

Calendar panel falls apart

By JANICE SELINGER
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Internal strife led the University Calendar Commission last night to call a 45-day cooling-off period before making any calendar recommendation to University President John W. Oswald.

This 45-day moratorium will mean that the commission will miss its Jan. 1 deadline. But, according to Chairman Asa Berlin, it is too important a decision to be taken lightly.

The commission, which previously favored the early semester system, decided that it had reached no real consensus.

Therefore it will ask for a deadline extension so that each member can study all possible calendar systems.

"The commission is not taking back its support of the early semester system," Berlin said, "but we are testing how

close together we are on a concrete proposal."

But the rift in the commission seems deeper than that. Robert K. Murray, professor of American history, said if the early semester system is recommended he will write a minority report supporting the modified term.

"The term system is a very viable, legitimate calendar system. We have used it, it has functioned and we have turned out degrees," Murray said. "With all its defects, despite faculty grumbling, we have adjusted to it."

"My conclusion is that the early semester is one of the worst and not one of the best," Murray said.

"The early semester would start before Labor Day and no one likes that. It would end early in May and we have found it to be non-productive to out then," he explained.

"The net advantages to be gained from an early semester system compared with the disadvantages of the potential modified term system do not seem enough to offset the trauma involved in making the change."

The only net advantage that Murray said he could see to the early semester would be if Oswald would show that it saves the University a significant amount of money.

Arthur O. Lewis, associate dean of the College of the Liberal Arts, said that the modified term system is not his ideal proposal but that he would sign the minority report.

The commission also discussed whether now is the time to change calendars. According to Murray, this is a time of indecision.

"Higher education is in a flux, the

country is in a flux and regardless of the recommendation it may be the inappropriate time to implement it," Murray said.

Some members said they still felt the commission should make a concrete proposal, and recommended that it be disbanded if it cannot do so.

James Bartoo, dean of the graduate school, suggested that the commission merely recommend either term or semester systems in general to Oswald without any further specification.

James Dungan, director of institutional research and planning, said this wouldn't be feasible because Oswald would have to appoint committees to look into specific calendars and they would run into the same problems as the commission.

Lewis suggested that the commission recommend semesters but added that the modified term system could be used as a transitional period for the fall of 1975. While the modified term system is in use, Oswald could be studying the semester system, Lewis said.

Murray also suggested a semester system like the University of Pennsylvania has. The first semester would run from Labor Day to Christmas no matter how many class meetings and weeks it contained. Then there would be a traditional 15-week semester.



New USG veep

JIM MAZA, right, is sworn in as Undergraduate Student Government vice president by USG Supreme Court Chief Justice Lou Martarano at last night's Academic Assembly meeting. See story p. 10.

Leaders approve contract

UMW nears agreement

WASHINGTON (UPI) — United Mine Workers' executives last night approved a wage-contract proposal covering 4,500 striking mine construction workers and submitted the pact for a membership ratification vote, probably by this weekend, a federal mediation spokesman said.

The spokesman for the Federal Mediation Service said the UMW Bargaining Council had voted "virtually unanimously" to recommend approval of the wage contract agreement reached last evening by UMW and coal company negotiators.

Approval of the pact by rank-and-file construction workers would also free thousands of coal miners—who have refused to cross their picket lines at many points around the nation—to return to work for the first time since early November. A general settlement of their wage-contract demands was

reached weeks ago.

Union officials said they expected the membership vote to take place as early as Saturday or Sunday.

Terms of the proposed construction workers' wage-contract settlement were not disclosed.

The walkout by mine construction workers has kept thousands of coal miners, who refuse to cross the construction workers' picket lines, out of work as well in spite of the general settlement of a wage-contract for coal miners weeks ago.

The brief announcement last night by the federal mediation service said: "Federal mediators tonight announced that a tentative agreement has been reached in a dispute between the Association of Bituminous Contractors and the United Mine Workers."

"...The proposed agreement must be approved by the UMW bargaining

council, which was scheduled to meet at 9 p.m. EST."

