

Groups want student help in Farr case

By GINA CARROLL
Collegian Staff Writer

Representatives of several major campus groups held a strategy session last night to increase student involvement in the fight against the University's decision not to rehire Jo Ann Farr, associate professor of psychology.

No formal action was agreed upon at the meeting, but several modes of action were discussed. The main problem encountered in the discussion was the uncertainty of Farr's position in relation to their proposed activities.

"Jo Ann supports this and other action," said

Mickey Van Summern, a Women United representative.

"She doesn't want to be a martyr or a guru," Mary Musca, Academic Assembly president, said. "She feels she has no grievance with the University."

Among the ideas presented were a barrage of calls to the State Department of Education, explaining the students' position. Tony Carozza, a North Halls assistant to Residential Life who was involved in another employment termination by the University, said the idea, while good, would not work.

Carozza, a former resident assistant in North Halls who was allegedly fired because he was gay, said he had received the

support of the Department of Education, but the department could not help him because they had no input in the University.

Carozza said they probably would not be able to help Farr for the same reason.

Van Summern said she had talked to Noble and he had said the reason Farr was not rehired was purely financial. Van Summern said Noble told her substitute teachers will be recruited from the Mental Health Center staff to fill position vacancies.

Other courses of action proposed by the representatives included:

- a boycott of the classes Farr has taught;
- getting endorsements of Farr from the University colleges and groups;
- talking to the University trustees;

- holding a public meeting with either psychology department head Merrill E. Noble or John W. Oswald;
- a sit-in at either Old Main or Moore Bldg., where the psychology department offices are located;
- getting more signatures for the petition to rehire Farr;
- a visit to the provost to explain the position of the representatives.

In other action, the group representatives agreed to support the Penn State Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (PSORML) in their efforts to help push through House Bill No. 592, which makes possession of small amounts of marijuana a civil rather than criminal offense.

Black Caucus liaison sought

The Undergraduate Student Government Senate last night voted to establish liaison between USG and Black Caucus by sending a USG senator to attend all open meetings of the Black Caucus.

The senator would report back to the senate, thus promoting "better cooperation in solving problems concerning either organization and their constituencies," USG Town Senator Joe Aloia said.

West Halls Senator Bernie Campbell said the senate may not find a senator willing

to attend all Black Caucus meetings. USG currently has unofficial liaisons with the Organization for Town Independent Students (OTIS) and the Association of Resident Hall Students (ARHS) that are not being filled, Campbell noted, because no senators want to attend the meeting.

Senator-elect Ed Palsa said that he would attend next year's Black Caucus meetings.

In other action, the senate voted:

- to endorse a petition

calling for reinstatement of Jo Ann Farr, associate professor of psychology.

- to eliminate the USG departments of Budget, Student Welfare and Minority Affairs.

The senate tabled a bill that would implement five recommendations of the USG Task Force, including one recommendation that the president pro tem preside over USG meetings rather than the USG vice president. The bill was tabled due to poor attendance at the meeting.

Small Panhel sororities raise issue

It was a question of large versus small sororities last night at the Panhellenic Council meeting held in Wolf Hall.

According to membership reports, sisters on practicum who will be graduating are no longer considered members.

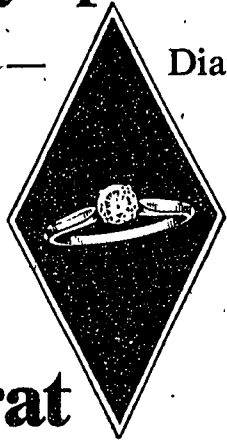
"Two or three may not

seem like a lot of people, but to a small sorority it's a big percentage of your membership," Janet Plavetich, council president said.



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