In Conduct Committee

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Staff Writer

Recognition Withdrawal Rights Debated

Whether the Student Activities Committee should have the right to withdraw recognition of groups, or whether that power should be reserved only for the Conduct Committee, was discussed Wednesday at the Student Conduct Committee meeting.

In discussing the Student Activities Committee policy, Wendell Basye, professor of law and chairman of the Conduct Committee, said that since the other committee has the power to recognize groups, it should also be able to withdraw recognition, as a sanction.

All the members of the Conduct Committee present at the meeting agreed they would rather leave the recognition of groups in the hands of the Activities Committee. "Recognition of groups is just too big a job," Basye said.

Bob Carl, student member of the Committee, said if a University rule is involved in a case where recognition is to be withdrawn, then the case would fall under a rule in Section 1-B of the Conduct Code. Carl added he wants to make sure that in any cases involving withdrawal of recognition, the group be given due process. "And the Conduct Committee probably has the best machinery and procedure to provide this," he said.

Inside Code

Carl continued, "I want to keep student conduct and sanctioning power by the University of a group or individual within the Code. I hate to see it get outside the Code because I see dangers that more and more people will want this authority; and here we are offering a precedent."

Carl said originally he felt delegating the Student Activities Committee this authority and reserving an appellate right for the Conduct Committee would work out. He said, "in actual practice, I think it would be good enough; but in principle I don't think it would suit me."

Basye said the Committee "made a mistake" when it allowed the application of the Code to group offenses, and that he would rather have fewer dealings with groups.

Individuals Only

Basye said the Code was originally intended to handle individuals, and that the only reason the group offenses section was added was to take care of a case that came up in which an individual was not identifiable enough by himself to be prosecuted under the Code.

But it happened under the circumstances that a whole group of them were, "so they threw the sanction at the whole group," Basye said.

Basye said the thing that bothered him about the possibility of having all conduct, group or individual, under the Code, was that ". . . the group doesn't act except through the individuals. It's the conduct of the individual we should be interested in."

"But," he said, "as far as the Student Activities Committee and responsibilities here on campus, I can certainly visualize them coming up with a pretty strong commitment and ultimately handling withdrawal of recognition of groups with a great deal of efficiency."

Has Become Involved

Carl argued that now that the Committee has become involved in group sanctioning and that it has become equipped to do so, "we had better stay with our policy all the way through . . . I'm not saying the Student Activities Committee can't handle it, though."

In discussing the authority of the Conduct Committee in deciding whether group offenses have or have not been committed, Basye expressed concern at the upcoming case of racial discrimination, involving Sigma Chi fraternity.

"We're in the business of disciplines," Basye said. "And when you get out of the area of discipline, I agree (with Carl) that one committee of high level administrators could solve all the problems of the University."

Basye added, "We're a student-faculty committee and there are other student-faculty committees, and if we arrogate to the Student Conduct Committee everything in this University we're going to pass on, ultimately we're going to lose some of the discretion of the Committee."

Civil Rights

Jesse Puckett, associate professor of physical education, said, "I would hate to see this Committee get involved with the settling of the civil rights issue. It seems almost as if that ought to be in the hands of a special administrative ad hoc committee, top level . . . We're oriented to the purpose of the Code in terms of conduct and students becoming self-directing and all, but I see this civil rights case way on the outside."

In other discussion of the Student Activities Committee policy, Carl said it seemed very wordy and too comprehensive with minute details.

That problem, that of who has the right to withdraw recognition, and any other questions about the Student Activities Committee policy, will be discussed when members of the two committees meet today at 4 p.m.

Reports

In other business Wednesday, the Committee heard from Andy Jordan of the Inter-Fraternity Council regarding fraternity policy on visiting hours.

Jordan said a recommendation was made by and accepted from a committee set up to handle the problem brought about by the recent deletion of visiting hour rules by the Conduct Committee.

The recommendation that was accepted by IFC was that "women will be allowed in all fraternities without a chaperone, according to sorority and women's dorms visiting hours . . . from 6 a.m. until 11 p.m. on week days and till 1 a.m. on weekends."

Submit Lists

Jordan said that by Thursday each house has to submit to the Tribunal a list of what it considers areas open to visiting, for approval from that body.

Jordan said that policy was up to individual houses.

In business dealt with in its Tuesday night meeting, the Condust Committee:

- Discussed the parking regulation which had been formulated by the Campus Planning Committee and approved last by the Committee in 1964, but tabled a motion for reapproval until it had a chance to discuss them with Associate Dean of Students Francis Nickerson, who was absent from the meeting with Asian Flu.
- Approved an amendment to Section II-E-2 of the Code, which gives Student Court final appeal in cases other than those involving disciplinary probation.
- Recommended to the faculty that section IB3a of the Code be amended so as not to prohibit drinking by persons 21 and over at a University function.

The previous wording had been that the "possession, consumption, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages" was not allowed on University owned or controlled property or in University-related housing (except married housing) and "at University sponsored or supervised functions."

It was changed to read "in cases involving minors at University recognized or supervised functions." This prohibits only minors from drinking at such functions unless they are held on University property.

- Put in the record that the Committee wants student members appointed by the University President upon recommendation of the ASUO president. This is done now even though it is not specifically provided in the Code. The Code does say that all members of the Student Court and minor courts must be recommended by the ASUO president.
- Decided to discuss with the dormitory administration a provision now in the Code that sets up special closing hours of 1 a.m. on weekend following finals. Pam Bladine, a student member of the Committee, noted that 1 a.m. is already the weekend closing hours. Miss Puckett said this rule was put into effect to benefit foreign students who stay in the dormitories during vacations.
- Voted to send copies of the Code to every student and faculty member every year. They are now sent only to new students.

Panel to Explore Contemporary Art

"So What? # II," a public program in a discussion series exploring ideas suggested by the University's Festival of Arts, is scheduled for 4 p.m. today in 106 Lawrence.

This is the second of three such informal discussions where a panel of University staff and students from various fields takes a critical look at contemporary arts as presented in Festival lectures, exhibits, concerts, and plays.

"So What? #II," will focus on the contemporary film which was emphasized in lectures by Film Quarterly editor Ernest Callenbach, independent film maker Bruce Baillie, and University architecture professor David Foster, during the preceding week's Festival events.

Panel members for the discussion are Owen Chamberlain, Eugene, graduate in graphic arts; Kathleen Foley, Portland, Honors College senior in German; Robert E. Meyers, assistant professor of education; Kenneth O'Connell, Marcola, senior in art education; and James U. Starck, instructor in fine and applied arts. John Hamilton, associate professor of music, is the panel moderator.

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