

## Drug use continues in dorms

By RICK WOODWARD  
Collegian Staff Writer

A group of six friends sitting in a locked residence hall room late at night were passing a marijuana pipe around. One of them had a test the next day.

They said they smoke pot several times a day, as well as having used mushrooms, LSD, cocaine, amphetamines, alcohol, opium and several different kinds of sedatives and depressants.

They have cumulative averages between 2.0 and 3.0, and said that although they never miss tests because of drugs, they miss a lot of classes.

Agreeing that their grades are hurt by their drug use, they describe themselves as drug abusers.

When they're high, they like to listen to music, talk, play guitar, go to museums, play games like chess and cards, and just be outside.

They do it because it "alleviates boredom."

Although national surveys say the use of drugs other than alcohol has declined in recent years, drug use is still a major problem at universities across the country, experts say.

From 1980 to 1985, about 10 percent fewer students were using marijuana, according to a study by the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research. In 1980, 51.2 percent had used it in the past 12 months, whereas in 1985, 41.7 percent did.

However, cocaine use has increased significantly in the past couple years, said Kevin Charles, assistant director of Penn State's Total Alcohol Awareness Program.

Donald Suit, director of the Office of Conduct Standards, said surveys show that about 80 percent of students nationwide have tried marijuana, but he estimated that only 10 percent use it on a regular, or daily basis.

At the University in 1986-87, there was one suspension and four dismissals on drug charges, according to records in the conduct standards office. The year before that, there were 87 total referrals on drug charges.

The group interviewed said they spend lots of money on drugs. Two of them said they spend \$75 to \$100 a month on drugs, and "Ron," a student who asked that his real name not be published, estimated that he spends \$200 a month on them.

Last year, "Michelle" smoked marijuana in her residence hall room every day.

But this year, she says she's only gotten high in her room eight times and generally gets high once a week. She cut down because she felt separated and detached from her family and schoolwork.

Although she has maintained a 3.68 cumulative average into her sophomore year, she said that when she was getting high every day, "I lost all interest in learning"

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A collection of drugs and paraphernalia which may be used for the consumption of controlled substances put together by residents of one floor in a University residence hall.

## Voters like union

By VICTORIA PETTIES  
Collegian Staff Writer

Overwhelming support for a referendum asking students whether they support a student-run credit union moves organizers "a step closer to their goal."

Head Elections Commissioner Bob Butler said 89 percent of University students who answered the question voted in favor of a federally-chartered credit union operated by students.

Co-organizer Andrew Hannah said the results of the referendum will be used to demonstrate the economic feasibility of the credit union to the University administration and to the National Federal Credit Union Association.

The credit union could begin operating as early as Fall Semester 1987 with some services such as saving accounts, Guaranteed Student Loans and automatic teller machines, Hannah said. By Spring Semester 1988, the credit union might be operating full time.

Butler said 3,906 University students voted in favor of establishing a

credit union, while 485 opposed the question.

Not every University student who voted during the Undergraduate Student Government elections in March answered the two questions on a separate ballot concerning the credit union, Butler said.

Putting the student credit union in Mid-State Bank's location at the Penn State Bookstore on campus if the bank closes was favored by 90 percent of University students voting.

Out of 4,354 University students who voted, 3,916 voters favored the credit union in the Mid-State bank location if they cease business while 438 voters voted against the question.

Though the referendum was voted on by less than 20 percent of the students, the percentage needed for it to pass, the referendum is still considered valid, Butler said.

Butler explained that the referendum was used only as a sample of student opinion.

The referendum results were two weeks following the USG elections, Butler said, because volunteer workers had to be recruited to count the ballots.

## Credit union spot pushed

By VICTORIA PETTIES  
Collegian Staff Writer

The University Student Executive Council presented recommendations in support of the pullout of Mid-State Bank on campus if the space is allocated to the student-run credit union.

Mid-State Bank has not made public their decision whether to continue to conduct business on campus. The bank's lease expires April 30.

Undergraduate Student Government President Joe Scoboria said the services offered to University students are too important to lose unless another student service is placed in the location.

Earlier, University officials contacted USEC for their recommendations for the space allocation.

In support of the credit union, the recommendation read: "It is suitable that in this situation, a student service which has existed for some time is being replaced by a better student service."

