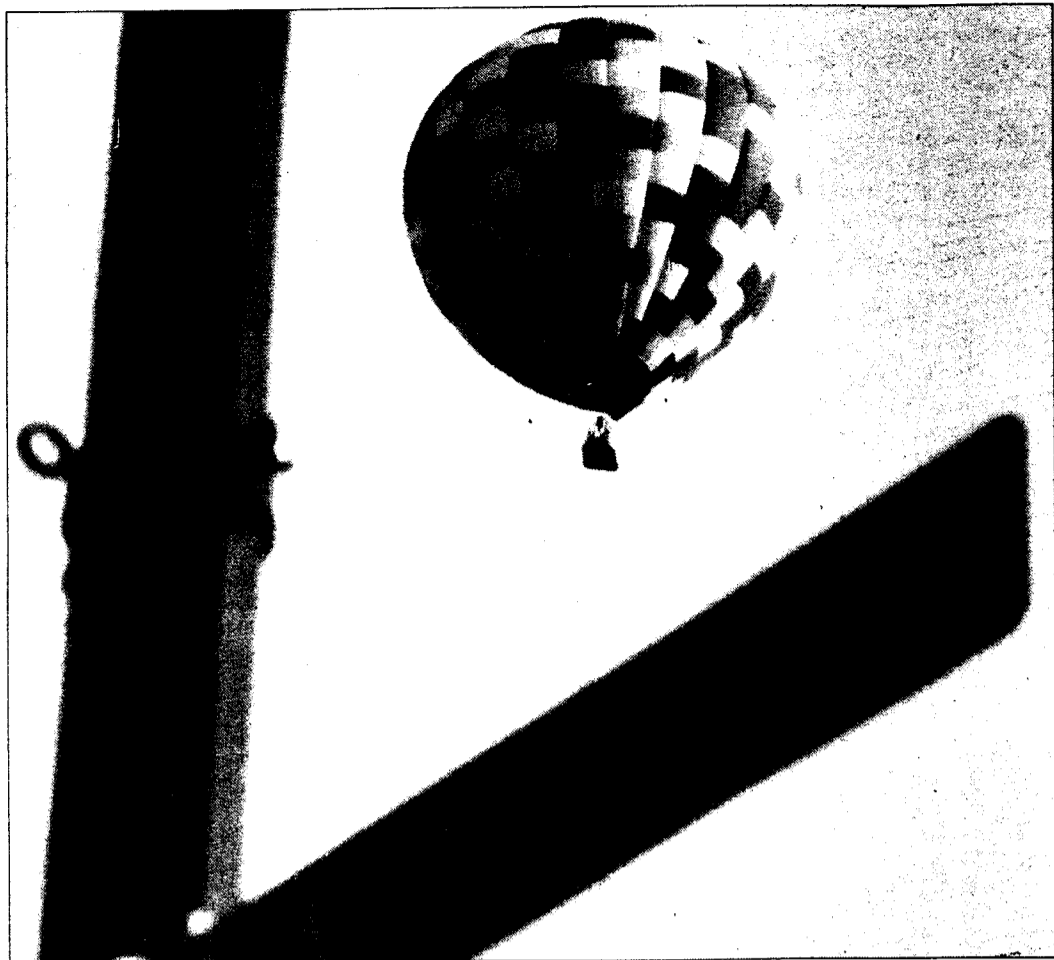


UP, UP AND AWAY



Tom Ruane/Collegian

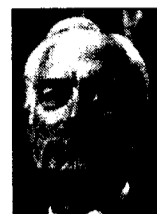
A hot air balloon flies through clear skies over Atherton Street in downtown State College Tuesday evening. Highs reached the 90s during the day but temperatures cooled down in the evening.

# Revised credit policy could affect transfers

## CCSG: More discussion necessary

By Sarah Peters  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The University Faculty Senate approved a revised policy Tuesday to allow administrators to require that students complete a minimum number of credits related to their primary degree at a single location — either University Park or a Commonwealth Campus.



