

A Strong Majority Report

Students, Faculty Should Support A Progressive Step For This University

After a year of deliberation, members of the student discipline committee, four faculty and two students, released a report Tuesday which could become an important landmark for the University of Oregon.

We hope the significance of the report has not passed over the heads of the students of this University. We hope students realize how indebted they should be to the six members who have performed a real service to this school, and indeed the whole State of Oregon, for bringing to the attention of faculty, students, and administrators some of the flaws that have existed for so long in our policies of student conduct.

To put the matter of our out-dated and Victorian discipline code on the table for discussion is in itself an important step forward.

Exactly what questions has the majority report brought to light? First and most important, it has suggested that this University should get out of the morals business. It has recommended that a student should have the right to provide for his own moral growth; to establish his own moral code as he sees fit, not as the supposedly omniscient moral guardians of Emerald Hall dictate.

Second, the members of the student discipline committee have wondered out loud if the way to get students to act like adults is to treat them like adults. They have stated that they believe that a code of student conduct should be "based on the premise that the development of responsible behavior is not effectively realized by policies which unduly prolong dependence and immaturity."

Third, the members of the committee have questioned the wisdom of the perpetuation of the "double standard" of treatment of men and women. They have not

said that a double standard does not exist in our American society. Rather, they have very justifiably asked the question of whether or not it is the place of a supposedly enlightened University to perpetuate a practice which is detrimental to the natural rights of women students.

Fourth, the majority report raises the question of exactly what gives the University the right to assume the control functions of the larger city and state in which it resides. That is, why should a University student be any different from any other citizen when he breaks a law? Why should he have to answer to both the University and the City of Eugene or State of Oregon for acts not directly related to the University and its educative function?

Fifth, the majority report has called for a review of present administrative procedures on discipline cases. It has asked that actions taken by the Office of Student Affairs in its administration of the discipline code be subject to review by a faculty-student committee, and that this review be automatic in cases in which a student is expelled, suspended or informally asked to leave school. It doesn't take an administrative expert to figure out that when one individual administrator makes a disciplinary decision, the disciplined student should have some safeguard against honest error or inappropriate use of authority.

These major policy recommendations of the majority report, if instituted as University policy, would solve problems about which students and faculty have been complaining for years. The majority report is worded simply, so simply that one wonders why these problems were not delineated so clearly a long, long time ago.

The majority report should be accepted.

Stanford's Suggestion

Following is an editorial which appeared recently in an issue of the Stanford Daily. It mentions, in a sort of outline form, a program which would be worth more than the lip service it now receives on this campus—integration of living and educational facilities.

The plan to "integrate the classroom with the residence" in a new History of Western Civilization and Freshman English program is very welcome. It should be considered seriously.

For many of the students at Stanford, their academic and dormitory lives are quite removed from each other. For them, learning ends when they leave the classroom or the library.

Yet, a university must be devoted to providing

more than simply a "class-room education." Almost every educational experience can, in many ways, be related to the non-academic world.

As Dwight Clark, Dean of Freshman Men and Director of Wilbur Hall, has said, "a melting together of living and learning . . ." is a means toward this goal. He has proposed a program in which students on the same floor will have the same English or Western Civ instructor. The English themes would be integrated with the Western Civ topic under discussion. When possible, the instructor would actually live in the house. Also, grades would be replaced by a "Pass" or "Fail" rating and a written analysis of the student's work.

This program would greatly benefit the Freshmen in their attempt to coordinate what they learn in the classroom with the things and the people around them.

Footnotes

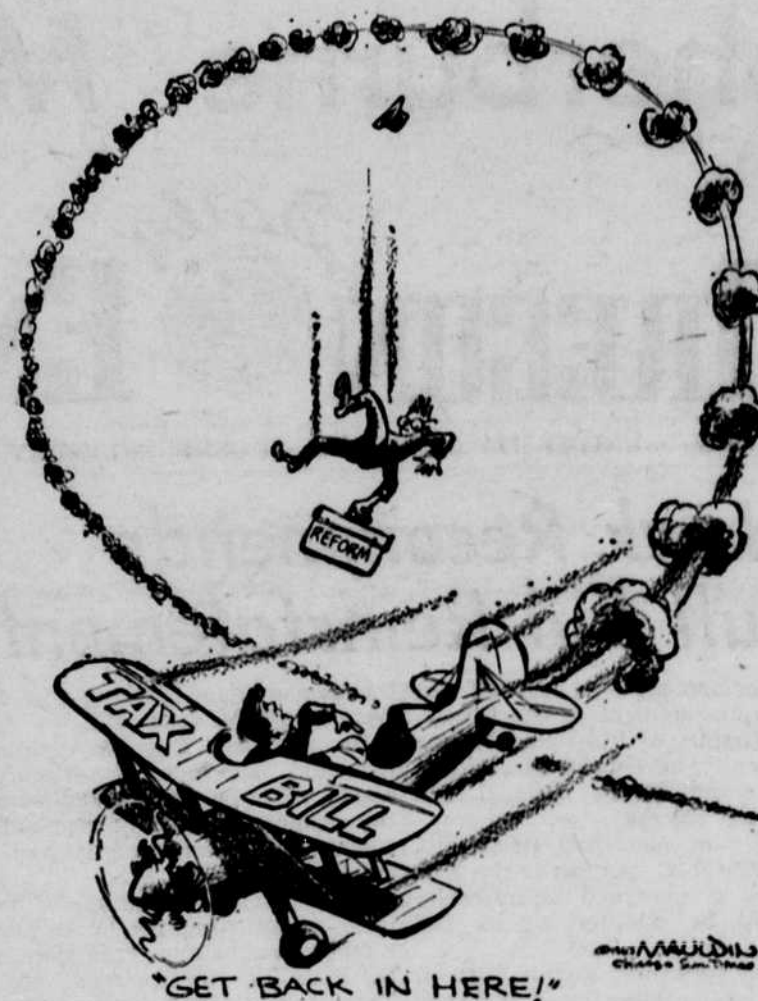
During campus election campaigns, discussion often centers about the futility or ineffectiveness of student government. At this University, as elsewhere, there are many theories as to why government is in such terrible shape, but one factor, usually overlooked, is a purely physical one.

