

Editorial Opinion

SGA Needs Protagonists ... Not Antagonists

The new SGA system is precariously sitting on a razor's edge. It has completed the first year of a 2-year probation period. Next year is the turning point. A Senate committee composed mainly of administrative officials will decide next spring whether the system passes or flunks its test.

As it stands now, the sentiment of this subcommittee is against the system.

The present system is the best advanced thus far. It provides for a good representation of the entire student body. It prevents influence by any special interest groups. It provides for the desired separation of powers especially between the SGA Cabinet and Assembly.

While SGA officials should not be subservient to the administration, the obvious fact is that these officials must be respected by the administration. If they are not respected, the opinions they present to the Senate subcommittee will hardly carry much weight.

Campus party's top two candidates, Peter Galie and John Brandt, have expressed the opinion that SGA should act strictly according to the views of the student body. But this should not be the case. SGA should not be guided by student's views alone because many students do not have enough information to see the real picture.

The role of SGA is to listen to student opinion, check into the feasibility of the problem and then take authoritative action. If the Assembly passes unfeasible legislation, it will merely lose the respect of the administration. Its proposals will be turned down, and it will then lose respect of the students.

SGA then is not designed just to be diametrically opposed to administration policy. Student leaders, particularly those in top positions, must be able to command the respect of the administration so that SGA legislation will be considered and acted upon. Action cannot be thrown in the face of the administration in the form of a do-this-or-else demand.

The Senate Subcommittee on Organizational Control holds the fate of student government in its hands and can act at any time.

Nor should student leaders be elected merely because they swear they will not join an organization, namely Lion's Paw. Students should not go into SGA offices with a built-in prejudice against a fellow student just because he might accept a Lion's Paw bid. This in itself should not prevent him from following his own convictions.

Frequent but unproven inferences have been made against Lion's Paw that it has had only a detrimental effect on student government. Opinion of any one member has been taken as the opinion of the entire group.

In voting for SGA officials, students must look to the qualifications of the candidates, taking into consideration just what each candidate might do for the good of the student body. His past experience, contributions to student government and plans for executing the office should be the prime criteria for choosing a candidate.

If a person is a strong individual, he will carry his convictions over into his office regardless of past or future affiliations. He will accept student opinion, collect all pertinent facts and come to a decision. Then he will present it to the administration in a manner that will foster its acceptance. This is the proper way to represent the student body.

-1959-60 Board of Editors
1960-61 Board of Editors

A Student-Operated Newspaper
55 Years of Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday morning during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 8, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

Mail Subscription Price: \$3.00 per semester - \$5.00 per year.

Member of The Associated Press and The Intercollegiate Press

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Letters

Satire Given On SPE Penalty

TO THE EDITOR: With all the articles written in the last week concerning the Sigma Phi Epsilon incident, people might get the impression that the fraternity feels it was wronged. We certainly didn't want to give the student body the impression that our views are so channeled into only our own selfish interest.

We realize that the decision handed down was for the good of the fraternity system as a whole. The fact that the majority of the fraternities feel otherwise has little bearing on the case.

The sooner the fraternities fully comply with regulation W-5, the sooner our town and our own relations will arrive at a new high of mutual respect.

Of course this means a few people might feel a fraternity is a snobbish clique of labeled companionship as the doors are locked to all guests on a Friday and Saturday night, but I'm sure everyone will realize what swell people we are every year when we all combine to participate in work projects during Greek Week.

Perhaps there may come a day when our parties can again be open—when someone in authority defines the point of intoxication, or what constitutes attending a party 5, 10, 15 minutes? But until then may we say that we feel proud that we were selected to act as a precedent.

Let's learn these regulations—subject to the interpretation of the Board of Control.

-Richard Deisher

Gazette

TODAY

- Agricultural Student Council, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
AIM, 7 p.m., 216 HUB
SGA Elections, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., HUB, east-100m
Angel Flight, 6:30 p.m., 214 Willard; 7:15 p.m., Arnold Air Society Initiation
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., HUB
College of Home Economics Research Seminar, 12:30 p.m., HUB dining room "A"
Collegian Promotion Staff, 6:30 p.m., 211 Boucke
Delta Sigma Pi business meeting, 7 p.m.
Alpha Sigma Phi: professional meeting, 7:45 p.m., speaker, Dr. Lawrence Lattman
English Colloquium, 7:30 p.m., Nittany Lion Inn
Father Havanic Discussion, 7 p.m., 217 HUB
Five O'Clock Theatre, "Rich Man, Poor Man, Beggarman, Thief," 5:00 p.m., Little Theatre in Old Main
Froth Circulation Staff Meeting, 8:15 p.m., 216 HUB
Geophysics and Geochemistry Seminar, 3:15 p.m., 121 MI
IG, 7:00 p.m., 203 HUB
Liberal Arts Student Council, 6:30 p.m., 214 HUB
Mineral Industries Student Council, 8:15 p.m., 217 HUB
Mixed Choir, 7 p.m., HUB
Navy Recruiting, 10:00 a.m., HUB ground floor lobby
Physics Colloquium, 4:15 p.m., 117 Omond
Prof Snaaf Contest, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB first floor
Schubplatter Dancers, 7:30 p.m., 3 White
Science Fiction Society, 7 p.m., 107 Boucke
Sociology Club, 7:50 p.m., 218 HUB
HOSPITAL
Ira Adler, James Armstrong, James Banks, Nancy Banta, Meryl Barsky, David Berge, Donna Berk, Linda Cutting, William Duemler, Sandra Fellows, John Hanish, Lucinda Hart, Mary Isaacs, Emily Maize, Harry Makitka, Eugene Mochan, Alan Moses, Donna Roberts, Sheila Rosenzweig, Sheron Rowles, Kinzo Yamamoto, Francis Zengerle, Bernard Tandarich, Mark Zilberberg.