“There were some questions, and there were some answers.”

Peter Khoury  
CCSG vice president

The revision to Faculty Senate Policy 83-80 will have the biggest impact on students who transfer to University Park from Commonwealth Campuses or other colleges.

Under the revised policy, a student transferring from a Commonwealth Campus or another college could be required to complete up to 24 credits in their college at University Park before receiving a degree.

Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert Pangborn said the policy makes it possible for faculty to ensure that a certain number of credits will be taken with the faculty at the institution from which a student receives their degree.

“The intent of the policy was to ensure that when students earn a degree and participate in commencement, the faculty that authorize that degree have the opportunity to have had and associated with those students in class,” Pangborn said.

The 24-credit cap protects students who take courses to meet degree requirements at different campuses.

“That reinforces the principle at Penn State that no matter where you take a course, it’ll be the same course and meet the same requirements,” Pangborn said.

Peter Khoury, Council of Commonwealth Student Governments (CCSG) vice president and representative to the Faculty Senate, said further discourse among student leaders would help clarify any question related to the legislation.

“There needs to be more dis-

ussion on the topic between CCSG, Faculty Senate, and the elected student representatives from the Commonwealths which serve on the Senate to better understand and clarify the policy,” Khoury (junior-biology) said.

“There were some questions, and there were some answers.”

Jacqueline Schwab, Penn State Mont Alto senator and associate professor of human development and family studies, said the meeting was a good start to the year, with both optimism and concerns.

Schwab said she has mixed feelings on Policy 83-80.

“On the one hand, we’re trying to streamline courses and programs and increase accessibility across campus programs,” Schwab said.

“But we also want to maintain that integrity within the degrees, and get a really good academic experience.”

At the beginning of the meeting, Senate Chairwoman Jean Pytel said that, among other issues, the senate will address academic freedom, the IT fee, admissions, housing and workload and best practices this year.

Penn State President Graham Spanier thanked the senators for their patience during summer construction and for their assistance on a smooth move-in.

He also addressed Penn State’s financial situation and joked about his stay in the freshmen dorms.

Spanier stayed with freshmen in Shunk Hall for the first weekend of the school year.

The weekend marked the sixteenth time he has done so.

He said that watching the freshmen take food they couldn’t eat was “anxiety-producing,” because he’s paying for it.

“I didn’t know whether to cry or eat the leftovers,” Spanier joked.

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# Spanier named BCS chairman

By Micah Wintner  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State President Graham Spanier was selected as the new chairman of the 12-member Bowl Championship Series (BCS) Presidential Oversight Committee on Tuesday, replacing Nebraska Chancellor Harvey Perlman.

Spanier said his responsibilities will “focus on leading the governance of the BCS.” This includes policy issues like revenue distribution, television contracts and structure, Spanier said.

The Presidential Oversight Committee was expanded in 2009 to include a university president or chancellor representing 11 NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision conferences and the

“There is no active consideration of a playoff, nor do I expect there to be.”

Graham Spanier  
Penn State president

University of Notre Dame, Penn State spokeswoman Annemarie Mountz said.

Spanier, a founding member of the BCS Oversight Board, has represented the Big Ten since its inception, Mountz said.

Spanier said he has several goals for his new job.

“My goal is to work collaboratively with the other presidents, the conference commissioners and the executive director on a smooth-functioning BCS,” Spanier wrote in an e-mail.

The BCS has been in place since 1998 and its methodology

has been criticized over the years. Teams are ranked by a complex formula derived by the BCS, rather than their win-loss record. A college football playoff has been suggested to replace the current ranking system. But Spanier said he has no plans to create a college football playoff.

“There is no active consideration of a playoff, nor do I expect there to be since we have an established BCS with an existing multi-year contract for the current format,” Spanier wrote.

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