

Editorial Policy

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Registration hassle

Registration for the Second Semester missed the mark of a 'time-saving, smooth and orderly procedure by a great margin. It was partially due to faulty planning by administrators and disorderly conduct of tired, frustrated students who did not take ample time to read directions and who did not have full directions about the location of special purpose areas, such as, the place for signing of EOG, National Defense Student Loans and work-study checks for the past semester. Students would stand in line at the cashier's window for hours only to be informed that they were to report to another room or window to transact other business before receiving the PINK SHEET (fee assessment sheet). The student would then stand in the next line for several hours. This was a very confusing situation, students were so mixed up mentally that they were on the verge of going berserk, (in fact, some of them seemed to do just that at the Business Office windows and the tables where class rosters were being signed). Of course, we had administrators who were 'catching hell' because other dignitaries were remiss during the early period of registration or because students would not adhere to rules set by the Registration Committee.

The packing of students at the Business Office windows resulted in a couple of fainting fits, and the overcrowding of students at tables where class rosters were being signed on the first day of registration resulted in the abortion of registration procedures from 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., reaching a total of two and one-half hours of registration for the first day. This delayed procedures so greatly that registration had to continue through the following Saturday and Monday. Students had to stand and trod around to complete registration in the wet, windy, and icy weather of January 8-9, 1971. As trees and shrubbery about the campus bowed with heavy coatings of ice, students filtered about the University's campus Saturday, January 9, to try to complete registration in the three hours from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. which were allowed. All were not successful in their attempts. Registration was again extended into the following week.

Now students and administrators can look back on all of the perplexity and find faults in each other. The blame for the complete disarray can not be stamped in one single area or on any single person, but it has been suggested that the Business Office should start registration a week or more earlier. This they did, but their failure to pass out PINK SHEETS (verification for permit to register) at the time that students paid bills early was their main back up.

Students put themselves in undesirable predicaments because several of them had not submitted medical blanks with physical check-ups, blood tests, and chest X-rays and several students who were on probation signed up for excessive hours. Their limit was fourteen hours and some had as much as twenty-one class hours. There were students who stood in line at the check-out stations without advisors' signatures and without PINK SHEETS. They had to turn back and get these necessary transactions, simultaneously they were placed further back in line. Several students came to the final step of registration without completion of the permanent schedules. It has been reiterated quite often that one must press hard when filling in these schedules in order for all copies to be eligible. Several students do not realize that these type schedules and the procedure of registration which has been used for the past year has been done for the benefit of the student. In order to have a "time-

... Petition ...

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The students were informed that President Lyons had considered talking to them a week later, but they were so upset, some of the students considered forcing the President to come speak to them at that meeting. They wanted him to face them at that time, and "bring facts, not evasive answers." Some want-

ed to storm the President's house, but were made to realize, by Mr. Nesby, that the final decision rested with the Board of Trustees. "We must be organized and present an authentic student petition," Nesby said, "or we will be labeled another 'student unrest' and achieve nothing." He continued, "We have to make sure what we do is the best thing to do. If we are going to make a move we have to be effective. The system listens to documentation, not noise. We need mass support of a petition, not a riot." When confronted with more questions from the students wishing direction for their goals, he said, "We can only influence the Board of Trustees, not make decisions. To influence we must do it in the best possible way: petition, put our opinions in THE VOICE, continue student publications of student problems, and have the results of our meetings publicized. Now is not the time for riots, because the administration is ready for that with counter federal force. Now is the time to have a legal representative body under the Student Government Association. We do not have to resort to the old physical tactics." He was telling the students that they must work within the system to make changes in the system and to be heard.

Carolyn Newton Stevens, the Vice President of the Student Government Association, asked the students, "How are we going to talk to the President when we are arguing with each other. First we have to get together, as we are doing. Remember, we have the alumni and the faculty association behind us and they are 'dead on his tail'". She continued, speaking of working within the system, "Lyons does not believe the faculty assembly exists simply because he has not included them in his reorganization, but since we come under the Student Government Association, a recognized organization, he cannot doubt our existence, and must deal with us."

