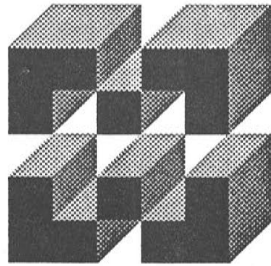


# The Harper Insider



Volume 4, Number 10

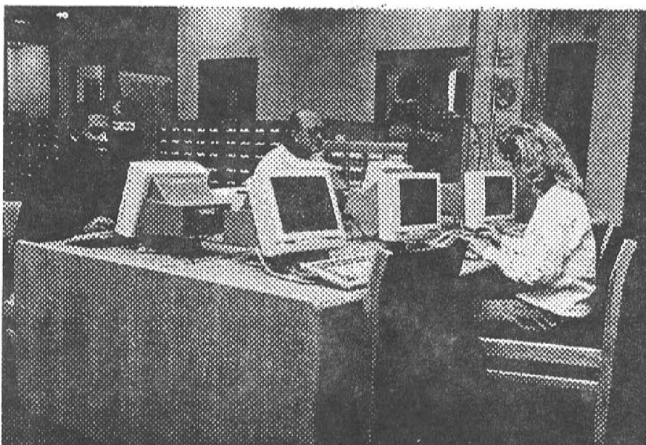
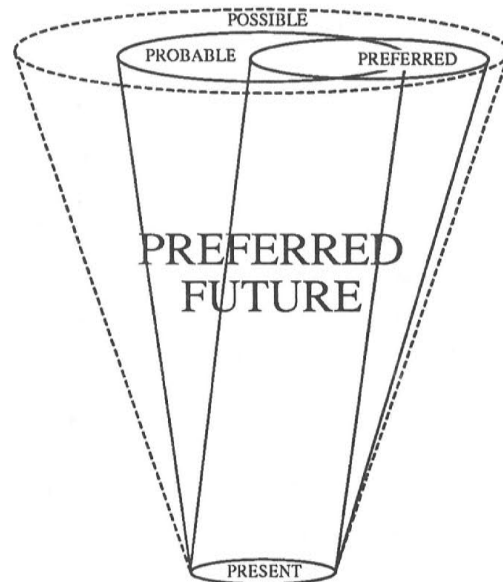
November, 1989

## Preferred Future Process Underway

The Preferred Future, initiated by President Thompson in August, will help Harper College serve the needs of the community in the coming century.

One of the first steps in the process has been the establishment of focus groups designed to reach out into the community and gather information from all constituencies. "We have trained over 100 focus group leaders and have already identified and scheduled more than 34 external groups, which will be meeting over the next few months," says Bill Howard, chairman of the Preferred Future Coordinating Team.

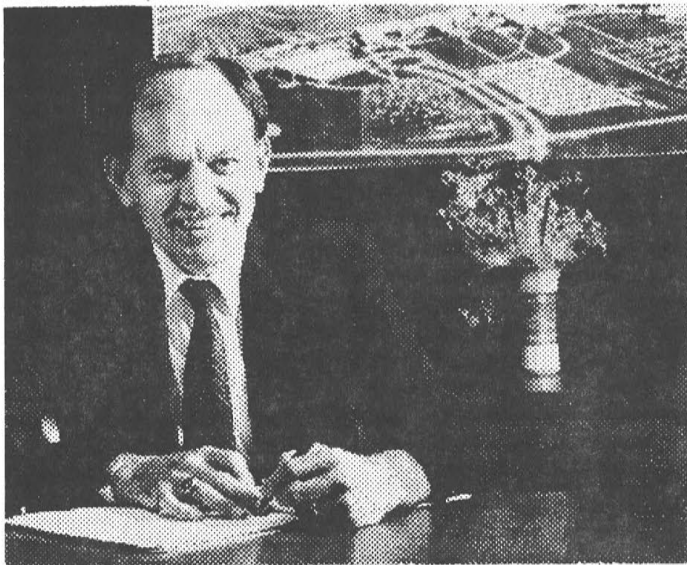
Howard says the team has seen many benefits from this process, which include not only data gathering but also interchanges between employee groups and input from the community. These will all be effective in giving direction to the College for the future.



LRC users search the on-line card catalog (CL-CAT) for library holdings. The system is currently 20 percent on-line and will be fully loaded next semester.



