

The

insider

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Social Sciences Lab Opens

Just last fall members of the psychology and anthropology faculties met to discuss their long time dream of opening a social science laboratory for their classes. They dreamed of a room where they could offer hands-on activities, exposing students to materials and artifacts to study and manipulate. They approached Dean Tom Johnson, who supported the proposal and handled the administrative tasks involved in opening a lab. He also encouraged them to investigate other lab environments, and this fall, the social science lab in J165 is a reality.

"The room is patterned after the Harper biology labs," said psychology instructor Linda Campbell. "We began planning our concept by talking with the biology faculty—we wanted to know what worked for them and what problems they had." Then she, John Clarke, Konrad Nagatoshi and Helmut Publ met with other social science faculty to determine how the lab could meet all their needs most effectively.

"We needed a lab that would be versatile and flexible," Campbell said, "and we wanted a teaching

station for demonstrations and hands-on activities. We also had to take into account our lighting, desk configurations and audiovisual needs."

The lab is now used for sections of Intro to Psychology, Child Psychology, Adolescent Psychology, Biological Basis of Behavior, Psychology of Human Development, Cultural Anthropology, Archaeology and American Indians courses. While it now contains five skeletons, a human brain, fossil casts and some computer software, Campbell hopes it will one day be equipped with audiovisual equipment, laser disks and computer simulations. "We'd like to see it become a master multi-media classroom," she explains.

Some other materials that have been purchased include three dimensional software to demonstrate the structure and function of the human brain; equipment to dissect lambs' brains; testing instruments used for psychological and vocational testing; biofeedback equipment; operant chambers used to modify animal behavior; and archaeological artifacts. More items

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The President's Message

As we usher in the 25th year of the founding of Harper College, we pay tribute also to Dr. William Rainey Harper, the father of the junior college concept. Much as we credit Dr. Harper for his incredible foresight and innovation, he would have been amazed at the direction, the complexity and the diversification of the idea he originated.

Community colleges came of age in the '60s. As relative newcomers to the business of higher education, they had one major advantage that tradition-bound universities did not have—flexibility and adaptability to the needs of the community. They determined the need, developed a program and offered it to those who could benefit from the program. The '60s and '70s were heady years for a community college. The residents welcomed it, the politicians funded it and the universities found it a convenient place to prepare students for upper division studies. Business and industry discovered a compatible partner in employee training,

students took advantage of the affordability of a college education, and faculty blossomed with the creativity and inventiveness the community college fostered in their teaching. The community college mission was spectacularly egalitarian—anyone who wanted to go to college was welcomed with open arms.

This year we shall celebrate what 25 years of service to the Harper community has accomplished. While we look back with fond memories, wax nostalgic over some of the glories and bask proudly in the success of our students, the soundness of our academic programs and the fiscal health of our enterprise, we temper that with the recognition that times are changing.

The '90s will see a significant shift in our mission from "all things to all people," to maximizing our resources, improving programs and services and measuring our effectiveness. This is not a simple consequence of the economic downturn; it is recognizing the dramatic shifts in demographics, the technological revolution and increasing globalization of the economy. If we are to survive, we must be able to



The '90s will see a significant change in our mission . . .

compete. To compete means, to quote educator Derek Bok, "having to pay much closer attention to the quality of everything (we) do."

That, I believe, is the challenge Harper College faces as we move toward our Preferred Future. Because the community college's greatest strengths are its adaptability and flexibility, Harper will be more than equal to the challenge.

FOCUS ON

International Students Club

"The International Students Club has been a great learning experience for me," said Harper student Larisa Buhin. "It's a great way to meet people!" Buhin, 21, a native of Croatia, arrived here with her family two years ago. Her father had been working in Chicago, and when the political situation in his homeland worsened, he sent for his family.

Buhin knew that she wanted to finish her schooling—she intends to earn a Ph.D. in psychology—so she enrolled at Harper. "When I first came to Harper I went to the ESL office where I met (former International Club advisor) Luz Hansen, who told me about the club," she said. "I'm so glad I got involved."

Buhin said that most club members arrive at Harper knowing no one. But once they join the club, they make new friends and develop a comfort level. "They can share their fears and anxieties with other club members and they begin to understand how others think and feel," she explained.

