

Professor Gives Views On Final Examinations

By LYNNE CEREFICE

As final exam time approaches, the semi-annual question as to the value and purpose of finals is being raised again.

Students have asked that the final examination be "abated, debated, mutilated, abolished, demolished, circumscribed, changed, revoked and banished," as Roland L. Hicks,

associate professor of journalism, put it in a memo to his students.

But how does its creator, the professor, feel about his product, the final exam? The following comments of University professors indicate a variety of attitudes and policies.

Taking a favorable stand on the subject, Wallace R. Brewster, professor of political science, said, "The primary purpose of the final exam is to require students to make some integration of a unit of study."

Finals are needed, Brewster said, in systems which do not provide for a comprehensive exam before graduation. He also said that finals help a student determine his standing in a class.

On the other side of the fence is Laurence H. Lattman, assistant professor of geomorphology, who declared that "finals are totally unnecessary." "They went out with the horse and buggy," he added. The final exam which is taken under considerable tension, Lattman explained, merely makes the student memorize and regurgitate.

Directly opposed to Lattman was Neil McNall, professor of American history, who said that "all students should take finals."

"No one should be exempt," he said.

The final exam, he explained, teaches the student to pull all his information together and organize it. Students would not otherwise do this, he said.

Joining the ranks with the pro-finalists, Joseph Grucci, associate professor of English composition, said emphatically, "Final exams are necessary. They give a student a chance to review his work," he added.

Grucci also said that he would not exempt any student because he feels that this review is of definite advantage to all students.

Another ally for the pro-finalists group, Robert M. Pockrass, associate professor of journalism, said that "the final exam is part of the learning experience." He said, however, that he is opposed to the strong emphasis placed on the final exam and to the way the student prepares for it.

Pockrass said that he believes in exemptions if there is a sufficient basis on which to determine a student's grade.

"Final exams are very important," said Henry A. Finch, professor of philosophy, as he led

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Ray Charles To Appear At Rec Hall

Ray Charles, famous musician and orchestra leader, will present a concert at 8 p.m. Feb. 19 in Recreation Hall under the sponsorship of the Jazz Club.

Featured with the orchestra will be his singing group, The Raelets.

"Charles is one of the most versatile musicians in the country," Alan Pollon, Jazz Club president, said.

"His concert will include jazz, rhythm and blues, folk songs, negro spirituals and ballads, and will appeal to any one's phase of interest in music," he said.

Charles recently appeared at the Hollywood Paladium in California, where his one-night stand grossed a record-breaking \$18,000.

Besides his concert here, Charles will also appear at Princeton and Yale on his Eastern tour, and a week before his arrival he will tape a Perry Como show which will be televised Feb. 22.

"Downbeat," a magazine for jazz musicians and fans, has said of Charles, "The effectiveness with which this man communicates with an audience must be seen and heard to be believed."

Panhel Recommends Greek Week Plans

By ELLIE HUMMER

(This is the fourth article in a series on the recommendations from the second annual Panhellenic workshop held last fall.)

The Panhellenic Public Relations Workshop suggested in a report by Elaine Miele, chairman, that one "Greek Weekend" be held in each of the four terms instead of an entire Greek Week once during the year.

Also recommended by the workshop, according to Miele, was that if Greek Week were held in the same form as before, that it be held again in the fall term so that it would conflict with less activities.

The workshop decided that some of the Greek Week events would be more beneficial if they were held at different times of the year.

It was suggested by the workshop that the IFC-Panhel Sing be held during Mother's Day Weekend so that parents could attend. Another suggestion was to hold the exchange dinners on Thanksgiving Day since there will be only a one-day vacation under

the four-term plan.

The workshop members felt, Miss Miele explained, that the work projects should be done throughout the year whenever the community needs help. This would eliminate searching for projects to be done, she said.

The poster display would be more effective, Miss Miele said, if it were held immediately before each fraternity and sorority rush.

Another reason given by the workshop for dividing the events of Greek Week over the year was that under the four-term plan a concentrated week of activities would use too much study time, reported Miss Miele.

In opposition to the new proposal, some members of the workshop felt the enthusiasm for the events might be lessened if they were spread out over the year, she said.

It was also suggested that much of the publicity given to Greek Week might be lost under such a system.

In a discussion on competition in the events, most of the workshop members felt that competition should be eliminated from all events except the Sing in order to unify the groups, Miss Miele said.


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