'E-qual' Center involves total commitment of MSU resources

By PHILLIP E. MILLER
Associate Science Editor, News Bureau

Michigan State is not the first university to assemble teams, institutes or centers to attack environmental degradation. But it may be the first to marshal all of its main forces, in counsel, against such a foe.

That assemblage — a brain pool — is the Center for Environmental Quality, announced by President Clifton R. Wharton Jr. to the Board of Trustees Friday.

Approval of the Center followed extensive discussions among the academic deans, the director of the Center for Urban Affairs, and the vice president and assistant vice president in the Office of Research Development.

Official nod for the Center was given by the Administrative Group on Dec. 2.

Nine days later, then-Acting President Walter Adams transmitted information on the development of the Center to the trustees. In his letter, Adams said:

"THE ESTABLISHMENT of the Center takes its place in a long series of steps which reflect the concern of many faculty, the several departments, the colleges, the central administration, the students and the Board of Trustees in articulating the resources of the University as related to a concern for man and the enhancement of his environment.""

The new Center's Program and Policy Board will consist of deans. Its Interdisciplinary Teaching and Research Committee, with members designated by deans, will develop recommendations for new curricula in environmental quality. Any new academic programs will follow customary channels to the Academic Council.

The committee will also advise on establishing a system for information dissemination to faculty, students and off campus by means of seminars and colloquia.

Liaison between the policy board and the committee will be provided by committee chairman John Nellor, who (Continued on page 4)

Elected Council will consider two reports at first meeting

The elected Faculty Council will hold its first meeting of the 1969-70 year Tuesday at 3:35 p.m. in the Con Con Room of the International Center.

On the agenda is discussion of the ad hoc Committee on Trustee Relationships. The committee was formed in December of 1966 to study faculty-trustee relationships.

Since its formation, however, the committee has lost two of its five members, and the Council is expected to decide whether the committee should be reconstituted or disbanded. The original group included James Bonnen, professor of agricultural economics (chairman); Walter Adams; Walter Johnson, professor of administration and higher education; John Reineohl, professor of humanities; and Albert Rabin, professor of psychology.

Adams left the committee to become acting president and Johnson stepped down when he was elected to the Steering Committee.

Also on the agenda is a discussion of functioning of the Taylor Committee Report.

Meeting Thursday

Series focuses on urban environment

A campus-wide effort to involve faculty in a "massive frontal attack" on the problems facing the urban environment will be outlined Thursday at a luncheon sponsored by the Center for Urban Affairs.

The event, at 11:30 a.m. in Kellogg Center, kicks off the Urban Research Symposium, a planned series that will feature speakers from both on and off the campus who will describe a variety of research approaches to solving problems facing the urban environment.

The series will be "the first measure of our commitment to bring this University's resources together" in the campaign for urban quality, according to Lawrence W. Lexzote, research associate in the Center for Urban Affairs and associate professor of education.

Invited to the luncheon are about 100 faculty identified by their department chairman as having research interests related to urban environment.

Speakers will include President Clifton R. Wharton and Provost John E. Cantlon. Also scheduled to speak are Robert L. Green, assistant provost and director of the Center for Urban Affairs, and Joseph H. McMilton, director of Equal Opportunity Programs (EOP).

Both will present summaries of their programs, and Green will outline the Center's priorities for research support.

THE CENTER has already financed study projects in several colleges, Lexzote said, and it will continue to funnel a portion of its funds back into the University for further research.

Projects are now being supported in such areas as chemistry, education, social science, police administration and sociology. EOP is providing financial assistance to 107 graduate fellows in several departments.

Lexzote said that Thursday's meeting is intended to enlist more faculty in the effort against urban problems, mobilize them in an interdisciplinary approach and to outline efforts now underway on the campus.

The Center's purpose, he said, is to serve as a catalyst, "to list a program of action with the hope of getting more faculty involved.""

THAT ACTION focuses on race relations, poverty in the cities, urban decay, urban renewal and urban education.

"Our hope is for a team approach," Lexzote said. "We don't want faculty to homogenize along disciplinary lines."

He said that efforts by the Urban Affairs Center are in cooperation with programs under way and planned by the newly created Center for Environmental Quality.

Also on the agenda for Thursday's luncheon are plans for an all-University Urban Research Advisory Committee and discussion of the possibility of establishing closer departmental affiliation for EOP-supported graduate students.

Urban Center 'indispensable'

Efforts by the Center for Urban Affairs to coordinate research projects related to urban problems are supported, and at times interrelated, with other University programs.