Spanish Instructor Ana Hernandez, who has recently taken over as club advisor, says that the mission of the club is to promote cultural unity. "The club allows people of different backgrounds to share experiences, yet it encourages them to keep their personal identity," she said, adding that some members, like Larisa, have relocated to the United States recently; some are first generation Americans who don't want to lose their ethnicity; and others join the club to meet people from other backgrounds.

While the club provides some service functions, it is primarily a social organization. Members meet monthly on campus to plan weekend excursions to ethnic restaurants, dances, museums, movies, or outings such as skiing, skating or going to the beach. The members (usually about 200) range in age from 16 to 60 and represent more than 30 countries.

"But we're also interested in showing the community our cultural backgrounds," Hernandez said. Members have organized and staffed information booths during Intercultural Week, and the group is considering an *Armchair Traveler* program for senior

citizens, offering slides and presentations to illustrate life in other countries.

Buhin said that friendships she has made in the International Students Club have snowballed into other friendships. "In fact, sometimes I feel that I know everyone at Harper!" she explained.

Club meetings and gatherings begin this month. For more information, call Ana Hernandez at extension 2886.



Spanish Instructor Ana Hernandez serves as the International Students Club advisor. In addition to social activities, the club also plans to offer educational programs. Watch for their display during Intercultural Week, October 12-16.

INSIDER'S VIEW

Rex Burwell

When the Liberal Arts division announced plans for a Coordinated Studies program, Rex Burwell wanted to be included. "I was up for it!" he says. So this fall he has joined four other faculty members* to offer the curriculum. Students in Coordinated Studies enroll in courses in five academic disciplines—all of which focus on a single theme. This fall's theme is *The Global Village*.

"Because the subjects are related and integrated, Coordinated Studies offers students a more holistic approach to learning," he says. "The students work to develop solutions to problems and learn firsthand how to cooperate with others. These skills are often missing in the typical classroom."

Burwell has been on the Harper faculty since 1984 and is proud of the College's reputation and faculty. "Harper is the best of all possible worlds for me," he says. "I get paid to do what I would do for free—talk and think about language, and write!"

After a burst of inspiration this summer, Burwell is "hammering away" on a comic/political novel and is getting close to the end of the first draft. "I find writing to be endlessly fascinating," he says. "But it can also be endlessly frustrating!"



Rex Burwell

Born: Malta, Montana

Education: B.A.-English, Northern Montana College; M.A.-English, University of California, Davis

Interests: Writing is my avocation, and I enjoy reading fiction, poetry, and non-fiction subjects such as history, politics and anthropology. I'm an omnivorous reader!

Best advice my parents gave me: Go to school.

If time and money were not a problem: I'd read, write and travel. I especially like the Latin American culture and would like to travel more in that area.

I don't care much for: TV

Favorite food: Strawberry shortcake

Last book read: *Libra*, a fictionalized account of the Kennedy assassination written by Don DeLillo

Favorite recent movie: *Thelma and Louise*

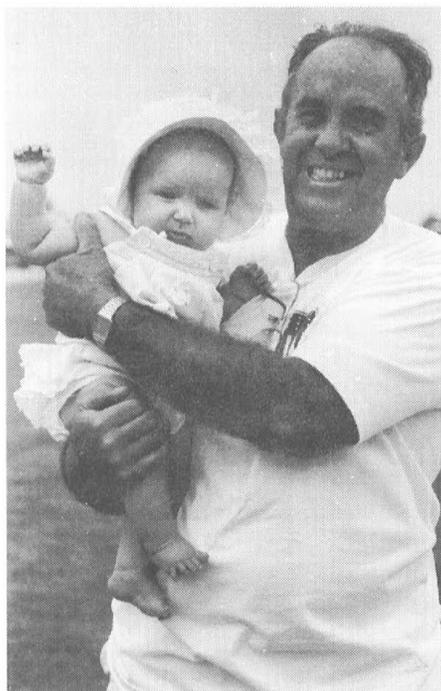
*Other faculty participating in the program are Randy Schietzelt, biology; Peggy Kazkaz, linguistics; Colleen Burns, philosophy; and John Clarke, psychology.

