

Were Gone . . .

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Computer facilities get moved, upgraded

Written by Randy Mack

Researched by Bill Evans

Next time you go to write a paper, you may be surprised by Clark's computer labs. For starters, you may not be able to find the one you want. And if you do, you may be amazed by the changes: the Office of Information Systems (OIS) and the College of Professional and Continuing Education (COPACE) have used to summer to upgrade their computer facilities.

A breakdown of the changes:

- The computer lab in Jonas Clark 105 is now a COPACE lab. It is for instructional use by professors only. It is currently equipped with 12 Gateway 2000s running at 133mzh, and Vic Berzins, Consultant to the OIS, said that Macintoshes might be added.

- Jonas Clark 103 is the other COPACE lab. It is equipped with 15 Gateway 2000s running at 133mzh, and 15 PowerMacintoshes with PC cards (enabling them to run DOS and Windows like an IBM-compatible). Both COPACE labs have one black-and-white laser printer and one color inkjet printer.

- The general purpose lab in Carlson 024 is still there. It is now equipped with 15 PowerMacintosh 7200/120s, upgraded to 24 MBs of RAM apiece, 5 Pentium-powered IBM clones, and 10 486 IBM clones.

- Jonas Clark 101 has been converted into a general purpose lab. It has 15 133mzh Gateway 2000s, and 15 PowerMac 7200/120s (upgraded). Both general purpose labs will have laser printers.

- Two "multimedia classrooms" have been built in Jonas Clark. One is in JC120 and the other is one floor up in JC220. The classrooms were designed by Media Services co-Manager Will Burdette. The rooms are equipped with VHS and laserdisk players, a stereo system, and a data projector that displays from a variety of media including computers. It does not yet have a computer in the room itself, although Burdette said one day "Media Services may have Powerbooks,[Macintosh's portable computer], available for checkout." As we went to press, neither room was ready for use. "They will definitely be ready for [use this] Fall," said Burdette. The rooms are for faculty instructional use only.

The LC IIs which used to haunt the general purpose labs are gone. Of the 39 machines left homeless, about 20 of them will be moved into the Goddard library to be made into word-processing stations. It is possible that OIS will sell the remaining units.

When asked if the dramatic increase in IBM-style machines was the beginning of a transition away from a Macintosh-based computer environment, Berzins and Computer Lab Manager Jason Poskanzer said no.

Computer Advisory Committee member Bill Evans remarked on the new lab equipment, "In one semester, we went from Tonka trucks to monster trucks." It's a metaphor... •

[Sources: Vic Berzins, Jason Poskanzer, Will Burdette, Joanne Demoura, Zeid Derhally, David Joyce]

'Poking Ghost' of Wright Hall still at large

by Mike Schemaille

The "Poking Ghost" of Wright Hall is still at large, according to the several members of Clark University who have reported macabre encounters over the summer.

"Only a few people have actually seen it," said junior Jonathan Hoag on the ghost. Hoag lived on Wright's second floor during the summer, and claims to have had several encounters with the ghost.

"The first time I saw it, I was in the shower. I felt a presence on the other side of the curtain, and I peeked my head out to take a look. What I saw made me drop my soap."

Hoag described the misty apparition as clad in swim fins and other snorkeling gear, and wearing a pair of loud, floral swim trunks.

"I reached out to see what it was, and my hand went right through it. It poked me with its snorkel and vanished with an irritated look on its face," said Hoag.

He also described several other encounters with the ghost, apparently capable of changing shape. In these

encounters, the ghost has variously been a nun, a clown, and President Traina. In each of these encounters, the ghost reportedly poked Hoag with various objects before disappearing.

Melissa Flaxenbyork, a senior and former third floor resident of Wright, also reported experiences with the ghost. "A lot of people have heard the ghost," she said, "But I've actually seen it." Flaxenbyork said the ghost appeared to her in the guise of a Norfin troll, and that it poked her with stiff, pointed hair.

Most of the other residents who claim to have seen the ghost refuse to be interviewed, and details are sketchy. A few things are known, though.

The ghost appears mainly in Wright's west wing, and a review of historical records shows that the hall was built over an Indian burial ground. The burial ground belonged to the Fugawi tribe, renowned for their annoying nature and incredible stupidity.

Anyone who has seen or has information on the Poking Ghost is urged to have a stiff drink and contact the offices of this publication. •

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER "VACATION":
A SERIES OF ARTICLES THAT LOOK INTO THE PEOPLE,
PLACES, AND PANDEMONIUM OF THE 'SLOW SEASON'

New Dean of Students selected after 'hurried' search

Written by Randy Mack

Researched by Bill Evans

Denise Darrigrand took office as Clark's fourth Dean of Students in six years on Monday, August 19. The previous Dean, Catherine Maddox-Wiley, announced her resignation toward the end of last Spring. The summer was spent by the Administration reviewing candidates and choosing the replacement. A Search Committee was formed, with the ultimate goal of making a recommendation to President Traina, whose decision it ultimately was.

