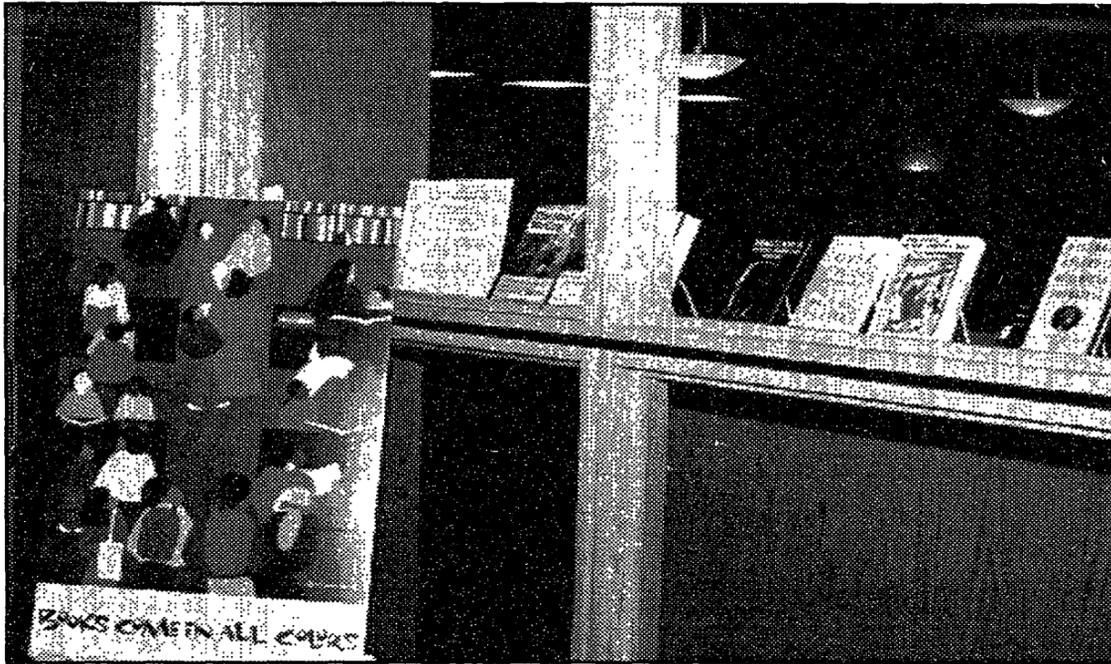


NEWS

Black history, fiction and culture displayed in The Weinberg Library



Several volumes of African-American related literature, non-fiction and history are currently on display on the fourth floor of the Weinberg Memorial Library. The Library's theme for February's Black History Month is "Books come in all colors."

By Thomas P. Umile
Staff Writer

February is distinguished as being Black History Month. Throughout the month, The Weinberg Memorial Library will host two displays on African-American history, culture and society.

On the first floor of the Library, two shelves of the "used book" sale corner are solely dedicated to African-American books of fiction and non-fiction.

Included are not only books by African-American authors, but also works about African-American lives and history. In addition, there is a wide variety of audio books and even some old vinyl records.

"We have a nice mix of what's available for sale [on the first floor] and a beautiful mix of what's available in our wonderful Library," said Carol Rose Petrunich, clerk of Access Services at the Library.

A sampling of those books on African Americans that The Library has in circulation can be found in another display on the fourth floor in the Quiet Study Room.

A large sign proclaims the month's motto that "Books come in all colors."

All students are invited to

visit both displays during the month of February.

"[Students] ought to pick a book that might symbolize the part that they don't understand about [black culture]," said Petrunich.

The variety of information displayed is sure to pique anyone's interest. There are many subjects displayed including "Medals & Music," "Medical Science" and "Black American Cinema," to name but a few.

The topics cover everything from nursing to slavery to modern home life.

Incorporated in the display are works that cover technology and innovations. Petrunich explains that many "are not aware of how many inventions African-Americans have provided...something like even the traffic light."

There are also books that come with a computer disk to enhance the casual learning experience.

Petrunich is quick to point out that these books on display are only a small sampling of the thousands the Library has to offer.

All of the books and writings included in the display outside the Quiet Study Room are available to be checked out on loan.

