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Shawnee Statement

February 1, 1989 Volume 2, Issue 6

From The Board Room

Organizational Meeting Held

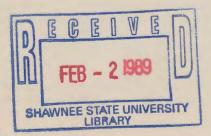
The organizational meeting of the Board of Trustees took place on Monday, January 9. At that time, Dr. Raymond Carson and Mr. William Reinhardt were named chairman and vice chairman respectively, and Mr. Jeff Kaplan was welcomed as a board member.

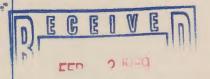
The thrust of the meeting was a series of reports by the academic deans and chairpersons and the student services program directors. Each gave a brief summary of the activities of the past year and plans for 1989.

Dr. Ewigleben gave a report praising the accomplishments of those who had spoken and the people they represent saying that, although the president sets the tone for and oversees the operation of a university, it is the faculty and staff that actually perform the day to day tasks. He also highlighted the following accomplishments he deemed most significant:

- SSU's accreditation through 1992 by the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges.
- The development of baccalaureate degree granting programs approved by the Board of Regents.
- The creation of an interdisciplinary core curriculum the University's response to national criticism of higher education.
- The establishment of a course leading to certification in elementary education with a major in a discipline, soon to be a national trend.
- The introduction of junior level programming in the business field, especially as it relates to students transferring from twoyear institutions.
- The planning of \$36,000,000 in capital projects.
- The fact that Shawnee State is in a solid financial position with the institution of a good budget process.

In regular business, the Board approved the hiring of a new faculty member and two new members of the library staff. Steve Doster joins the faculty as Assistant Professor of Accounting. Robert Dolan was appointed Technical Services Librarian, and Gary Stottlemyer was named Automated Services Librarian.





There will always remain certain permament values which education must cultivate, such as intellectual honesty, love of truth, ability to think clearly, moral qualities.

quoted by
 Robert Hutchins in
 Education for Freedom

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Editor: Susan Warsaw Art Director: Pat Carson

At some time in the life cycle of virtually every organization its ability to succeed in spite of itself runs out.

- Brien's First Law

Evening Assistance Available

During evening hours, the certral source for assistance and information is the Continuing Education office, west of the library on the first floor of Massie Hall. Their extension is 274, or 355-2274 for outside calls. Evening assistance is also available through the switchboard, 354-3205.

Student Services

by Paul Crabtree

Winter Wellness Day

On Wednesday, February 22, the Southern Ohio Council on Health Services will hold Winter Wellness Day. This year's theme is Addictive Behaviors and will cover such subjects as alcohol, drugs, smoking, and eating. Booths with information on each subject will be set up in the Commons lobby and films will be shown throughout the day.

The effort is a cooperative one with Shawnee State University and U. S. Health of Southern Ohio and is similar in structure to the Wellness Day held in the fall.

We encourage the administration, staff, and faculty to participate and ask that you emphasize this activity to your classes and the students you contact.

For further information, please contact Paul Crabtree, Dan Evans, Jim Kadel, or Susan Warsaw.

Library/Media Services

by Tess Midkiff

Documents Available at No Cost

In May of 1987, the Shawnee State University library became a depository for U. S. Government documents, which allows us to receive, at no cost, periodicals (such as Monthly Labor Review, The Federal Register, Aging, etc.) and monographic works (such as The U. S. Code, The Statistical Abstract of the U. S. Code, The Statistical Abstract of the U. S., and many, many others). With the addition of a part-time clerical person on February 1, the actual selection of titles will begin. Many individuals have already alerted us to titles they feel we should add. I encourage anyone else who has not done so to contact us regarding any other titles which should be given immediate consideration.

Plans are proceeding for the selection and purchase of two CD-Rom work-stations in the library for access to current information found in periodicals and newspapers. This purchase will be made possible through a Pixley grant, as noted in the last Statement, and the elimination of Magazine Index and National Newspaper Index subscriptions in microfilm format. It is felt that this upgrade will provide a more convenient means of access to bibliographic information for students, staff, and community members. Thanks to all who used and critiqued the machines we have had on trial during the past months. Your input will be influential in the final selection of a hardware/software package.

Developmental Education

by Gene Beckett

Developmental English and Mathematics Courses

Late last spring the University Faculty Assembly approved a policy that requires all first-time entering, degree-seeking students to participate in an academic assessment and placement program prior to registering for English and mathematics courses. As a result, 776 entering freshmen took a battery of English, reading, and mathematics assessments before registering for their fall quarter classes.

