

School Gets Registrar, Plans Better System

By KEN BALLARD

Essay Staff Reporter

For the first time in NCSA's history, the school has a registrar.

She is Mrs. June R. Putt, who formerly was the assistant registrar at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

Besides having taken over the responsibility for student records, Mrs. Putt has many improvements in mind, some of which are already being implemented.

AMONG THE CHANGES are: new registration cards for the beginning of each trimester; a change in policy toward incompletes, approved recently by the dean's committee; a change in rules covering adds, drops and withdrawals; academic credit for certificate students; and the centralization of student records in the office of the registrar.

The new registration cards are designed so that the registrar's office will have an accurate record of each student's schedule, as well as noting changes such as new addresses and telephone numbers.

Also, with a schedule of each student's classes, Mrs. Putt will be able to tell whether a student's grades are all in at the end of a term. (Often grades are held up when a few faculty members are late in reporting them). The system will also enable the registrar to determine if a teacher may have failed to turn in grades for a course a student has taken.

Until now, an incomplete has been averaged into a student's grades as an "F" at the end of each term. Now, incompletes will be disregarded until the end of the following term, when they

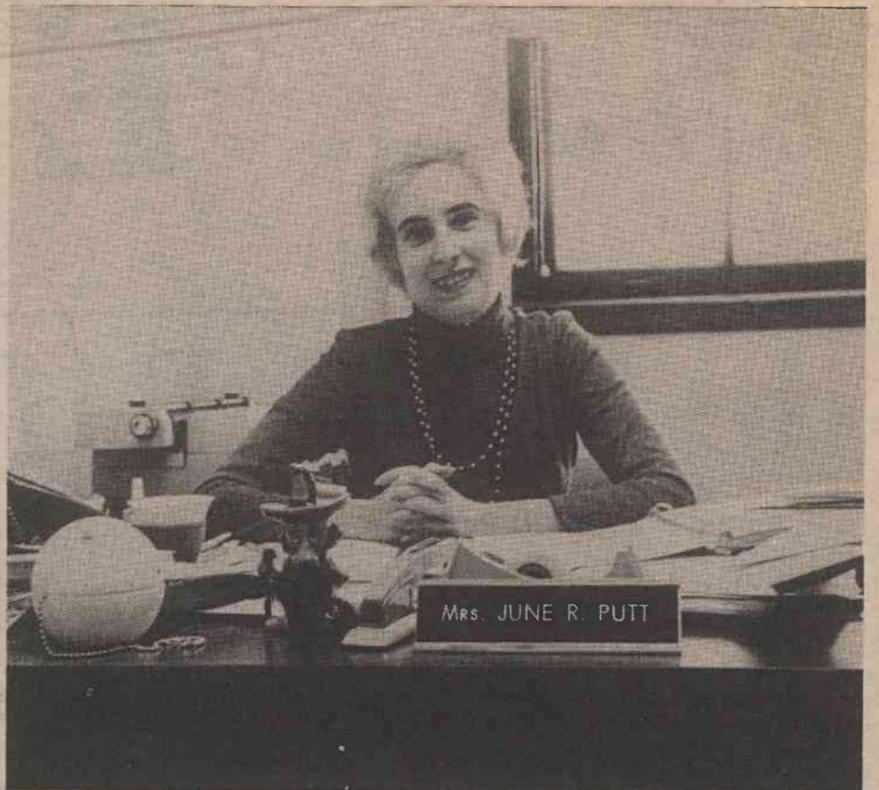
will be replaced by a grade on the student's late work or project. "In this way," according to Mrs. Putt, "a student will not be penalized for incompletes, nor will he receive credit for work not yet completed."

STUDENTS WILL NOW have only one full week after registration to add a course. Likewise, any courses dropped during this period will not show on the student's records. However, courses can be dropped after this first week until the last two weeks of classes with special permission of the appropriate dean. These Withdrawals will be designated "W"; the grades "W-P" and "W-F" will no longer be used.