The terms of the proposed contract were not disclosed.

If the proposal is passed by the Bargaining Council, however, it still would have to be ratified by general membership vote, an official said.

The UMW construction workers have been on strike around the nation since Nov. 11.

Their picket lines have kept about 45,000 of the 120,000 UMW coal miners from resuming work in various coalfields.

Although construction workers have stopped picketing in western Pennsylvania, pickets were active in five other states. Miners held meetings in central Pennsylvania and Indiana to decide if they would continue honoring picket lines. Nearly 90 per cent of West Virginia's union mines were also closed.

Soviets end trade pact

MOSCOW (UPI)—The Soviet Union yesterday renounced any trade agreement with the United States that would bind Moscow to ease emigration, particularly of Soviet Jews.

The move came in a letter from Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko handed to Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger on Oct. 26, nearly two months ago, the Tass news agency reported.

An official Government statement carried by Tass accused Kissinger of keeping quiet the true Soviet position.

It denounced the trade bill under consideration by the U.S. Congress for "attempts to include provisions concerning the departure of Soviet citizens for other countries."

It said Moscow "flatly rejected as unacceptable...any attempts to interfere in internal affairs that are entirely the concern of the Soviet state and no one else."

After two years of delay, the Senate last Friday passed one version of a trade

bill to offer the Soviet Union non-discriminatory trade terms in exchange for freer emigration.

The bill awaits reconciliation with a similar bill from the House of Representatives before going to President Ford for his signature.

Gromyko protested that "elucidations" given by the Soviet Union were interpreted by the United States as "assurances and nearly obligations on our part regarding the procedure of the departure of Soviet citizens from the USSR."

Sen. Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash., chief proponent of moves to tie the U.S. trade will with the emigration of Russian Jews, said after a Kissinger-Gromyko meeting earlier this year that the Russians had agreed to the emigration of 60,000 persons.

"Some figures are even being quoted as to the supposed number of such citizens and there is talk about an anticipated increase of that number as compared with previous years,"

Gromyko said. "We resolutely decline such an interpretation."

In passing the trade bill by the large margin of 77-4, the Senate endorsed by an 88-0 vote an amendment by Jackson to provide most-favored-nation treatment for the Soviet Union only if Russia opens its doors to unhappy citizens.

The amendment had held up passage of the bill for the last year until Jackson on Oct. 18 released letters between himself and Kissinger which he said constituted a compromise agreement involving the Russians.

Gromyko's letter referred to "publication in the United States of materials of which you are aware and which touch upon the departure of a certain category of Soviet citizens."

"I must say straightforwardly that the above-mentioned materials, including the correspondence between you and Senator Jackson, create a distorted picture of our position as well as of what we told the American side on the matter," Gromyko said.

Congress passes job bill

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Congress passed a \$5.5 billion bill yesterday to create 330,000 jobs to absorb some of the six million persons unemployed in the recession.

The measure, going far beyond President Ford's \$2.2 billion proposal for a limited number of short-term public service jobs, was sent to the White House, where Ford was expected to accept it.

In addition to creating jobs to be filled by state, county and local agencies, the bill would provide unemployment benefits for 12 million jobs not currently covered by state-federal unemployment compensation programs. Most of these involve domestic workers, farm hands or employees of state and local governments.

The emergency legislation was enacted in a hurry following the announcement on Dec. 6 that unemployment in November had leaped to 6.5 per cent of the 90 million-member civilian work force—its highest level in 13 years.

That report did not reflect the full extent of layoffs in the auto industry.

The House passed the bill by a vote of 346 to 58. The Senate acted a few hours later by voice vote.

The House also sent to the Senate a \$4.8 billion companion appropriations bill to fund part of the program immediately, but the Senate did not immediately act on this companion bill.

Most of the new jobs created by the unemployment bill would be in the areas of public safety, education, health care, child care and sanitation. But the plan would find work for only a small percentage of America's six million unemployed.