More comments from the floor were encouraged. One student wanted to think about the idea of keeping Lyons and making him change his attitude and methods. Another student remembered Lyons' visit to one of the dorms where he stated, "I am not going to have ANYONE telling ME what to do!" From this remark of President Lyons, it was obvious to the student body that he was in no frame of mind to consider any opinions but his own. President Lyons should take a lesson from botany. If he wants to survive, he should be a willow and bend a little, instead, he insists upon being an oak, and getting blown down.

The next item on the agenda was the final decisions and agreements. In the voting, only a handful of the students wanted to take a chance on the President reforming after he read the students' grievances. An outstanding majority voted for President Lyons' resignation. It was agreed that the students would abide by the majority decision and stay together. Petitions were started in the audience for signatures. A meeting was scheduled for later that evening to make the final draft of the petition and list of grievances to be presented to the Board of Trustees and Board of Higher Education. It was agreed that PRESIDENT LYONS WAS THE PROBLEM. If cancer, or a problem, cannot be treated, it must be cut out!

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saving, smooth and orderly procedure of registration," do we have to go back in history to verification cards, long lines of class schedules (to be filled in separately in place of the present permanent schedule which makes carbon copies by filling in the top schedule), and the tiresome walking from building to building and from room to room to be signed in classes? Let us all find ourselves and strive for unity.

EDITOR

GOODWILL TOURS LYONS PEACE EFFORT

By NORMA L. GENTRY

Well, the President has finally been seen by the student body after being hidden for almost two years. I wonder why the sudden change. Perhaps he felt that a few "good will tours" would close the mystery gap. He might have just made his semi-public appearance to appease the college students, as well as the faculty.

Did he succeed? Of course not. We are in a state of pure confusion, with no one to turn to because our "Good Ole' President" is strictly a man of secret action. He brings about gigantic changes and the only way the student body hears of his action is through the "grape vine."

Why do we have this big communication gap between us? I am not in a position to answer this question at this time, but I promise you one thing; before the "good will" tours are over, we will have an answer to a lot of our questions.

President Lyons did not forsake Smith Hall in his tours. He did not believe in giving answers; his basic weapon was evasion. He did not answer "the" question, but "a" question. The student-President dialogue, in part, went as follows:

"Do you and the faculty and students have a good relationship?"

"Relationship is a two way street, and I am tired of people talking to me about why this or that."

"I thought we were living in a democracy; what is this, a dictatorship?"

"You say this is a dictatorship, and that I dictate how it is to be run. No, the rules are passed down to me from the state, and I have to abide by them."

"Do you think you are a problem here?"

"No, I am not a problem to anyone."

During one of his temperamental outbursts, he said, "I am tired and weary of a small group of people that set themselves up as a spokesman of the faculty. When you have a grievance, come as one, not as a spokesman for everybody."

The man seems to be an ideal candidate for the United Nations because of his great ability to use the tactic of evasion, while seeming to be pleasant. In the U.N. the skill in evading an issue is a good quality, but on campus it is a lost cause.

The absurdity of freedom as a political goal

By ROBERT REHAK

Freedom as a political goal is absurd. It is absurd simply because freedom as a concept makes no sense within the political continuum. And this is what our radical youth are beginning to realize. At the very heart of political philosophy is the determination of the proper balance between freedom and law and order which will result in the optimum good for both the individual and society.

I would submit, though, that freedom when considered from this viewpoint is a myth, an illusion propagated to diminish consciousness of repression. There are different degrees of being unfree in the sense that additional restrictions may be placed upon my physical movement, the reading material to which I am allowed access, my choice of vocations, educational opportunities, etc.

But to be free (or freed) is an absolute. It means to be free of all fetters: political, social, economic, and psychic. Freedom is not the choice between social necessities, but rather the ability to determine the code by which one will live. Freedom for youth is the freedom to become themselves. It is thus intimately tied to the notion of individualism.

The very nature of politics, however, is coercion. The polity imposes restraints on the marginal elements of society for the benefit of the vast middle. People are

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