

Editorial Opinion

Importance of Research

Scores of research projects aimed at expanding the horizons of man's knowledge are being carried out on campus, yet they remain relatively unnoticed by many of us who pass daily by the laboratory doors.

These projects, which employ the services of many hundreds of professors and graduate students, represent an integral part of the University and contribute many useful ideas and concepts to scientists throughout the world.

Some of the studies seek to find basic information about the nature of chemical compounds or of forces shaping the earth. Others deal with the performance of flower seeds, consumer behavior, the influence of the topography on weather, inheritance of blood types, livestock and poultry diseases, the legends of Holy Grail and countless others.

Indeed, "to develop new arts and industries, new techniques, new applications of science and philosophy and new truths in all fields of knowledge" is one of the stated functions of research at the University.

This research also aims to meet the first obligation of the University, that of advancing knowledge "for the benefit of society."

Research can open intellectual and occupational doors for both faculty and students. Each new discovery or new application creates even more fields for investigation.

Because of the mushrooming importance of basic and applied research in our increasingly complex society, it might be wise to work out a closer relationship between undergraduate students and the research-minded professors and graduate students.

This could be achieved by encouraging undergraduates to attend seminars and project conferences and by allowing them to sit-in, audit or regularly schedule graduate courses.

Undergraduate courses devoted exclusively to independent scientific investigation would also be a good way of introducing students to research.

These courses might create extra work for some professors, but the enthusiasm and interest in research that such a program might generate would pay dividends in the long run.

By exposing students to the tools, techniques and methods of scientific investigators, it is likely that many qualified persons not bent on a career in research might be encouraged to enter this increasingly important area of society.

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Colleges Undermine Democracy

by Joel Myers

American universities and colleges, once a seedbed of democratic principles and thought, have been transformed into bureaucratic institutions which are helping to destroy the cherished rights and liberties guaranteed by the constitution.

The growing restrictions on college students are conditioning them, so that someday they might come to accept a society similar to that described in "1984" or "Brave New World."

Many rights guaranteed by the constitution and federal, state and local law are taken away from a student as soon as he enters college. Unfair judicial systems, the abridgement of civil rights and even the imposition of undemocratic regulations are defended by college administrators as necessities for efficient operation.

The right of assembly is guaranteed by the first amendment to the constitution and Nazis hold rallies in Jewish sections of New York under its protection, but university students in many schools are prohibited from holding mass meetings or peaceful demonstrations unless organized and supervised by administrators.

Students refuse to jeopardize

their chance to earn a college degree by demonstrating against such un-democratic practices as loyalty oaths and abridgement of academic freedom by appropriation-conscious administrators.

Colleges, which should serve as the battlegrounds for controversial opinions and views, too often shun the unorthodox in order to protect a "good name." American institutions are tending toward the lowest common denominator of acceptable viewpoints on social, economic and political issues.

Courses and subjects that could become alive are stripped of explosively controversial material and presented in a dull, diluted way.

Professors who express radical views are often dismissed, controversial persons are often refused permission to appear on campus, and certain student political organizations are in many cases suppressed by the ever-quivering finger of college administrators.

These restrictions are accepted by most students nowadays because they are willing to sacrifice some of their freedom and human dignity in order to obtain a diploma.

Today's students aren't willing to risk losing their degrees by protesting outrageous and unconstitutional regulations that the colleges impose upon them. In short, they refuse to dissent.

William Douglas, associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court once said "It is the right of dissent, not the right or duty

to conform, which gives dignity, worth and individuality to man."

The blame for the abridgement of basic rights in colleges doesn't rest entirely upon administrators and students, but is partially a manifestation of an age which frowns upon dissent.

Public opinion is being channeled into a narrower and narrower pathway. The trend is to orthodoxy and conformity.

The growth of large bureaucracies in American government, industry, labor and the military has aided the movement toward conformity and conventionality. The bigness of these groups causes an ambitious person with unorthodox ideas to abandon his principles if he hopes to achieve success.

These four mighty forces in America are gaining power at the expense of the individual's freedom. The luxury provided by technological advancement has served to cushion the pain our society is experiencing due to the loss of fundamental liberties.

This nation's history is punctuated with many changes in direction of thought and philosophy, but traditionally the college campus has been the place where these changes are evaluated, through discussion and debate.