Social scientists feel that the shape of the meeting chamber of a legislative body reflects the type of discussion practiced by that body. The Supreme Soviet meets in a square room with very narrow aisles and with all members facing front. The Russian premier can address this body without fear of discussion from the floor.

The British House of Lords seats men of opposing political ideas opposite one another so that one never discusses with constituents but rather talks to the opposition.

In more democratic bodies such as the United States' Senate, the chamber is rounded to permit discussion between virtually all members of the body at all times.

What we are getting at is that the ASUO Senate has one of the most unique physical structures found in government. The Senate is seated in a U-shape with virtually half of the members seated with their backs to one another.



Cathy Neville

Our Contemporaries

The University of Washington conducted a survey to see if local republican and conservative groups were being infiltrated by John Birch Society members. Presidents of both groups said they had no Birch members and neither knew of any such on campus.

An ex-Bircher felt that the society was "just a group of people who meet to discuss political views" but felt that extreme public reaction against the society was the reason for the University having so few Birchers.

"Many members of the Society have very radical views," the student continued. "These are the people who give the Society a bad name."

A former Bircher once called the Society nothing but a group of politically oriented pen pals.

WOMEN undergraduates at Columbia University in New York will be allowed to visit in mens' dormitory rooms beginning this spring term. The proposal agreed upon by Columbia administrators will permit women to visit the mens' dorms every other Sunday from 2 to 5 providing the doors to rooms entertaining women guests are left open.

Students at Columbia have had the women-in-dorms proposal before the administration for some time. One of the stipulations accompanying the proposal was that night rioting stop or the new privilege will be discontinued. Students have been using night demonstrations in an effort to change dorm policies.

The Columbia Spectator called the night riots "an occasional Columbia pastime that may involve irresponsibility but should not involve the women-in-dorms plan." The paper also felt that the stipulation to end rioting made the new policy an administrative tool against riots.

An editorial in the Utah Chronicle had this to say:

"The Utah Legislature has decided to try its hand at running the state's schools, setting the universities' and colleges' requirements for graduation. It is a rather strange aspiration when you realize that there are very few if any educators in the House and Senate.

"Be that as it may, the legislators have decided, according to Senate Bill No. 39, that 'Any student receiving a bachelor's degree or teaching credential from any tax supported university or college within this state shall, before receiving such degree or credential, demonstrate reasonable understanding of the fundamentals of the history and the principles, form of government, and economic system of

the United States as a basis for responsible citizenship.'"

THE WASHINGTON State Legislature tabled a bill which would have praised officials at the University of Washington for banning speakers such as Gus Hall and Benjamin Davis from the campus. The Washington Daily cheered the fact that the bill was tabled and called it "a step in the right direction, however small. Eventually (let us hope) there may be an active, forward looking group leading the legislature which will take the positive steps needed to bring about a change in the University's speaker ban policy.

Democrats attacked the resolution which would have commended University president Odegaard and the Board of Regents for accepting "their administrative responsibility" by refusing to allow "avowed members of the Communist Party to use their facilities as a public forum."

VOTING IN the Kansas State student body elections was so slow that it threatened not to elect three representatives to the student senate.

By 11 o'clock Thursday 2,430 students had voted. The school constitution requires at least 75 ballots to be cast for a representative in any of the school's academic districts. When the paper went to press 27 votes had been cast for the representative from the School of Journalism, 48 for the School of Pharmacy, and 38 in the Graduate school.

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published seven times in September and five days a week during the school year, except during examination and vacation periods by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5 per year; \$2 per term.

Opinions expressed on the editorial page are those of The Emerald and do not pretend to represent the opinions of the ASUO or the University.

RON BUEL, Editor
MARTY KETELS, Business Manager
TED MAHAR, Managing Editor
EVERETTE DENNIS, News Editor
PHIL COGSWELL, Editorial Page Editor
LARRY WILLIAMS, Advertising Manager
JOHN BUCHNER, Sports Editor
DULCY MORAN, Assistant Managing Editor
RON COWAN, JIM FRAKE, JANET GOETZE, Assistant News Editors
GEORGE BIGHAM, Photo Editor
LINDA BROWN, Entertainment Editor
CATHY NEVILLE, Associate News Editor
EDITORIAL BOARD:
Ron Buel, Phil Cogswell, Ted Mahar
Everette Dennis,
Dulcy Moran, Linda Brown
Bob Forsyth, Hal Snow,
Grant Ledgerwood, Doug Ragen
Janet Goetze, and Bill Hutchison