Also, the recommendations addressed increasing the number of automatic teller machines on campus. East Halls students have asked that more automatic teller machines be set up in that area.

"The sheer number of students in East Halls guarantees that automatic teller machines would be both well received and well used."

Scoboria submitted the report

along with Dave Hall, chairman of the Student Organization Budget Committee; Bobbi Melchiorre, president of the Association of Residence Hall Students; and Amy Manderino, former Undergraduate Student Government senator.

In other business, Ken Martin, University student representative to the President's Planning and Budget Advisory Committee, presented a survey of student budget priorities.

The report, completed by Martin, surveyed 286 University students from the 11 colleges and the Division of Undergraduate Studies.

The findings of the survey include:

- University students' most important concern is the cost of their education. However, many viewed freeing tuition as an unrealistic expectation, and thus become more attentive to student aid.
- University attempts to gain prestige including offering competitive salaries to recruit star faculty and upgrading the strongest departments are viewed negatively by students.
- Funding programs for minority groups on campus such as black students, international students and graduate assistants are not popular.
- Sophomores are consistently in favor of minimizing tuition increases.
- Seniors and graduate students suggest higher tuition increases in exchange for other services.

## University jumping over courses

By CHRISTINE NICHOLAS  
Collegian Staff Writer

One year it's business. The next, it may be foreign languages or the humanities.

But regardless of which major field of study is popular to college students at the time, University administrators must jump to meet students' demands.

Anticipating the demands of students at Penn State is a job undertaken by three administrators in conjunction with college deans and department heads, who pass the word up from the students and faculty about what changes are needed to meet rising or falling demand.

The team — which monitors upcoming educational trends and diagnoses the University's approach to them — consists of William Richardson, executive vice president and provost; Carol Cartwright, dean for undergraduate programs and associate provost; and Ken Mortimer, vice president and vice provost.

Their job is vital because "the people who spot the trends and get in early are going to be in better shape when the real crunch comes," Cartwright said.

The emerging nationwide "crunch," causing increased demand for faculty and university programs, appears to be in the humanities, liberal arts and languages.

In addition, a number of University colleges and departments are following a comprehensive "enrollment management" plan to keep the number of students in particular fields within the limits of its class sizes and number of available faculty.

Enrollment controls now affect:

- All majors in the College of Business Administration.
- All majors in the College of Engineering, except engineering science and agricultural engineering.
- Hotel, restaurant and institutional management in the College of Health and Human Development.
- Advertising in the School of Communications.

- Computer science in the College of Science.
- Petroleum and natural gas engineering in the College of Earth and Mineral Science.

Despite enrollment controls in some fields and scrambles to find faculty in others, not all academic fields are growing.

Cartwright said fields like computer science and chemical engineering are "softening" from a lessened student interest.

Today's students are more interested in a computer science background rather than a major in computer science, and a general depression in the oil industry has lessened students' interest in oil-related fields like chemical engineering, she said.

However, in popular fields like business and engineering, where more faculty are severely needed, Cartwright said the University administration will "go full-board to find them."

In fact, the University has funds in

a "teaching workload reserve" to use in such situations: Mortimer said the fund, controlled by Richardson, enables administrators to "respond to anticipated changes in student preference patterns."

Competition for faculty in popular fields is fierce nationwide, and Cartwright said people in these fields are difficult to find. Also, a university's success in gaining faculty may be offset by the number of faculty members who retire or are recruited to other universities.

But Mortimer said Penn State is usually able to hang on to faculty here, who are being recruited by other universities. This is especially true with senior faculty members, since their deans are likely to express personal interest in keeping them — often by working with Mortimer and other administrators to encourage them to stay.

One area where faculty are highly recruited and difficult to find is business.

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## Assembly faces rebuilding after year of 'invisible' status

By ROBERT P. KING  
Collegian Staff Writer

The Undergraduate Student Government's Academic Assembly is trying to stage a comeback.

"We're starting from scratch," Melissa Lutzko, the assembly's newly elected president, said Wednesday. "Some foundations have been laid, but for the most part we're starting from the ground and working up."

The assembly, the arm of USG that deals with academic issues, has been largely invisible on campus since last spring, say several current and former USG officials. They blame a variety of factors, from the structure of the assembly itself to its leadership during the past year.

