

Editorial Opinion

This Time With Feeling

After many battles, many postponements, many conferences, and after even more rewriting, the student body may tonight find its government on the road to reconstitution.

The new document, prepared by SGA President Folanini and David McKinley of the Senate sub-committee on Organization Control is a pithy remodeling of student government.

Although the branches remain unchanged, the body of the document is enhanced by the inclusion of a declaration of civil liberties for the student body.

Of more practical significance to the many student organizations on this campus is the intent of the new government to have "final student authority on all matters of an all-University nature."

"Any constitution, legislation or other action of a student organization may be declared by the Supreme Court to be unconstitutional and, therefore, void."

We commend this determination to state—for the clarification of all—that student government does command the highest rung of the many governing agencies. If there is a student voice, its highest microphone is now defined.

We note in relation to this final jurisdiction that the new government's judicial system—one which should also have final authority—must remain in limbo until administrative officials decide on a uniform judicial code.

We would hope this will be done speedily to the benefit of the student government and its 14,000 undergraduate constituents.

On a less consequential but still important level, several suggestions are here made.

There is presently little delineation between the actual functions and duties of the legislative and executive branches. Although distinctions may be considered implied, we feel they should be more succinctly stated to differentiate between powers reserved for the legislature and those delegated to the executive.

Further, specific figures are stated for the number of signatures required if the student body wishes to call for a referendum or petition for legislation. We suggest that percentages be used in order that the actual number expand with the expansion of the student body.

We would also place the figures which determine the number of people on the legislature (a ratio of one to 500) in the by-laws. Again this should be done so that the ratio may be easily altered as the student body expands.

Another suggestion would be an alteration in the process of amending the constitution. As stated, the President may veto an amendment. We think amendments are more appropriately left entirely to the conscience of the legislature.

One more minor point—that the dates for assuming office not be specified. Instead, offices might be assumed so many days after elections. This will prevent amending the constitution if there should be a change in the starting dates of the fall term (as has been known to happen).

Finally, we note that the name of the government is now Undergraduate Student Government—and the past Assembly has the designation of Senate. The change is diverting—but it will take changes of a greater significance to realize a mature and powerful student government.

We hope that not only the name is changed.

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Interpreting

Shuffle-Up In Washington

By J. M. ROBERTS
Associated Press News Analyst

The results of any such shakeup as the White House-State Department rearrangement depend primarily upon presidential intent, and President Kennedy hasn't said much on that score.

The headline-winning angle of course, is the case of Chester Bowles. It comes as no surprise. Bowles was especially interested in a long-term program involving persuasion of the world to go along with the principles enunciated by the United States, in a period when matters of a more tactical nature raised the question of how much time there will be.

He had devoted considerable time to matters of management, particularly in the field of establishing the authority of ambassadors over intelligence, foreign aid and other work out in the field. But management matters did not hold his heart.

He got into conflicts with the activists.

Deeper than the Bowles matter, however, ran the impression that foreign policy was being made all over the lot—especially the White House lot—instead of being concentrated under a workable chain of command from the President through the secretary of state.

The President was getting advice before it was evaluated at state. There have been occasions when it appeared that the president had many ears, to each of which someone had access.

The Cuban fiasco seemed to have shaken for a time the ability of the whole administration to plan and to reach decisions. Some confidence was regained. But the muddle recurred when the Communists threw up their retaining wall in Berlin and the Western Allies found themselves unable to respond in concert.

Now the transfers of Walt W. Rostow and Richard N. Goodwin seem to be a regularizing action designed to shift some

of the White House advisory efforts on foreign policy to the State Department where Secretary Dean Rusk can correlate it with regular evaluation processes.

The trouble, of course, has not been attributable to any one cause. It is true that Kennedy, in his first organizational efforts, had to devise some means of giving credit to the numerous lines of thought pervading the Democratic party. Politics played its part in creating the muddle.

But largely overshadowing such considerations is a major fact of American life—a fact which makes it extremely difficult to departmentalize all of the efforts which must go into the conduct of such a war as the one in which the nation is involved.

This fact is that every facet of the nation's life — political, business, financial, social, scientific and military — must play its part, and must do so through the government, and so becomes a part of foreign affairs.

Letters to The Editor

Hill Asks

Representation Alterations

TO THE EDITOR: Since the beginning of the present school year, the student body has been awaiting some positive, workable student government constitution. The waiting is still going on. Two men are now composing yet another possible proposal in hopes that this matter can be brought to a close.

