



Group Considers Professor Rating System Problem

By CECELIA HITTE

At least one long-enduring complaint of University students is well on its way toward a solution.

The much discussed, but never solved problem of a practical method of evaluating the merit of University faculty has been quietly under consideration since 1958 by a committee appointed by President Eric A. Walker.

The Committee on How to Recognize Good Teachers and Measure Teaching Ability, consisting of representatives from each of the ten colleges at the University, published its initial report, Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness, in June, 1960, after extensive experience with pilot tests.

This report contains four measures judged by the committee to be important.

Random Sampling

"Delayed Student Opinions," one of the four methods of evaluation indicated, involves "a random sampling of students' opinions obtained about two years after they have completed a course." The "hindsight" given the student by this two-year interim period enables him to see the usefulness of the information and training in later courses. Removal from the anxiety and emotion of the course grade which might in some way influence his views was also felt to benefit the accuracy of the evaluation.

The opinions of a teacher's colleagues, made on an overall basis such as clearness of preparation, knowledge of subject matter, and attitude toward students would provide a counter-balance for the first method. Also suggested as desirable, are classroom visits, followed by interviews, provided there are a substantial number of visits.

Student Performance

A more direct measurement of a teacher's effectiveness considered by the committee is the performance of his students on examinations designed to measure achievement regarding specific objectives of the course and overall objectives of the University. Until the development of such tests, direct comparison, particularly among multiple-section courses which have common course plans and final examinations, can be employed.

The achievements of students in subsequent courses is a second direct measure of a teacher's effectiveness. As the report explains, "Almost all previous experience (instruction) has some bearing on the future success of students. However, the idea here is to consider only the relationships between the performance in a course, and the performance in its listed prerequisites."

Total Evaluation

Concerning the total evaluation of a teacher on all four of these points, Otis E. Lancaster, Westinghouse professor of engineering and chairman of the committee, explained, four points. They would tend to counter-balance each other. None would be outstanding in all of them.

Among the pilot studies conducted as a background for the 1960 report was an evaluation of the teaching of fifteen instructors and professors of English composition. Using the four previously mentioned points, it was found that "the raw data, alone, were not sufficient to determine the best and poorest instruction.

However, if a correction were made for the curriculum interests of the students, as determined from all the students' records in corresponding curriculums, where the differences were as much as 14 per cent between curriculums for students of similar ability, the data were found to be satisfactory for identifying desirable instruction results.

To prevent any attempt to correlate the information with a particular student, the identifying numbers on the opinionnaires were torn off by the student upon receiving the information.

According to Lancaster, "In this study we were careful to see that the students selected actively responded. The opinionnaires used were numbered somewhat as ballots are for an election. It was found that a random sample of about 40 of all students taught by an instructor is sufficient to get a reliable rating of their opinions. When students didn't respond they were contacted a second time.

James E. Wright, professor of genetics, offers this explanation of how the procedures and recommendations in the report were derived: "This report is a compromise of the ideas of various and diverse faculty members... being a committee of people from the faculty we did want to evaluate some of our ideas, so the report is a reflection of this. We did not want a highly theoretical survey, but an activity report based on actual results."

Relations Important

Wright emphasized the particular importance of faculty-student relations on the report saying, "This is still exploratory work, not yet in operational procedure. It is the sort of project that needs co-operation between students and faculty to get something done.

"What we essentially said (in the report) is that if we had a carefully mechanized system to reflect training received by the students, results would not be sent directly to the administration, but be handled on a department level. Since the department head deals directly with the faculty on a more personal level, this should be in his hands."

Copies of the committee's reports, basic and supplementary, are being sent to the University Senate today.

Because of the great expenses involved in such a project, it would be impossible for the University to undergo evaluations of all departments at appropriate intervals without sponsorship of some sort.

The original committee is now dismissed at its own request, the members having felt their phase of the project was completed.

As one member of the committee remarked, "We regard ourselves as having accomplished the groundwork for further activity supported by some outside organization, perhaps something such as the Ford Foundation."



AN UNEXPECTED GUEST dropped into the apartment of R. T. Yoder, a former University student, at 224 Bradley Ave. Thursday afternoon. Driver of the automobile, James J. Gregory, suffered severe injuries in the accident. Although the car hit the crib of Robert Todd Yoder, baby son of the Yoders, the child was not injured. The car was involved in a collision at the intersection of Atherton and Pugh Streets and was propelled down Pugh Street into the apartment house.

