

Eco educator to visit campus

An environmental educator will visit the University today to discuss with students and faculty the environmental programs the University of Michigan is involved in.

James Swan, Ph.D., environmental psychology, said he will speak to "a number of different people on campus about the ultimate concept of environmental education on a long term approach—about long term solutions to our problems. I'm going to share some of the things we've tried back in Michigan and see how they might work here."

The original environmental movement in Ann Arbor, Mich., where the University

of Michigan is located, started with a group called ENACT, said Swan.

"ENACT planned the teach-ins that we held before the first Earth Day in 1970. Since that time, the group has pretty much dispersed, each person finding what skills he can contribute to the improvement of the environment."

Attempts are under way, he said, to establish a Michigan-based group similar to OSPIRG, called Public Interest Research Group in Michigan.

Swan said PIRGIM would probably combine the efforts of two groups already existing at their university, by having the funds to hire some full-time professional researchers.

"We have what's called the Student Environmental Consulting Service in which graduate students receive a limited amount of support from the university, monetarily and credit-wise. The real purpose is to provide a consulting service for private citizens, businesses, and government. If somebody calls up and says they think their lake is being polluted, a couple of graduates—and undergraduates too—go out and take some water samples. Most of their work has been with water pollution but they've done some air quality work too."



James Swan

"Another group we have is the Environmental Law Society. Law students have a chance to become involved with legal research and brief writing on cases dealing with purported pollution law violations."

The types of work Swan envisions students doing is one of research into areas the state government doesn't have the necessary funding.

He cited a class of his which did air

quality research in a highly industrialized area of southeastern Michigan. "We found that 17 per cent of the adults in the area had a case of chronic bronchitis within the last year. The national average is around two or three per cent."

Swan said the major problem facing environmental researchers and educators is "identifying the problems. A great deal is not known about what the problems are."

Swan's recent efforts in Michigan have included attempts to involve students, administrators and parents in planning school sites.

"We've built two schools now that are green islands with lakes and forests on a small scale—and the planning was a joint project that included the students."

"The nice thing about that kind of environment," said Swan, "is that after school the kids go out and look at the birds instead of playing war games."

Swan will make a public speech at 7:30 Tuesday night in the EMU. The room will be posted.

He will speak on "humanizing our education systems so that we have people more able to work with people. That's important for solving polluted rivers as well as for life."

Catholic theologian to speak in evening lecture series

Father Charles E. Curran, S.T.D., theologian from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. will present a series of talks today, Wednesday, and Thursday at the University.

He has been invited to the campus as this year's Distinguished Visiting Lecturer by the department of religious studies. His evening lectures are all scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom, and are open to the public without charge.

Subject of his talk tonight is "Catholic and Protestant Ethics—Is There a Difference?" Wednesday's topic is "Is There a Distinctive Christian Social Ethic?" and on Thursday Father Curran will discuss "Moral Theology, Science and the Future of Man."

Father Curran is a native of Rochester, N.Y. and a graduate of St. Bernard's Seminary and College. He holds two doctorates—one from Gregorian University in Rome in sacred theology, and a second in sacred theology with specialization in moral theology from Academic Alfonsiana in Rome.

He has been on the faculty of Catholic University since 1964. He has written two books on Christian morality, co-authored two others, "Dissent in and For the Church" and "The Responsibility of Dissent: The Church and Academic Freedom." A fifth book, "Contemporary Problems in Moral Theology," is due to be published in April.

The Distinguished Visiting Lecturers Program is an annual event which gives the university community and the public the opportunity to hear

leading exponents of contemporary religious thought.

Also planned during Father Curran's visit is an informal conversation at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday in Westminster House, 1414 Kincaid, under the joint auspices of the Cooperative Christian Ministry and the Religious Directors Association on campus.



Father Charles Curran

Ad-hoc group discusses university system's role

The recently formed ad-hoc Study Committee on Higher Education met last Friday afternoon in the EMU to discuss the general role of the university system in Oregon and to draw up plans for a detailed analysis of educational concepts.

The committee, which regards one of its prime functions as being a liaison between the legislature and the university community, was asked by chairman Bill Wyatt to consider the following questions:

— How does the higher educational system fit into the state's economy?

— What services does the university provide to the state? Is equality of education available to all Oregon citizens?

— What are the respective obligations of the taxpayer and the students to higher education?

— What are the present uses of education? Are they appropriate? Why or why not? What should be added or deleted?

Concern was voiced by some members that these points, while essential, are probably insufficient to cover the humanities area. This broad-based area with long-range, relatively intangible benefits, is thought to be endangered by the legislative budget cut.

It was determined by the members present to subdivide the committee into two study groups, one to study educational programs with obviously tangible benefits, the other to deal with the more intangible programs.

The former group is to be headed by professor Paul Simpson of the economics department and the latter by Joan Pierson of the English department.

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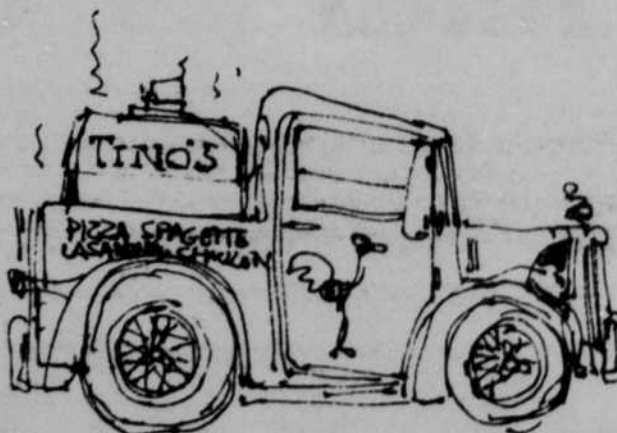
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