Lutzko and the other new officers plan to reopen lines of communication with the USG executives, which became somewhat strained this year, and use flyers and publicity to give the assembly a higher profile.

"Academic Assembly has an image problem — nobody knows what it is," said Lutzko's predecessor, Debbie Roberts.

Some critics, who include USG Senate President Joe Scoboria and former USG President Matt Baker, said Roberts let the organization deteriorate while missing key meetings and avoiding the USG office.

She, in turn, said Baker and former USG Vice President Sue Sturgis didn't communicate with the assembly and also set up outside bodies, such as the Committee Regarding Excellence in Education at Penn

**'Academic Assembly has to look at restructuring and get people there who do want to work.'**  
—Debbie Roberts, Academic Assembly president

State, to do tasks within the assembly's jurisdiction.

But the assembly also has deeper problems, including a structure that promotes weakness, several current and former members said.

Whatever the reasons, they said, Academic Assembly's inactivity has prevented it from being what it could be — one of the most influential student groups on campus.

Academic Assembly is made of about 20 voting members, two from every college on campus. Usually — rules for the colleges vary — each college's members are the vice president of the college's undergraduate student council and the student who represents that college on the Faculty Senate.

Unlike members of other student groups, such as the USG Senate, which can only urge the University administration to follow a particular course of action, faculty senators actually have a hand in making policies that affect students. That, combined with the student councils' role in advising college deans on academic policies, could make the assembly a conduit for a strong student voice.

The assembly also has conducted surveys on matters such as cheating, the academic environment and the

plus/minus grading system set to go into effect next semester.

"Academic Assembly should be stronger than the (USG) Senate," Baker said, adding that the assembly has "credibility with the administration and the Faculty Senate."

But this year, he said: "It isn't using it. . . . As far as academics goes, I didn't see them accomplish anything."

Roberts said "not as many issues came up" this year as compared with 1985-86, but she also acknowledged that "Academic Assembly didn't create any." She pointed, however, to accomplishments such as the assembly's third annual advising banquet March 11, which honored a faculty member selected by students as an excellent adviser.

Roberts said the assembly's problems included attendance at the group's meetings, which at times drew only about half the voting members.

She said a bigger problem was a communication gulf between the assembly and the rest of USG.

Characteristic of that, Roberts said, was Baker's formation of CREEPS. Both agreed that CREEPS overlaps with the assembly a lot.

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### friday

**fyi**  
Restricted lunch hours in Centre and West Halls will be changed on a trial basis starting Monday to 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



### inside

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### weather

Today, brilliant sunshine, very mild with a high approaching 70. Tonight, clear, low 37. This weekend, partly sunny tomorrow but a chance for rain showers Sunday. Tomorrow's high around 70, 60 to 65 for Sunday. . . . Ross Dickman

## Town/gown relations tense

By KARL HOKE  
Collegian Staff Writer

Should the University manage to avoid the proposed business privilege tax, the strain on the already tense relationship between the town and the University would more than likely intensify, people on both sides of College Avenue are saying.

Enforcement of the open container ordinance and underage drinking laws, police handling of a recent murder investigation, a shortage of convenient parking downtown, have also tested town-gown relations.

### news analysis

Michael Groff, borough tax administrator, said the proposed tax, as stated, would subject the University's non-educational profit making activities to the 1.5-mill tax.

However, Groff, State College Municipal Council members and business owners believe the University will take the issue to court if the ordinance is passed.

University officials and their legal counsel would not comment on the issue.

Mike Goodwin, director of the

downtown Student Book Store, said he is concerned about the friction between the University and downtown merchants.

"The tax has put us at each others' throats, which is most unfortunate," he said.

Goodwin said the Penn State Bookstore on campus is providing unnecessary competition for his business. The original justification for building the campus bookstore was to offer students a lower price for textbooks, but he said the University has departed from that purpose.

"When should the bookstore be allowed to go beyond the needs of its patrons and serve its wants — that has been a bone of contention of mine for some time," Goodwin said.

"Of course (the University) is in commercial business which they are making a profit on," said Ken Kulp, owner of Baskin Robbins, The Candy Shop and Mister Donut, all on the 300 block of East College Avenue.

"It's an unfair advantage over me if they are not charged the tax. It's discriminatory," he said, but added, "I have no axe to grind with the University. If not for the University, State College would not be on the map."

"But it's unfair competition," he said.

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