Saving Sanford

Botanist John H. Beaman (above) is concerned that human progress threatens the future of the Sanford Natural Area as a teaching and research facility for the campus. See story, page 4.

Income tax for East Lansing?

By BEVERLY TWITCHELL
Associate Editor, Faculty News

The question of an East Lansing municipal income tax, which aroused controversy early this year, is still under study by the East Lansing city manager's office.

The study, conducted by Assistant City Manager Bill Costick, will "try to pull out sufficient statistics to indicate who is going to benefit and lose with the adoption of an income tax and an offsetting decrease of the property tax," according to East Lansing Mayor Gordon L. Thomas. He is also assistant dean and professor of communication arts.

"If we can't demonstrate (an improvement in) equity, then I guess we're not interested," Thomas said.

The City Council has discussed an income tax since the City Income Tax Act was adopted by the State Legislature in 1964, Thomas said. Serious talks began last fall, and public hearings were held in January, 1970. He said the hearings produced questions that the council could not answer.

The income tax question was then postponed because of "some serious doubts" by the council," Thomas said. ***

THE NEED for further study was suggested by Milton C. Taylor, professor of economics, in a memorandum to the City Council in February.

Taylor said the study would provide "a much better insight into those who will gain from the combination of a property tax reduction and the adoption of an income tax as compared to those who will bear higher tax burdens."

"Illustrative of the need for research is some material... prepared by a citizen of East Lansing, which leaves the basic implication that most people will suffer if an income tax is adopted, but a handful of large enterprises will gain," Taylor wrote. "If the tax value of the property tax reduction is equal to the tax value of the adoption of an income tax, obviously there will be a trade-off, and it is precisely the benefit - cost of this trade-off..."

(Continued on page 4)

Permits due

The 1969-70 parking permits have expired, and new permits are required for all faculty and staff. Although nearly all persons have been issued new stickers and gate cards, those who do not have 1970-71 permits can get them in Quanrant 103.

A-P salary system in effect

The new salary increase plan for administrative - professional employees - effective July 1 - will provide merit or step raises for most A-P people on the anniversary date of their employment.

Exceptions would be persons who, since July 1, receive a transfer or promotion (with a salary increase) or who take a leave of absence (without pay) longer than 30 days. Any transfers, promotions or leaves prior to July 1, 1970, have no bearing on the anniversary date.

This means, for example, that a person at the A-P - III level who was first employed full time by MSU last Oct. 1 would be eligible for his merit increase of $790 this Oct. 1.

If he receives a promotion with salary increase next Feb. 1, then his annual date of merit raise eligibility will be Feb. 1 thereafter until he has a further change in status.

If the same A-P - III is at the salary ceiling of his level ($12,240), then he would not receive the merit increase, unless he is reclassified to a higher level.

Gerald F. O'Connor, assistant director of personnel, said that his office so far has not received a high number of reclassification requests because of the new A-P salary system.

He said that the system is not designed "to reclassify only those at the top of the salary scale." Any reclassifications, he added, must be justified by increased duties and responsibilities in a person's job.

O'Connor noted that whenever a general salary adjustment is granted (as was the case this year), adjustments are made in A-P salary ranges. This year, the general salary increase for A-P employees was 5 per cent, so the salary ranges in each level were raised 5 per cent.

William D. Kenney, president of the A-P Association and an assistant director of financial aids, said his group hopes to initiate an exploratory study of the whole A-P system.

Other goals of the association will be outlined at a general meeting of the group at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Killog Center Auditorium. It is open to all A-P staff, including nonmembers of the association.
Center celebrates its 25th birthday

By GENE RITFORD

When it opened its doors in 1946, the MSU Counseling Center found a student clientele heavily populated by returning World War II veterans. Older and more mature than the usual undergraduates, and primarily seeking help in educational and personal matters, they were at the center's doors.

Today, that wave of veterans is long past, and the Counseling Center, celebrating its 25th year, serves an MSU student population that is much larger and generally younger. But the concerns of today's students aren't all that changed from those of a quarter-century ago.

The 1970 student faces a more complex environment--an unpopular war, the increasing presence of drugs and an easing of sexual codes--but his academic and personal problems are much the same. "Student problems still result basically from home and family relationships, from uncertainty over career plans and from the need for peer group acceptance," he says.

Pierson observes that among students today there is a feeling of "more openness in seeking professional help. And as the quality of our clientele has grown, so has the size of our clientele."

While student unrest has heightened in recent years, both Pierson and Erlandson point out that most of the "violent minority" aren't likely to seek any counseling through the center.

"They don't feel they need any help," Pierson says, "because they seem to be satisfied with what they are doing. The ones who come to us are the ones who have doubts about themselves or about what they're doing."

The Counseling Center celebrates its 25th birthday this week during a "share-in" anniversary event in the center.

