

Stanford Study Advocates Faculty, Student Creativity At School

Palo Alto, Calif. - (I.P.) - As an alternative to the three-year degree program now being debated nationally, Stanford University undergraduates may have the opportunity to take a leave of absence from academic work to learn off campus from a member of their future profession.

The proposed program of undergraduate "externships," designed by Douglas Davis, associate dean of undergraduate studies, would enable the student to gain an opportunity to relate past and future studies to the mainstream of society's needs, as well as a chance to test academic interests and obtain important work experience.

Students participating in the externships would take approximately the same amount of time for a degree as at present, but the degree would be more meaningful and less costly, Davis comments. He points out that the accelerated, three-year degree options being tested at other schools fail to take into account the relationship between time, the maturation process, and effective scholarly work.

"Neither graduate schools nor employers want 19 or 20-year-old baccalaureate holders," Davis argues. He also thinks the proposed externships would answer another challenge from students who argue that college education now costs too much and does not relate academic offerings to human problems.

"The externship proposal calls upon the University to expand its concept of community to include on a limited basis those learned men and women located elsewhere who are applying knowledge to the needs of humanity, and who may have significant things to say about the nature of knowledge needed in the future," Davis suggests.

The new program would draw upon an already established

but little known leave of absence policy, which allows any undergraduate in good academic standing to leave at the end of any quarter and return to register at the beginning of any subsequent quarter within six years. No applications, notice, or other paperwork is required.

The leave of absence would be coupled with a new kind of academic credit, called reserve units, to be granted for full-time, unpaid work experience off campus. These units would be held in reserve by the student, and drawn on only to meet the University requirements of 180 units for graduation. They would not count toward the completion of a major, or the University distribution requirements, nor would they be transferable to another institution. No tuition would be paid for them, thus reducing the cost of education for some students taking the externship option.

To implement the program, Stanford would survey its faculty, alumni, and other friends for potential externships. The experiences should involve the full time of the student for three, six, nine or more months, preferably under the guidance of a present-day practitioner in the appropriate area of problem solving.

No pay, or only a small cost-of-living allowance would be provided for these experiences. No direct credit would be allowed for an externship. A faculty-student committee would review all proposed externships as well as student applications for them.

Unlike internships now offered throughout the University, the externships would come earlier in the undergraduate years. They would be designed to help a student select a field and develop the motivation needed for study in an area where the student might later serve as an in-

tern.

Externships also would differ from work-study or work programs, where there is often little relation between the work done and the student's individual academic motivation, plans and questions.

Davis suggests that the externship program might be of special use to premedical undergraduates. Although the top third of Stanford premedical students have no difficulty getting into medical school, able students of the middle third might be helped by the additional research or applied learning experience. For the bottom third, the externship would provide exposure to allied health professions which might aid students in redirecting their academic energies earlier in their careers, he suggests.

In a related development, Davis also recommended the present policy of in absentia registration, now available primarily to graduate students, to be extended to undergraduates who wish to specialize in academic work.

In absentia registration would make it possible for a student to undertake a program of independent study research of directed reading at another university or even overseas, if library collections or research facilities required such travel.

Undergraduate participants would be required to demonstrate that they had a clearly defined goal, preferably related to their academic majors, and a procedure for accomplishing that goal. Participants would have to give evidence of successful academic experience with independent study and of acquisition of sufficient background to support the proposed work. Individuals also would have to obtain the active support of a faculty member in the development of the proposal and the conduct of the study.

"Taken with our present policy of leaves of absence, the combination of in absentia registration and the externships would allow the University to move toward the goal of increased options for undergraduates, both in the pace of their undergraduate years and in the variety of educational experiences available to them," Davis concludes.



Old Salem host at the Brothers House hangs the Moravian Christmas Star.

JFK INVESTIGATION

by John Covert

You'd think people would listen to a man like Cyril Wecht.

He's a forensic pathologist - a person with degrees in both law and medicine. He's Research Professor of Law and Director, Institute of Forensic Sciences, at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh; and a clinical Assistant Professor of Pathology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical School. He's also a recent past president of both the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and of the American College of Legal Medicine. Besides that, he's the Coroner of Allegheny County (Pittsburgh).

But when the discussion turns to the charges by Wecht of discrepancies in the Warren Commission Report on the assassination of President John Kennedy, persistent silence is the official response.

This August, Wecht became the second non-governmental medical expert allowed to view the items from the autopsy of President Kennedy stored at the National Archives in Washington.

In a recent interview, Wecht said he questioned the Warren Commission's findings even before his two days of research at the Archives. But when he came out his conclusion was that "the Warren Commission Report is totally untenable, unacceptable and absolutely incorrect as far as its findings on Lee Harvey Oswald and the single assassin theory."

