

# Planetarium Almost

By Michael W. Moore

The new planetarium at FSU is almost ready for its first class. Installation of the sound system is taking place, but before it can begin operation the state must approve the work of the contractor.

According to Mr. Jan Dabrowski, Planetarium Director, it will be a while before shows can be given--mainly because of the time involved in the production of a program, which is like doing a show in a theater. To operate, there must be film, sound tracks, rehearsals, and personnel for each production. These are problems because the planetarium presently is operating without a budget or staff except for Mr. Dabrowski, who spends only one-third of his time on the planetarium.

The planetarium is a combination classroom and multi-media theater. As such, it has the potential of providing a wide variety of learning experiences to FSU students, elementary and secondary students, and the general public. Interest in the new facility is already high in the community. Workshops have been conducted with county and city school teachers to give tips on how to teach basic astronomy and how the planetarium would be able to supplement their instruction.

At the national level, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has shown interest in studying



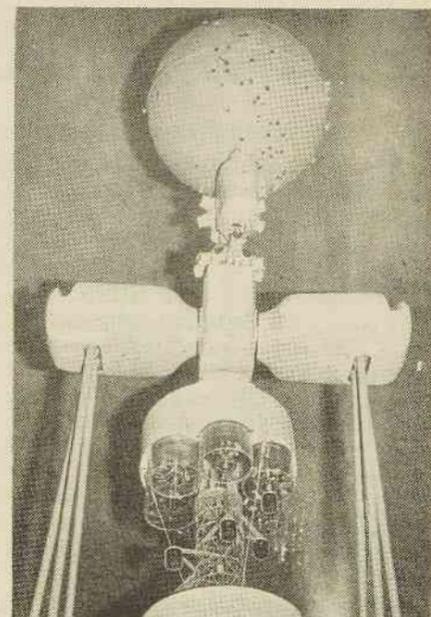
Mr. Jan Dabrowski at projector-control console (Photo by Patsy Cortez)

motion sickness in astronauts. Mr. Dabrowski already has received a \$1,000 research grant from the Resource Center for Science and Engineering. He plans to get students involved in researching double stars. Most stars in the sky are double stars and the research would determine their properties.

Mr. Dabrowski emphasized how instrumental Chancellor Lyons was in making sure FSU got the new facility. He also commented, "As a cultural resource, the planetarium will be a place people can go to better their minds. There are about a dozen planetariums in North Carolina as opposed to 107 in Pennsylvania. In contrast, the city of Pittsburgh has about a

many as our state." This is a significant disparity in terms of educational and cultural opportunity for residents of our state.

Built by Spintz Space Systems, Inc. of Chadds Ford, Pa., the planetarium measures 30 feet in diameter with a dome 47 feet from the theater floor. The seating capacity is fifty-eight with two additional spaces for wheel chairs or folding chairs. The primary star field projector has several thousand lenses and holes and projects the patterns of stars in the night sky. In addition, the planetarium houses over 24 auxiliary projectors controlled by a console in the back of the theater for a wide range of special effects.



Star Field Projector

Primarily, the new facility will be used by FSU students for astronomy classes, science classes and general programs. Mr. Dabrowski commented that he would like to see people in the drama area take an interest in it since it can accommodate many other purposes than astronomy. He will be contacting all the divisions about using it for special programs. The planetarium is under the supervision of the Division of Physical and Life Sciences. Operations and the projection of programs will be managed by the Planetarium Director. Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Jan P. Dabrowski, Planetarium Director (919/486-1650) or Dr. Valeria Fleming, Division Head (919/486-1682).

## FSU Welcomes New Faculty

By Ronnie McLean

The Voice takes this opportunity to welcome all new faculty members and to introduce them to the "Family".

### BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Dr. Kimon Conostas  
Dr. Robert Fritz  
Dr. John Greenwood  
Mrs. Barbara Jones

Dr. Harriette Howard

### EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Mrs. Sandra Shorter  
Mrs. Rose Hogg  
Dr. Ralph E. Burns

### HUMANITIES & FINE ARTS

Dr. Geoffrey Rugege  
Dr. Edward Hill

### SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

#### HISTORY

Dr. Shelton Clark

#### SOCIOLOGY

Dr. Ella T. Keller  
Dr. Lillian Williams  
Dr. Ann Holmes

### ADDITIONAL NEW FACULTY

Mr. William Head  
Mr. Norris Harvey  
Dr. Kwoh Chi Wong  
Dr. Matthew Edwards  
Dr. William Meadows

## A Family Affair

## Center For Continuing Education

By Anthony C. Scott

The Center for Continuing Education (CE) at Fayetteville State University supervises programs which provide continued education in a non-traditional role. CE involves more than just a two- or four-year degree. It works with the family unit and through its efforts it creates a better informed community of citizens.

There are several programs currently being implemented as part of CE at FSU.

With a grant from the Dept. of Labor, FSU provides the teaching of basic skills to parents currently receiving Aid for Dependent Children (AFDC). Most of the learning takes place on computer terminals and is self-paced. The program runs for six months and has over 100 students enrolled. The employment success rate is about 20 percent and continues to climb.

Continuing Education also has a program to help high school students pass standardized tests with more competitive scores enabling more of them to enter some type of higher educational institution.

Another program at the center is sponsored by the State's Council of Economic Education. This program is designed to bring teachers of elementary grades back into the classroom to learn economics. The teachers can then effectively pass on to their students economic information that children can learn at an early age and apply throughout their lives.

CE sponsors seminars and workshops to help the residents of Cumberland County. They attempt to prevent duplication of services that Fayetteville Technical Institute offers. Funding is becoming a major issue and one of their primary objectives is to seek foundation support. All programs outside of normal classroom hours are a part of CE.

Dr. DeField T. Holmes, Special Assistant to the Chancellor, oversees CE and he is also coordinator of the Area of Biology. He has served in numerous positions at FSU and enjoys the fact that FSU is a fact growing organization. He sees CE as a basic part of the university and the community.

## Greenhouse Vandalized

By Anthony Scott

Over half of the glass in the greenhouse has been broken by rocks thrown from the vicinity of the railroad tracks. The greenhouse is located adjacent to the rear of the New Science building.

Dr. David Haas, assistant professor of biology, specializes in botany and donated most of the plants in the greenhouse. Dr. Haas said the greenhouse presents an easy target and he doesn't know when it will be

repaired or who will do the repair work. There is some disagreement as to whether the university or the original contractor who constructed the building is responsible for repairs.

Although the plants are still alive, Dr. Haas worries about the coming of cold weather because the damage will not allow for operation of the facility.

The greenhouse, constructed of metal, concrete and glass, was purchased for experimental work with plants. Many students have already volunteered to work in it.



Dr. David Haas at work in the greenhouse