Although fall quarter enrollment for the institution was virtually the same as the previous year, enrollment in developmental English, reading, and mathematics courses increased 59%. The greatest increase in developmental enrollment was noted in MATH099, which saw a 121% leap in enrollment over fall quarter 1987. Of the 776 students assessed, 21% demonstrated a need for additional preparation in mathematics, 31% in English/writing, and 30% in reading. Moreover, 44% of the students assessed were placed into developmental English and/or reading courses.

Comparison of Enrollment with Percent of Change

	Fall Otr. 1987	Fall Otr. 1988	% Change
English	117	148	+ 26%
Math	56	124	+121%
Reading	55	90	+ 64%
TOTAL	228	362	+ 63%

NOTE: Totals do not include students enrolled in developmental courses off campus or enrolled in the GED Preparation Program.

Table 1

The intent of the new UFA policy was to result in better prepared entering students. However, university instructors indicated that some students completing developmental education courses with passing grades and entering their classes often lacked the skills necessary to succeed in their courses.

Collaborative discussion of this problem resulted in a joint decision requiring all students enrolled in developmental English, reading, and mathematics courses to take a subject-specific common final examination. Administered during finals week, the common final examination aims to determine whether a student has gained the skills necessary to advance to a higher level English or mathematics course. Only upon passing the common final can a student enroll in the next higher course in the course sequence.

The table below reports the common final examination results for fall quarter 1988. Among other things, it shows that 94% of the developmental students who took a common final examination advanced to a higher level course . . . a good sign. In some instances, students advanced two courses based upon their common final exam scores. Data also show that students enrolled fall quarter in developmental reading classes improved an average of 1.7 grade levels.

Student Performance on Common Final Examinations

English Course	095	097	098	099	100
Students who took common final passed common final failed common final advanced two courses or more	18 11 (61%) 7 1 (5%)	6 (100%)	33 31 (94%) 2 17 (52%)	98 83 (85%) 15 N/A	32 27 (92%) 5 N/A
Math Course	099				
took common final passed common final failed common final	124 112 (90%) 12 (10%)				

Table 2

Reading Grade Level Equivalency Advances Made by Students Who Completed Developmental Reading Courses Fall Quarter 1988

Mean: 1.717 Median: 1.650 Variance: 2.197

Standard Deviation: 1.482

Table 3

We are pleased with the initial results of academic assessment/placement and common final examinations. These practices appear to be accomplishing their intended goals. Only after data collected fall quarter is compared with longitudinal data collected in subsequent quarters will a clearer picture of the results of these practices be available.

Professional Opportunity

The National Endowment for the Humanities has printed a description of the 1989 Institutes for College and University Faculty. The possibilities are too extensive to list, but interested people may get a copy of the announcement from the Public Relations Office.

An Alarming Fact

Barb Bradbury has some distressing news to share. Did you know that according to the Ohio census, nearly 2,000 Scioto Countians, 25 years of age or older, do not have the reading and math skills necessary to cope with everyday life. In fact, the actual number in Scioto County could be as many as 4,000.

Literary Magazine Receives Award

According to the American Scholastic Press Association, *The Shawnee Silhouette* received the first place award for literary magazines. The selection was made from among those colleges and universities across the country with an enrollment of over 2,500. We congratulate all the writers, poets, and artists whose works appear in the *Silhouette*. Our special commendation goes to Bob Wilson, the group's advisor.

In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle, stand like a rock.

- Thomas Jefferson

Newsworthy Briefs

Professional Activities in the Community . . .

• Gary Gulker was guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Portsmouth Rotary Club. Gary's topic was the interface of SSU with the area's business and industry.

• In December, Sharon Scott received her Master of Science degree in nursing from Bellarmine College in Louisville, Kentucky. Bellarmine's program began for Sharon as an outreach course taught at Our Lady of Belfonte in Ashland. Because she had already attained a M.Ed. some of the classwork at the hospital was repetitive. Thus, she spent the second and final year commuting to Louisville and earned her degree early. We congratulate her!

... and Beyond

• Bob Wilson has published an article in the fall 1988 issue of the *Montana English Journal*. Entitled "Only Baited Hooks Catch Fish," the poem describes the importance of titles to the readability of articles and stories.

• Julia Coll has been notified that her article "Important Aspects of Enrollment for Hispanic Students in Higher Education" has been selected for publication in the next issue of the Journal of Educational Issues of Language Minority Students. The article examines the motives that influence Hispanic students in their decision to enroll in higher education.

Personals

• Condolences to Ann McCarthy, who has recently lost her mother. Those of us who knew Mrs. Grimm will miss her; she was quite a lady.

 We understand from Cathy Russell that Birdie Stallard would love to hear from friends. Her address at her sister's home is: c/o Sharon Roth, 1819 Rose Hill Road #12, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. Birdie has at least 10 or 12 more weeks of treatment ahead so time your cards accordingly.

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