

Changes

At last Monday's meeting, the Senate approved the new form to be used for this year's "Student Evaluation of the Faculty." This new form will be an adaptation of the University of Washington system, and offers several improvements over last year's process.

The theoretical concept of a student evaluation of the faculty is indeed good. First, it gives the teachers a chance to see what their shortcomings are in the eyes of the students, hopefully leading to improved teaching methods and practices. Second, it gives the incoming student a guideline as to what teachers and courses offer "the most for the money." If I'm paying \$1500 each year for tuition alone, I don't want to take a weak course under a weak teacher, right? And third, it should give the college administration some idea of the effectiveness of our faculty, both individually and relatively.

From a practical point of view, last year's evaluation had several shortcomings. The form used required far too much subjective analysis by the student and some of the criticisms published were too personal and were not constructive in nature. According to the newly approved system, the form will be more objective and impartial and no course will be listed unless a large percentage of the students in the class reply to the questionnaire. According to present plans, there will be no letter grade applied to each faculty member, and the questionnaire itself is more thorough. We applaud the revisions made by this year's Senate and congratulate Dennis Hayek for his efforts in this area.

Student evaluation of the faculty can and should be an effective tool in our joint efforts to achieve greater excellence in our educational program. It should never become a weapon of the students, for this would only create friction and suspicion between faculty and students. We look forward to change for the better and the creation of truly effective and useful evaluation.

Melodrama

Nostalgia, one of the nation's many diversions, has finally gripped the DECREE as we present (on page 4) a reproduction of the 1963 "Long Range Planning Issue." Our purpose in printing an 8-year-old newspaper is not satirical. We are not attempting to slap the hands of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Collins, or the Director of Planning. Our objective is to present our students with a look at what our predecessors envisioned and to renew the strength of that vision that has managed to create from a swamp N.C. Wesleyan College.

It is true that we may easily be defeated, deceived, and submerged in memories; however, it is not our desire to gather everyone together to weep for those buildings and other facilities that "might have been," only if. . . "We agree with President Collins that it is impossible to answer the question, "How far away is tomorrow?" We also agree that the future holds innumerable possibilities for reaching our goals. Rather than question how far away tomorrow may be, it would appear more logical and sane to keep in mind our past visions and to work toward them with the same thrust that we spend on our immediate problems.

Dear Chief . . .

Dear Chief,
It is the usual custom for the maintenance crew to spruce up the campus for Parents' Weekend so they will think it always looks beautiful. You know, the fountain is cleaned and put in working condition and the trash cans are emptied. However, this year one of the campus eyesores was missed. The fallen trees behind Nash and Edgecombe Halls were and still are lying on the ground. The Pines are one of Wesleyan's trademarks and I'm sure the parents and the students would rather see them standing stately than lying like logs. Even though we don't have any "dress-up" occasions very soon, I hope we can get these fallen trees removed and if nothing else used for firewood to heat water for the twodorms that have been without hot water. But that is another matter.
Sincerely,
Gail Mabe

Dear Chief:
I am in whole-hearted agreement with Miss Donatelli's letter printed in the last issue of the Decree. The condition of Nash Hall is going beyond the point of absurdity. The dirt and grime have built up so as to make all corners and baseboards nice homes for cockroaches, spiders, and a wide assortment of flying creatures.

The one thing that makes it worse is that, on occasion, the dorm is cleaned (for inspection and for special occasions, such as Parents' Weekend). The difference between special occasions and normal appearance is quite noticeable.

Why can't something be done about this? I know that numerous complaints have been turned in concerning these problems. Why hasn't some-

thing been done? I'm sure I speak for the residents of Nash Hall in asking for immediate administrative action on this issue.

Respectfully,
Jo Armistead

Dear Chief:
Contrary to popular belief, the new sign at the library which reads "Ready to Circulate" does not refer to the coed assistants. Instead, it announces that all new books received will enjoy public exhibition before being shelved. Soon to appear are Kurt Vonnegut's latest, "Happy Birthday, Wanda June"; African novelist Ezeikial Mphahlele's "The Wanderers"; and the personal philosophy of Yukio Mishima, Japanese author-actor-political activist, in his "Sun and Steel."

Provocative photography and stimulating comment fill "The Living Book of the Living Theatre" and "What To Do Till The Messiah Comes." And for a touch of wry, try "The Foreign Affairs Fudge Factory," a close look at the postwar State Department. These are just a few of our recent acquisitions; with many more to come.