House passage came only hours after the Labor Department announced that every state in the union reported increased unemployment insurance rolls on Nov. 30.

A total of 2,982,600 persons received unemployment insurance benefits in the week ended Nov. 30—up 553,700 from the previous week and 1.4 million over a year ago, the Labor Department said.

Most of the jobless currently are not covered by unemployment insurance.

The \$5.5 billion bill is a compromise worked out Tuesday by House and Senate negotiators. About \$2.5 billion would create 330,000 jobs in hospitals, fire departments and other public agencies, with average pay of \$7,800 per year.

Another \$2.5 billion would give special unemployment benefits for 26 weeks to unemployed workers not now covered by unemployment insurance—mainly domestic workers, farm workers and state and local government employees.

Also, \$500,000 would go for public and private works projects to create employment.

The unemployment rate in November was 6.5 per cent and Treasury Secretary William Simon told a Senate committee earlier this week the figure could climb to 7.5 per cent next year.

Darker forecasts have ranged as high as 10 per cent.

On Nov. 30, the Labor Department said, the rate for workers covered by jobless insurance rose to 4.5 per cent from 3.8 per cent the previous week.

The largest increases in unemployment were reported in California, 42,600; North Carolina, 41,300; Illinois, 38,600; New York, 30,700; Pennsylvania 28,200; New Jersey, 27,000; Michigan, 23,300; and Wisconsin, 20,900.

Labor Secretary Peter J. Brennan yesterday asked state leaders to hastily prepare the groundwork for implementing new federal unemployment assistance legislation.

Ford asks steel price rollback

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The White House said yesterday President Ford is pushing U.S. Steel Corp. to roll back its 8 per cent steel price increase, and hopes the steel industry in general will put a freeze on any price increases.

Press Secretary Ron Nessen said he did not know if Ford had made his views known personally to the big steel company. But the Council on Wage and Price Stability, which Ford directed on Tuesday to investigate the price hike, had.

"The wage and price stability council, reflecting the President's views, hopes U.S. Steel will lower its announced increases and that other steel companies will keep the public interest in mind and not raise their prices to the level of U.S.

Steel," Nessen said.

He also said U.S. Steel had told the council it would respond in writing by tomorrow to the council's request made Tuesday for a justification in writing of the price hike.

It was not clear whether Ford wants a complete rollback in the price increase, or just a portion of it.

Nessen said the council, which has no enforcement powers, would study the company's reply and then make a report to the administration. The council has held hearings on other price situations, notably sugar, but beyond focusing public attention on problems, it has no real authority.

Nessen claimed, however, that the council had been able to get Ford Motor

Co. to cut back some planned car price increases by as much as \$150.

In Detroit a Ford Motor Co. spokesman denied the council had influenced its car prices.

"We don't know of any such action by the council affecting us," an assistant controller for marketing said. He suggested the council had been thinking about the \$150 cut in the price of the company's Pinto, which was not due to council action.

Weather

Light snow this afternoon and tonight, partly cloudy with snow flurries tomorrow. High both days, 32. Low tonight, 28.

Student files: A matter of record

Editor's note: Following is the second of a two-part story examining the student records controversy. Today, a report on how the University handles the records of its students.

By NANCY MOYER
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The University has a good record policy," said Raymond Murphy, vice president for student affairs. "I have no apprehensions about students seeing their records."

Apprehensions or not, students now have the right to see their records. If an institution refuses a student access to any records directly related to him, it will be denied federal funds. This is the law as put forth by the Buckley Amendment.

Records are kept throughout the University, but there are some major areas students can cover in tracking down their files.

Shields looks like just the building to house rows and rows of filing cabinets brimming with material on students.

Warren Haffner, director of the division of admissions, records and scheduling, has had students come to him wondering whether discipline records will somehow fall into the hands of potential employers.

But Shields is the wrong place to go for anything other than a transcript listing grades, courses and an academic profile. The profile includes items such as home address, Scholastic Aptitude Test scores and demographic data. By a student's senior year, all other material has been thrown out.