Election Code Squabble

Cressman Says Revision Needed



CRESSMAN

Edward Cressman, Undergraduate Student Government elections commissioner, said yesterday, he will remain in his post in order to work for a congressional acceptance of an election code revision.

Thursday night, at the last USG meeting of the term, a revision Cressman presented met complete defeat. The revision sought to place the problem of election campaign expenses within the hands of the Election Commission.

Under the defeated proposal, the commission would have accepted bids from local printers and would then name the printer to receive campaign orders. This section was entirely cut by congress Thursday night. The congress briefly considered raising the party budget, and then tabled the matter until next fall.

Procrastination

Speaking for Congress action on this matter Cressman said, "I think their action regarding the elections code was the epitome of indecisive procrastination."

He also stressed the expediency of elections revision. "By putting it off until the fall," he said, "Congress will not have enough time to implement it for fall elections."

Cressman said he will not compromise on this issue. If the code is not passed by their congress, he said, "I'll wait until a new congress is elected."

The main argument put forth against this revision, Cressman said, was that it was an infringement of "party responsibility."

This is that "parties are not responsible, they have been and they will continue not

characterized the past elections will be allowed to occur again."

Petty Politics

The result of this Cressman said would be that "the student body will regard USG as they did in the past. As a group of mediocre unimaginative students playing at petty politics."

Receiving bids from printers in State College, he said, was not an inconvenience. "The only body this will inconvenience," he added, "is the Elections Commission, which is obviously willing to take on the responsibility."

Speaking of the section on party lists, also defeated by congress, he said this was placed in the code as a direct result of complaints from parties.

Membership lists, according to the revision, would have been placed in the hands of the Election Commission, and made available only to party chairman. "If they don't want it," said Cressman, "that's their benefit."

Robert Katzenstein, USG president, and Jim Caplan, town congressman who opposed the revision at Thursday's meeting, were unavailable for comment.

Cressman said the vice chairman of the Election Commission, Daniel Katz, was presently looking into obtaining voting machines for fall elections. Katz contacted Centre County officials and was turned down, he said. Two companies in New York, he said, were willing to cooperate for a "nominal charge" and the matter is presently being investigated.

to be as long as they keep playing their little games."

Party Irresponsibility

Political parties on this campus, he said, are not run like parties. "For every election I've ever been in here, the parties have shown nothing but irresponsibility."

The parties would not gain their responsibility by lifting the campaign budget, he said. "Campaigns aren't poor for lack of funds," he added, "it's a matter of using funds the right way and organizing campaigns efficiently."

Another argument used against the revision, he said, was that it placed too much power in the Elections Commission. But if the code was not passed, he stated, the "many infractions that have

'100,000 Pennsylvanians' Drive Approaches 4500

By ANN WORRAL

Enrollment in the week old "100,000 Pennsylvanians" membership drive is approaching 4,500. However, the Undergraduate Student Government committee chairman, Victor Hammel predicts a still larger response when all the petitions are returned next week.

The campaign was officially scheduled to end yesterday at midnight, but due to the number of unreturned petitions the USG committee will collect signatures next week. The fraternity area has thrown its support behind the drive and has raised the membership tally by approximately 2,000.

The University Party executive committee and Androses hat society yesterday endorsed the program.

The USG-sponsored project now has the backing of every major campus organization. However, Hammel has expressed his disappointment with the "apathy of the student body" in signing petitions available in each living area and the Hetzel Union Building desk. "This is the only program on campus," he said, "that has no monetary obligation, is

not controversial and provides a chance to support your home state and the University."

A list of those signatures collected before the end of spring term will be sent to Harrisburg to be officially enrolled in the "100,000 Pennsylvanians for Economic Growth" program. Members will receive a certificate of membership, an automobile bumper sticker and the project's quarterly newsletter, "Pennsylvania Ambassador."

Numbers in Fall

Total number of signatures collected will be available to students in the fall. The goal of the USG project is one hundred per cent enrollment at the University.

According to Hammel, petitions are still available at the HUB desk and in each resident hall, sorority and fraternity.

Those groups which have shown considerable support are: Sororities: Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Omicron Pi, Delta Phi Epsilon, Kappa Alpha Theta, Phi Sigma Sigma, Sigma Sigma Sigma, Theta Phi Alpha, Zeta Tau Alpha, Fraternities: Acacia, Alpha Epsilon Pi, Chi Phi, Theta Chi, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Independents: East Halls and North Halls.

