

THE
MEREDITH



TWIG
COLLEGE

College editors poll shows areas of student interest

Job of counselor will be tested

One of the major pieces of legislation to come through the Legislative Board and the Student Life Committee this year was the approval of creating the job of professional counselor for the students here. Dr. Weems signed the legislation and all that remains to be done is the actual hiring of someone to fill this position.

It is hoped that whoever is hired will be a qualified counselor, and, more importantly, someone who has a genuine interest in college-age students. The counselor should preferably have experience in working with students who have problems or questions dealing with personal relationships, drugs, and sex. Further, this counselor should be able to create an atmosphere of trust and confidence within which he or she will be able to most effectively work with the students. It is also hoped, when the counselor is hired, that the administration will make it quite clear that this position is not connected with the administration. As the previous editor suggested, the counselor might do better working out of an office located outside of Johnson Hall. The Student Center would be a logical location for such an office.

Finally, the urging for the creation of this position came mainly from the students. The legislation has gone through the proper channels. When the position is filled, it will be the students' responsibility to make use of this requested and granted opportunity, for the justification of creating the position will depend on the response shown in the initial year. For this reason, it is most important that the person hired as counselor for next year be, in qualifications and attitude, a valid test of the position itself.

Roses to Carter

It would be a major omission if the year ended without some comment on the quality of leadership shown this year by Carolyn Carter as President of the Student Government Association. The job is a huge undertaking and Carolyn has spent countless hours working at a sometimes - thankless task. By pressing for the early implementation of the self-determining in hours proposal, she enabled the students to prove that the system was workable, and therefore Meredith social regulations were modified and improved with much satisfaction. Carolyn also pushed for the Legislative Board decision to recommend the creation of the position of counselor on campus, the first step in the eventual passage of the proposal by the Student Life Committee, and approval by Dr. Weems. Aside from these, Carolyn represented the student body on numerous occasions, such as the inauguration of President Weems and on Founders' Day. Her remarks on these occasions were always more than the usual comments expected from a person operating in her capacity. One of Carolyn's greatest assets is her ability to sound spontaneously witty on formal occasions.

Perhaps more to her credit than anything else, she leaves a precedent of a well-run student government and the beginnings of increased student involvement in the Meredith community. Elaine has a large order in filling Carolyn's position and a real challenge to continue the efforts Carolyn has begun.

Nearly one-third of college editors believe amnesty should be granted unconditionally to everyone who evaded the draft regardless of the reasons, and an additional 31 per cent feel amnesty should be granted in exchange for a period of non-military service in Peace Corps, Vista, the Red Cross, etc. Only 7 per cent feel amnesty shouldn't be granted under any circumstances.

These are the major findings of a college editors poll conducted by Newsweek and the Associated Collegiate Press during the week of January 21. Questionnaires were mailed to 800 college editors; more than 250 were returned. The findings, prepared by Beta Research, Inc., under the supervision of Newsweek, are based on this sample.

Most of the college editors report that students on their campuses are using marijuana, wine, liquor and beer more than last year. Most of them feel that the use of heroin, LSD, cocaine, and barbiturates is on the decline, compared to last year. Seventy-five per cent of the editors believe marijuana should be legalized; 69 per cent report that the majority of their fellow students also believe it should be legalized.

The editors ranked in order of importance the five issues of most concern on their campuses: 1) ending the war in Vietnam, 2) cleaning up the environment, 3) eliminating racism, 4) achieving women's rights and 5) combatting drug addiction.

Forty-six per cent of the editors report less unrest on their campuses as compared to the late 60's but 15 per cent

report more. Eighty-one per cent feel students are presently working for change in the system; 75 per cent report a rise in student apathy or discouragement. Only 6 per cent report any violent demonstrations or confrontations.

Only 51 per cent agree that students today are concerned with social issues as much as students who attended college in the late 60's and only 48 per cent agree that their college administrations are instituting reforms as a result of campus dissent of the late 1960's.

Here are some typical comments excerpted from statements the editors included in the questionnaires:

"The mood on campus is one of disconcerting apathy. The students who believed they should participate in social change and involve themselves on a national scale only see themselves in 'I' terms. The individual has become the most important thing ... It's a mood reminiscent of the 50's, except in the '50's something beneath the surface we're trying to forget about." (Colgate University)

"Apathy seems to be the mood on this campus. The 'revolution' died at Kent State because death is a real threat and it's a lot safer to be alive." (Boston University)

"The reforms so painstakingly achieved no longer draw enough interest to fill out available committee positions. There is serious doubt whether any demonstrations by students here ever caused any policy change which would not have happened anyway. The move to anti-social 'ignore others, know your own head' attitude is slowly being reversed. There are parties again, and people are pulling pranks." (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

"It seems, on this campus, that there is more concern over social status and popularity than anything else. Greek organizations abound and general attitudes revolve around being an 'important person.' Our students are primarily concerned about who can get the drunkest and tell the biggest lie about their sex lives. They aren't concerned about peace or welfare. Just 'kicks'." (Northwest Louisiana University)

'Revolution,' the 'Movement,' or whatever you wish to call it, have little or no effect upon the corruption they wish to eliminate." (University of Nebraska)

"Apathy is the major issue here and if there is a major concern it's in getting a degree and making it to the top." (Hampden-Sydney College)

"I believe that there is more unrest now than in the late '60's. That is, students feel more ill at ease about the kind of world in which they find themselves. They are uncomfortable with the realization that hypocrisy seems to be the password of their leaders and their institutions. And they are apathetic and discouraged because experience has proved that protest, the 'The mood of the '50's was blind apathy. Apathy in the late '50's was from lack of understanding. Apathy in the '70's is from frustration of understanding and not being able to do anything about it. The bluing of America is coming." (Hope College)

"Apathy, no matter how long editors carp on it, will persist. In fact, our campus is so badly saturated with it that the state could blow up and nobody would notice -- hardly." (Edmonds Community College - Washington)

UNICEF prepares to aid children

Vietnam is being implemented, the United Nations Children's Fund is making plans for greatly increased assistance to the mothers and children of Indo-China who have been the most helpless victims of the war.

As in Nigeria and Bangladesh, UNICEF will focus its attention and expertise on providing urgently needed food, medical care, shelter and education for children, with special concern for those who have been maimed and orphaned. UNICEF's assistance will be coordinated with that of other United Nations agencies.

For over 20 years, UNICEF has been aiding child care programs wherever possible throughout the long conflict in South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. It has also provided some assistance to the children of North Vietnam, using earmarked funds contributed by the Governments of Switzerland and the Netherlands.

Now, UNICEF is preparing to expand existing projects and initiate new ones. Emergency supplies are being stockpiled at strategic shipping depots, ready for speedy distribution. UNICEF staffs will also be strengthened in the concerned countries.

Special funds are needed to enable UNICEF to execute these plans as quickly and fully as possible. Contributions designed for Indo-China may be sent to UNICEF, United Nations Children's Fund, New York, N. Y. 10017.

Help Vietnam's Children through UNICEF



A motherless Vietnamese child—one of many thousands of small victims of the war—waits in his father's arms for help from the United Nations Children's Fund. UNICEF is planning major rehabilitation programs throughout Indo-China, to rebuild schools, orphanages and health centers, train nurses, teachers and social workers, and provide badly needed supplies. Public contributions may be sent to U.S. Committee for UNICEF, 331 East 38th St., New York 10016.

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