On Campus - Honoring the Past, Planning for the Future

The bronze bust of William Rainey Harper now stands in the College's quadrangle. The bust, presented to the College by the Class of 1985, is displayed above a plaque provided by the Educational Foundation.

During the two open hearings on Harper's Space Planning, area residents were given an opportunity to voice their opinions. Sandy Christensen, of Legat Architects, presented an overview of proposed new buildings...

...and changes in office space being considered by the Board of Trustees.

Mary Jo Willis, director of the Harper theatre, fielded questions on proposed theatre space, the educational program needs and possible community usage.
The President's Message

This year's Faculty Orientation had a teaching/learning theme, based on the idea that a primary focus for this institution ought to be to provide quality instructional experiences for students. Maintaining this focus can produce far-reaching effects which can eventually return as benefits to our educational system.

The ultimate priorities of society--the crime problem, the drug war, unemployment--relate to resources available to education. We need to be really good at what we do to be sure our students have what they need to be employed, and to make value judgments so that drugs and crime are not viewed as natural outcomes of today's lifestyle. Although we do not face the same problems in these areas as do inner-city educational institutions, we must not ignore the poorly educated, underprepared or disadvantaged among our constituents. By meeting their needs, we foster a positive cycle that will enable us to offer even better educational opportunities in the future. Educating all of our students well can have impact on society's efforts toward reducing the proportion of our resources that must be devoted to combating drugs, crime and the ills associated with the poverty cycle. These resources will then be available to our educational system, to the benefit of all of us.

It is clear that our primary activity and total thrust ought to be to provide the very best quality education we can for the residents of the district who wish to take advantage of and can benefit by what we have to offer. I think we must provide a teaching and learning environment which respects the individual abilities of all our students, and provides for the differences that they bring as they enter our institution.

Paul J. Hagon

In next month's Insider, the President's message will address some approaches to be considered to enhance the teaching/learning process.

Focus on Harper Theatre and Box Office

The Harper Theatre is a busy place during the fall and spring semesters. Averaging three events per week, the theatre handles such diverse events as meetings and seminars, plays, films and music department performances.

"The acoustics are very good in the theatre," says Kevin Geiger, manager. "It has a very nice aural ambiance to it." The theatre seats 357 patrons, and with its wide back aisle can accommodate an extra 43 standing-room-only.

As theatre manager, Geiger is responsible for booking all performance dates, serving as the house manager for outside performances and maintaining all equipment. He also designs and hangs the lighting for the performances, and operates the lights with help from students. The sound is handled by the LRC Media Services.

Geiger and his staff are also responsible for the Box Office. To purchase tickets for Harper events, patrons can come to the Box Office, J 135, or call 397-3000, extension 2547. MasterCard, Visa, cash or check are accepted. There is no service charge.

Beginning on September 1, the office became a TicketMaster outlet, offering tickets not only for Harper events, but also for performances at the Rosemont Horizon and Chicago Theatre, as well as Cubs and White Sox games and other events.

In its capacity as a TicketMaster outlet, the Box Office sells tickets to customers paying cash, as is the TicketMaster policy. A service charge is also added.

This fall the Box Office is offering Entertainment '90 coupon books and reduced-rate tickets for General Cinema Theatres. The Box Office also has a 24-hour hotline that can be reached by calling 397-3000, extension 2552, which offers a recorded message of upcoming events.

Student Activities Director Jeanne Pankanin (left) discusses the new TicketMaster outlet with head cashier Lori Lipinsky and Theatre Manager Kevin Geiger.

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Twenty-two Harper employees participated in this year's Manufacturer's Hanover 3.5 mile corporate race in the Grant Park area. The event, featuring more than 500 teams from corporate, business, governmental and financial institutions, is held on the first Thursday in August. Pictured, from front row, left to right, are Julie Hunter, Kathy Senn, Jeen Hoffman, Diane Kinn, Jeanne Pankanin and Laura Adams. Second row, left to right are, Michael Viljuk, George Clew, Larry Bleilwe, Linda Sorensen, Sue Overland, Nicki Saimons and Julie Ellefson-Kuehn. In the back row are Roger Mussell, Paul Thompson, Karl Johnson, Keith Jauch, Mike Fischer, Kevin Gelger, John Thompson and Jim Wertz. Missing from the picture is John Horwath — and you. Set your sights on next year’s race, and plan to be a member of the Harper contingent.

Mulcrone Participates in Governors' Summit Via Satellite Hook-up

Patricia Mulcrone, chairperson of the Adult Educational Development Department, participated in a governors' education summit held in Charlottesville, Virginia, on September 28. The summit was called in response to President Bush's commitment to education.

During the interview, which was broadcast from the Tribune Tower, Mulcrone answered questions on lifelong learning, adult learning, workplace literacy and the collaboration between business and industry in solving educational problems. She spoke specifically about Harper's partnership with Motorola in the Basic Academic Skills for Employee Development Program (BASED), which has been in effect for the past two-and-one-half years.

From the Chair

Cultural Arts Committee

Each day volumes of mail arrive on the desk of Student Activities Director and Cultural Arts Committee member Jeanne Pankanin. After sorting through it, she forwards the promotional materials to members of the Cultural Arts Committee, which is chaired by theatre director Mary Jo Willis.

The committee is made up of faculty and student representatives from the art, music and theatre departments working together with ex-officio Student Activities staff members and students.

