

Urban University Extends To Suburbs

How WSU Serves Adult Needs

By BOB McCLELLAN

The Wayne State University Division of Urban Extension has a formal and, perhaps, strange ring to it. Unless you've benefited from one of its myriad educational offerings, you've probably never even heard of it.

But last year this division of WSU operated on a budget of over \$1 million and provided educational instruction, mostly off-campus, for more than 40,000 adults.

It touches Observerland in many respects.

WSU's Division of Urban Extension provides several college credit and non-credit courses in the afternoon and evening at Franklin High School in Livonia. And it offers more than 50 college credit courses a semester at the division's Southfield Center at 25610 W. 11 Mile.

DR. BEN W. JORDAN, acting dean of the division, lives at 3326 State, Farmington; Dr. Edward C. Cieslak, associate director of Student Services at the Southfield Center, resides at 9515 Salem, Royal Township; and Robert M. Erickson, Southfield Center program coordinator, makes his home at 20345 Weyher, Livonia. Erickson may be better known in Observerland as a member of the Clarenceville school board.

The WSU Division of Urban Extension is multi-faceted and far-flung in operation.

Conceive, if you will, a friendly octopus that is housed at 100 W. Kirby on the WSU campus in Detroit with tentacles that reach as far east as Port Huron, as far north as Flint and as far west as Jackson.

That will give you an idea of the area touched by the division's efforts.

Imagine an outpouring of educational instruction that offers English and anthropology for the aspiring under-

'It's not for teaching bored housewives basket-weaving...Urban extension is a university without walls.'

--Dr. Ben Jordan



graduate to consumer rights and drug abuse information for people in the ghetto.

That will give you some idea as to the scope of the division's curriculum and purpose.

JORDAN, 49, the man who heads the division, was born in Halls, Tenn., graduated from Halls High School in 1939 and served as a dental technician from 1941-45 in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Jordan wanted to be a dentist when he entered the University of Tennessee, but after two years, changed his mind and enrolled at Memphis State University where he earned BS and MA degrees.

For two years, from 1950-52, he taught speech and English at Dyersburg (Tenn.) High School and then moved to Arkansas College in Batesville, Ark., as professor of speech and English. Soon he was named assistant to the president of the college.

In August 1957, he came to WSU as administrative assistant to the dean in the College of Education and began working on a doctoral degree. He received an Ed.D. degree in 1963.

Jordan was assigned to the Division of Urban Extension shortly after it was created by the WSU Board of Governors in February 1968. He was named assistant to Dr. Hamilton Stillwell, dean of the division until he left WSU last July to return to Rutgers University. Jordan was appointed acting dean last August.

ACCORDING TO Jordan, the division was formed in order to better coordinate the many adult education courses being offered on campus and by extension at WSU and by the University of Michigan at its Rackham Building in Detroit.

Later the division also was sponsored by Eastern Michi-

gan University until it pulled out in 1969.

According to Jordan, the division's basic purpose is to offer educational classes to adults at times and places most convenient to them and on subjects they want and need--and, in some cases, must have to live and work in today's complex society.

These are the reasons the division opened its Southfield Center in the spring of 1967. "It simply makes good sense," Jordan says, "that it's easier to send one instructor to Southfield than it is to bring 30 students into Detroit. Plus the fact that you don't have to invest in more brick and mortar down here to house them."

THE DIVISION'S Southfield Center is located on 5 1/2 acres on 11 Mile just west of Telegraph. It used to be part of the site of a U.S. Nike base. WSU now owns the property.

The three structures on the site served the military as a barracks, a mess hall and a multi-purpose building. The division has converted the three buildings into places for offices, classrooms, and a library-study lounge.

The Southfield Center offers college credit courses only and serves more than 1,000 adults each semester. Classes are offered every day except Sunday and run day and night, though most begin after 4 p.m.

"SOUTHFIELD is the geographic and population center of our area," Jordan explained. "We had facilities there we could control--we're guests elsewhere--and we had people out there taking courses. It was a logical move to open the Southfield Center."

"If we put up a five-story structure in Southfield, I'm convinced we could fill it. We don't go out and knock on doors. It's all we can do to accommodate most of those who come to us."

Last year 10,547 adults took college credit courses offered by the division. Jordan says some were completing graduate studies, others were starting college work and still others attended simply for intellectual stimulation.

The division operates in about 15 different locations in southeastern Michigan. One of its centers is Farmington's Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland University.

Jordan says the division works largely on a demand basis, responding to the needs of its students.

"We supply courses and instructors at schools who want certain classes," Jordan says, "but demands also come from industry, business, police departments, social agencies and even the U.S. military."

FOR BUSINESS and industry the division provides a wealth of credit and non-credit courses at its Applied Management Technology Center at 2976 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. The division also offers one course a semester over its "TV College" program on Channel 7.

The division attempts to support itself through tuition fees. Most students take one or two classes, and the cost is \$22 per credit hour for the first four hours.