The "share-in" includes Dorothy R. Ross, F. Moore, Rowland R. Pierson and Ross W. Matteson.

Major speakers for the event will be:

Paul T. King, director of the Counseling Center, University of Missouri; and John L. Lee Erlandson, director of the Counseling Center. Both King and Ross are among seven "alumni" of the MSU center who now head centers at other schools.

NO FIGURES are available on the number of students who visited the Counseling Center during its first seven years, but the total has grown from about 7,000 in 1953-54 to more than 15,000 last year.

Its activities have expanded accordingly in the 25 years. And although students still seek educational-vocational counseling, their need for social and personal advising has greatly increased.

There is even more concern today among students for "student-parent relationships," notes Erlandson, a professor in the center.

"Young people today don't seek identity in occupational roles as they once did. They seek more personal identity."

Dorothy Ross, associate professor and a member of the center since 1949, says, "The living-learning units and the new small colleges."

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The Counseling Center's "charity" staff: From left, Gwendolyn Norrell, Beatrice F. Moore, Rowland R. Pierson and Ross W. Matteson.

Photo by Dick Wesley

Lecture set

Prof. H. Stanley Loten of the architecture department at the University of Pennsylvania will present an illustrated lecture, "Maja Temple Architecture at Tikal, Guatemala" Thursday at 8 p.m. in the main gallery of Kresge Art Center.

The lecture is sponsored by the Central Michigan Society of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Two views of the campus, 1970

At the recent state meeting of the State Bar of Michigan in Detroit, two guest speakers--Julian Bond and U.S. Sen. Sam J. Ervin--aimed some of their comments at American higher education. Bond is the young black state legislator from Georgia who has visited this campus, and Ervin is a Democratic senator from North Carolina. Excerpts from their remarks follow.

Julian Bond:

"... We (black people) are in bad shape. We live and work in situations provided for by the majority, not by us. We exist at the pleasure and suffrance of the American majority, and the evidence is mounting that that existence itself may soon be called into question...

"The traditional coaltions of black people, labor, the more enlightened church leadership, the health-care and education lobbies and the old, reform-oriented organizations that saw that the demand of the early '60's...

"The hope-for coalition with white college students has failed to materialize, as far too many of this group have shown more interest in music, drugs, the romantic rhetoric of revolution and the enabling sacrifice of self- enforced poverty than in the very real problems of existence that afflict most black people in this country...

"... At a time when our community seems about to draw together an alliance of cultural nationalists and political activists, of poverty workers and poverty lifters, of foot- washing Baptists and the nation of Islam, we cannot afford a Woodstock in a college environment-an unpopular war, the increasing presence of drugs and an easing of sexual codes-but his academic and personal problems are much the same."

Sam Ervin:

"Our country cannot tolerate the violent disruption of the educational process on the campuses... Besides, it need not do so, the administrators of these institutions and the state officers charged with the duty to administer criminal justice have ample authority to put an end to violence on the campuses.

"To accomplish this, they must do these things:

"1. Administrative bodies of institutions of higher learning must recognize the rights of students to petition for a redress of grievances. This being so, they must keep the lines of communication open and receive and consider any recommendations for changes in curriculum or management recommended to them by students acting peaceably and courteously. In addition, they must be willing to accept and implement and proposed curricula which impinge upon the administration of the institutions or the quality of the instruction they afford.

"2. Administrators of our institutions of learning must make it plain that the institutions are not going to be havens for the indolent or places of correction for the incorrigible. Besides, they must not appease students who commit violent crimes or seek to obtain for them immunity from prosecution and punishment. Furthermore, they must safeguard the right of students desirous of pursuing an education in an atmosphere of peace by expelling those who seek to disrupt by violent methods the educational process.

"3. State officers charged with responsibility for administering criminal justice must prosecute and adequately punish students who commit violent crimes on campuses.

"After all, the first duty of a free society is to enforce law and thus maintain order. This is so because disorder denies to the people the right to enjoy their freedoms."

"I cannot agree with those who would destroy the very educational process on the campuses.
How to sail the academic seas

"The person selected as captain of this little boat used to be third officer on an ocean liner. He doesn't know very much about navigating a small boat, but he does his best.

"THIS PARTICULAR boat left New York about the time of the annual natural equinox, the time of the two mighty hurricanes - and it really ran into them as it moved out toward the Gulf Stream with its one-or-two-man crew. Somehow, by good luck and good grace - with a little help here and there from such sources as the Kellogg Foundation and the University general fund, plus input from the many colleges on the coast and a dedicated faculty not yet ready to part of our college - we made it - we got out beyond the storm.

"The boat grew a little in size; its crew expanded, and finally, the stormy hurricanes and winds evolved into the tradewinds which are now sustained by the generosity of the State Legislature and the federal government. The basic force of these winds comes from the legislature, and they are seemingly very favourable at the present time.