John Nellor, assistant vice president for research development, said these efforts are "indispensable to the overall program" now being developed by the new Center for Environmental Quality.

The Center for Environmental Quality is concerned with an all-encompassing look at environmental problems — social, economic, managerial and individual as well as technical.

JAMES BUTCHER, assistant dean of the College of Natural Science, also spoke in favor of the Urban Affairs Projects.

(Continued on page 3)
ACE survey shows:

Freshmen high scholastically

MSU's freshman class tends to be more scholarly than the national norm of freshmen, according to survey results from the American Council on Education (ACE) Office of Research. Ninety-four per cent - or 6,504 - of the freshmen attending MSU fell term, 1969, participated in the test, administered by the University for the ACE.

Results showed that, compared to the national norm:
- 14.2 per cent more Michigan State freshmen than the same group of students listed themselves as currently being well-off financially (male percentage was 20 per cent higher here, owning their own business (also a 20 per cent increase), and contributing to scientific theory.
- But women were at least 10 per cent higher than MSU freshmen.
- More MSU freshmen plan to work toward master's degrees than the national norm - but only 2 per cent more.
- The breakdown for MSU freshmen: 36 per cent plan to obtain bachelor's degrees, 38 per cent plan to get master's degrees, and 26 per cent plan to complete doctoral degrees. Fourth per cent more men than women plan to obtain a doctorate.
- Scholarships, grants and other gifts are the major financial support for one-fourth of MSU freshmen - 7 per cent more than the national norm. Another fourth of freshmen here said their major source of financial support is personal savings or employment. But 60 per cent said the bulk of their financial aid comes from their parents or families.
- Sixty per cent of the MSU freshmen expressed "some concern" about financing their education; 20 per cent expressed no concern, and 10 per cent expressed "major concern." This is roughly comparable to the national norm.
- More than half of MSU's freshmen estimate their parental income at $10,000 to $19,999.
- "The survey also covered questions of interests, concerns and objectives, many in a sociological sense. This report on the MSU freshmen will be on the lower end of the list compared to similar reports here in the study showed a great deal of variety in the population that over one in five students would shift to liberal. "Strongly conservative" was the least preferred.
- There was also a wide difference between the stated religious background and the professing religious preference. Roman Catholic was the most frequently selected response for both groups. Perhaps most telling, 20 per cent less ranked in the top one-fourth of the sample; 26.1 per cent). "We rank in the top one-fourth of the sample; 26.1 per cent). "We rank in the top one-fourth of all policyholders.

Decrease applies to all policyholders

Faculty and staff enrolled in the University's Long Term Disability Income Plan have automatically received the newly announced rate reduction and continue to have the same coverage before; nothing further is required of them.

That assurance comes from Albert C. Chapman, the benefits supervisor, in response to questions raised regarding the recent open enrollment for disability insurance.

About 1,200 faculty and staff are already covered by the plan, he said. Chapman said the new rate reduction is possible because the insurer, Aetna Life and Casualty, has had fewer claims than anticipated from the MSU group. Normally, lower rates, effective Dec. 31, have been sent to all present policyholders.

Any open enrollment, which continues through Jan. 30, will be the last for an indefinite period, Chapman said. Since the disability plan is not subject to an annual enrollment period.

The freshmen: More scholarly?

By ELIZABETH HARRISON

Educational Development Program

What do MSU students say their problems are?

In a study designed and conducted under the supervision of the University's Learning Service, Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi (a doctoral candidate in psychology) asked about the worries of a sample of 365 MSU freshmen and sophomores.

He used the Money Problem Check List, a popular psychological device. It enumerates 330 problems grouped under 11 general headings, 30 to a heading; students are asked to check all items that seem relevant to their lives. Adjustment to college work received more checks from MSU students than any other area problem. The six most frequently checked problems here were: "Easily distracted from my work (checked by 56.6 per cent of the students), "unable to concentrate well" (44.5 per cent); "not spending enough time in study" (43.2 per cent); "worrying about examinations" (46.9 per cent); "afraid to speak up in class discussions" (45.7 per cent); "not knowing how to study effectively" (45.7 per cent).

OTHER PROBLEM areas heavily checked by freshmen men and women relate to social and recreational activities and personal psychological relations.

Problems with studies least frequently related to the quality of teachers and teaching, organization of courses and textbooks, campus life, etc., upon which freshmen most often noted problems were: "hard to study in living quarters" (checked by 33.8 per cent of the sample); "forced to take courses I don't like" (20.4 per cent); "dull classes" (26.3 per cent); too much work required in some courses" (25.1 per cent); "teachers lacking personality" (20.6 per cent).