Chair of the Search Committee (and acting Dean of the College) Paul Ropp said, "I feel very good about the search. The [Search] Committee worked very hard and very well together," although he did admit that they were "in a big hurry" to find someone. All told, the process took less than eight weeks.

The process went as follows:

First a search committee, consisting of two administrators, two faculty members, two students, and a Chair, went to work. The Search Committee was:

- Paul Ropp (Chair), acting Dean of the College
- Harold Wingood, Director of Admissions
- Linda Nulton, Athletic Director
- Nancy Budwig, Psychology
- Debbie Marrel, Sociology
- Chris Condon, President of StudCo
- Marci Henderson, Sagittarius

Sharon Krefitz, the Dean of the College, also assisted until she left Clark for her sabbatical.

Each individual member of the SearchCom read the 200 or so resumes Clark received. As they read, each member ranked the resume in question and labeled it one of three categories:

- #1= Best ("Call references")
- #2= Average ("Could do worse")
- #3= Worst ("Nah")

When they were finished, they reconvened to compare ratings. The field was narrowed down dramatically by only allowing candidates who received at least 5 #1s to advance to the next stage. From the 200, only a dozen or so candidates remained. [note: reports differ mildly, ranging from 11 to 16]

Ropp personally held brief discussions with each candidate to make sure they were still interested, and to notify them that their references were going to be checked.

The candidates were then reviewed and discussed by the SearchCom members, and their references were contacted. After sorting through the information on the semi-finalists, five were invited to Clark to interview. Clark paid for their plane ride, ground transportation costs, and one night at the Beechwood Inn. No current employee of Clark made it to become a finalist.

After arriving at Clark, the five candidates were then put through an impressively grueling two-day "meeting marathon," in which they met with every Chief, Dean and Director in the higher side of the Administration, and then some. [see sample schedule, right]

One of the meetings candidates attended was with "group of students." Among the students who attended these meetings was Erik Ghenoiu, President of the Agrarian Society, Condon,

David Bernstein, Station Manager of ROC-U, and Bill Evans, member of the Computer Advisory Committee and President of CCN.

After all the candidates met with everyone and then flew home, the SearchCom then re-reviewed their resumes, references, and experiences. According to Paul Ropp, some of the selection criteria were:

- Worked at institutions comparable to Clark, in terms of size and academic environment
- Broad and substantial experience working with students
- Impressed colleagues with energy and commitment to students
- A Master's degree
- Can help accomplish Clark's "academic mission"

An informal survey revealed that exactly 0% of the Clark population at the Info Desk on Tuesday night knew what Clark's academic mission is, so as a public service, here it is: "To bring all of Clark's faculty, students, and administration into a learning environment."

The Search Committee eventually made its recommendation to President Richard Traina, and Traina approved. •

Sample Schedule

Candidate: Benedict Bloehardt
Arrival: Monday, June 24, 1996
Time: 12 noon

Schedule

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch with Paul Ropp (Associate Dean of Students)
1:30 – 2:30 Campus tour w/ Chris Condon or Marcy Henderson
2:30 – 4:00 Interview with Dean of Students staff and Kevin McKenna (Director of Academic Advising) & Linda Garow (Director of Career Services) (Room- Jefferson 200)

Break

4:30 – 5:30 Interview with Sharon Krefitz (Dean of the College)
5:30 Leave campus with Paul Ropp. Check in to Beechwood Hotel
7:00 Dinner at the Beechwood with Search Committee

Tuesday, June 25, 1996:

8:00 – 9:00 Meet with Harold Wingood (Director of Admissions). Breakfast. Travel to campus
9:15 – 10:00 Interview with Roger Kasperson (Provost), Fred Greenaway (Dean of the Graduate School), and Andrea Michaels (Assistant to the Provost for Finance)
10:00 – 10:55 Meeting with group of students (Room- Jefferson 200)
11:00 – 11:55 Meeting with faculty members (Room – Jefferson 200)
12:00 – 1:00 Lunch with President Richard Traina
1:15 – 2:00 Interview with Jack Foley (Executive Assistant to the President) and Kate Chesley (Director of Communications [note: PR office, not academic department]) (Room – Jefferson 200)
2:15 – 3:00 Interview with Steve Goulet, Chief of Campus Police
Break
3:30 – 4:30 Interview with Search Committee