

# Is USG's Role Vital? Survey Reveals Doubts

By MEL AXILBUND

Students at the University apparently tend to believe their student government either does not have a vital role to play or, if it has one, is somehow prevented from playing that role.

These statements are based on replies which were given to The Daily Collegian yesterday afternoon when it randomly selected 20 students and asked them the following questions: Do you believe student government has a vital role to play at Penn State? If it does, how do you define that role? Is it playing its role? Following are comments from six of the students interviewed.

**JOANNE COBB** (7th - elementary and kindergarten education - Pittsburgh). "I definitely feel it has a very important role at Penn State. I am not sure as to whether the people here appreciate it or contribute actively to its up-bringing but it is definitely important. I can't define its role though because I'm not sure of the part it's actually playing. I would like to know more about it though."



Miss Cobb

**BRUCE MILLER**, sophomore class president. "Student government should have a role to play at the University. However, because of the fact that the bureaucracy of the University fails to give the students any responsibility, the powers of student government are limited, especially in the areas of classes. If the University would start giving us responsibility, then perhaps we can do something."



Miller

**LAWRENCE ROBBINS** (5th - liberal arts - Teaneck, N.J.). "In my limited experience with student government I have yet to see an effective student government at any institution. It appears that students are allowed to play government but when they make a decision, when the student body is finally roused out of its nauseating apathy, if this decision does not go along with the administration it is quietly and very effectively destroyed."



Robbins

**ARLENE DEMEL** (2nd - liberal arts - Williamsport). "I do think it has a vital role to play in that it is the voice of the students which I think is needed in a University as large as this. If it weren't for USG I think that our ideas would be submerged and not heard. Everything would be handed down from the administration and they would have no idea what our feelings and our ideas were. As far as I can see, it has played its role."



Miss Demel

**GEORGE CORBIN** (4th - arts and letters - Hamilton, Bermuda). "I think it should be playing a much more vital role, although I am not too sure just what its aims are. I am a foreign student and have not been too interested in student government but I would think that it is not doing its proper job. I would like to be more informed about it. We don't have any colleges in Bermuda but students do play a very active part in running the schools."



Corbin

**MICHAEL EDELMAN** (12th - journalism - Philadelphia). "Does student government have a vital role? Well, it's something nice for the activity majors I guess. I don't think it has much of a vital role except for giving these people a chance to get together and talk things over. I haven't voted for about two years because I don't think it's worth it."



Edelman

# TODAY ON CAMPUS

## Applications

Applications for women's orientation committee and leaders are available at the Hetzel Union desk. The deadline for returning them to the HUB desk is today.

## 5 O'Clock Theatre

"Puppet Show," by Roger Clapp, will be presented at 5:15 today in the Little Theatre, 11 Old Main. Director will be Ron Smolin and technical director will be Art Schubert. No admission will be charged.

## International Tensions Series

Dr. Marvin E. Rozen, associate professor of economics, will take part in the current series on International Tensions at 4 p.m. in the HUB Assembly hall. He will speak on the effects of nuclear strategy and technological advances in foreign and domestic affairs. The public is invited.

## Films

Town Independent Men's Council will sponsor "The Dew Line Story," a review of the Distant Early Warning System, from 12 to 1 p.m. and from 6 to 7 p.m. in the

HUB Assembly hall. This is the first of a series of films produced by the Bell Telephone Company for its science series. A discussion will be held in the Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority suite afterwards, to which the public is invited.

## Other Events

Council for Exceptional Children, 9 p.m., HUB Assembly hall.  
Daily Collegian Promotion Staff, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB.  
HUB Fine Arts Committee, 7 p.m., 216 HUB.  
International Christian Association, 6:15 p.m., 213 HUB.

Investment Club, 6:30 p.m., 214 HUB.  
Jazz Club, 6 p.m., 218 HUB.  
Mil Ball meeting, 8:30 p.m., 214-215 HUB.  
Newman Club lecture, 7 p.m., HUB Assembly hall.  
Penn State Figure Skating Club, 7:45 p.m., 217 HUB.  
Penn State Rugby, 7 p.m., 218 HUB.  
TIM Bridge Class, 6 p.m., HUB card room.  
Wm. Penn Foundation lecture, 4 p.m., HUB Assembly hall.  
WRA Gymnastics Club, extra practice, 1 p.m., White hall.

# Russian U.N. Official Answers Questions

About 50 delegates to the Model United Nations Assembly shared post-midnight snacks and conversation early Saturday with Konstantin G. Fedosseev, senior political counsellor of the Soviet mission to the U.N.

Fedosseev engaged in general repartee, clarified and expanded several points which he had made earlier to the Assembly and answered questions for the delegates. A portion of his discussion follows.

In view of USSR-Chinese tensions why do you continue to support their admission to the U.N.?

"CHINA IS already a member of the United Nations. We support her claims because the problem is to restore the legitimate rights of the People's Republic of China. To have the U.N. really universal you have to restore the legitimate regime. And what you call troubles are only differences of a temporary nature which don't affect China's rights."

What would happen to the Formosan regime?  
"Taiwan is a part of China. It will have to be returned to the legitimate government of China." Your speech implied racial segregation is undesirable. What about alleged religious discrimination in the USSR?  
"It is only alleged. It is up to the individual whether you believe or not. But we maintain freedom for anti-religious propaganda."

Is Communist Party membership open to church members?  
"NO THEY can't be admitted. But I don't think a really religious person would want to join, be-

cause of the differences of viewpoint."

Since only party members achieve high rank and relative affluence, isn't this a form of discrimination?

"No, because a party member doesn't have any privileges, only additional responsibilities. They have to show an example of good work."

Why does the USSR favor reorganization of the Secretariat?

"To be a more effective safeguard of peace, the U.N. must be organized so that it represents all viewpoints. Perhaps there are 90 or so persons from the socialist states in the Secretariat now, but they are mostly interpreters. I think it (reorganization) would also contribute to the prestige of the U.N."

What do you think of the Model U.N.?

"I THINK the opening session of the committee meeting I attended was very interesting and informative. I was impressed by the citizenship the delegates portrayed."

What is the value of the Model U.N.?

"It helps a person to know the point of view of the different sides. From this knowledge we can come to the proper conclusions on the issues."

Are there Model U.N. events in the Soviet Union?

"Not exactly. There is discussion of issues before the U.N. at meetings of groups similar to your Friends of the United Nations, but nothing on such a broad scale."

# Tour of Africa Offered to 12

An eight- or nine-week summer program in East Africa and Europe is being offered by the African Studies Group for College Students.

The twelve students who are selected to take part in this program will spend four weeks in Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, the Sudan and Egypt, visiting many of the East African tribes and seeing and photographing wild life. Side trips will be made to peace corps installations and Operation Crossroads projects.

The participants will also be given a chance to meet and exchange ideas with African university students. After leaving Africa the group will spend several weeks in Greece, Rome, Paris and London.

Part of this project will be to get some photographs for National Geographic and the Museum of Natural History. Good photographers will be given priority. Those interested should write to The African Studies Group for College Students, c/o Ted Estabrook, 8 East 92 St., New York, N.Y.



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