Petrunich explains that many

students often do not realize this, and in the past, very few of the display books have been borrowed from The Library at all.

Petrunich has been running this display for four years but she admits that she does not do all the work alone.

During the year, she sets aside all the donations the Library receives that might find their way into this display or the book sale. However, students help prepare the presentations.

10 work-study students assist her by deciding which authors to exhibit, searching for Library circulation books, and adding to the display.

Petrunich says that for every year she has run this event, she has always had at least one African-American work-study student who has proven invaluable to her and provided insight that would otherwise be lacking.

"A lot of students go four years and never go in The Library," Petrunich joked.

She hopes that this event will bring students into the Library to research a subject they have never considered before. Unfortunately, there are still some who exhibit ignorance towards racial diversity.

"This is a way we can become more aware," said Petrunich.

Trustees *(continued from page 2)*

with those proposals of an independent consultant.

Aside from The University's planned athletic and campus facility development, issues of safety and crime, the role of a liberal arts curriculum, enrollment expansion, the value of Intersession and faculty alcohol mentoring arose throughout the course of the informal gathering.

Msgr. Andrew J. McGowan, a parish priest attached to Mercy Hospital and University Board member initiated the dialogue in Redington by posing the question: "What do the students think a Board of Trustees does?"

Students such as Courtney Dool, a junior from Horsham were hard-pressed to provide an answer. "I honestly do not know a lot about it," she said of the Board's activities.

Board member John Dionne, an expert in financial restructuring and University graduate saw the meeting in a corporate light.

"Tonight is an opportunity to speak to us as customers; you ought to feel like you can speak to us liberally," said Dionne.

Dionne also stressed that the Board provided an external point of view affecting University policy while acting as "a court in which to say 'this needs to be changed.'"

He lauded The University's Board structure for its inclusion of a recent graduate.

Gavin Smith, president of student government, asked if an increase in enrollment would correspond to expansion of facilities. McShane responded that The University's strategic plan accounted for a student population of 5,000. Currently The University educates 4,650 students in all colleges.

McShane also stated that freshman enrollment will remain at roughly 935 students. An enrollment trend beyond 935 could stress facilities.

"We do not have the facilities to go beyond that," McShane said.

Maintaining freshman enrollment at that number - when a 40% increase in enrollment produces 4,000 applicants - proves quite difficult for the admissions office.

"It involves a bit of witchcraft," Dionne said.

Instead of an increase in

undergraduate enrollment, McShane would like to see a surge in new Dexter Hanley students. Even with such drastic changes in student structure and facilities, Trustees are convinced The University is staying on the ideological course.

"I am not aware of any change in what the school is intending to be," Dionne said.

Trustees adamantly wish to provide high quality education comparable to Villanova and St. Joseph's - at the lowest possible cost.

The issues of safety and The University's impact on surrounding residential areas such as the Hill Section were discussed.

"There have been a lot of issues off campus. Once you are off campus you are in a city environment," said Smith, regarding recent reports of vandalism in the Hill.

Smith went on to say that students both want police protection and reject police patrols leading to a "pendulum" effect which he feels "is always swinging."

McGowan suggested that student voting might impact the residential population's impression of The University. Others countered that registering to vote in Lackawanna county might jeopardize financial aid arrangements. Smith then introduced an idea for faculty mentoring in responsible drinking attitudes and behavior.

While Dionne called the idea "philosophical" and "ideally" sound he remarked that "we live in an increasingly litigious society," where a faculty member drinking with a student could incur unfavorable judicial consequences for The University.

Students also voiced their opinions of the Intersession period, its length and its relative merits. Regarding the required instruction in the liberal arts, some students found courses in philosophy and theology incompatible with their schedules, while others appreciated the mental training that these courses afford. Wednesday night's informal conferences were a part of The University's 28th annual Trustees Day. The emphasis for this year's sessions was "Education for Justice."

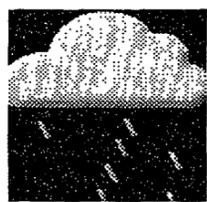
Weekend Weather



Friday
Partly
Cloudy
hi 44° F
lo 25° F



Saturday
Partly
Cloudy
hi 45° F
lo 30° F



Sunday
Scattered
Showers
hi 46° F
lo 30° F

compiled from www.weather.com

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