The unconstitutional restrictions that limit the freedom of tomorrow's leaders on today's campuses are helping to undermine the intricate structure that has allowed American democracy to survive for almost 200 years.



MYERS

Letters

Tooth Collector Hit by Jr.

TO THE EDITOR: You can add my name to the list of those unfortunate victims of our University's health center. In the future I'll go elsewhere for any medical treatment I may need.

After Lynn Slotkin's letter, appearing in Friday's Collegian, I had to put in my two cents' worth.

My only experience is with the dentist, but if the treatment I received there is any indication of the way the rest of the infirmary operates, I'd die before I'd go crawling back for help.

I had a tooth extracted by the dentist on duty last term, and he did such a poor job, it became badly infected. When I went to a town dentist for advice because I didn't feel I was getting the correct treatment, the University dentist told me it was a "disgrace" and he "washed his hands of me."

He said I could just go back to the town dentist and pay for my treatment. So I did. I'd much rather pay for good medical care!

To top this whole thing off, it turned out that the so-called dentist at the health center had removed the wrong tooth to begin with. So I am now minus two teeth.

All I can say is, if anyone wants to get rid of their teeth, be sure to see the little man at Ritenour on the second floor. He collects them!

-Mary Kauffman '63

World At A Glance OAS Terrorists Attack Hospital Soviets' Use Of Test Ban Questioned

ALGIERS (AP)—A band of 15 Secret Army Organization (OAS) terrorists marched into a quiet hospital yesterday and methodically sprayed Moslem patients with gun fire as horrified doctors and nurses watched.

Nine Moslem patients were killed and seven wounded — many while they lay screaming in their beds.

Before driving away in four sedans, the terrorists set off a blast that wrecked one wing of the clinic.

The attack lasted less than 10 minutes. It was one of the most savage in the Secret Army's last-ditch terror campaign to block Algeria's independence.

Most of the victims had been patients for months or years, suffering for a variety of ailments unrelated to the rebellion.

Viet Nam Troops Kill 40 Rebels

SAIGON, South Viet Nam (AP)—About 8,000 Vietnamese troops combed a 10-square-mile section of the Mekong River valley yesterday in the biggest, single operation against Communist Viet Cong guerrillas.

A dispatch from the scene — 30 miles south of the Cambodian frontier — said two American-built AD6 fighters strafed and killed about 40 fleeing rebels. The operation was based at Cao Lanh.

The ground force was supported by boats. There was no indication whether any U.S. servicemen or helicopters took part, though U.S. military advisers usually accompany large missions.

The aim was to clear the area of elements of a Viet Cong battalion, a unit of perhaps 600 men.

Several prisoners were taken. One government casualty was reported.

GENEVA (AP) — British Minister of State Joseph B. Godber picked up a possible slip of the tongue by the Soviet delegate at the disarmament conference and sought yesterday to demolish the argument against international inspection of a nuclear test ban.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valerian A. Zorin said Monday it is known that only one underground test has been conducted by Soviet scientists.

Emphasizing Zorin's use of the word "known," Godber said he could not help but wonder if other underground blasts had been touched off in the Soviet Union with the outside world none the wiser.

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has announced the detection of but one Soviet test which apparently took place underground during the mammoth series conducted last fall. The Russians claimed they deliberately set that one off to see if it would be detected.

By drawing the line on what is known and what is not, Godber sought to demonstrate what the West considers to be a hollow Soviet argument that national detection systems built around seismographs and other instruments are adequate to prevent cheating on a test ban pact.

The Soviets flatly refuse to accept international inspection, calling it an attempt to introduce a spy network into the Soviet Union.

New Orleans Schools Ordered to Integrate

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Federal District Judge J. Skelly Wright yesterday desegregated all New Orleans public schools through the sixth grade. The order becomes effective next fall.

WDFM Schedule

WEDNESDAY

- 6:00 News
6:05 Dinner Date
6:35 Weathercast
7:00 CAMPUS BEAT
7:00 Washington Reports
7:15 Album Review
7:30 What's the Problem
8:00 News
8:05 Jazz Panorama
9:00 Student Government Report
9:25 Waxworks
9:30 Insight or The Spoken Word
9:45 News, Weather and Sports
10:00 Virtuoso
11:00 Sign-off