

Teach-In

Panel Discussions

by Bob Bonaker

During the Teach-In, panel discussions concerning new ideas in education were held on Tuesday and Friday. The panel held Friday afternoon in the auditorium was of particular interest.

The panel consisted of Capitol Campus faculty and was moderated by Dr. Ralph J. Brown, Asst. Dean of Faculty. The panel members were Drs. Roger Saylor, Joseph Moore, Elmer Lattor, Robert Moore, John Patterson and Herb Eisenstein and Mr. Melvin Haber.

Lear began the remarks by continuing the points he was making when Tuesday's session ended in a shouting match between Mr. Clem Gilpin and himself. Lear stressed importance of the calm, rational thinking of intellectualism. "Profanity reflects the absence of these traits." He also

expressed the belief that, "This nation is indebted to our students, who are a mirror image of society. Without them, we probably would have been more deeply involved in the conflict in Vietnam."

Bresler espoused his views in the form of the question, "What is education? What is its focus, what is it about? I think its purpose is to produce thinkers, not radicals, or not good little boys and girls, either. Morals are extremely important."

Dr. Thomas Knight, Assoc. Prof. of Social Science believes we have a basic "need to learn how to learn, something that is completely at odds with technical programs." Dr. Joe Moore, Prof. of Engineering pointed to the evident need for highly advanced training to suit the demands of future society.

Eisenstein responded to

earlier remarks made by Lear by saying, "A radical is a person who questions with reason. He is not one who reacts with gut emotional responses or violence." He pointed to the apparent basic issue being discussed; the one of intellectualism vs. emotionalism. "The two can't be separated, they must be successfully developed to their mutual benefits," asserted Eisenstein.

The audience and the panel seemed to be divided into two main camps, with very few people taking a neutral stance. One team advocated revision in the educational process at the University. They said that in the final two years of college, students should be learning how to apply their skills to their future lives. The other camp believed the "skills" to be incomplete and in need of further development.

Opening Session

by Bob Bonaker

One of the more interesting facets of last week's immensely successful Teach-In was the opening session. A panel discussed the topic, "The Meaning of death-property destruction; or what the Harrisburg Conspiracy Trial is all about."

The panel was held Monday, February 7th in the auditorium. The members included: Jane Kennedy, one of the Beaver 55, a group convicted of destroying Selective Service files in Indianapolis, Inc. and computer tapes from the Dow Chemical, Co. in Midland, Mich.; Joann Malone, also a member of the Beaver 55; Frank Callahan, one of the Flower City Conspiracy, a group convicted of destroying Selective Service, FBI and U.S. Attorney files in Rochester, N.Y.; and Jane Meyerding, also a member of the Flower City Conspiracy. The panel was introduced by Capitol's Dr. Robert Colman.

The discussion served as a forum for the panel to espouse their views on oppression and to explain why they committed criminal acts to protest government policy.

Joanne Malone, who served a prison term because of her role in destroying draft records explained her actions. "This nation has adopted an inhumane attitude. There is too much value placed on property. To protect it, human lives become expendable." Malone continued: "I destroyed death-property (Dow Chemical napalm records) because it destroys or forever maims."

Grading At Capitol

Last Friday, a faculty panel was held to discuss the educational process at Capitol Campus. Faculty members with varied opinions concerning this broad issue were asked to participate. One of the primary objectives was for students and faculty to exchange ideas concerning what Capitol Campus was originally designed to be, what it actually is, and its direction in the future.

Of the many issues discussed the most important was the matter of grading and evaluation. Many of the students and certain of the faculty agree as to the inequity of grades. Among the more devious faults of the present system is that a mere A,B,C, etc. does not testify to the knowledge a student may have on a particular subject. Further, where knowledge and individual accomplishment should be of prime importance it becomes secondary, for the student works, in most cases, not for the knowledge or accomplishment but for the grade.

While recognizing the current option of Pass/Fail as a good and necessary reform in the grading structure, it should be remembered that the actual number and type of courses which this option could be applied to is extremely limited. Perhaps further reforms are necessary. Or, should Pass/Fail be limited still further? What alternatives are available in order to evaluate a student more equitably? This issue affects you, have you thought about it?

Judy Jennings
Rosemarie Pallett

Callahan, recently released from federal prison after service 10 months for draft board raids, is a man dedicated to protest of government oppression. He points to the FBI and its concentration on recruiting informants to spy on radicals, while it seems to be making as good as effort to infiltrate the "Cosa Nostra", "The fact that a majority of people on the FBI's ten most wanted list are political radicals proves my point."

Callahan asks, "What is the government doing FOR us or TO us?" He believes there is an answer to many of our country's problems. "If we could take 2 per cent of the annual Gross National Product and redistribute among the populus, it would bring everyone above the poverty level."

The auditorium was half filled with people, attentive to the statements made by the participants sat a coffin, allegedly filled with destroyed draft records. The coffin was emblematic of the death-dealing property of involuntary induction notices, napalm formulas, and weapons systems.

Jane Kennedy is a career nurse, "concerned about the alleviation and prevention of pain-placing an enormous value on human life." She served 14 months in prison for her "crimes" in the Detroit Home of Correction. She is currently on appeal bond for another incident.

