

## Editorials

# The University is not a substitute parent

Most college administrators will tell you that the "in loco parentis" function of the University died during the late 60's. Don't believe them. The use of night watchladies and night managers in the dorms here at the University is proof that there is no getting away from mom and dad.

The policy of using watchladies and night managers to patrol the dorm halls after closing hours was initiated by the housing department after it received several complaints about increased thefts and unauthorized visitors in the dorms. It hired two women to patrol the halls and two men to back them up.

While thefts from dorm rooms and the number of strangers wandering around in the halls decreased after the watchladies started their patrols, the residents have justifiably complained about infringements upon their rights.

For one thing the watchladies seem to have taken it upon themselves to try and enforce the rule about closing hours to the extent of checking the rooms, when they hear curiously low voices. Until the watchladies were hired the enforcing of closing hours was left up to the residents of the dorms. The only people the watchladies catch are those that are being flagrant about their behavior. The numbers of other men staying after hours go free simply because they stay quiet and stay out of the watchladies way. College students really don't need someone skulking around the halls to protect their morals.

The worst aspect of the whole problem is the way the decision to hire the watchladies was made. Not only did Assistant Director of Housing Dick Romm fail to consult with dorm residents about their feelings on the policy but he has refused to discuss alter-

natives with the students. Romm has even admitted that he doesn't know if the watchladies can help the security problem.

Mom, dad and the alumni will be happy about the watchladies but the people really

## Shows up flaws

John Leggett's presence on campus, according to the administration, "would not be in the best interests of the University."

They're right, of course. The University exists primarily as a recruiting center for the present economic and political structure in America. It is hard to imagine Leggett, who has led demonstrations against Dow Chemical's use of the University of Connecticut as a manpower pool, coming here. He might call attention to similar practices on campus, and that "would not be in the best interests of the University."

And it's obvious that the University administration, which makes decisions on dorm watchladies, incidental fees, ROTC, etc. without consulting students, doesn't want someone on campus who stood up for student rights, as Leggett did at Simon Fraser University. That "would not be in the best interests of the University."

Someday, of course, this situation will change. Someday, the University's collusion with the corporate and military powers of America will be ended, and the institution will be a place of free inquiry and open criticism of the status quo. Then, it will be seen that to pollute the institution through the influences of the Army, Air Force, and the corporate giants of America is not in the best interests of a free University.

concerned with the problem, the people living in the dorms, aren't. Now it's up to the housing office to decide who is more important to them.

## No to USIU

Recruiters from the United States International University (USIU) will be holding interviews on campus tomorrow with students interested in USIU's graduate programs. Any person on this campus who has even a minimum of concern about fairplay or honest practices should be disturbed by that fact.

For USIU isn't a typical university. Controlled by former military officers and high ranking members of the Navy League, in addition to a full complement of bankers, industrialists and agribusinessmen, USIU has been able to acquire a number of deactivated military bases for free, the latest one being in Sundance, Wyo. Now USIU is using its influence to get control of the old Adair Air Force Station north of Corvallis, a site desperately needed by the Oregon Council of the Poor. If USIU is successful, then the Adair site, which could serve as an academic and vocational training center for the council, will be used as a rich man's school, where the tuition will be over \$3,000 a year.

Of course, anyone who wants to see the USIU recruiters can do so. But they should understand that supporting USIU, and the practices that institution has engaged in, is a morally repugnant action to many members of the University community, and that anyone who does go for an interview may be exposed to the public censure of his peers.

## Commentary

# Is USIU into education or real estate?

Most major universities (including Columbia, U of C at Berkeley and the U of O) are being challenged to answer the charge that their actual role in "their" communities is that of landlord, land-grabber and dictator of real estate development. Basically, angry community and university people are asking: does this institution act like an educational facility, or does it act in our lives primarily like a board of realtors? This question led us to investigate United States International University in order to support the State Council of the Poor's demand that Adair (377 acres) not be given to USIU. We found that the USIU's enrollment figures are very low, its access to old military bases high, and its financial status suspect and largely secret.

