

Editorial Opinion

Students Not Consulted

Dean Emeritus of Admissions C. O. Williams said in a letter to the editor yesterday that the students were consulted on a major policy issue when the four term plan was presented to the 1960 Encampment at Mont Alto.

We disagree.

Granted, the plan was first outlined to students a day before it was released to the public, but this does not mean the students were consulted.

Granted, the students accepted it at that time, but what else could they do.

They were not prepared for such an announcement.

They had no time to consider this major educational change and its effects, nor did they have a chance to discuss it before the plan was officially adopted.

It had already been signed, sealed and delivered.

Had the students had any valid suggestions or viewpoints on the proposed system, it was already too late for them to be considered because the plan had already been adopted.

This is not "consulting the students," it is merely extending the courtesy of informing them one day before informing the rest of the state.

A Reading Problem

The already strained line of administrative-student communications that every one talks about but no one does anything about is further complicated by students who don't discern what their eyes actually see.

Every day this newspaper receives letters from students who confuse administration and faculty, administration and committee, administration and student leader, administration and senate, etc.

Many readers are not astute enough to differentiate between action actually taken or statements actually made by members of the administration, and action or statements by members of the faculty, the Senate (faculty and administration), or Senate committees (faculty administration and student.)

If students consider the actions taken by any of these groups to be detrimental to the student interest they immediately heap blame and ridicule upon the administration without being fair enough to criticize the administration only for its actions and not falsely accuse it of actions taken by other groups.

This only compounds the problem.

Cooperation Requested

The Inter-College Council Board's recent decision to have the college council presidents investigate the possibility of having certain classrooms open in the evening for study purposes is a commendable one.

The increased educational pressure which has resulted from the four term plan, and the crowded conditions at the Pattee Library prompted this move.

Specific rooms that will be opened to students have already been announced by some of the council presidents.

We hope all the College Deans will cooperate with the college councils in their bid to increase the use of the University's educational facilities.

Library Action Praised

Term system adjustments warrant more than quiet acceptance, more than a "taken for granted" attitude. For this reason, we note the action of the Pattee Library in extending the deadline on overnight books from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday.

Students may now return books after their first period classes end at 9:15. They need not rush frantically to the library before their 8 o'clock class or risk a fine.

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Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

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JOHN BLACK Editor

WAYNE HILINSKI Business Manager

Letters

Jr. Claims Old Main Wants 'Stamp'

TO THE EDITOR: It seems to me to be the general consensus of opinion that student government at Penn State has been ineffective. Why? I can suggest two probable answers:

• Caliber of persons in student government.

• Administrative attitudes. Many persons want to see their names in the Collegian as often as possible. Does belonging to student government solely for this purpose contribute to a better Penn State?

Many of the "student leaders" do not bother to attend the meetings of the organizations to which they have been elected. It is a disgrace when student government cannot meet because it lacks a quorum. This letter is not to degrade responsible student leaders. We need more of them.

The SGA and all other student government groups are "tolerated but ignored" to quote Mr. Buckley's letter of Oct. 27, when the administration is in favor of what they are doing.

SGA runs into difficulties when it is not in accord with the Old Main group. I feel that is what is going on right now. SGA is a necessary outlet for the opinions of the student leaders in the form of stands on certain issues or in the form of legislation passed.

If there was a referendum or another election, would these responsible students be re-elected? No, because it would be easy for the opposition to point out that they had accomplished little while in office.

It would not matter that the SGA could not meet for technical reasons, it would only matter that the responsible students had accomplished very little recently.

Then students with ideas more in favor with the Old Main group and the lion's paw would then be elected and the stumbling blocks would be removed from SGA and everybody would be happy in Old Main and the lion's paw.

The administration does not want responsible student leaders. They want rubber stamps. (Ed. Note: The interim SGA can meet at any time the president calls it into session.)

-Alan White '63

Gazette

TODAY Chess Tournament, all day, Main Lounge, HUB English Dept., 10 a.m., HUB assembly hall Future Teachers, 12:30 p.m., HUB assembly hall PSEA, 1 p.m., 218 HUB Student Films, 7 p.m., HUB assembly hall WRA, 9 a.m., HUB assembly hall WRA, 10 a.m., 212, 213, 214, 215, HUB WRA, 2 p.m., 216, 215, 214, HUB

TOMORROW Chess Tournament, all day, Main Lounge, HUB Folklore Society, 6:30 p.m., HUB Ballroom Emerson Society, 6:30 p.m., 210 Eisenhower Chapel Sophomore Class Advisory Board, 1:30 p.m., 213 HUB Student Films, 7 p.m., HUB assembly hall Swedenborgian, 10 a.m., 212-215 HUB Theta Sigma Pi, 6:30 p.m., 218 HUB WRA, 8 a.m., HUB assembly hall

