

We also recognize that minimal regulations in the area of individual rights may be desirable for maintaining order in the academic community. We believe that when such rules are necessary, they should be legislated by the appropriate student organizations.

#### ACTION

USNSA urges student governments to assess the situation on their campuses in relation to regulation in the following areas:

1. dress rules; 2. alcoholic beverages; 3. curfews; 4. smoking. We suggest that the student governments cooperate with the administrations and faculties to determine and recognize the rights of students' autonomous control over social and moral actions.

Perhaps interested students and SG officials should investigate the value of NSA. Student awareness of the organization and pro-con opinions can aid our SG in its decision regarding membership.

Editor's note: The NSA was first brought to my attention at an NSSGA Conference last year. After reading the information in the EAST CAROLINIAN, I obtained a copy of the 1961 NSA Codification of Policy. This is an annual NSA publication which contains the constitution of the NSA and all legislation passed at the National Congress for the year. I feel that many of the policies stated in the booklet may be of interest to Elon students and should be printed in this newsletter from time to time.

With no intention of making this SG newsletter a mouthpiece for the NSA, I have included a second NSA bill, taken from the Codification, which deals with student newspapers--a subject in which the Publicity Committee is vitally interested. In relation to THE CAMPUS CRIER, I thoroughly agree with the ideas presented in this bill. -C.T.

#### FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT PRESS

#### PRINCIPLES

Whereas USNSA believes and endorses the following principles:

- 1) That a free and vigorous press is essential to a democratic society and that freedom of expression and debate is basic to the effectiveness of the educational community...
- 2) That it is the duty of the student press to develop and serve its community and to cultivate freedom of expression, stimulation of thought, and response in the community; this must be done as its editors believe just and fitting; the editor must bear full responsibility for his policies.
- 3) That the aims of the student press cannot be fully achieved unless independence from all forms of external interference or censorship is maintained inviolate.
- 4) That although the student press is often formally owned by an organization other than itself, it is essential that the press be free from control stemming from ownership if it is to function well.

#### DECLARATION

Therefore, USNSA declares the following fundamental rights and privileges of the student press necessary for effective execution...

- 1) The student press must be completely self-directed. Within the legal restrictions of civil or criminal laws against libel, pornography or indecency, the student press must be free from control. It must be free to function without control from student or non-student administrative devices...
- 2) The student press must be a forum for free expression, having the right to undertake discussion of all matters of human concern.
- 3) The student press must have access to information necessary for undertaking all facets of issues affecting the university or college community in order to accurately assess the community's problems and activities.