

# Editorial Page

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## The U. S. Should Clarify Position In Indo-China

The latest hints of continued U.S. presence in Cambodia were somewhat unsettling to many Americans, and once again we find ourselves questioning the integrity or motives of the U.S. government. Conflicting reports which come from newspapermen and other observers often give us the impression that someone is trying to pull the wool over our eyes on the subject of our involvement in Indo-China.

Within the current war administration there seems to be a mysterious problem of credibility. This is increasingly alarming to the large majority of Americans who are trying to see good in the current gradual withdrawal program. Grasping for new hope that the war is being ended as quickly as possible, reports of secretive maneuvering are bringing about great uncertainty in the minds of many. We wonder just what our government's motives are, and as to just how sure of our leaders we can be.

After various conflicting statements, we often later find, through an explanation of some sort, that the government did do something contrary to what they were telling us. Now, granted there are some things that perhaps should not be heavily publicized, but the manner in which they are concealed seems to be one of the worst features of this.

Today people are not quite as placid about what their government does. Complete frankness might prove to be worth more than some of the surprise factor that is lost in clarifying our position and helping to unify the nation. And perhaps, just perhaps, we will find that our leaders are more trustworthy than we earlier believed.

## Student-Davis Conference Proves Successful

President Davis' conference, held last Tuesday for a small group of students to present their grievances, was probably one of the most successful undertakings ever attempted at Brevard College. It proved to be a monumental achievement for both administration and students.

Thirteen people lined the conference table in the plush conference room of the administration building, but the atmosphere was far from formal. Many of the thirteen wore blue jeans and army jackets, and they spoke with informal vocabulary. It was simply a "rap session" with President Davis.

The students were free to talk with Dr. Davis about anything that might be bothering them. Many problems were brought out — few were solved. But the point was to bring students and the administration closer together.

President Davis can certainly consider this a major contribution to student - administration relations at Brevard College. A closeness between students and the administration can only mean a smoother operation.

## The CLARION

### The VOICE of Brevard College

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## Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

The proposals before President Davis at present concerning open dorms and dorm closing hours are by no means unjustified, and even if these proposals seem trite or unnecessary to some, I feel that the passage of such proposals would greatly increase the morale of many of the students. As a result of these more lenient regulations, the students would perhaps feel as if they were being treated somewhat more as college students.

In addition to these justified

drives for open dorms and an extension of dorm closing hours, I would like to call the attention of the student body and the faculty to another area of dormitory regulation in which change would also be desirable — the sign-out policies. I feel that if one's parents grant blanket permission, there should be no need for such a detailed sign-out procedure. The use of a register to sign out merely by signature and a brief description of destination would be a more sensible means of signing out.

The desired changes in policy in dorm regulation, including the sign-out policy, are effectively used by the majority of colleges and universities. For example, Queen's College and Vassar, which one might assume used stern regulatory measures, have respectively, a six a. m. curfew and twenty-four hour dorm visitation. Therefore, the revamping of the dorm regulations of Brevard should not seem irrational or demanding.

Sincerely,  
Susan Decker

## SGA Reflects On Its Fall Semester Procedure

By Frank Owen

September marked the beginning of another year at Brevard College and another year for Student Government Association. When the first semester is reflected upon, one really wonders what the SGA did. So the purpose of this article is to inform the interested individuals and groups on campus of its accomplishments.

We met on September 23, 1970, for the first time; and attendance, as well as enthusiasm, was soaring. Although, relatively new to our task of relating student affairs to the administration, we were willing to learn. We realized that "the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." But to some, the trip was a long and tiring one, with only a hard core remaining faithful to the cause. Committees and Committee Chairmen were appointed. Their purpose was to encompass

all campus activities and offer better solutions to the problems. Dave Chestnut headed the Constitutional Revision Committee and by April 15, the student body will have voted on a new constitution.

The first semester of SGA produced a total of 31 proposals, some major in importance and some very trite. Of these 31, only 19 were sent beyond the SGA. Some of the major proposals were the broadening of Brevard's curriculum. This proposal was sent to Mr. Roy, chairman of the Curriculum Committee. At the present time, the curriculum is under evaluation and, in reasonable time, significant changes will occur. A proposal on the elimination of final exams was submitted by Dave Chestnut, and the Faculty, at the February Faculty Meeting, will vote on this issue. Probably the most needed proposal concerning students on

faculty committees was passed. The Committees now with Student representation are committees such as the Library, Athletic, and Curriculum Committees. In the near future this will be of a great benefit to the students at Brevard. Perhaps the most controversial proposal to date concerning Open House was vetoed by President Davis.

So as you see, our first semester had its up and downs, but we were able to place before the students, the possibility of an effective SGA. However, we are only a tool for the students' benefit and without student support, we cannot be of any great influence. We must repledge ourselves to the task and frustration of working diligently for the student body; for it is here, within the SGA, that everyone will praise us if we are successful in our endeavors, but will too quickly blame us if we fail.

## Students Air Grievances In Conference

President Robert A. Davis held an informal conference Tuesday afternoon with a small group of students who had come to air their grievances.

The students asked for twentieth century church ideas to be brought to Brevard's campus. They were mainly concerned with a breakdown of the administration's formality. Dr. Davis agreed that there was a gap between the administration and students. "But communication is a two-way street," commented Dr. Davis.

The students also discussed drinking and dorm visitation issues with Dr. Davis. "Some people don't realize we're college students, and we need to let off steam," said one student. Most of the students felt that the open dorm policy would institute responsibility.

Dr. Davis stated that Sims Student Union is a place to socialize with the opposite sex, and a place to let off steam. He was mostly concerned with abusive drinking. "Some things asked for by students would change the course of the insti-

tution," said Dr. Davis. "We must know where we are going and where we have come from." Other topics discussed were girls' dorms closing hours, compulsory attendance at convocations, conduct rules in dorms, and school spirit.

## OUTLOOK

By Mark Todd  
EDITOR

Have you ever stopped to think about how poorly we often communicate with each other? Sometimes it amazes me how unable or unwilling we are to stop and open ourselves up to people. It seems to stem from, at least in part, the fact that we seem to gear ourselves to an impersonal, fast moving life that allows little more than just basic small talk to come out. All those little defenses we collect over the years somehow inhibit us from getting into really meaningful communication.

While the experiences we have as we grow and mature and form our personality are important, perhaps it is just a human quality that we only communicate to a very small percent of our potential. Many of our problems in the world today are made harder to solve because of this problem.

Even the so called "generation gap" is only as wide as people make it in their failure to communicate, a failure which rests with both parties. It's really great to see kids who can really talk things over with their parents and vice versa, and really get an accurate understanding of the others' views.

Perhaps a part of this is attributable to some kind of art. However, it seems that it is something we all should try to develop.

## Admissions

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plans to expand the program to include the entire southeast area are already under consideration. He and his staff will be in Greensboro and Charlotte, N. C. in the near future.