What a Picnic!

Our Silver Anniversary year got off to a great start with the successful kickoff picnic on August 23. A perfect menu combined with perfect weather and plenty of activities to create the fun—the result of good planning (and some praying!) by the picnic committee.

A big thanks goes to co-chairmen Amy Hauenstein, Mike Nejman, Bruce Bohrer and committee members Laura Adams, Jim Blasky, George Cwik, Judy Dincher, Chuck Gura, Kevin King, Pat Mulcrone, Lydia Omori, Mary Polniasek, Peg Smith, Linda Soto and Nimi Tobaa.

With background music provided by Harper's Steel Drum Band and Johnny Star and the Meteors, some picnic participants challenged one another to volleyball and softball while others lined up to pelt our good sports in the dunk tank. We thank Steve Catlin, Jon DeJonker, Bonnie Henry, Bill Howard, Roger Mussell,



The Silver Anniversary Picnic was a family affair for Lou Buchenot and his granddaughter, Colleen.

Jeanne Pankanin, Paul Thompson and Phil Troyer for lending their special humor to the festivities.

Our October Silver Anniversary celebration is an evening of dining and dancing at the Silver Anniversary Ball, to be held on October 31 at the Woodfield Hilton. Plan to be there!

Social Sciences Lab Opens

continued from page 1

will be purchased as money is available.

The concept of a social science lab is new to the Illinois community college system, said Clarke. "Traditionally speaking, a lab like this would more likely be found in a four-year school." Yet without a lab, the faculty was limited to teaching via lectures and discussions. "By developing a hands-on environment," he says, "we give our students actual exposure to the materials."

Johnson says that the credit for obtaining funding for the lab goes to the office of the vice president of Academic Affairs. He also credits the staff of the Physical Plant for its cooperation and speed in renovating the space. And while the lab is now functional, Johnson says it will take two to three years to purchase all the supplies and computer equipment needed for a first class laboratory environment.

Retirees' Corner

We send our best wishes to Sandy Manner on her retirement last month. Sandy joined the Harper staff part time in 1972, and in 1975 accepted her present position as secretary to the vice president of Academic Affairs. She and her husband, Charles, will move to Arkansas.

This month we heard from Jean C. Pearson, Harper's former Interior Design coordinator. Jean now lives in Sarasota, Florida, where she has been pursuing painting (and recently was honored in a one-woman art exhibit). She also has been active in ballroom dancing (especially Latin dancing!), tropical gardening, swimming, sailing and metaphysical studies. Thank you for writing, Jean, and for other retirees out there—keep those cards and letters coming!