Goals Viewed by Hat Societies

By LESLIE KAY

"People are forgetting a fact: to get into a hat society you have to be very active, so that you don't have time to put into another organization.

"The real purpose of the hat society is to act as an honorary body. What it does over and above that is something that is cuss problems and exchange left up to the individual," said ideas, Bruce Miller, president John Gilliland, past president of the Hat Society Council, of Delphi. Gilliland led off a plained. In addition, many have discussion about the purposes other worthwhile projects such as a Council as ushering at campus events, meeting held Thursday gymnasiums, sales, and scholarships.

Concerning the charges that Opinions countering recent students become involved in attacks against the hat societies campus organizations solely came with rapid-like speed, for the purpose of being tapped.

The various representatives Don Klein (9th-psychology) seemed to agree unanimously Ringoes, N.J.) replied: "Students the biggest thing to get dents won't be successful in out of hat societies is friend-the activity unless they put ship, to develop a feeling for something forth.

what other people feel.

Just as students learn about campus activities by reading The Daily Collegian and listening to WDFM, they said, so they learn by meeting with other people.

Hat societies act as forums for student leaders can discuss problems and exchange ideas. "We're not stepping on anyone's toes," Miller added. "In a sense, everyone is a status seeker. If someone has really done something, there is no reason for him to feel embarrassed when he fills out a tapping card."

For Recognition

Just as honor societies in fields such as advertising and engineering exist to recognize students in their respective fields, the members concluded. (Continued on page three)

Penn State In The South Applicants Finish Screening

By DEB HAUGHT

The first three applicants for the Penn State in the South project have successfully completed the preliminary screening, according to Egbert H. Donovan, chairman of the project's screening committee.

The three are Linda Bankes (6th-arts and letters - Elmhurst), David Tanner (11th-psychology-Erie), and Leverett Millen (Grad-psychology-Brookline, Mass.). They are scheduled for more intensive interviews as well as orientation sessions during the coming week.

Beaufort, South Carolina, will be the site of the Penn State in the South project. It was chosen after the local committee had studied some of the areas seeking assistance from the Summer Community Organization and Political Education (SCOPE) project of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

County Population

Negroes represent 37.4 per cent of the population of Beaufort County, 48.3 per cent of them are registered to vote. The county has experienced the highest percentage increase in population growth in the state during the decade, due mainly to the establishment of the Marine Corps Air Station.

The public education of Negro pupils has caused concern in the community, 81 per cent of the Negro students enrolled in the school before grad-uation. Almost half of the adult Negro population is ill-

erate, yet the schools spend less per Negro than for white students.

Many people hope that the voting rights bill now before the U.S. House of Representatives will insure the registration of new voters.

Beaufort Integration

Beaufort will begin integration of its public schools this fall. Both white and Negro citizens expect an orderly transition.

Last weekend the Ku Klux Klan held a rally in Beaufort, which was reported as a fiasco.

The University workers will be tutoring classes in order to raise the level of education in preparation for the

anticipated integration of the public schools. They may also be involved in voter education campaigns in the urban and rural areas.

All work will be carried out in cooperation with local Negro leadership. University students will be joined by students from schools and colleges in South Carolina.

According to Clifford A. Nelson, treasurer for the project, the first contributions have been received. Checks have been received from the Hillier Foundation and from the University Christian Association. The latter raised money by a student work day organized by the Student Council for Christian Concern.

Concert Blue Band To Perform Outdoor Music Program Sunday

The Penn State Concert Blue Band will hold a concert at 3 p.m. tomorrow, on the steps of Ronald Lo Presti and How the West Was Won arranged by Robert Hawkins.

Also featured in the concert will be Finlandia (Tone Poem) by Lucien Cailliet, America the Beautiful by Samuel Augustus Ward and arranged by Carmen Dragon, Overture to "Funny Girl" by Jule Styne and arranged by Robert Russell Bennett, The Stars and Stripes Forever by John Philip Sousa, The Marine's Overture by Felix Mendelssohn and arranged by Wesley Shepard, Piece for Trombones by Eric Leiden, Procession by Richard Wagner and arranged by Bruce Houseknecht, The Gallant Seventh March by Blue Band Entry March.

Faculty - Student Relationship Survey

Fifth Installment of SAR Report Compiled

By JUNE FIEL

The fifth and final installment of the Student Affairs Research survey report for this term has been compiled by Miss Prem S. Dua, consultant to SAR who was in charge of the project.