"The strongest current increases of these winds came from the federal government and are less predictable now... (So) we may slow down a little because we don't get the extra push from the federal government we had in the past.

"The boat now seems to be about a 78-foot, two-masted schooner with a good diesel engine and enough fuel, to make it two-thirds of the way to the Canary Islands. (H) It will make if the winds keep blowing in a favorable fashion.

"The Canary Islands are a small point on the world surface. It requires a certain amount of navigational skill in order to achieve this objective. We are now in the Gulf Stream, winds are favorable, and most of the fishing and shopping along the bow wave are handson... (sail and fly fish). There are some sharks lurking, but they're not big enough to worry us; if we fall overboard, it's our fault."

Student participation: Another try

A three-man committee is expected to be appointed at today's Academic Council meeting to review the report on the reorganization of MSU Government (known as the McKee Report).

Hirota Kumata, professor of communication and member of the Steering Committee of the Faculty, said his steering committee will recommend the three persons for the committee. He said the group will look at contradictions in the report, consider all points of view and report back to the Council on Nov. 3.

The Council would then expedite provisions in the report, Kumata said, so it can be considered at the Nov. 17 Academic Council meeting.

Kumata said the steering committee prefers that the new committee not include anyone clearly identified as a vigorous supporter or an opponent of the document - thus disqualifying James B. McKee, professor of sociology and chairman of the committee that wrote the report last year, and Charles C. Killingsworth, University professor of labor relations, both of whom are opposed to the report in both the Council and Senate.

The McKee report in this year's deliberations. It originated in 1969 with a committee chaired by Bernard Pray, former president of the University. Debate in the Academic Council in the fall of 1969 resulted in the creation of the McKee Committee, which reviewed and revised the original document.

The McKee Report was first presented to the Council in February, this year. From then until March, it headlined the Council agenda, involving at least five meetings, including four committee sessions totaling nearly 12 hours of discussion.

The report was finally approved by the Council, and on May 15 bylaw amendments to implement the report were approved.

But the Senate on June 3 rejected the McKee Report by a vote of 427 to 111. A resolution was approved endorsing the resolution of the Committee and, the Senate returned the report to the Council for reconsideration and clarification, with a target date of Jan. 1970. For the moment, the increased student involvement in academic governance.

THE MCKEE Report would have made significant numerical changes in the composition of the Academic Council and of the University standing committees.

Voting membership of the Council now includes 56 elected faculty representatives, the steering committee the 18 appointed members (deans). The university may vote in committee. The Council members include the president, three non-voting students, and 15 ex officio members (administrators and standing committee chairman).

The McKee Report would have added 31 voting student members (instead of the current three non-voting members), including 10 minority representation. The 15 ex officio members also would have gained voting privileges.

Elected faculty currently have a voting majority (56-24). Approval of the McKee Report would have given the student - appointee - ex officio group a majority (75-46) over elected faculty.

Council agenda...

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responsibility as a result cannot be defined as an "emergency" under the Code of Teaching Responsibility. The committee views the policy approved by the EPC in 1965. (That code further states that in the absence, consultation, or any other reason the instructor must notify the department chairperson that if the instructor is unable - may be called.

The EPC statement says that if the instructor is called, because of "death, illness, leave of absence, consultation, or any other reason" to meet an obligation to provide the students for the instruction for which they enrolled," the department is responsible for providing the students with the "satisfactory fulfillment of the contract..."

6. The term "services" in the resolution following the premises shall be defined as instruction and advisement, research, administration and public service.

The resolution adopted by the EPC and approved in principle by the trustees states: "Any member of the instructional staff who fails to fulfill any provision of the approved Code of Teaching Responsibility by reason of illness or caprice shall be held accountable. The University will not make payment of wages and salaries to a person, who by his reason of such disinclination chooses to withhold any of the services for which he or she is employed."

The EPC further recommends that the proposed University Committee on Faculty Compensation and Academic Freedom define faculty responsibility and local and develop procedures relating to abrogation of responsibility, including hearing procedures. The committee would also present its recommendations through regular academic channels.

Tuesday, Oct. 6 - 7 p.m. "Presidential Forum" First in a new series featuring President Wharton in an examination of campus issues and activities. (FM)

Friday, Oct. 9 - 9 p.m. "Assignment 30" Visits Lansing's City Rescue Mission and to East Lansing's The Raft.

Sunday, Oct. 11 - 3:30 p.m. "NET Festival" A filmed look at the late George Stebb, a living legend. (FM). "Black Journal" The concept of the "urban stream" is shown in the Sidcot style of karate.

UKAR

Wednesday, Oct. 7 - 10 a.m. "Radio Smithsonian" John Mayo discusses public broadcasting and the future of... (FM); "Detecting American Culture?" Dick Caven, Chevalier, 699 Room of the International Center.