President Thompson presents a high school equivalency diploma during GED commencement ceremonies in October. Thirty-six students received their diplomas this fall.



## The President's Message

In last month's Insider, I addressed the importance of providing quality instructional experiences for all students. I suggested that this focus would produce far-reaching effects which would eventually return as benefits to our educational system.

In achieving this focus, it is necessary to question what different approaches might be considered to enhance the teaching/learning process. Albert Schanker, national president of AFT, has observed that our K-12 systems have been established on an "industrial" model. Students are put on an assembly line that takes them past an exposure to a section of English, a section of math, a section of science--with the expectation that, when they have reached the end of the assembly line, they will have integrated all of these subject matter fields into a comprehensive understanding. He feels, and I agree with him, that this is an inappropriate model, and the assumptions upon which it is built are wrong.

Since we continue that model as an institution of higher education, I think we must investigate our assumptions about how successful we really are in delivering instruction to the individuals who come to us seeking a well-rounded education. I don't think we really are in a position to throw out what we are doing now, but perhaps we ought to experiment a bit and explore interdisciplinary approaches--to examine our students based not on a single subject matter exposure, but rather on a more comprehensive view of how the experience in one discipline has been integrated into that student's view of the whole.

Dr. K. Patricia Cross has challenged community college faculty and administrators to use their classrooms as centers for research. By that, she does not mean she expects deeply theoretical hypotheses to be pursued. Rather, I think she is asking us to examine whether some of the very basic things we can observe in our classrooms by making small changes have any impact on the students' learning. Does having students write more help them to remember and see relationships better than they otherwise would? Does music enhance the ability to learn history or psychology? Do students do better when exposed to both right brain and left brain stimuli in a learning environment? Is age or academic preparation of students more important in achieving significant learning outcomes? Do students who are given advising attention early do better than those who get no advising at all?

I encourage faculty and staff to examine ways to evaluate what is being done in the total learning environment, even if it begins by one simple experiment. You need not share your undertaking with your colleagues. However, I would hope any significant findings you have will be disseminated.

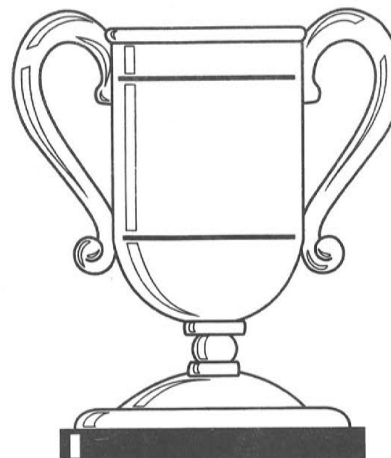
If you have questions or concerns about starting a project like this, contact a member of the Staff Development Task Force. Good luck in your venture!

## Employees Rewarded for Exemplary Performance

During 1988, the Classified Employee Council recommended that a noncumulative merit program be instituted. The Board of Trustees, in its approval of the salary and benefit program, approved this recommendation, and the selection process began in April of 1989. The purpose of the Merit Award Program is to reward employees for exemplary performance and for significant contributions to the College. The award recipients are **Lea Bartow**, administrative secretary, LS /HS; **Carl Butterfield**, supervisor, PHY PLT; **Elaine Furlin**, food service helper, FD SERV; **Julie Guiney**, personnel associate, PERSONL; **Janice Hicks**, administrative secretary, and **Julie Hunter**, supervisor, PEAR; **Jean Hoffman**, administrative secretary, LRC; **Catherine Kearns**, registration clerk, ADM OFF; **Thea Keshavarzi**, purchasing agent, BUS SVC/FIN; **Adele Muncey**, administrative secretary, REG OFF; **Rosemary Murray**, supervisor, HLTH SER; **Halina Polakowski**, secretary, BUS/SS; **Cheryl Rossberg**, library assistant, LRC/AV; **Tom Thompson**, coordinator, DSS; and **Laurie Wren** in her position as secretary to the vice president, ADM SER.

Administrative merit awards were also presented. Recipients are **Felice Avila**, executive assistant to the President; **Judith Dincher**, director of nursing; **Elizabeth McKay**, dean, AE/LS; and **Russ Mills**, director, PLCMT.

We congratulate these deserving employees!