ON THE AVERAGE, male students checked 401 problems and women 48.25. Beit-Hallahmi observes that these averages are "considerably higher" than those noted in the literature for similar groups of college students elsewhere. But he commends the "openness" Michigan State students show in accounting their problems.

Among Beit-Hallahmi's comments on the findings:

"A surprising number of students are apparently afraid to speak up in class discussions." He added less frequently: "Any group less frequently related to the quality of teachers and teaching, organization of courses and textbooks, campus life, etc., upon which freshmen most often noted problems were: "hard to study in living quarters" (checked by 33.8 per cent of the sample); "forced to take courses I don't like" (20.4 per cent); "dull classes" (26.3 per cent); too much work required in some courses" (25.1 per cent); "teachers lacking personality" (20.6 per cent).

Adapting to college work is No. 1 student concern

"-Many students complain that it is hard to study in dormitories (35.8 per cent). This is an interesting figure in view of the clamor for open dormitories, and if it is true of the general population that over one in three find it difficult to study in dormitories, it causes one to wonder how much learning is actually going on in living learning units."

"-When it comes to problems related to academic work, MSU underclassmen in this study showed a higher degree of readiness to 'take the blame.' They reported a number of problems regarding their own lack of preparation and study habits, but they were not critical of their teachers or of the University itself. They reported anxiety and worries related to academic work, but tended to internalize the blame for these."

 Copies of Beit-Hallahmi's report on his research may be obtained by calling 353-4697.
Overseas Office: An ‘ombudsman’ for faculty

Faculty preparing research proposals for projects in other countries, have their own ‘ombudsman’ for overseas assignments.

He is Charles (Bud) F. Doane Jr., director of the Overseas Support Office in International Programs. “When a faculty member comes into my office with a question,” Doane explains, “I try to find an answer for him.”

He adds that for some faculty, overseas research is a new experience. Doane tries to help a faculty member in proposing a project for funding and in preparing to leave on assignment.

“Many faculty don’t have any idea what to look for in an overseas research project,” Doane points out. “Our goal is to help the faculty member develop a proposal and can live with when he starts his project.

“So often faculty members come into my office with only an idea for a research project. I try to fill in the steps to bring the project about.”

AMONG SERVICES offered by the Overseas Support Office are:

-Processing faculty and dependents for overseas assignments. This includes payroll, personnel, staff benefits, medical examinations, inoculations, clearances and absence, legal papers, leave policy, allowances, schoolings, income tax, staff status, insurance, automobiles and packaging suggestions.

-Travel arrangements and details for an overseas assignment.

-Procurement of equipment and supplies for the project.

-Fiscal matters such as budget preparation, travel expenses, keeping, adjustments and reports.

-Physical facilities including office, equipment, supplies, office equipment, clerical staffing, communications, transportation and residential facilities arrangements.

-Coordinating benefits for foreign students who are studying at MSU as part of a project.

-Coordinating arrangements for official visitors.

-Working with the Business Office in the interpretation of project contracts.

**USIA seeking faculty speakers**

Faculty members traveling or studying overseas have been invited to participate in a Volunteer Speakers Service just established by the U.S. Information Agency.

Participants might be asked to take part in a seminar, a discussion or lecture program involving foreign scholars, or address foreign university audiences, according to a USIA announcement.

Faculty planners who travel abroad and who would be interested in more information can contact the Educational Support Branch, ICS, USIA, 1711 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20547.

* * *

**USIA**

BASICALLY, the Overseas Support Office provides two services: Consultation with faculty concerning proposals and preparation of proposals for overseas assignments; and a role with small overseas projects as a part-time administrator. Doane says he does not wish to work alone, and who looks for accomplished, energetic people. He would be interested in visits at other universities, or in proposing a project for funding and in preparing to leave on assignment.

Doane has also assisted the dean of International Programs in developing an administrative handbook which attempts to spell out regulations and procedures for faculty doing work overseas.

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**Lunchen Honor Mrs. Wharton**

Mrs. Clifton R. Wharton Jr. will be honored next Wednesday (Jan. 28) at a lunchen for all MSU women faculty and staff.

The event, sponsored by the Faculty Women’s Association, will be in Parlor C of the Administration Building, Michigan State University.

Paul Harder, professor of music, was elected to the Council of the College of Music Society at its national convention in Istanbul, Turkey.