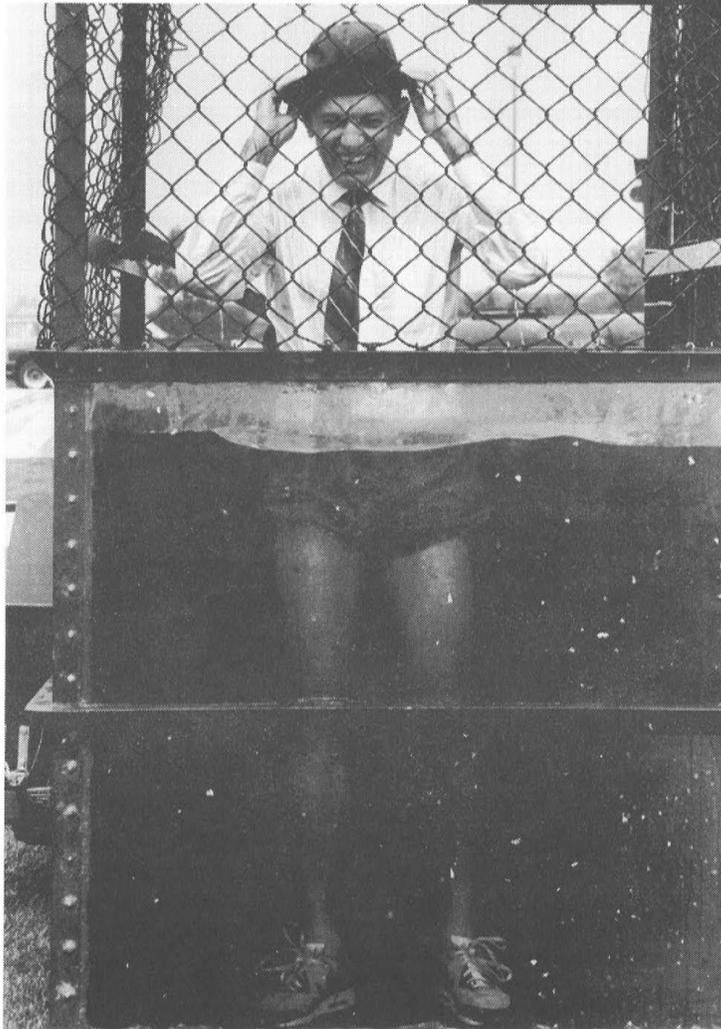
Sandy Manner



Johnny Star and the Meteors entertained the crowd during the Silver Anniversary Picnic on August 23. Student Activities Coordinator Michael Neiman served as M.C. for the event, which also featured the Harper Steel Drum Band...



Who are these people out of uniform?



...or partially out of uniform...

Inside Harper



People sprawled out as far as the eye could see.
(Nearly 1,000 attended the picnic.)



It was a big day for the kids in the crowd.



And a good time was had by all...
Or most anyway!

Departmental Developments

Congratulations are in order for members of the Harper faculty and staff! Internal Auditor **Ted Agresta** has been named as a Certified Internal Auditor by the Institute of Internal Auditors. To achieve this honor, Agresta had to meet qualifying requirements and pass a four-part examination. As a result of his outstanding exam score, he was also recognized as an honorable mention candidate...English Professor **Betty Hull** has been recognized in the 1992-1993 edition of *The World Who's Who of Women*...English instructor **Annie Davidovicz** has been appointed regional judge for the 1992 National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Awards in Writing. In its 35th year, the competition recognizes high school seniors for their excellence in writing.

We welcome the new staff members who have joined us this month. **Carl Dittburner** joins the TM/PS faculty; **Christine Vlahakis** will work as the AED Business-BASED coordinator and **Cheryl Thrash** as part-time secretary in AED; and **Lenetta Hartline**, part-time receptionist and **Nicholas Kobelja**, extension center supervisor-Northeast Center, join the OC/PS staff. Other new staff members include **Dana Schilakas**, part-time receptionist, STU DEV; **Jill Olson-Miller**, biology lab assistant, LS/HS; **Catherine Lossman**, area tutor coordinator, accounting and CIS, AE/LS; **Debra Sampson**, instructional specialist, CSD; and **Carla Drew**, clerk typist, BUS/SS. We also welcome back **Nelda Crittenden**, who is returning as a receptionist in the REG OFF, and **Stephanie Wooten-Austin**, who returns as lead interpreter, CSD.

Barbara Olson, STU DEV, joined Dean **Joan Kindle** to speak on "Using Computer Technology to Prescribe and Document Success Strategies for the At-Risk Student" during the Leadership 2000 Conference in July.

Promotions and transfers this month include **David Graham**, systems support technician, IS; **Barbara Bednarz**, administrative assistant, BUS/SS; **Peggy Greenquist**, clerk, shipping and receiving, BOOKSTORE; and **Renee Biscomb**, assessment coordinator, and **Pamela Chepil**, clerk typist, PEAR.

Karla Hill, PLG RES, and husband **Warren Hill**, PHY PLT, participated in the Buick Club of America's national competition this summer. Their car, a white 1963 Buick Skylark, took second place in its class.

Congratulations go to **Susan Schanowski**, LS/HS-CE, and husband, Mark, on the birth of their son, Eric John.

We send our best wishes for a speedy recovery to **Barbara Paez**, DIN SER. Barbara donated a kidney to her husband, Scott. Best of luck to both!

Our condolences go to **Becky Santeler**, HLTH SER, on the death of her mother, and to the families of **Linda Gould**, AE/LS, and **Robert Tysl**, former LIB ARTS faculty member.

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