Sandy Rea, left, and Jeri Resner, right, work on billings with assistance from Bursar Charlene Christin and Barb Baker, right.

## Focus on Business Office

When asked to describe the duties of the Cashier's Office, Harper Bursar Charlene Christin says, "In a nutshell, payments are accepted, processed, balanced and deposited to the bank."

All the money that comes in to any department on the Harper campus flows through the Business Office. This includes money from tuitions, box office receipts, short term loans, the cafeteria and bookstore, the dental hygiene clinic, child care fees, application and transcript fees, etc.

The department employs four full-time and two part-time cashiers. Temporary employees are called in as needed.

The bulk of jobs that are processed include tuition payments and refunds—about 10 percent of all registrations end up being refunded. The office also disburses all payroll, Board-approved and imprest checks.

Although the office does see slightly more activity during open registration periods, the change in scheduling of early and late registration results in a more constant flow of work. "In fact," Head Cashier Jeri Resner admits, "lately it seems there's no let up!"



Treat yourself to a pleasant lunch break in the College Dining Room. The room is open from 11:30 am-1:00 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays for use by administration, faculty and staff. The Dining Room is attractive, quiet enough to hold a lunch meeting and service is excellent! It is staffed by students in the Food Service Management career program. To make arrangements, call extension 2426 or just drop in any Monday or Wednesday noon.

## From the Chair Women's History Week Committee

The Women's History Week Committee, now in its eleventh year, is composed of Harper College administrative, faculty and staff members as well as representatives from a number of cosponsoring community organizations. The committee is chaired by Trustee Kris Howard, who was one of the founders of the Harper College week, along with Women's Program Coordinator Rena Trevor and Professor Sharon Alter, who chairs the Program Committee.

According to Chairperson Howard, the Committee developed as a service to the community, in helping people to know about women's experiences and contributions to our history. She noted that much of history was written by white males, who were the educated people of the time, and tended to focus on such concerns as war and industry. Over the past 15 to 20 years, with the realization that little was known about the experiences of women or minorities, historians began the painstaking work of piecing together the history that women had recorded in letters, diaries and family records. In addition, women recognized the importance of preserving their own organizations' histories.

*WOMEN'S*

*HISTORY*

*WEEK*



The Committee is currently working on the Women's History Week events to take place March 5 through 8, 1990. The week is planned to coincide with the national Women's History Month as well as with International Women's Day on March 8.

Keynote speaker for this year's opening dinner will be Helen Thomas, UPI White House Bureau Chief, who has covered the White House since 1961. Daytime programs during the week will focus on women in the military, women's history in song and story, and the topic of "Anatomy Is Destiny"...? Wednesday evening will be devoted to a discussion of women as heads of state. The Harper Community is always invited to participate in the event, and brochures distributed early in the spring semester will provide program and registration details. According to Chairperson Howard, "Each year we have explored new facets of this fascinating subject, and our audiences continue to be a mixture of ages, occupations, newcomers and returnees. Most of the men who attend come to the keynote dinner, and we hope they will find the other events interesting as well. After all, women's history is a part of everyone's history, and adds another dimension to our understanding of both the past and the present."

## Insider's View of Charlie Hearn

Charlie Hearn arrived in the Chicago area in 1965 and began working for Montgomery Ward. He then served in the U. S. Army for two-and-one-half years, stationed in Korea and Vietnam.

After returning to Chicago, he purchased a cleaning franchise which employed 30 people and serviced commercial accounts. In 1971, he sold the business and was hired as a custodian at Harper. He has been the department's supervisor since February, 1976.

"I like working here and really enjoy the people I work with," Hearn says.

