

HEARINGS cont.

Campus system has provided a higher education to more state graduates of average intelligence at a lower cost than could have been possible with any other system.

While the report cited the cost to educate a student to be anywhere from \$600 to \$1,500 a year, it failed to mention that The Pennsylvania State University's Commonwealth Campuses fell in the middle with a cost of approximately \$1,000 a year, according to Holderman.

The University's representative at the hearing in Bethlehem, Dr. Thomas F. Bates, vice president for planning at the University, pointed out that the University was originally, and still is, a land-grant college, established to provide a higher education to the sons and daughters of middle class families.

The separate University Board of Trustees was empowered by the legislature to control the University in order to "take their management out of the hands of the changing political administrations of the regular State governments and to free them from the influence and control of the politically constituted State departments, offices, and agencies," according to a 1930 publication of the U. S. Office of Education.

As the official land-grant college, Bates pointed out that the Trustees have been careful to obey the charter of the legislature to provide education "at convenient times and places, for all citizens of the commonwealth who desire such instruction and who are capable of profiting from it." To the University and other leaders "convenient times and places" can only be accomplished through a statewide system of Commonwealth Campuses.

And herein lies one of the main points of concern to the Administration about the Mark-Hobson report. In the report, the principle of "mission assignment" was advanced, whereby the State Board of Education, and not the Trustees, would have control over on which the educational system of America was founded, Holderman said.

He explained that the state and national governments have traditionally been divorced from education. But with the advent of great amounts of state and federal aid to education, some basic ideals had to be sacrificed. "With each dollar they (the government) hand you, they expect a certain return," Holderman said.

This return could be in the form of research for government, requiring the students to take a certain course, or any other varied request.

If the idea of "mission assignment" were to be followed, it would mean abandoning the traditional separation of state and educational institutions.

In ordering a study in an area in which it has no concern, the State Board of Education has caused worry to Administration and embarrassment to itself. If the report's recommendations are taken with any grain of seriousness, they could change the entire structure of the state's educational system, and reverse the long-standing tradition of separation of education and state.

RULINGS cont.

The Witness Bill was proposed in last April's Senate meeting, but was sent back to committee for revision because of what was termed "vague" in wording.

In other action, the committee abolished the old rule of prohibiting students of disciplinary probation from taking part in extracurricular activities, including sporting events.

In its report to the Senate, the committee said that "participation in an extracurricular activity is a means by which a student can express his desire for rehabilitation and an opportunity to redeem himself. His removal from active participation in extracurricular activities could destroy, in his own mind, his ability to face up to his responsibilities."

It will now be left to the individual organization presidents and advisers to decide if the member in question can and should actively participate.

Many faculty and administration members, as well as the students, favored passage of the bill, including Donald H. Ford, dean of the College of Human Development, who said that he favored passage of the new ruling because it would "place increased responsibility on the student to straighten out his own affairs."

Lattuen said he favored passage of the bill, since he considered the old ruling was "purely punitive and served as a block to the student's rehabilitation."

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