No matter what the outcome, the main stumbling block will be a feasible, fair representation system. In my mind, there is no question that the only way to obtain a government with authority and respect is to make use of those people who have already exhibited their enthusiasm and willingness to work.

Along with this, it is necessary that they have proven ability. The obvious answer, therefore, is that it be composed of the presidents of the several highly representative councils—college councils and residence area councils, etc., along with certain principal representatives (class presidents and SGA officers) elected in campus wide elections.

The actions of these council presidents have been studied for a whole year or more by their council members. Certainly these people have been chosen under circumstances allowing no room for doubt as to their qualifications.

This is opposed to the proposed system, whereby the students would be governed by people who have proven themselves to no one. Furthermore, this sincerity will always be questionable as witnessed by the poor attendance records of the past Assemblies.

The ineffectualness of such a system should be clear to us all if we but consider the many weaknesses and inactions of past Assemblies.

—Ervin A. Hill

President,
Inter-College
Council Board

FBI Opinion on HUAC Film

TO THE EDITOR: Disturbed by the recent claims and counter claims about the film "Operation Abolition" we sent a letter to the F.B.I. requesting official documented evidence on the film and related riot.

The reply we received contained several pamphlets and a letter signed by J. Edgar Hoover. Mr. Hoover could not comment on the film since it was sponsored by HUAC and not the FBI.

But he did give certain positive information on the riot itself. The following quotes are from this letter and one of the pamphlets and are not our opinions:

"I might point out, however, that this Committee did cause to be published a report based on the FBI's investigation of Communist Party activities, from eye-witnesses on the scene, and from official records of local authorities involved.

"It outlined the agitational

tactics used by communists during the May, 1960 hearings to build the emotional pitch of the demonstrations to an explosive point—the point at which an effort was made to supplant the rule of law with mob action. These facts speak for themselves.

"Despite confusing and contradictory statements which have been made about the affair, the truth is that a riot occurred and lawful authority was flouted."

"The party is also demanding amendments to our immigration laws to make deportation more difficult, the enactment of civil rights legislation, and the abolition of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee."

—J. Clemens '63

—N. Reitmeyer '63

—R. Critchlow '63

Seniors Set Staff Straight

TO THE EDITOR: We are writing this letter in regard to the one which appeared in the November 22 issue of The Daily Collegian. In this particular letter Miss McDonald, a member of the administrative staff, expressed her opinion on the students' views concerning holidays and vacations.

We are not opposed to the administration's policy concerning holidays and vacations. However, there was a definite fallacy in Miss McDonald's views concerning the students. She stated, "the students are at home from December 8 to January 2 or 3, while we, the administration and staff, will be working."

"The students should be thankful they get an extended vacation for Christmas. We get a total of 5 days at Christmas, two of which are weekend days."

We, the undersigned, would

like to set Miss McDonald "straight." First, it is utterly ridiculous for an individual of her status to compare salaried employees with students.

While we will be home for our "extended vacation" in December, Miss McDonald will be employed and obtaining a salary such as any individual in any other field of occupation. After all, this is her source of livelihood, so why shouldn't she be working. The student is attending to prepare himself for a source of livelihood.

Second, we would consider ourselves extremely fortunate, if upon entering the business world, we could be guaranteed a total of 5 days vacation at Christmas, plus the additional 12 days per year above the 9 paid holidays which a University employee earns.

Let's face facts Miss McDonald, you have it made and don't realize it.

—Frank Kowalski '62

—Jerry Young '62

Gazette

TODAY

Ag Student Council, 7 p.m., 218 HUB
AIKSEC, foreign exchange program, 7 p.m., 217 Boucke

Beta Gamma Sigma, 5:30 p.m., 218 HUB

Camera Club, 7:30 p.m., 111 Boucke
Ed Student Council, 8:45 p.m., 218 HUB

French Club, 7:30 p.m., 217 HUB
Gamma Sigma Sigma, exec and project chairmen, 8:30 p.m., 105 McElwain

Management Club, 7:30 p.m., Beta Theta Pi

MI Student Council, 7 p.m., 218 HUB
PS Bible Fellowship, 12:15 p.m., 218 HUB

Student Affairs Officers, 1:30-9:30 214 HUB

TIM Movie, 1 p.m., 6 p.m., HUB assembly room

Walter's Group, 8 p.m., 218 HUB
Wesley Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 p.m., Wesley Foundation
Young Americans for Freedom, 8:30 p.m., 205 HUB

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