**Born:** Holly Springs, Mississippi

**Education:** Rust College, Holly Springs, Mississippi

**Family:** Wife, Gloria; daughters, Kay, 27, and Betty, 24; one grandson and three granddaughters

**Favorite food:** Spaghetti

**Hobby:** Fishing and reading

**Favorite book:** *Noble House*

**Last book read:** *Clan of the Cave Bear*

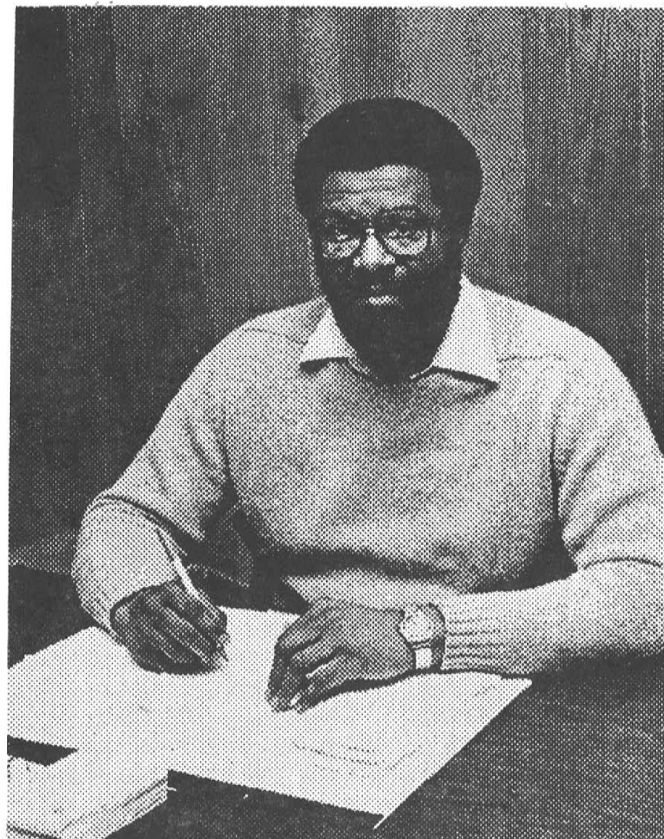
**Best advice my parents gave me:** If I work for a person, regardless of the pay, I should give him a full day's work.

**If time and money were not a problem, I would:** Love to travel.

**I would like to learn:** How to play a good game of golf.

**I can't stand:** People who lie about being sick when they're not.

**One thing I've learned in life is:** To trust my instincts.



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## Department Developments

Our congratulations go to **Mary Jeziorski**, WD PROC, on the birth of her daughter, Julie Elyse, on October 20. Julie tipped the scales at 7 lbs., 7 oz. Promotions on campus this month include **Cal Meltesen**, research analyst, PLG RES; **Laurie Wren**, executive secretary to the president, PR & BD; and **Paula Deeken**, BASED coordinator, AE/LS. New faces to look for include **Lori Washington**, job developer, PLCMT; **Robert Davis**, clerk dispatcher, PUB SAF; **Margaret Brown** and **Joanne Cameron**, library assistants, LRC; **Robert Moriarity**, utilities helper, and **Daniel Conrad**, HVAC mechanic, PHY PLT; **Beverly Thill**, clerk typist, FA/VA; **Betty Bueno**, receptionist, CE/PS; **David Fanizza**, security guard, PUB SAF; **Jeanne McMahon**, lab assistant, PEAR; **Jeanne Eichenseer**, editor/newswriter, PUB; and **Mary Salome Joseph**, clerk, PL RES. Reclassifications in the Women's Program include **Jeanne Kline**, program assistant; **Betty Brooker**, secretary II; **Carole Christiansen**, **Gail Riggs**, and **Elizabeth Miller**, program specialists; and in AE/LS **Jane Harris**, AED student advisor and JTPA coordinator. **Betty Hull**, English professor and chairman of the honors program, is currently serving as president of the Science Fiction Research Association. She presented an academic report on science fiction teaching and research at the World Science Fiction meeting in the Republic of San Marino

last spring. Twenty-four prints and paintings by Art Professor **John Knudsen** were exhibited in a one-man showing at the University of Minnesota in October. While on the Minneapolis campus, Knudsen also spoke to groups of art students and was interviewed for the KUOM "Talking Sense" radio program. News of the Harper Anthology of Academic Writing is beginning to spread. On October 23, **Rex Burwell**, **Peter Sherer** and **Jack Dodds** went to Oakton Community College to describe our collection of student writing to members of the Oakton English department who are interested in starting their own campus-wide anthology.

### Retirees Corner

**Lorraine Oates**, financial aid assistant, FA/VA, plans to retire on December 31 after 17 years of service. Lorraine and her husband plan to move to Florida.

**The Harper Insider** is the monthly Harper College newsletter produced by Publications and Communication Services. We cordially invite all employees to contribute stories and information before the first of the month for the issue published at midmonth. Please contact Anne Frost, A302, extension 2512.