If a student withdraws during the first week of school, no classes will be listed on the transcript for that term. In case of withdrawals after that period, all courses will be recorded as "W", with the note that the student withdrew from school.

If a student simply ceases to attend class or to do work, he or she will be given an "F". The same grade will be given if students are dropped from a course because of attendance or behavior problems.

IN THE PAST, certificate students taking academic courses received a pass-fail grade with no credit for the course. These students will continue to receive pass-fail grades, but will be given the appropriate number of credit hours for the courses they pass and complete. "Since these students do, in fact, complete the same course work as other students," Mrs. Putt said, "They should be given credit for courses they



Essay Photo By Bryant Arrington

Mrs. Putt became registrar last fall.

complete, whether or not the courses are required."

Mrs. Putt is engaged in phasing in the centralization of students' records, and hopes that by this summer she can reorganize her files so that the records of all current students can be retained in her office. She has already begun with students accepted this term, retaining their complete files, including their applications and letters of acceptance. However, deans will continue to keep whatever files they deem necessary for students in their school.

"I do not think that making systems more efficient makes them more impersonal. I like the idea that students here are treated as individual people, not

as numbers, and I do not want to change that," Mrs. Putt said. She also expressed her belief in dealing with students on a personal basis. "Art is a very personalized thing; how can you impersonalize the arts?"

MRS. PUTT RECOGNIZES there are exceptions to any rule. "I look forward to talking to students; I want them to feel free to talk to me about any questions or problems they may have regarding their records—I like to think of cases as people."

Before her position at SUNY, Mrs. Putt was residence hall director at Syracuse University. She holds a master's degree in guidance and student personnel and administration from Cornell University.

de Mille Theatre

Called A 'Chocolate Mess'

DEMILLE, From Page 1

lighting, and the steps."

The designed fire escape, is up the steps, around the theatre, through the top exit doors around and down the stairs and out the building.

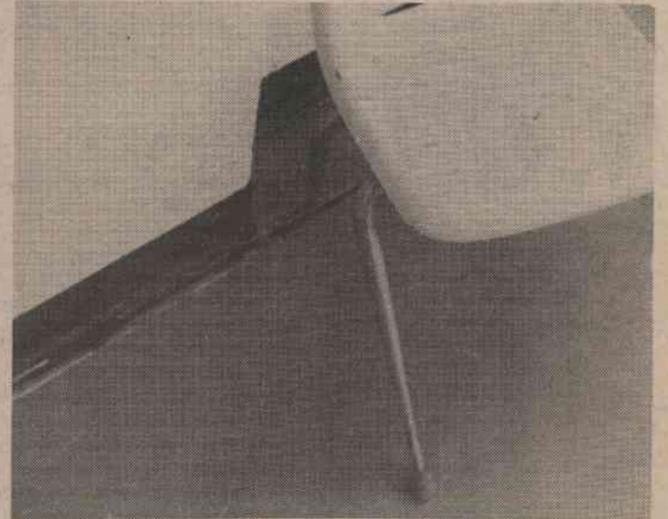
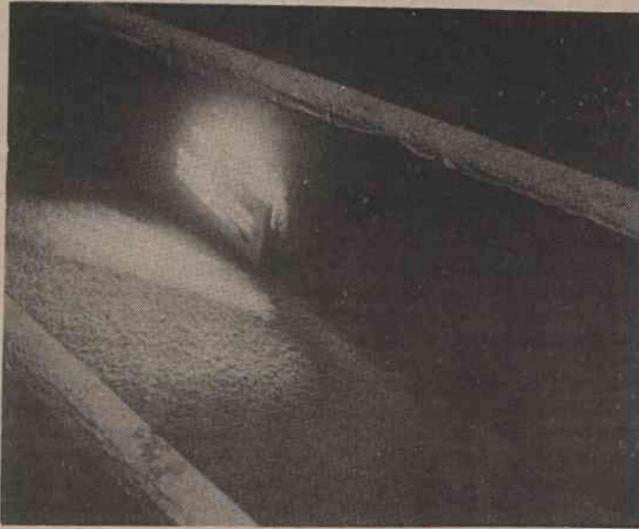
Another feature that has received much criticism from almost everyone is the steps in the theatre. People have been conditioned to expect steps to be in one pattern. This means the tread on which you place your foot and the rise which is the distance up to the next step should be consistent. There are five patterns of steps in de Mille with the top four classified as a ladder by architectural standards. Missy Snelling, a drama student, was perhaps one of the first to tumble head-over-heels down the steps. However, since her fall, more prestigious people such as Chancellor Suderburg, Martin Sokoloff, Andres Segovia, and writer have slipped on the steps.

