

LETTERS (continued)

group of unelected officials, whom the Student Affairs have appointed, to fill in until the student body can draft a constitution, can arbitrarily decide on the issue, especially issues that the student should decide for themselves. A student government is theoretically a liaison between the bulk of the student body and the administration. It should be the most efficient and flexible method of a communication system that is feasible when a group of any size is involved. How then can an autonomous constitution replace a student body constitution?

When something is done in my name, then I want to be consulted. Contrary to the opinion of the SGA and Student Affairs, there are students on this campus who are capable of speaking for themselves.

(Name submitted but withheld
by request)

To the Editor:

I could not attend the SGA meeting of May 9, 1968, and upon receiving word of the motion passed to submit the constitution to University Park without a vote from the student body, I was immensely shocked at the inconsideration and narrow-minded action of the SGA. It is ridiculous to put into use a constitution giving power to the student body without their considerations, recommendations, and approval.

I certainly feel that for a strong working bond between the SGA and student body, the SGA and student body, the SGA should not take all power to make decisions into their own hands, and I hope that the students let the SGA know how they feel concerning this matter. I wish that I had attended that meeting to vote a definite "NO!" against that motion. If the SGA has valid reasons for this action, it is my formal request that the SGA submit these reasons to the student body for consideration.

Sharon Mayer
Recording Secretary, SGA

To the Editor (whomever you may be),

At the last meeting of the Student Government Association on the ninth of May, I went on record as a vote against what I feel is the most detrimental and horrendous legislation yet to be passed by that organization. In the interests of the student body, which they almost always manage to respect, they were sadly lacking this time.

By a motion that carried by an eight to two vote, the SGA has filched the "new" constitution from the outstretched hands of the student body and laid it humbly at the feet of the Senate Committee on Student Affairs at the main campus.

To me, this is one of the most extraordinary blunders in the history of the Behrend Campus Student Government Association. One that was committed without too much forethought.

When the student body fully realizes that the Senate Committee has been given priority over themselves, the voice of protest

will ring loud and clear in the ears of the SGA. In my estimation, they were extremely derelict by failing to realize that the constitution is the document of the Behrend Campus as a whole, not the SGA autonomously. The SGA was initiated to and must defend the rights of the student to have a voice, to be given priority over any other group in the intricate system of Penn State University and to legislate in a manner most beneficial to the needs of the student. In this they have failed.

Furthermore, because of the confusion brought about by last Spring's election when all offices were relinquished, the SGA had to be appointed by the Behrend Campus Student Affairs Committee. I feel it is of the utmost importance that the 1968-69 student government present to the student body a document in proof of the fact that something has been done to remedy this abominable situation.

The taste of ashes will linger long and bitter in the mouths of the representatives of the student body when they fully realize that they have been in grave error and that it is a mistake not easily remedied.

As I said earlier, I went on record against this preposterous measure in the beginning and I will battle for the right of student priority in ratification until a fair and just end is reached.

Sincerely,



Mike Kosares
SGA Representative

REPRESENTATIVES OR PUPPETS???

Next week, the SGA elections will be conducted at Behrend. Positions open are: President, treasurer, and four carry-over members. Last year, student government officers were appointed by student affairs, and the remainder was voted on this Fall by these officers. NO REPRESENTATIVE WAS VOTED ON BY THE STUDENT BODY.

Now we have a chance to remedy this situation by electing next year's officials. We can have a say in what goes on around here. But will we take this opportunity? Will we elect these people on the basis of ability and qualifications? Or will we vote for a person because he bought a round at Kelly's and then think no more about it?

There has been much controversy lately about the power struggle between Student Affairs and the student body. Unless you want to let the administration run the SGA, completely ignore the individual's point of view and regard the student only as a number, a body, a nuisance, vote for the people who will act independently and further the interests of the individual student.

Next year there will 200 dorm students on campus; these two hundred people will share many different problems. They will be able to unite easily, and could play a significant part in any campus activity. This means that the commuting students will have to ORGANIZE