The committee works to prepare a culturally balanced program each semester in the areas of dance, art, theater, classical films, classical concerts, forums and lectures.

Harper has a commitment to promote education outside the classroom as well as within, says Pankanin, and to meet this commitment the College collects a student activity fee from each student registering for degree courses.

"The cultural offerings are not intended to break even," she says. "They're clearly designed to be subsidized by student activity fees." But they are well attended and it is not unusual for a performance to be sold out.

Examples of performances and lectures in the past are the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Mortimer Adler and Oprah Winfrey.

"We have an excellent track record for lectures; in fact, a remarkable track record," says Pankanin. "But attendance is not our sole criterion for choosing an event. The committee wants to bring in credible programs with integrity."

Slated during the next month are International Week (October 21-28), with performances by Cruiscin, an Irish folk music group; Shanta, an African singer and storyteller; Chinese Golden Acrobat and Magicians; and Sotavento, a Latin American ensemble. Other upcoming offerings are the work of artist and Harper Graphics Supervisor Marlene-Hunt Brash, whose work can be seen in Buildings C and P in early November and the theatre production of Cabaret beginning November 10.

President Paul Thompson (left) and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dave Williams received instruction in the fine art of barcoding from the LRC's Mary Severs as the last two books were converted to the new computerized system. The LRC team, led by Linda Glover, gave up summer Fridays to accomplish the barcoding task with very little interruption to library services.

Congratulations on a job well done! Visit the LRC and see the changes.
Insider's View of Vic Berner

Dean of Business Services and Finance Vic Berner joined the Harper staff in 1986, after holding financial positions with Moraine Valley College and Schaumburg School District 54. As dean, he establishes budgets, sets procedures and is in charge of general accounting, payroll, purchasing, the bursar, the Bookstore and Food Services.

Berner's philosophy of treating all people with respect is evidenced by his heavy community involvement. Although he is currently taking a brief respite from volunteer commitments, he has served as a commissioner on the Old Schaumburg Center Commission; as director of the Schaumburg/Palatine Schools Credit Union; and as director of the Illinois Association of School Business Officials.

He is taking a two-year course to become a certified financial planner and hopes to finish it this year.

Berner says that if he had the time he would complete his private pilot's license and work on a doctoral degree. "And most importantly," he adds, "I would spend time traveling with my family."

Born: Chicago
Education: Wright Community College
B.S. and M.A., Roosevelt University
Certificate of Advanced Study in School Administration,
Northern Illinois University
Family: Wife, Gloria; son, Kevin, 15; and daughter, Christina, 12.
Favorite food: Southern fried chicken and most oriental dishes
Hobby: Photography and building an educational video collection of tapes: Nova and concerts, for example
Best advice my parents gave me: Always maintain a close family relationship.
I would like to learn: How to play a good game of golf.
I can't stand: Sitting and waiting in traffic.
One thing I've learned in life: Many conflicts can be reduced if you take the time to understand the opposite point of view.

Tolle Edits Award-Winning Literary Magazine

Whetstone, a literary magazine published by the Barrington Area Arts Council, has received three cash awards from the Illinois Arts Council. The five-year old magazine is published yearly and is co-authored by adjunct faculty member Jean Tolle. Tolle teaches Creative Writing I and II for the Women's Program. She is also a published children's author.

Department Developments

Congratulations to Joan Kindle, dean of student development, on the birth of her son, Evan, and to Susan Carlson, NE Center, on the birth of son, Tyler. Both boys weighed in at 9 lbs., 1 oz.

Russ Mills, director of placement, will serve temporarily as the acting dean of student development during Joan's absence.

Promotions on campus this month include Sandra Palmer and Gerald Bochum, HVAC mechanics, and John Hare, custodian, Physical Plant.

Joan Glover, PEAR, Joellen Freeing, PUB COM, and Janice Schieser, PR & BD, have all received reclassification this month. Joan's title is now Clerk Typist II. Joellen has been reclassified as Editorial Assistant and Janice has moved to Secretary II.

Newly hired this month are Christine Petrie, nursing lab assistant, LS/HS; Barbara Cleary, lab assistant, and Bellinda Smart, secretary, BUS/SS; Christine Powell, Production Assistant, PUB COM; Barbara Sakeikos, receptionist, Registrar's office; Laura Blondo, weekend supervisor, CE; John Wertz, equipment room attendant, and Cynthia Schoenfeld, clerk typist, PEAR; Edward Gallagher, lab assistant and computer operator, Academic Computing; Nancy Carozza, secretary, LS/HS; Douglas Corson, painter, Demir Seferi and William Shelby, custodians, Physical Plant; Ellen Lundquist, clerk, Admissions; Jody Breiman, clerk, Planning and Research; Jeffrey Wilson, library assistant, LRC; and Eloise Amato, secretary to the vice president, Student Affairs. In AE/LS, Susan Liebman, ESL, specialist/lab supervisor, Robert Paul, language lab, Sahar Mkhall, program assistant, and Wanda Marko, secretary, are all new staff members. Diane Euliano, Jesus Viscaino and Debra Hayley have been hired this month as food service helpers. Margaret Smith has been transferred, and will serve as an instructional specialist in DSS.

Condolences to Jean Chapman, AE/LS, on the recent death of her father.

The Harper Insider is the monthly Harper College newsletter produced by Publications and Communication Services. We cordially invite all employees to contribute stories and information before the first of the month for the issue published at midmonth. Please contact Anne Frost, A302, extension 2512.