This installment deals with the relationship of faculty and students in an expanding academic environment. According to Miss Dua, the obligation of a university to push back the frontiers of knowledge presents to both faculty and students alike the challenge to inquire and to examine critically many of the assumptions, customs and beliefs that often have become traditions of Academia.

"While the responsibility for decisions in any basic academic policies requires a vast array of scholarly information, long years of experience and a maturity of judgment which even the brightest of students are not expected to have, yet, in recent years, faculties on most campuses have been eager to open up to students channels of communication that permit the interplay of free inquiry from students," she pointed out.

Concern For Quality The SAR survey that polled the opinions of University students in the areas of curriculum-making, faculty teaching, advising and research, etc., is predicated on the assumption that students at large have a wide-spread concern for the quality of the education they receive, the report states.

The report also notes that through considered group judgement, students have a potential contribution to make to standards and goals of learning at this institution.

In recent years at the University, while increasing population and a vast expansion of knowledge have created a trend towards a bigger and more complex univer-

sity, students have been heard to lament the immense pressures of mass education.

Reaffirmation Asked

They ask that the university reaffirm the individual nature of the educational process as it is experienced by students and they insist that there is a wall between them and the faculty which must be broken down, the report continues.

In this context, the 380 students who were polled were asked to comment on the accessibility of the faculty to students. Sixty-three per cent of them endorsed the idea that the faculty "is readily accessible and keeps regular office hours."

Asked as to the extent of personal assistance received by them from faculty in the general domain of educational and vocational planning, 56 per cent of the sample discounted the significance of any "valuable assistance" received in planning their education.

Valuable Assistance

Twenty per cent, however, acknowledged that they had been the recipients of valuable assistance from their faculty advisors "in planning their vocational and occupational future."

With a view to gauging the extent of personal contact between students and their faculty advisors, the question was asked whether students perceived their faculty advisor as "knowing him well enough to be able to give to his prospective employers an accurate evaluation of him."

Only 21 per cent of the respondents felt hopeful about such an interpersonal relationship with their faculty advisors, the report notes.

With regard to the broad question of interpersonal relations between faculty and students, one general observation that emerges from a rather preliminary view of the data is the greater overall satisfaction regarding faculty accessibility and assistance expressed by the students sampled from the College of Agriculture.

Roughly 72 to 85 per cent of this sample had a favorable commentary. A greater overall dissatisfaction with the level of faculty accessibility was indicated by roughly 72 to 76 per cent of those sampled from the College of Business Administration.

The report states, however, that a much more detailed breakdown and analysis of results in terms of teacher-student ratios in these colleges would be essential to point up any conclusive factors that may account for major differences of opinion.

Academic Interests

In part, the academic interests of today's students focus on exploration with faculty members, of the meaning of facts and ideas encountered by them in their education, both in and outside the classroom.

With respect to such a mutual exploration, 44 per cent of the pollees expressed a strong desire to share with the faculty "their personal, social and other non-academic interests," and only 16 per cent were rather indifferent in this matter.

In the context of a "community of scholars" in which traditionally faculty and students have lived intimately and shared generously, 68 per cent of the respondents take the attitude that "how members of the faculty conduct themselves in their private life is of no concern to the student body."

Miss Dua's report notes that this is indicative, perhaps, of the students' interest to communicate with faculty in areas that pertain only to his public academic not non-academic life.

In a period of youth that deplores the extent to which university professors and faculty are involved in research to the detriment of instruction, almost 60 per cent of those polled were willing to subscribe to the idea that "faculty is justified in devoting considerable time to research activity, book-writing projects and off-campus lectureship," according to the report.

This they perceive as essential to the faculty's contribution to the academic environment of the University. Asked to comment as to whether faculty show an interest in sharing and discussing their research and related activity with the students, 40 per cent indicated such an interest as forthcoming on the part of a majority of the University professors who teach undergraduate classes.

Better Teaching

Among a generation of students calling for better teaching, less emphasis on research and more attention to undergraduate education, the students polled took the following stands:

Ninety-two per cent of the student body polled were decidedly of the opinion that the University faculty should devote no less than half of their time to "teaching and instruction of undergraduates."

Seventy-five per cent of the student body agreed that a faculty member should contribute no more than a quarter of his time to research and almost unanimously they are of the opinion that a faculty member need devote no (Continued on page four)