The masking tape was placed on the edge of each step as a safety measure prior to the de Mille opening. Additional lighting for the steps is planned. Sokoloff stated, "Architecturally they're poorly designed, but you can't rebuild the theatre. The first four steps were not built according to specifications. They're going to be rebuilt."

Sokoloff said the school is not planning any legal action, nor did he feel any would be necessary.

R. B. Deal, of the R. B. Deal Construction Co. Inc., was asked about the steps in a telephone interview. Deal said, "I wasn't aware of any problem." Upon checking, however, he did find a letter discussing the steps. Deal then stated speaking of the theatre in general, "We built it like the drawings showed."

Chancellor Suderburg was asked in a meeting with D&P students if construction of the work center would be any better than the de Mille Theatre. After stating that plans for the work center were available for "input," he said, "There were two main problems in



Essay Photos By Bryant Arrington

Steps and cracks are only two of the complaints.

the construction of de Mille. First, it was a renovation of what was previously a gym. Any time you do a major renovation there are design problems. Second, there was no watchdog, so-to-speak, on the project who was in a position to disapprove of the work. The people in Raleigh who had to approve the plans couldn't be here every day."

Most criticism by faculty revolves around the use of the studios and theatre rather than construction. Richard Gain, modern dance instructor, complains, "The floor is horrible for dance. It sounds hollow and amplifies every noise. And I get cramps in my legs when I have to sit in the house for very long."

Robert Murray, director of acting instruction, said, "At every meeting with the architects, I questioned the sound proofing because it is so important. Now that the theatre is built, we find that although we were assured of soundproofing, the sound carries everywhere within the building." Chris

Grace, director of maintenance, said he thought, "The air ducts carry the sound and because such a mass of air is moved the problem becomes even more noticeable than otherwise."

Another problem, which is evident only to a few, is the conduit (pipe that carries wire) overhead. Although a sound consultant, Shawn Murphy, was hired to recommend conduit layout, his suggestions were not followed. Consequently, there is empty conduit above the house because it was not usable.

Kevin Carney, has been responsible for making the theatre work electrically. Although Carney would make no statement concerning the design or construction of the theatre, it was evident that without his talents the school would have had difficulty solving the puzzle of wiring. With floors moving and cracks appearing, one might wonder about the structural strength. The main walls surrounding the theatre are the original

cinder block walls. The new beams that support the grid rest upon the old walls. They are also above and not touching the old beams so as not to put weight anywhere except the outer walls. An old dock loading entrance on the east side was filled with new concrete blocks and the top of the joint reinforced.

Although some cracks have appeared at numerous points around the wall, a structural engineering consultant, Glenn Eason, stated there was no cause for concern. In a letter to the school, he said that cracks could be expected during any renovation. However if they increased in number or size, he would look at the situation again. He ended the letter with the following: "It does not appear that there is any cause for concern with the structural integrity of the building."

Sokoloff said further, "The theatre itself makes a good impression on the public. When you compare this theatre with its problems, it is 100 per cent safer to be in than the old theatre. And we know it's certainly more comfortable."