MONDAY Air Force Recruiting, 9:30 a.m., ground floor, HUB Alpha Phi Omega, 7 p.m., 212-213 HUB Bridge Club, 6:30 p.m., HUB card room Froth, 7 p.m., 216 HUB Grad Student Association Council, 7:30 p.m., 217 HUB Hibel Social Committee, 7 p.m., 215 HUB ISA, 7 p.m., 203 HUB PS Bible Fellowship, 7 p.m., 214 HUB PS Bible Fellowship, 12:15 p.m., 212 HUB Scabbard and Blade, 7 p.m., 215 HUB Spanish Club, 7 p.m., HUB assembly hall

WDFM Schedule

SATURDAY 5:00 News 5:05 Saturday at State 6:05 Weatherscope 7:00 Hi-Fi Open House 9:00 Offbeat 1:00 King's Corner 2:00 Sign-off SUNDAY 5:00 Chapel Service 6:30 Chamber Music 6:35 Mormon Tabernacle Choir 7:00 The Third Programme 12:00 Sign-off

Letters

Party Chairman Claims Senate Furthers SGA Apathy

TO THE EDITOR: I would like to congratulate the members of the Senate committees on student affairs and organizational control. They have done a fine job in furthering student apathy concerning SGA.

This latest move will undoubtedly postpone elections until the winter term and will probably convince the few students who will still show an interest in SGA that on this campus it is a fruitless venture.

I cannot conceive of a reason why so much time and effort is spent by the administration in order to baffle, befuddle, and completely destroy student government.

The administration issues propaganda about the term system and how all students must conserve their precious time in order to do all the required studying. But why have they been sitting back and watched students spend many months of valuable time creating a constitution that was pre-destined to failure?

If there was a strong enough feeling against political parties, why wasn't the Reorganization Committee notified of this? But that wouldn't have fit into the "master plan."

Realizing that the few students who still had an interest in a student government would help rewrite the constitution, their plan was to let the students work, and work hard, only to find themselves completely disgusted when their revised constitution would fail to be accepted.

Another example of how the administration is trying to frustrate these interested students took place in the last month. Permission was granted by the Senate to prepare for

the elections by holding party nominations.

Why were students allowed to spend their valuable time preparing for something that the committee members knew would never take place?

I believe that this latest move to remove political parties will make the SGA Assembly a group of individuals, each with different values and basic philosophies, thus creating utter chaos. Without a multi-partisan Assembly the all-important experience gained by the members in the workings of politics and government will be lost entirely.

This has been one of the important purposes of SGA in the past, teaching the students democracy as it is practiced in any democratic government using a party system. The Assembly will become nothing more than a "high school council."

In conclusion, I agree in broad principle with the editorial opinion expressed in Wednesday's paper. I furthermore believe that the students of this University should not accept just any form of government unless it is the desired one.

I would rather have no government than have one that is handed down and created by the administration.

-Elliot Newman '63

University Party Chairman (Ed. Note: The word administration is incorrectly used synonymously with the words Senate and Senate committees on student affairs and organizational control in this letter. The Senate is composed of administrative and faculty representatives and the Senate committees are composed of administrative, faculty and student members.)

Visions of 'Moldy Tallow'

TO THE EDITOR: What a wonderful Halloween Dinner! We dressed up in our Sunday suits and proceeded to the dining hall where we were bowled over by the beautiful decorations.

The sight of the moldy tallow dripping off a wax candle sent a tingle down my spine. The first thing we received were beautiful napkins. How colorful and exciting! We were then allowed to take two whole pretzels.

Only a special night such as October 26 warrants a treat such as two pretzels to eat with our tasty cider. As for the salad, the lettuce on the bottom was another rare treat.

Then I received a huge piece of meat about the size of a quarter and worth less. Traditional pumpkin pie has been shelved for coconut, in another Penn State first.

What a farce! Penn State students should do something about this situation. The thought of Thanksgiving dinner at the P.S.U. dining halls now appears more menacing than ever.

-Ronald Horowitz '65

Frosh Proposes Way To Restore Harmony

TO THE EDITOR: It is obvious that there is a great deal of ill feeling between the administration and the student body concerning the Thanksgiving Day recess.

It is also quite evident that many students will be going home whether or not there is an ample vacation. This will lead to mass absenteeism in most Friday and Saturday classes.

May I suggest to the administration a novel way of solving this problem: extend the Thanksgiving vacation. This will not only eliminate the class cutting, but will also restore the student-administration harmony that was present before the commencement of the term system. -Howard Kliger '65

Administration Backed

TO THE EDITOR: Thanks, Mr. Goldman, for the first sensible letter to the Collegian on the 4-day vacation.

It is time that those of us who believe that the 4-term system, as presently set up, is a worthy forward step in the history of American education; and that our administration have only our best interests in mind, finally speak out.

-Charles H. Miller '64

