New group addresses student health worries

By Ashli Goodman
Lantern staff writer

Concerns of students at Ohio State regarding emotional, intellectual, physical, social and spiritual areas can now be addressed by a new organization on campus, Buckeye Advocates for Student Health.

“The main purpose of BASH is to create an awareness of the services offered to promote student health,” said Jeffrey S. Hallam, president of BASH.

Hallam is interested in developing means of obtaining student opinion regarding all health care issues.

BASH will be conducting a meeting March 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wilce Student Health Center, room 072. The meeting is the group’s first attempt at accessing the needs of the student population, said Randi Love, one of BASH’s two advisers.

Hallam hopes to gain information on the health concerns of students at Ohio State. Leaders of student organizations have been asked to send a representative to the meeting with a list of needs and concerns their organization feels are important, Love said.

The meeting is open to the public.

“We would like to provide students the opportunity to learn proper skills in handling health problems,” Hallam said.

There are five things BASH can accomplish as an organization, said Dr. Ted Grace, the director of Wilce Student Health Center.

First, BASH can act as an advocacy or support group for OSU students. BASH also can advise students with health center concerns, as well as act as a possible service component. Another purpose of BASH is program evaluation at the center and, finally, BASH is a social organization.

Hallam and Love said issues they plan to address include alcoholism and sexually transmitted diseases at Ohio State.

Love said there are many programs and facilities designed to help students, but students do not know where to go in order to satisfy their needs.

“This organization can act as a liaison between health services, administration and the group at large,” Love said.

Love hopes BASH will improve OSU’s student perception of the health center and other services on campus.