Haffner said every application for admission received from a student, whether he is accepted or not, is kept for three years. This procedure is required by Pennsylvania law.

After three years, those applications belonging to persons who were not admitted are destroyed. The remaining applications are microfilmed and kept indefinitely. Letters of recommendation and other extraneous material found in the folders are thrown out.

Haffner said that the Buckley Amendment has or will have very little effect on the way records are handled.

"Students have always had free access to the transcripts of their permanent records," he said. "They've also had the



right to challenge them if they find that they are in error."

Letters of recommendation haven't presented a big problem either, he said.

"We don't use letters of recommendation in our admission process," he said. "Many application folders don't even have any. I doubt if we'd find any letters marked 'confidential.' It's rare that we see one like that. It's also a rarity to see one that's not favorable to the students."

Haffner added that he thought copies of letters of recommendation are sent to the student. He also said that the office may request that such letters not be sent to the University.

"Our only question is records that originate elsewhere,"

Haffner said, describing one problem the amendment presents. "We're not the originators of a student's high school record. Before the Buckley Amendment, we could refer students back to the original source."

"Certain private schools send a transfer's records to us stamped 'Confidential—for your evaluation only,'" he continued. "We feel uncomfortable about this. We have to make it clear to these universities that all information on file must be available to students."

Haffner said the amendment will probably change policy on records sent to graduated students who request it for employment or academic reasons.

"In the past, if someone wrote from New York asking for a transcript, we'd assume it was his own and send it," he said. "Now, people outside the University will need a notarized statement."

Over in Boucke, Murphy said some divisions within Student Affairs have no records at all. There may be files of forms students have filled out, such as their activities card or their religious preference card, but "these, in my judgment, are not records," he said.

"They become records only when information is added or detracted by other persons within the University."

Murphy said that no records of a student's political affiliations are kept.

"Except as it appears in The Daily Collegian persons do not know of another's political status," he said.

One division that does keep records is the Office of Conduct Standards. Their files contain proceedings against persons, reports from the security department, rationale for disciplinary action and copies of letters of notification to the dean if a student has been suspended.

"These have always been available to the student," Murphy said. "And no records are kept on a student who has been taken in but not charged."

Murphy added that only the student can see or release his own records from Conduct Standard's files, and that these records are destroyed when the student graduates.

"There may be misunderstandings of a particular report by the writer or his secretary," he said. "Students may contest

information in front of a hearing board."

Information for the Conduct Standards files isn't sought outside the University.

"There's no need to look into a student's past," Murphy said. "As far as we're concerned, life begins at 18."

And he added that information gathered for these files does not go out. For instance, unless civil charges are brought against the student, records of a drug raid will not go beyond the University's files and will be destroyed when the student graduates.

Murphy said that the records of other divisions—Financial Aid, Student Assistance Center, Educational Opportunity Program and Career Development and Placement—are generally requested for examination by students.

Hargleroad said that another reason for the close watch each division will produce a mock display in January of what records they keep, their purpose, storage, security and disposition, Murphy said.

But there is a division within Student Affairs that keeps records on students indefinitely—the Ritenour Health Center.

The center is very strict about who can get their hands on these records. When a student comes in for service, he presents his identification card to a clerk and the clerk removes his file from the shelf and gives it to a nurse. The nurse takes it and deposits it in a basket outside the door of the doctor the patient is to see.

According to John A. Hargleroad, director of University Health Service, there are reasons for such cautious handling of records.

One reason, he said, is that Ritenour's doctors work in a team system and write notes for themselves and among themselves concerning the patient. Such notes appear on the medical card and may only be a speculative diagnosis. If a student sees such words as leukemia and mononucleosis scrawled on his record, both possibilities of an abnormal blood count, he could jump to the wrong conclusion.

"Now certainly we try to be as open with patients as possible here," Hargleroad said. "But it's a doctor's job not to unnecessarily alarm a student or patient."