important aspect in the creation of the pavilion is to design it with the needs of children in mind.

"Our most important goal is to make the facility child friendly," he said.

"We want a hospital designed specifically for pediatric practices with such things like wide hallways for children to play in."

Also, the board said the new forensic science major, part of the Eberly College of Science will begin in the fall and include a forensic science seminar and crime scene investigation class.

In addition, the board appointed Rafael Vinoly Architects of New York and Perfido Weiskopf Architects of Pittsburgh as architects for the new \$40 million Life Sciences II Building, which will be built on Pollock fields adjacent to the Life Sciences Building.



Chad Woolbert/Collegian

Ben Douglass (junior-architectural engineering) reads passages from the Bible amid a crowd of abortion rights supporters. People rallied outside of the State College Medical Services Building, 900 W. College Ave., on Saturday afternoon.

# Group rallies to support local abortion providers

By Laurie Cataldo  
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Abortion rights advocates spent hours holding signs that read "Honk 4 choice," "If you cut off my reproductive choice, can I cut off yours?" and "The vows of abstinence break more easily than latex condoms," on Saturday.

The group of about 20 people rallied in front of State College Medical Services, 900 W. College Ave., in honor of the National Day of Appreciation for Abortion Providers.

Lindsey Cecelia LaBella (senior-animal bioscience) said the rally was part of a service project for a women's studies class. "We're going to have the people who come to the rally sign papers that say 'Thank you,' which we'll put on the card and give to the clinic workers," she said. "We're doing this for the clinic workers who risk their lives to come out here."

Created in 1986, the actual day of appreciation is March 10, which is the anniversary of the day Dr. David Gunn, an abortion provider, was killed by an anti-abortion rights activist.

An equal amount of anti-abortion advocates came to protest the rally.

"I'm here because they're killing babies in there. Abortion hurts women — the women cannot live with the regret," said Constance Engel of Williamsport. "Most women who feel that way did not know they were killing babies."

Gregory Laplante (senior-recreation, park and tourism management) is the outreach coordinator for Students for Life, and said he visits the clinic every Saturday in hopes of stop-

ping women who are thinking of getting abortions. "I do it to show people in town that there's an abortion clinic here and to show that there are alternatives and other options," he said.

Ronnie, a nurse and director of the sexually transmitted disease program at State College Medical Services, said protesters are there often. Ronnie's last name is being withheld because she said she has received threats of violence and threatening letters from anti-abortion advocates. "[Anti-abortion advocates] focus on the fact that we provide reproductive services for women," she said. "We also offer free STD/HIV screenings and treatment. We offer free vaccines and pap smears. We do other things besides terminations." Ronnie said she isn't afraid to do her job. "Women will do anything to terminate unwanted pregnancies," she said. "We'll be open as long as there's a need for us. We're here for [women's] physical health and mental health as well."

Erin Hearn (junior-psychology) said she came to show support for clinic workers. "They put their lives at risk for us," she said. "They try to help us, so we should support them. It's rare that someone would put their life in danger to help someone else."

Ronnie said she is used to the constant protest from anti-abortion rights advocates. "Pro-lifers say the promiscuity on campus is due to offices like us," she said. "It's nobody's business other than the person who's walking through these doors. I think there's three reasons a woman should come in here: rape, incest and her own reason, and that's good enough for me."

## ETCH-A-STRETCH



Megan Elvrum/Collegian

The National Acrobats of Taiwan perform in Eisenhower Auditorium. The group, which appeared on campus Thursday night, uses household items such as chairs, plates and poles for entertainment purposes.

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