

# Strong Senate role moves to fruition

By JIM BARR  
Collegian Staff Writer

University Faculty Senators took the first steps toward strengthening their role in University decision-making at their meeting Nov. 12.

The Senate's Committee on Committees and Rules presented a package of proposals for reorganizing the Senate to give it a stronger voice and a closer working relationship with the administration, especially with University President John W. Oswald.

One proposal would set up a faculty advisory committee to represent the Senate and the faculty at-large. The committee would advise Oswald on University-wide issues involving the faculty.

Another proposal calls for the Senate chairman to be relieved of teaching and research duties during his term of office.

The proposals will take the form of changes in the Senate's constitution, rules and by-laws. As such, no action can be taken on them until the meeting following their introduction to the full Senate. That will be done at the next Senate meeting on Tuesday.

The proposed changes had their beginnings in the report of the Joint Senate Administrative Select Committee on Faculty Participation in University Governance. That report contained 35 recommendations for increasing the faculty's voice in decisions

made at Penn State. It was accepted by the Senate at its May meeting.

Several of the recommendations made by the Select Committee require action by Oswald, and he gave the senators a report on what progress he has made in putting them into effect.

Oswald told the senators the recommendations under his control fall into three categories — those already in effect, those in draft form and almost ready for presentation to the Senate, and those on which no action has yet been taken.

He said recommendations calling for Senate leaders to sit in on meetings of the Board of Trustees were taken care of by the Board's opening its meetings to the public. Also in effect are the recommendations for an annual meeting between himself and the faculty and for better communication between the faculty and administration, he said.

The recommendations being prepared for presentation to the Senate include policy statements on faculty participation in all decision-making bodies in each academic unit and throughout the university, as well as participation in the selection of department heads and other academic administrators.

Oswald said he is considering but has not acted on recommendations for changing the University Council, which requires action by the Board of Trustees, or for faculty review of academic administrators.

# Vet's benefits to join welfare?

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A privately financed study of the nation's veterans programs recommended Tuesday that many of the \$15 billion in benefits be integrated into the general social welfare system of the United States.

But the study, prepared by the 20th Century Fund Task Force on Policies Toward Veterans, drew back from recommending immediate dismantling of the Veterans Administration, although one task force member recommended such a course and another indicated that could be the result of the group's recommendations.

The panel did not estimate the cost of its proposals nor did it make any comparison with costs of present programs.

In one of its key recommendations, the task force said it believes "as a general principle, society should rely on benefits from general social welfare programs to meet the non-service connected needs of veterans."

It said the two most important non-service connected benefits were pensions for wartime veterans and their survivors and medical care for non-service connected health problems.

On pensions, which involve some one million veterans and two million widows and surviving children, the task force said it believed "non-service pensions should be paid only to wartime veterans and their survivors with incomes below the poverty level — not as a supplement to adequate Social Security benefits or other government retirement system benefits."

It said it believed it was necessary to maintain an "income test for pensions" and that if this was done the pension program will, in the future "pay benefits to only a very small number of needy veterans and survivor beneficiaries."

The task force, chaired by Robert Finch, former secretary of health, education and

welfare, also recommended keeping the VA medical care system intact for the present and that it be used "in every reasonable way possible to support, augment and improve the general health care system of the nation."

Other recommendations included: — Creation of a Veterans Educational and Training Fund within the present GI Bill which would give the veteran greater flexibility in the use of his benefits.

— The government act "as an employer of last resort at least for all Vietnam-era veterans for a limited period after discharge."

— In the future, "eligibility for veterans' benefits should bear no relationship to the nature of the military discharge." It noted that some 200,000 Vietnam-era veterans have had discharges which inhibit both employment and access to veterans' benefits.

# Turkish aid may be cut

WASHINGTON UPI — The Senate yesterday approved a \$2.7 billion foreign aid bill mandating a cut of U.S. military aid to Turkey by mid-February unless there is progress in negotiations to find a peace settlement for Cyprus.

Before passage of the cut-off amendment Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger denounced the impending action as a "major mistake."

The amended bill squeaked through on a 46-45 vote.

The Senate requirement to end military assistance to Turkey raised the possibility of a new struggle between the White House and Congress.

Other stipulations in the bill would cut off foreign aid to oil-exporting countries that fixed artificially high world market prices, would curtail aid to repressive governments and would limit the U.S. contribution to the United Nations to \$156 million for the current business year. It also would cut off

military aid to the military government in Chile.

The cut-off of military aid to Turkey voted by the Senate contained a proviso that President Ford could continue the assistance if he found that "substantial progress" was being made on the Cyprus issue.

Proponents contended that without the cut-off the executive branch would continue to be in violation of laws which state American military aid may only be used for defensive purposes by recipients.

The Ford administration vigorously opposed the limitation on grounds a strong Turkey is essential to U.S. military operations in the eastern Mediterranean. But it has been under pressure to juggle the interests of both Turkey and its adversary on Cyprus, Greece, in an effort to keep them both within the NATO Alliance.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee has reported out

action on the measure.

Sen. Thomas F. Eagleton, D-Mo., proposed the Turkey aid cutoff amendment, urging that the curtailment occur on Dec. 10.

But at the urging of Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, D-Minn., the Senate voted, 55 to 36, to delay the cut-off date until 30 days after the 94th Congress convenes — or mid-February.

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. (UPI) — Space agency scientists decided yesterday to angle the Pioneer 11 spacecraft inside the innermost ring of Saturn, less than 6,000 miles from the mysterious planet's surface.

Saturn's unique three rings, which are 81,000 miles wide, are only one mile thick — but they may be composed of flying rocks the size of the Empire State Building.

John H. Wolfe, chief project scientist, said the entire region around Saturn may contain flying rocks. At its high speed, Pioneer could be destroyed by a collision with a flock of dust.

Pioneer would flash through the plane of the rings in a fraction of a second, too fast at that point to take pictures. The distance from the planet to the innermost ring is 15,500 miles.

Since Pioneer's encounter Monday night with giant

Jupiter, computers have been recalculating the spacecraft's position. Project manager Charles Hall said, "Right now, I don't know where we are, precisely."

The Saturn course decision, subject to change, was reached at a meeting of scientists who considered several options.

The closest approach was considered the safest.

The earth, the sun and Saturn will be nearly in a straight line in September, 1979, when Pioneer makes the first visit to Saturn.

The scientists decided to speed up the spacecraft by a few days so as to increase the angle between the three objects and avoid radio interference by the sun's corona.

Wolfe said the speed up brings a bonus. It will enable Pioneer to fly by Saturn's moon, Titan — the place in the solar system believed to have the best chance of having advanced life.

"We are going to stay far enough away to guarantee the planetary quarantine people that we won't crash into Titan

and contaminate the place," Wolfe said.

The course chosen ruled out a possibility that Pioneer would be routed after Saturn

to the planet Uranus. To do so, Pioneer must pass through the rings when behind Saturn and out of radio communication, and Wolfe said, "We think that's a no-no."



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