

It's Time to Review This Semester

It's that time of the year again . . . time to find the notes you took in September, reborrow the Chem book you lent to someone before Thanksgiving and to sum up the entire semester's work on 5x7 index cards.

In other words, it's time to look back.

Glancing over our shoulders, we see that in the world of activities, as in the academic world, so many things have happened since September that it is difficult to remember or record them all, but we'll try to recall the most significant.

During the last semester, SGA cleaned up Stone Valley, held elections and brought the bookstore back into the limelight.

Politically, a new party appeared and finally got its charter after much hassle.

Speaking of hassle, this semester was mostly verbal. State College police report that on the whole this has been a very quiet, orderly semester despite victory rallies when "We beat Pitt" and "We beat Army."

The interfraternity Council was busy over the months, working on plans to improve the scholarship system while Panhellenic Council began revamping the rush system.

Independents from AIM, TIM and Leonides began their merger into one large unit for more effective action.

All in all it was a busy semester but we'll try to get it on our "3x5 cards" below.

Bills Passed In SGA Chaos

In a semester that could make or break SGA, the Assembly found itself repeatedly embroiled in procedural chaos. However, several major bills managed to get to the floor for discussion and action.

The importance of the past semester's record is significant in view of the upcoming re-evaluation of the now provisional SGA constitution and charter by the Senate Committee on Student Affairs.

The record that the Senate will be considering was touched off with a local entry into the national political prediction contest, when early in the semester a bill to stage a Mock Election, sponsored by student groups from both parties, was approved.

The student body chose the losing candidate, Richard Nixon, but the fact that such an election was held became significant later in the year when Walter Darran's resolution to give SGA "the right to officially express a group opin-

ion on any subject even though we cannot offer full answers" hit the floor.

The resolution was defeated in a heated debate, on the grounds that SGA already had the power to extend its scope should it want to use it, as evidenced by the Mock Election.

Back on the campus scene, SGA took fast-paced action on a chronic student complaint when it approved a bill recommending to the Board of Trustees that a University-run bookstore be established.

At its recent meeting, the board asked that a detailed report on the need and means for establishing such a store be submitted at their June meeting.

One of the major accomplishments of SGA Assembly this year is visible by the non-discriminatory housing list now in the Hettel Union lobby.

The Assembly bounced back this semester after a disheartening walkout last spring—when the discrimination problem was first brought to SGA—by taking over maintenance of the list from the University.

The administration's decision to permit SGA to take a positive step in this direction may be an indication that they want to see an SGA with more responsibility.

Liberal Party Enters Scene

The political scene this semester was marked by the rise of a new political party (Liberal) and continued dominance of the University party.

In the fall elections University party netted two class presidencies — freshman and sophomore — and 12 SGA Assembly seats to hold a 12-seat majority in the Assembly.

Liberal party entered campus politics early in the semester and after rewriting their constitution twice was granted a charter last Tuesday. However, they backed three successful Assembly candidates as independents in the election.

Campus party, running on a platform which favored contacting officials in Harrisburg to counter administrative actions contrary to student opinion, won five assembly seats.

University party's platform called for integration of all student activities under SGA and transferral of powers to SGA to grant and retract charters of student organizations.

The Independent (now Liberal party) platform advocated services to the students such as a student bookstore, improved library facilities and minimum standards for off-campus housing.

ISA Co-Ordinates Independent Groups

The Independent Student Association in their initial semester of operation provided coordination of social and service activities for men and women independent students.

A need for ISA grew out of poor communication between independent groups. Since reorganization, the independent members of Leonides, Town Independent Men and The Men's Residence Council now exist primarily as governmental bodies.

ISA is in the process of writing a constitution which they will submit to the Senate Committee on Student Affairs for approval.

During the year, ISA has sponsored many Saturday night dances including Club Hubana. At Christmas they entertained orphans at a Project Joey party.

The future of Leonides rests upon the decision, yet to be made, of whether to join the newly formed Independent Student Association.

It is presently supporting ISA on a one-year trial basis.

Leonides has before it now three choices: it may dissolve completely and join ISA; it may refuse to join ISA at all; or it may become a division under ISA.

The struggle by Town Independent Men's Council for a charter which would grant them autonomy was their major activity of the past semester.

Although the Senate Committee on Student Affairs has not yet granted final approval for this charter, it is expected that they will do so in the near future. As it now stands, TIM is an organization with the Association of Independent Men.

However, since AIM has temporarily disbanded in order to review their constitution and reorganize as the Association of Men in Residence, TIM has been left in the middle with all of their funds tied up.

Panhel, IFC Plan Codes for 4 Terms

One of the major problems confronting the Panhellenic Council during the past semester has been adapting the structure of the council and the rushing program to the four-term system.

A revised rushing code accepted at a meeting in November established a counselor-guide program and changed the number of

coffee hours from two to three.

The change in the structure of the council adopted last week provides that each sorority will be represented by the presidents and a Panhellenic delegate.

The quota limitation system adopted last week will establish a pledge quota and a membership limitation number for all sororities be set after registration for Formal Spring Rush.

Transfer rushing programs, bar policy, jazz festival plans, a scholarship improvement program, a new housing policy and a yearly fire inspection are among the things which the Inter-Fraternity Council concerned itself with this semester.

In a new program all students transferring from Commonwealth campuses were permitted to live in a fraternity house for a period of three weeks before pledging a fraternity or moving to a residence hall or downtown.

IFC also enforced the rule prohibiting permanent bars in fraternity houses and passed a ruling for a yearly fire inspection of the fraternities.

In 1871 our school colors were black and pink.

ONWARD and UPWARD!

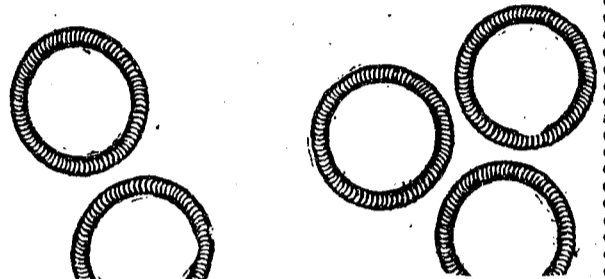


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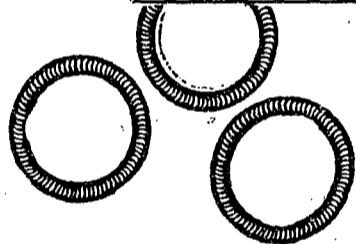
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