Herbert J. Oyer, professor and chairman of audiologic and speech research, has been elected an associate fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology.

Harold Spaeth, professor of political science, has been elected to the board of the Council on Education. A book by Alvin E. Lewis, professor of political science, has been published in Spanish by Compania Editorial Centro-American.

JAMES O. Wheeler, associate professor of geography, is co-author of an article in a recent issue of the Association of American Geographers.

Linda Wagner, associate professor of English, is the author of essays in Studies in Contemporary Literature and in the South Dakota Review. She has also lectured recently at Bowling Green University.

Francis M. Donahue, professor of religion, led a group of 72 persons on a study tour of monasteries, theological seminars, churches and Patriarchates in Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania, Istanbul and the Soviet Union.

John H. Wakeley, associate professor of psychology, has been elected an associate fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology. Harold Spaeth, professor of political science, has been elected to the board of the Michigan Conference of Political Scientists for 1969-70.

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A proposal from the Academic Senate and the Academic Senate Secretary, A. T. Hildreth, to extend the purview of the University Committee on Business Affairs was tabled at the Board of Trustees meeting Friday.

The proposal was tabled because board members said they wanted to hear from Prof. Robert Little, chief of the business affairs committee.

The proposal would amend the faculty by-laws, section 5.4.9.2, to read:

"The University Committee on Business Affairs shall examine and evaluate policies within the service functions and business operations of each university department, especially academic and research aspects of the University."

The committee is now restricted from consideration of allocation of financial resources.

Although Provost John Cantlon and Academic Vice President for Business and Finance Roger Wilkinson emphasized that the committee is an advisory and non-decision-making body to the faculty trustees, particularly Warren Huff, were concerned the committee would have too much power to administer allocation of funds. Huff said the bylaw amendment would create a "monopoly." Cantlon was a member of the business affairs committee before his appointment as provost. Wilkinson, an ex-officio officer, promised to present the proposal to the board "with some reluctance and some concern."

In other action, the board:

- Established the position of vice president for research and development.
- Agreement to a name change will be known as the Office of Research and Development.
- Accepted the resignation of Carl W. Hall, assistant professor and chairman of agricultural engineering, effective March 31. Hall is going to Washington State University.
- Name the new flowers garden adjacent to the International Center for ornithine fermentation; H. L. Sadoff, microbiology and public health, $32,335 from NIH, 4-year mechanism.$12,000 in bacterial endotoxins; Paul O. Fromm, physiology, $4,269 from NIH, for comparative study of bacterial and non-bacterial reuters; and R. N. Hatch, Institute for International Studies in Education, $47,471 from Midwest University Consortium for International Activities, Inc., for evaluation of secondary education in Thailand.
- Authorized a grant of $10,000 to L. D. Vincent, Department of Zoology, to investigate independent sources of higher education in the Philippines, Schmid, agricultural economics, $3,000 from U.S. Department of Agriculture Council, to determine standards, criteria, and procedures for water pollution studies and development and management; B. F. Cz觍, agricultural economics, $1,930 from National Pickle Growers Association, Inc., for performance of picking studies; Evertt Everson, crop and soil science, $5,015.65 from Michigan Crop Improvement Association, to develop new varieties of wheat; M. W. Adams, crop and soil science, $6,969 from Michigan Crop Improvement Association, to develop breeding of improved bean varieties; and J. R. Beard, crop and soil science, $1,000 from Michigan State Highway Commission, to study improved sunflower seeds and sand ministration of rapid vegetative establishment on roadsides.
- Grants were awarded to: Ralph Turner and Vernon E. Rick, police administration and academic rehabilitation, Michigan State Police to develop practical field test to identify individuals; J. L. Phillips, Computer Institute for Social Science Research, $4,200, to test and extend theory of conflict and cooperation in interdependent situations for the Ecological Man Project.
- Other grants went to: Louis J. Best, dairy, $3,500 from North Central Breeders Research Council for continuation of use of control research in progress; T. J. Hildebrand, food science, $3,639, Environ Corporation to study artificial intelligence and packaging of dairy products in plastic coating containers; R. C. Henke, horticulture, $4,000, American Seed Research Foundation for studies on weed control and seedling growth in cold temperatures among cold hardy plants; W. J. Stump, engineering research, $4,260 from Department of Agriculture, Office of Science and Research for measurement of various forms of animal life and investigation of brain states through studies of electronocardiogram; and Olaf Mickelson, foods and nutrition, $27,481 from National Institute of Health and Human Development to study physiological effects of dairy products for heart disease and performance.