The former vice-president of the Medical Committee for Human Rights related the immediate incident which caused her to join in active protest: "When Dow Chemical produced napalm to 'kill faster to end the war faster, caused me to closely examine the moral principles of the United States. The military teacher our men to kill."

After these remarks, the panel fielded numerous questions from the audience. Callahan answered one question by giving some information about a newly developed anti-personnel bomb. "It explodes like shrapnel, only the pieces are jagged plastic instead of lead. The plastic enters the body and causes intense pain. Because the particles are plastic, they can't be detected by X-ray. In order for the pieces to be found, the surgeon must cut into the body and probe, resulting in further unbearable pain. How can such a weapon be defensive?"

When asked why they were involved in violent actions, the panel responded that they were retaliating against the government in the name of human dignity. They advocated grass roots action to put into use the true principles of freedom. "We have no map, but we do know that the first step is for people to take control of their own lives."

Miss Kennedy added, "Not only that, the war must be resisted. There are no clear answers. We can't leave it up to a charismatic leader, it is our responsibility." Kennedy summed up the feeling of the panel: "We can make a difference, if we find a way that is life affirming then we must find a way to resist."

Well, I Wanna Tell Ya...

Dear Editor:

I read with regret Steve Rosenzweig's account of an incident New Year's Eve at the Adolphus. I cannot understand why anyone would behave in the manner of the 30 individuals you described. This is not typical of University of Texas students. We have 40,000 students and naturally there will be those who are bent toward violence or whatever, to express their emotions. They do not represent the students at the University generally, as is obvious from the fact that few incidents of this sort ever occur. Incidentally, I was at a pre-game party at the Adolphus, and there were about 30 people at it, but about half of them were from Penn State, including some of your cheerleaders. If you check with them, you will determine that hostility is not typical, but

instead conviviality. In fact, most Penn State students I came across had a good time. I would like to insert here, though, that neither hospitality nor violence fit regional stereotypes. By the way, the chairman of our Sportsmanship Committee is from Pennsylvania. I deplore the individuals' actions you described, however, that action cannot be imputed as typical of the whole. To do so is prejudicial stereotyping of the sort that leads to bigotry, which we all would like to see

eradicated. Furthermore, the article refers to "proving something to Texas" and other such things, then you attribute a John Wayne mentality to us. If you will reflect a moment, you will notice quite a John Wayne mentality in parts of your article referring to going out to prove things, "crushing", and stereotyping in general. It is

somewhat sophomoric to impute football winning or individual football fans' conduct to all the students.

In closing, I detest the abominable actions of the individuals you described. To the extent that they represent the University of Texas, you have my apologies. However, they do not represent the students at UT. Should you have some folks venturing to Austin soon, have them contact me, and I will be glad to show them around, perhaps to broaden their exposure to the students at the University of Texas.

Sincerely,
Bob Binder
President
Student Association
University of Texas

Ed. Note: To see what reactions we'd get Steve Wesley sent several copies of the January 27 article "Bum Steers" to the University of Texas. Instead of sending an armed phalanx via chartered jet, the Student Association President sent the following letter.

In addition to the apology, however, Mr. Binder makes a few pertinent points. Although we haven't spoken to Steve or Cal about it, we're sure that most of us do not feel that all Texans are violent. In fact, Mr. Binder seems to be a very likable gentleman.

We intend to respond to this letter and, with the approval of the Social Committee heads, Mike Bauer and Don Lewis, to invite the Texas students to the rock festival this spring.

If any Capitol students plan to go to the Austin area, please contact Mr. Binder and let us hear another side of the university.

To The Capitol Community:

Contained within the article "This Week In The SGA" which appeared in the 10 Feb 72 issue of THE CAPITOLIST were a few remarks which I supposedly made but unfortunately are somewhat erroneous. It is my hope that this letter will answer any questions members of the Capitol community have raised pertaining to these remarks.

The first dealt specifically with building priorities here at Capitol. There was no meeting of the Faculty Senate at University Park to consider Capitol building projects as was stated in the article. What was held however was a joint meeting of the Capitol Faculty Committee's on the Library and Physical Plant. Not only were building priorities discussed, but possible expansion plans for the current library plant were also mentioned.

The second dealt with my last statement on 'this school becoming paranoic over autonomy and accreditation.' It is at this point that I feel I was misquoted. What I said was that Capitol and themembers of the Capitol community are becoming more and more concerned about the whole autonomy and upcoming accreditation question. I honestly feel however that we are becoming too concerned with the problem at hand. The statement that 'Capitol is losing faculty and courses because of paranoia' is totally false. I did however state my personal concern pertaining to the uniqueness of Capitol and what could happen if this uniqueness is ever lost.

The staff of THE CAPITOLIST is not totally at fault when problems arise similar to this. Being under-staffed causes pressure which, in turn, causes mistakes. I appreciate the opportunity to clarify my remarks.

Terry K. Wimmer
President
S.G.A.

Ed. Note: Our CAPTOLIST reporter asserts that Mr. Wimmer was quoted correctly. Perhaps the President should have worded his statements differently so that what he meant to say and what he actually did say were NOT two different things.

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