The USIU campus in England has only about 100 students. USIU in Mexico City (formerly the University of the Americas) has only 31 students. There is a campus in Nairobi with about 200 students, but this school is actually a second rate high school. USIU is constantly asking the US government for more land, yet it continues to enroll few students. In Steamboat Springs, Colorado, USIU has 79 students and 57 acres of land. At one point USIU told the government that they were doubling and tripling enrollment, but when this was discovered to be not true, the board stated that they wanted to remain small and exclusive. There are about 800 students at their home campus in San Diego, plus 2,400 students from Cal Western, a Methodist Church School which was originally bought out by USIU. The two schools were forced to merge their two boards in 1967 by the

government. The church can still pick 11 out of 33 board members, but there has been some feeling in the church people to disassociate themselves from USIU because they can't get adequate financial information on what USIU is into. Of course, "non-profit" USIU could always unmerge from Cal Western, which would leave USIU a private corporation with tremendous holdings.

For example, USIU has access to Camp Eliot (a 400 acre gift from the Air Force). It also has Sundance Base in Wyoming. And now USIU wants to clinch its hold on Camp Adair. USIU is getting this land as a non-profit organization in the United States, but their actual financial status is much more complex. USIU is operating as a private, profit-making institution in Mexico. This means that USIU can transfer public funds it receives because of its non-profit status in the U.S. to its branch in Mexico, where there are no controls over how it is spent. Or debts acquired in Mexico could be shifted to its non-profit branches in the U.S.

The U.S. Office of Education is interested in USIU because it defaulted on a government loan. (It was one of only twelve universities in the country which asked for an extension.) USIU also would not turn over its audits to the U.S. Office of Education. And neither H.E.W. nor H.U.D. have received USIU audits.

Not even the board of trustees have a full picture of the finances of USIU. Its assets are said to be \$35 million. But certain questions raised by trustees in board meetings are cut off by President Rust of USIU or by those on the board following his instructions. It is reported

that anyone who disagrees with Rust is kicked off the board. USIU has continually gone to short-term borrowing, sometimes from its own trustees (who are bankers, lawyers or resort owners). There is a suspicion of leakage of funds, or perhaps USIU has other borrowing commitments (debts) to pay off. A resolution was passed June 1968 by the board which said that the USIU President was authorized to purchase any stocks without further question from the board, and that this decision was retroactive. Another resolution authorized the President to borrow up to \$200,000 for any purpose, also without questions from the board. It is possible that USIU was gambling on the stock market—the losses on the market might account for USIU's bad financial situation.

Actually, President Rust runs a fairly well tied-up enterprise. Most board members are right-wingers, and some of them have handy ties to military associations. No better connections could be asked for, if one happens to want to be given a 377 acre Air Force Base! Rust also rules the USIU campuses with control that every college president probably envies. Both students and faculty must sign a pledge of allegiance to USIU. Even if the students get good grades, and even if they maintain good conduct under an oppressively puritanical code, USIU can still dismiss them, on any grounds. This way USIU can get rid of those who question too much or cause trouble or (horrors!) want to join together in political actions. This is the kind of "university" that "deserves" FREE 377 acres of Oregon just north of Corvallis!

And they will be getting free buildings on the land. The money to finance the

houses at Adair (\$2,900,000) was borrowed from the U.S. National Bank of Oregon. The government intended to retire the mortgage on the housing (\$1,700,000) after Adair had been handed over to USIU. In all this there are many possibilities of USIU-government complicity. Here are three more possibilities: 1) H.E.W. accepted from USIU incomplete and out of order answers to financial questions; 2) The General Services Administration told one investigator that it is irrelevant for them to tell him which banks held the housing mortgage on the Adair houses; and 3) The son of Senator Robert Wilson in San Diego is on the board of Directors of USIU, which is common enough practice for all "educational" boards, but it may yield some further information. So dig in, there's research enough for all!

This Friday, January 22, a USIU recruiter will be on campus. The campus Adair Support Group and the RCU will hold a rally on that day at 10:30 at the EMU. We intend to invite the USIU recruiter and plan to ask him why USIU deserves Oregon real estate and all sorts of other questions. Bring your own! The Adair issue is beginning to move on the state level. Rep. LeRoy Owens, D-Eugene, has just called for a study and said "The state owes a vote of thanks to the Poor People's Conference for bringing this matter to our attention . . . At a time when Oregon is experiencing a severe housing shortage, and is finding difficulty in meeting the facilities requirements of various state agencies, it would be a gross miscarriage of public resources to allow a private out-of-state organization to acquire the air base." Right on! Let's meet the USIU man here Friday and tell him so. Campus Adair Support Group