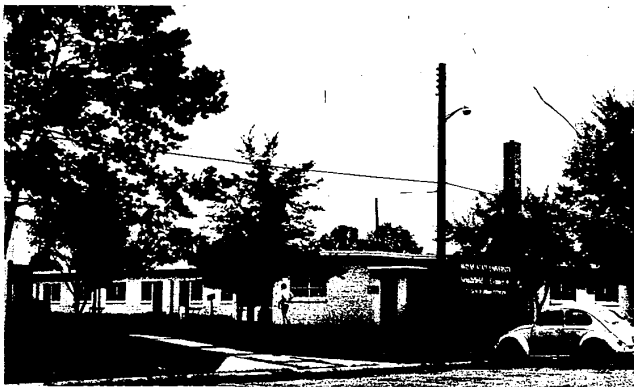
"This is more than a person on campus would pay," Jordan explains, "but the division student easily saves the difference in transportation costs and time."

Credit courses given by the division may be applied to a degree at WSU and most other colleges, Jordan points out.

"It used to be that if education didn't occur within ivy-clad walls, then that college credit was tainted," he remarked. "This attitude is changing, however. Work done through extension is gaining greater acceptance everywhere."



ROBERT M. ERICKSON
Program Coordinator



A FORMER ARMY Nike base is home for WSU's Urban Extension Center on 11 Mile Rd. in Southfield. (Observer photo)

Regional Affairs

Why Senators Split On Abortion Reform

By KATHY MORAN

Four senators from Observerland split 2-2 in last week's abortion reform vote in Lansing. Sens. David Plawecki and William Faust voted against the bill while Sens. Carl Pursell and Daniel Cooper voted in favor.

The bill passed last Thursday by a vote of 20-17 with one abstention.

The final bill was weakened with the addition of a 90-day residency requirement and a requirement for the husband's consent if he is "available." The Senate also

lowered the pregnancy period when abortions can be performed from the 112 day proposal to 90 days.

SEN. FAUST, D-Westland, cast a "no" vote but not because he opposes abortion law reform. Rather, Faust said he felt the amendments added to the bill weakened it to the point where it is "unworkable."

When Sen. (Alvin) De Groot released it from committee, it was a good, clean bill and was workable. "The amendments weakened it so much so that the doctors will be choosy if and when they perform an abortion," he said.

"If it should pass in the House and Gov. Milliken signs it, then Michigan will have a weak liberalization reform."

Faust cited the wording of the amendment requiring the husband's consent if he is "available" as a condition for obtaining an abortion.

Faust said the word "available" is too vague. He also questioned what would happen in a case where a woman stated she was unmarried, but after the abortion the doctor found out she was married. Could the doctor be sued by the husband?

THE LEGALITY of the 90-day residency requirement was questioned by Faust, who said that an 85-day resident is entitled to the rights and benefits of a life-long Michigan resident.

The adoption of the new abortion bill will strike the 1929 abortion bill in which a person who refers another for a criminal abortion is held accountable.

Under the proposed law, this person would not be held accountable for referring a person for a criminal abortion.

"I should think that if I referred a woman to an unlicensed person for an abortion, I should be held accountable. Murder could result," Faust said.

Faust said the new bill would not prevent criminal abortions and would not help the poor. He said legal abortions could cost between \$500 and \$700.

COOPER, D-Oak Park, said that the poor people are the ones who are affected by the present abortion restrictions.

"When a law singles out a group it should be done away with," he said. "As a pragmatic matter, the only people harmed by an arbitrary abortion law are the poor people."

Women who can not afford to travel to New York for an abortion and can not get their

doctor's approval for an abortion are discriminated against under the current law, he said.

Cooper termed "subjective" the opinions on when the fetus attains life.

"No real authorities agree on it," he said.

He said that if a person believes it is all right to perform an abortion, "they should be perfectly free to do so," just as a person has the right not to have an abortion.

Cooper also disagreed with the 90-day residency requirement, saying that other states are beginning to liberalize their laws now and would prevent a flood of people to Michigan for abortions.

"THE REASON I voted against abortion reform was because I felt that despite my personal beliefs regarding life in the unborn child, none of us know or can say with any certainty that it (the fetus) did not have a human life," Plawecki (D-DeARBORN Heights), said.

"I have talked to doctors who say that in some cases at 4 1/2 months they can save the embryo," he said. "In about a year and a half, it could go down to four or 3 1/2 months. They have said it will continue to go down."

Plawecki, who defeated pro-abortionist Lorraine Beebe last fall, said he could not "justify the bill in sum total."

As to the residency requirement he said, "In terms of the bill itself, it is probably good to have it in there."

PURSELL (R-Plymouth) voted for the amendments as well as for final passage, pointing out that the bill's sponsor, Sen. Gilbert Bursley (R-Ann Arbor) did so, too.

Pursell said the bill met "my campaign commitment." He ousted Sen. George Kuhn, partly on the basis of Kuhn's vote against a similar bill last year.

The amendments were needed, Pursell added, "in order to get the minimum number of votes (20) needed for final passage." He noted that a more liberal bill was impossible "under the present circumstances -- all 38 senators are men."

Lunar Buys

Furniture Line

The Lunar Corp., of Roseville, announced purchase of the Lunar line of acrylic furniture from Cadillac Plastic and Chemical Co., Highland Park, for an undisclosed amount of cash.

Frederick M. Goldsmith, a Farmington resident and president of Lunar, said all key personnel have been retained.

From One Music Lover To Another

wild

fewer commercials and very sexy music

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