Thursday, Oct. 8 - 11 a.m. "The Concept of the "Urban Stream"" is shown in the Sidcot style of karate.

MSU News

MSU Faculty News, Oct. 6, 1970

The Faculty News has moved to Rooms 323 and 324 in Linton Hall. The telephone numbers are 315-2280 (Gene Rietfors) and 315-3-5302 (Bevich Sorry). The phone system is still incomplete, so if there is no answer at these numbers, please call 353-0820.
Preserving the 'irreplaceable'

Few campuses can claim forests in their midst such as the Sanford Natural Area that follows the Red Cedar River from Hagadorn Road west to Bogge Street, just north of Holmes, McDowell, Owen and Van Hoosen Halls. Yet it is this proximity to civilization that may be the area's demise, warns John H. Beaman, professor of botany and plant pathology and curator of the Beal-Darlington Herbarium.

The Sanford area's "scientific legacy, utility and potential are not immediately evident to the layman," Beaman says. But he points out that an outdoor classroom the area is extremely valuable, containing more than 350 identified plant species. Some of the trees in the area are more than 200 years old. The largest, a stately sugar maple, measures 37 inches in diameter and is an estimated 250 years old.

But Beaman's main concern is for the variety of species in the area. "Nine species formerly present have been lost," he says, "in large part because a major habitat was destroyed by building construction." Now the major threat is the foot traffic from nearby housing complexes.

Writing in recent issue of The Michigan Botanist, Beaman urges that "a very substantial fence, with an entrance only on the west side, would seem the best solution for reducing unnecessary traffic. The present low fence with six gates (four on the south side) is entirely ineffective. Some of the new trails have actually developed from the gate locations."

He calls Sanford Natural Area "an irreplaceable resource worth every effort and expense to preserve. ... If indeed it can be saved, it could become an outstanding case history on the conservation of a natural area in the face of steadily increasing population pressures."

East Lansing weighs tax . . .

"(Its) very convenience poses the greatest threat to Sanford as a natural area, for in recent years its periphery has been a choice residence hall building site. With the greatly increased student population, we have seen a change and abuses which may ultimately destroy unless effective protective measures are instituted."

"Sanford) also serves as a pleasant buffer between the campus and the apartment and business district to the north."

"We are currently faced with the problem of preventing further environmental deterioration which would increase the number of weeds and eliminate the precious small populations of native species of limited ecological tolerance."

Photos by Dick Wesley

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... off that needs to be determined."

To determine the real impact of an income tax, Taylor said, relevant groups should be categorized, such as resident homeowners; owners or operators of commercial businesses; renters; apartment house owners; and nonresident students, faculty and staff of MSU.

COSTICK HAS analyzed the property tax rolls, classifying property by groups - such as residential, commercial and multiple dwelling - to show the percentage of total valuation for each group. He said he will also classify single dwelling by levels of assessment to determine the distribution of real estate wealth.

Much of Costick's data had already been collected in a 1968 city manager's report to the council. Now, he said, he is building on that report and analyzing the data. Since the purpose of an income tax in East Lansing would be to achieve greater equity - easing the tax burden on low-income groups and raising it for upper-income groups - Costick said that particular attention must be given to apartment owners who "could avoid the income tax by using accelerated depreciation."

Under internal revenue laws, much of the profit from an apartment can be written off at accelerated depreciation. If apartment owners get such an income tax break, Costick said, the question becomes one of where this revenue will be recouped.

He has asked for information from other Michigan cities with income taxes and plans to use that data, including information on their experiences with apartments, in his analysis.

SOME OF the data Costick needs will be in the new census data, and preliminary census population figures reveal some discrepancy between what East Lansing thought it had and what the 1970 census shows.

City officials had estimated a population of about 58,000 Costick said, and the preliminary census figures (which Costick said may be considered final) indicate a figure of only about 47,000.

Reasons for the discrepancy may be that the East Lansing estimate counted full term enrollment of MSU, generally the highest of the year, while the official census was taken in the spring.

Also, some students may not have filled out the census form, Costick said, and city officials found that they had counted apartments already on the assessment list but not yet built. "It is likely that there was error on either side," he added.

Census figures relate to the income tax question because they contain information on per capita exemptions, Costick said. There is also the question of shared taxes, based on population, which would add to the city's revenues.

A 1962 economic base study of East Lansing by the planning commission estimated that 43 per cent of city's work force was employed by MSU. Costick said there is no reason to believe there has been drastic change in that figure.

Payroll data from the University did not include information on residence, so that has had to be estimated, probably to be based on the 1962 report. MSU divides its payroll list into groups - graduate assistants, faculty, labor and other students - with income listed.

Costick expects to complete his report by early December, when the income tax question will again be discussed by the City Council.