New AIM Officers Will Be Elected

Final nominations and elections for officers of the Association of Independent Men will be held at 7 p.m. tomorrow in 203 Hetzel Union.

Any independent man may be nominated for office if he submits a petition signed by 100 independent men. Petitions may be obtained at the Hetzel Union desk, or the prospective nominee may draw up his own form. Forms must be returned to the HUB desk before Tuesday evening.

Members of the AIM Board of Governors need not submit a petition.

Candidates for president must have a 2.4 All-University average and be juniors. Candidates for vice president, secretary and treasurer must have a 2.0 All-University average.

Seniors to Get Journal

Seniors will be mailed copies of this month's Penn State Alumni News free of charge.

The Alumni Association will soon begin a campaign for seniors to join the association, Mrs. Mary S. Neilly, managing editor of the Alumni News, said.



Letters

Janjigian Hits Froth's Actions

TO THE EDITOR: I have neither the money to print nor the cohorts to distribute my feelings, so I must rely on this medium to express them.

First of all, I would like to state that I too am graduating at the end of this semester. Neither am I a member of either political party nor have I accepted any bribes.

The words "funny, sickening, disgusting" appeared in a recent tirade being distributed around campus. However, it seems these words were grossly misused. To me, this feeble attempt at last minute campaign mud-slinging is not only in poor taste but also indicative of the warped perspective which is cherished by a "select group" on this campus.

From personal experience over an extended period of time, I can most truthfully say that I have not worked with any administration member who has been uncooperative or unwilling to both give and take criticisms and suggestions, and then sit down and help work them out to everyone's satisfaction.

Furthermore, I can say that I have sat on the same committees as members of Lion's Paw and have never seen students' views misrepresented or compromised just for the sake of compromise. Which is the more effective in getting significant things done: criticizing, slandering and doing nothing about it, or attempting sincerely to carrying students' views out?

The questioning of integrity

must also enter in. I came across a saying to the effect that he who is without fault cast the first stone. In that situation needless to say, no stones were thrown. A few people in this vicinity would well take these words to heart. Last fall the SGA Assembly was told that "politics is a sort of secret thing. Parties are not all they say they are. So what do we do about people who are double-crossed by the party itself?"

Furthermore it was stated that it was wrong to deny the right of somebody to pick and choose as he pleases. The speaker went on, "Who is going to bear the brunt of it. Why not give him an opportunity? Why put restriction on freedom to go to any party he feels is right?" The very people who said these words are now criticizing certain candidates for switching parties. Need I say more?

I could go on, but I feel I've made my point. I do have an interest in these elections, an interest for good effective student government.

That's why I intend to vote University for SGA officers.

Well, I've had my say for what it's worth. Back to "Macbeth": "An oftentimes, to win us to our harm,

The instruments of darkness tell us truths,

Win us with honest trifles, to betray us

In deepest consequence."

-Act I, Sc 3, 1.123

-Jessie Janjigian, '60

Individualism Needed To Aid SGA System

TO THE EDITOR: While student government was reorganized in a way which stressed the political party, it was, and I hope still is a government of individuals. When any part of that government breaks down it is the time for the

individual to come to the fore and assert himself.

Now is one of those times and I hope that there are individuals with the personal courage to stop and prove that the students are responsible enough to govern themselves.

-Daniel Thalimer, '59

Stereo Week Announced By WDFM, WMAJ

WDFM and WMAJ have set aside this week as stereo week and will broadcast all programs from 8 to 9.30 p.m. in stereophonic sound.

Two hours of stereo will be broadcast from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday.

AFROTC Plans Annual

The Air Force ROTC is planning a yearbook which will contain pictures of individual AFROTC organizations and the whole division. Its name, chosen earlier this year, will be "Count-down."

Students may reserve their copies by depositing \$2 today, tomorrow or Thursday at the Armory. The yearbook will cost a maximum of \$4.

