Editorial/Opinion

Unconstitutional?

The last official meeting of the Student Government Association conducted by this year's seniors was held Monday, April 21, 1980.

The meeting concluded the seniors' year with a bang.

Yes, the Student Government Association has come a long way since last year. It has come a long way since last term. The senior SGA members have fought a hard battle, and are finally getting the rest they deserve.

Good job seniors!

However, the juniors are another story.

Almost every junior SGA Senator has the potential to become a great leader.

But it sometimes is inevitable that great potential is wasted and/or abused. The great temptation of politics and political favoritism can destroy such potential.

The underlying problem is that the SGA determined to blatantly violate the following provisions of the SGA constitution at the April 21 meeting: Art. VI, sec.3; Art. VII, sec.1 and 2; Art. VIII, sec.1; Art. IX, sec.1, par.2 -- referring to preamble; Art. XI, sec.3, par.2, item (2); Art. XVIII, sec.1 and 2; and Art. XIX, sec.1.

Although meetings should not be unduly bound by rules of procedure, policy must be enforced and preserved so as to maintain order.

Otherwise the meetings will acquire a distinct sense of chaos. No business will transpire -- the organization will not accomplish anything, and *eventually* the organization will collapse.

That will probably never happen at Capitol Campus because of the one year turnover rate of the Student Government. Some unfortunate junior will always be willing to take charge.

When will the junior student leaders realize that the SGA is a valuable learning experience in which all those involved can learn policy, decision making, human relations, politics, management, good citizenship, and community service?

Probably never, because next week many junior student leaders will become senior student leaders. And in the next decade these individuals will become civil and/or social leaders in their respective communities.

If the SGA constitution is unpopular, then students should initiate revision of the constitution through legislative review as stated in Article XIX, Section 1 of the SGA constitution.

Use the law to change the law.

Recently there has been a political tenseness in the air: an uneasiness or distrust of politicians because of a weariness towards political rhetoric.

Too much talk, not enough action.

That is often the case among college students, even newspaper editors.

The **C.C. Reader** would like to offer a easy solution to this problem; however, it cannot: there is no easy answer.

The old saying "If you want something to get done you have to do it yourself" holds true at Capitol.

It shouldn't.

And it won't hold true for long.

The SGA has postponed the Spring Elections from today till Monday, April 28, 1980. In order for the **C.C. Reader** to print the SGA Canditate Platforms today, the SGA had to grant the **C.C. Reader** an exception to the SGA Election Screening Committee's By-Laws. At least the students of Capitol Campus have a chance to decide who they should or should not vote for.

Most of the members of SGA should not take offense to this opinion. And the acts of a few should not condemn the whole organization (even though it is usually misconstrued as such).

Also, the notion that the constitution may now be disregarded because it has been violated in the past is not a valid argument -- since when has two wrongs made a right?

As stated before, meetings should not be unduly bound by rules of procedure -- procedure should only be used as a tool to conduct a meeting in an orderly manner. But policies and procedure have to be followed -- legislated, enforced, and interpreted.

Through all this commotion, the **C.C. Reader** has an interesting relationship with the SGA.

It is the duty of the **C.C. Reader** to provide editorial comment on issues facing the campus community, and it is the duty of the **C.C. reader** to keep students informed about their campus community.

With these two "duties" or "purposes" in mind, the **C.C. Reader** can be construed to be "The Voice of Capitol Campus" and/or "The Watchdog of the Government (SGA and Administration).

Actually, the **C.C. Reader** is not completely either of these two. It would be nice. But it just isn't true.

If **you** want the student body to know how **you** feel, **you** are welcome to write in the **C.C. Reader.**

SGA Candidates Unorganized

The **C.C. Reader** is in a bit of a bind. It seems that every student and his brother is running for SGA office.

The problem is one of being fair to all.

Some would have only the platforms of candidates who have been approved for the ballot appear in the paper. Others would have the platforms of all candidates, including write-ins, make their showing. We choose to take the latter route.

Who says Capitol Campus students are apathetic? Or are they just trying to make a mockery out of the whole electorial process?

This being an election year may have something to do with the outbreak of the "I want to be somebody" syndrome. Or it may be that this class of juniors just has the stuff together a lot more than many classes of the past.

Who knows?

Who are we to say?

Anyway, the enthusiasm that is being generated by all the various candidates is very encouraging. That includes the serious (??) and the not-so serious. At least one candidate is even serious about **not** being serious!

One other election-related topic deserves attention. The Student Government Association, and college life in general, is supposed to teach students how to act like reasonable, mature adults. Tritely speaking, it gets us ready for the "real world."

While the "real world" may not always be very civilized, most members of our society at least try to behave ethicaly. So why can't we at least try to set an example?

Respect the rights of your opponents and other students.

Respect their freedom of speech.

Respect their feelings.

But above all, respect yourself. Let's save all the mud-slinging and poster-snatching for another day, another place, another person. Play fair.

Olmstead University

"HE'S PRACTICING FOR THE NEXT ISSUE."

CAPITOL CAMPUS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 24 -- Lecture: 12:15 p.m. "On Black Culture: A Dissent" Speaker: Dr. Jay Saunders Redding. Gallery Lounge.

Concert: 7:30 p.m. Spanish and Latin American Music presented by Momento Musicale, Gallery Lounge.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25-- Baseball at E-town College, 3:30p.m. Students Aglow Fellowship,7:00p.m. 907 Weaver Ave. International Dinner, 7:30 p.m. Bring a dish or pay admission. Entertainment by: The Cari Folk Singers-Caribbean Folk Songs and Dance-Student Center.

SATURDAY* APRIL 26-- Baseball,Ogontz Campus at Capitol, 12:00 noon

SUNDAY, APRIL 27-- MASS,7:00 p.m.,Student Center.

MONDAY, APRIL 28--**C.C. Reader** Staff Mtg.,2:30 p.m.,W-129. Last day to order caps and gowns for Spring Term graduation.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29--XGI's Mtg.,9:00p.m., American Legion Hall.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30--Baseball-at Juniata College, 3:30 p.m. Maranatha Bible Study, 12:00 noon W-135. Provost Advisory Committee on Student Welfare, 3:00p.m. Gallery Lounge.

SATURDAY, MAY 3--Spring Semi-Formal at Schindler's. 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Open bar with dinner. $15.00/single, $25.00/couple.

TUESDAY, MAY 13--Tim Eyesman and East Coast Offering. Gallery Lounge at 8:00 p.m.

c.c. reader

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The C.C. Reader has the following four-fold purpose: [1] to keep students informed about their campus community; [2] to provide editorial comment on issues facing the campus community; [3] to serve as a forum for student poetry, photographs, short stories, graphics, and other creative endeavors; [4] to serve as a learning mechanism for all students interested in the journalistic process. This includes reporting, editing, layout, typesetting, and paste-up.

All students are urged to express their views by contributing to the C.C. Reader.

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The opinions expressed in this paper are not necessarily those of the students, faculty, staff, or administration of the Pennsylvania State University.

LETTERS POLICY

Author must be identifiable as a student, staff member, or faculty member; however, names will be withheld upon request. Letters should be legible [preferably typewritten, double spaced]; and any material that is libelous or does not conform to the standards of good taste will be edited and/or rejected.