The Kennedy family turned over numerous items from the autopsy to the Archives in Octo-

ber, 1966, with the stipulation that none of the material be released to the public during the lifetime of Kennedy family members, and that after five years "recognized experts in pathology or related sciences" be allowed to view them.

The first "expert" granted permission to view the items was Dr. John Lattimer of New York. Lattimer is a urologist - a kidney and bladder specialist - whose only qualification seems to have been that he has been a consistent defender of the Commission's findings. Lattimer spent just three hours in the Archives last January and immediately afterwards released his conclusion that the autopsy items supported the Warren Commission's findings.

Wecht, then, was the first critic of the Warren Commission Report to be allowed entrance, and this only after he spent nearly a year attempting to get permission from Burke Marshall, a law professor at Yale Law School who acts as an official representative for the Kennedy family. Wecht says he probably wouldn't have gotten permission at all if Marshall hadn't been prodded by others interested in the autopsy items.

When Wecht finally did make it to the Archives, on August 23 and 24, he said he discovered a number of autopsy items were inexplicably missing - most notably the preserved brain of the President and a number of microscopic slides of tissues removed from the bullet wounds. So far, no one has explained the disappearances. But what remained at the Archives was enough for Wecht to confirm his doubts.

In our interview, Wecht recreated the scene at Dealey Plaza and Parkland Hospital in Dallas and at the Bethesda Naval Hospital, where the autopsy was performed the evening of the assassination.

In Dealey Plaza, the President's car "had just made a right hand turn and was proceeding to an underpass when shots rang out. President Kennedy clutched his throat, Governor John Connally was struck, then Kennedy was struck in the head." By the time the President was brought to Parkland Hospital nearly 30 minutes later, he was already dead with the basics of "life" being preserved only by machine.

"Under Texas law the autopsy continued on page 5

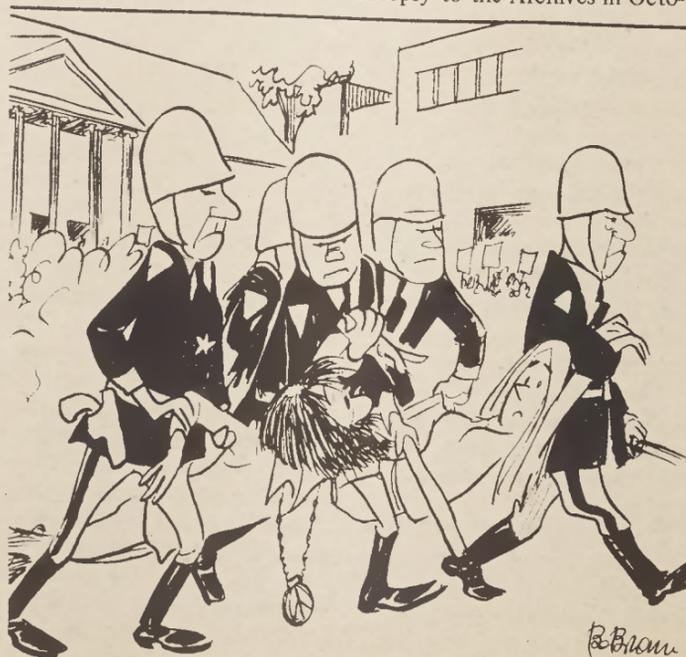
Summer Program

With exams and cold December winds both blowing down our necks, it might be interesting to project a pleasure-coated educational experience that combines a rich core of unusually effective learning techniques with a holiday setting on the French Riviera. This is not just a student dream for a winter's night: it is the summer program in the French language and culture offered by the University of Nice.

A Salem faculty member, Mrs. Laura Edwards of the English Department, is participating as a group leader in a program offered by the University of Nice for foreign students at all levels of competency in French. This is an exchange program that has been popular with Europeans of all ages for some time. It makes possible for students, at a reasonable cost, to concentrate on a foreign language in the social and cultural setting of the language itself. This total immersion in French language and culture for one month, twenty-four hours a day in a French community has proven an enormously efficient

and practical way to become proficient in a language in a very short time. For instance, there is a course for students with no knowledge of French that approaches their learning by the same audio-visual means that a French child employs to make the language his own. The courses offered go from this basic introductory program that sends students back to their countries not only speaking French, but also having a feeling for the culture itself to the advanced courses in literature such as Mrs. Edwards will be taking in Twentieth Century French Literature for her own World Literature course here at Salem.

The program starts July 2 and ends August 2. It includes a week in Paris following the one month summer school session and numerous side trips to places of artistic and historical interest as well as to resort areas such as San Tropez, Cannes, Monte Carlo and others that are only a few hours' drive along the Mediterranean from Nice. The total cost including trans-Atlantic fare, tuition, room and board is \$640 for the regular French courses.



"YOU DO NOTHING AND THEY YELL ABOUT STUDENT APATHY--- YOU GET TOGETHER AND IT'S CALLED A RIOT!"