Regards,
Joseph T. Macpherson,
Librarian

Dear Chief,
Another Parent's Weekend has come and gone . . . Everybody is five pounds heavier and \$10.00 richer. But all kidding aside, Chief, I thought Parents' Weekend was a total success for public relations between students and parents, and parents and administration. When Sunday afternoon rolled around everyone seemed to be satis-

fied that little Bob and Jane were doing fine and that life at Wesleyan isn't really as bad as the letter at home lay claim to.

Parents' Weekend allowed mom and dad to see all the fall fashions their son or daughter should be wearing, and were fascinated by an afternoon of soccer. Mom and Dad were acquainted with a very small part of "life at Wesleyan" but the fact still remains that Parents' Weekend could have been worse. Yet on the other hand it could have been much better. Like maybe \$20.00 instead of \$10.00.

Your man with the lens,
Jimmy Olsen,
Alias Jay W. Van Hoose

Dear Chief,
Once again we would like to inform the students of Wesleyan that Washington & Jefferson Literary Journal is soliciting students for new materials that will help to compose this annual literary magazine. Interested persons may send prose, poetry, drama, music, graphics, and photography to: The Journal, Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, Pennsylvania 15301

All manuscripts must be received no later than December 17, 1971. All material to be returned should include a self-addressed stamped envelope.
Thank-you,
Michael Soodik
Editor

Quotation Of The Week



Mr. Thomas Pearsall, chairman of the Board of Trustees, was addressing the audience of the Parents' Weekend banquet. In reference to the Decree editorial of October 12 entitled "Deception," he remarked wittily, "I never make direct replies to editors and preachers, because they always have the last say--with the pen or the pulpit."

Discovering The Most Relevant Curriculum

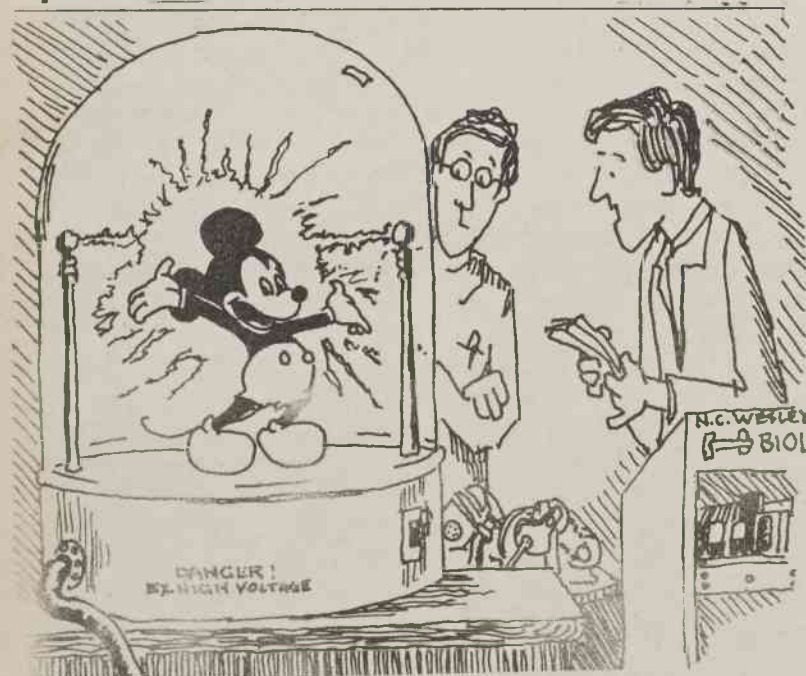
Ed. note: The following appeared in the September-October issue of "Your University, 71-72," a publication of Indiana University. It is part of a welcoming speech made to freshman students by Byrum E. Carter, Chancellor of the Bloomington Campus:

"In recent years there has been a frequent cry that the curriculum lacks 'relevance.' In part, it is a cry which has legitimacy. Our curriculum sometimes does not change as rapidly as it might; entrenched interests produce inertia and reform is difficult to achieve. But part of the cry for relevance is false. Often it is no more than a cry for relief from the discipline and labor involved in mastering a truly difficult subject matter, or in acquiring real competence in intellectual analysis.

Let me be blunt. Some study is hard. Some study is boring. Some study is laborious. Study is often work and not all work is the same as playing games. But, as with work, study that is hard, boring, and laborious oft-times productive of outcomes which make other parts of study exciting and even pleasant. The intellectual enterprise is not all fun and games; part of it is sweat and strain. But

it is only if the sweat and strain is carried out that the real fun and games can begin.

If you really decide to make the effort, you will find the life of the mind exciting and profitable--not only educationally but emotionally as well. We are here to help, but, in the last resort, the choice is yours."



I can't understand it, I followed the instructions exactly.

The Decree

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