Gifts, grants support variety of faculty research projects

Gifts and grants totaling $999,735 - mainly for special projects - were approved Friday (Jan. 16) by the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University.

Gordon E. Geyer, professor and chairman of the entomology department, will conduct research into the effects of pesticides on the environment with a continuation a grant of $178,507 from the National Institute of Health.

An institutional grant of $102,811 from the National Science Foundation will be used to support a broad program of scientific research and educational programs in the sciences. The grant will be administered under the direction of Milton E. Muelder, dean of the School for Advanced Graduate Studies and Research Development.

The trustees also accepted two grants from the Michigan Department of Social Services, for $75,516 and $33,879, to support undergraduate and graduate students in social work.

Robert Little, chairman of the Board of Trustees, said he was a member of the Michigan Board of Education, but that this was the first time he had told Democratic party leaders that he will not seek reelection to the board. He said he would announce his intentions this spring or summer, and that anyone speaking for him at any time on this matter is doing so without his authority.

Board approves a name change

The School of Police Administration and the School of Criminal Justice will be known as the School of Criminal Justice as of July 1. The change, approved Friday by the Board of Trustees, had been sought by students in the school to reflect the broad range of interests in the curriculum.

Graduates are prepared for such areas as crime prevention, police work, prosecution, the court system, probation and parole, criminal justice, correctional institutional management, airline security and traffic safety.

"E'qual Center"

(Continued from page 1)

In assistant vice president for research development.

Milton E. Muelder, vice president for research development, said that some changes in regulations to provide for:

- Travel to Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico (by the amount as travel to the continental states);
- Changes in regulations on all University research to permit travel for the research if the request is itemized in the research proposal;
- Authorization to the Provost's Office to set aside $5,000 from the Provost's Contingency Fund to finance or supplement grant financing of overseas travel for research, study or participation in international meetings;
- Authorization of colleges and/or departments to use fellowship allowances for overseas travel.

A SCHOLARSHIP plan for graduate assistants was approved, providing for:

- Scholarships of $53 a term for quarter-time assistants, $66 for half-time assistants, and $99 for three-quarter time assistants;
- Graduate assistants continuing to pay resident fees, with the scholarships being applied to those fees and allowing that some students to keep their scholarships.
- Creation of a scholarship fund from the general fund, Experiment Station overhead funds and other appropriate funds, each contributing an equal amount to the scholarships given through the same accounts.

Cantlon said he planned to increase the scholarships over a three-year period until they reach the equivalent of the average fees paid by half-time assistants.

* * *

AFTER A stormy 2 1/2-hour session, the board approved the appointment of Donald D. O'Dowd as chancellor of Oakland University, effective Feb. 1. O'Dowd is serving as professor of psychology, provost, dean of graduate studies and chair of the English department.

Don Stevens, chairman of the board, issued a statement denying reports in the Detroit News that he had told Democratic party leaders that he will not seek reelection to the board. He said he was going to Washington State College.

He said he would announce his intentions this spring or summer, and that anyone speaking for him at any time on this matter is doing so without his authority.

"E'qual Center"

A two-day seminar on the use of the CDC 6500 computer language programming package OFF OMA will be offered today and Wednesday at 4 p.m. in 402 Computer Center.

The sessions will not attempt to teach computer programming or the theory of linear programming. It is offered by the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Computer Laboratory.

"E'qual Center"

A FOUR-WEEK SERIES of non-credit sessions will be offered in 402 Computer Center. The program on the CDC 3600 computer will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning today in the Computer Center.

There is no registration fee. Those interested in the course in 402 Computer Center, deals with data compilation. Thursday's topic, also in 402 Computer Center, is spaced statistics. Subsequent sessions, which continue through Feb. 12, will be in 313 Computer Center.

Complete schedules are available in 320 Computer Center or by calling 353-7899.

Seminars to assist computer users

ENTHUSIASM for the new Center has been running high among faculty and students. A Faculty-Student Liaison Committee will coordinate student interests into total University programs. Representatives from two student groups, E-Qual and Scope, are already working with the faculty - student committee.

William H. Kneissl, director of the Institute for Social and Medical Sciences, said, "The new Center for Environmental Quality will provide an organization in which the University can better coordinate and broaden efforts of the MSU staff from a number of areas." The Center for Urban Affairs, Robert L. Green, said that "the Center for Urban Affairs is committed to do a better job in the Center for Environmental Quality."