

# Faculty defeat of Senate amendment result of misunderstanding

In an interview Monday, Dr. Loy Witherspoon, chairman of the religion department and president pro tempore of the University Senate, said that the faculty defeat of the recent Senate amendment was the result of confusion and misunderstanding on the faculty's part.

The amendment failed to get the necessary two-thirds majority from the faculty to win passage.

Witherspoon says that many faculty members did not understand the amendment and thought that the hearings on the amendment held in late January were for the sole purpose of influencing legislation. Some members failed to understand certain points of the amendment, and some supported some parts while opposing others. All these factors combined to spell defeat for the amendment.

Witherspoon says that the anti-Senate faculty members do not comprise a majority, though they are very vocal in the opposition. Faculty disapproval was, for the most part, aimed at minor points of the amendment.

Many faculty members subscribed to a common misunderstanding of the representation of what Witherspoon terms the "service and support" personnel. Faculty members feared that this faction of campus life would receive equal representation with faculty and students, when, in fact, the chancellor would simply be appointing two representatives from this group.

Dr. Newton Barnett, dean of the college of engineering, was opposed to equal representation for the "service and support" personnel, claiming that no element of the university had the right to force another to organize, and only when this group

organized will they have the right to equal representation.

Some faculty members felt that the amendment should have a provision to limit the term of office of a Senator. Witherspoon felt that this was unnecessary — if the college is dissatisfied with its representative, all it has to do is refuse to renominate that person, making any written limit of term somewhat worthless and perhaps a hindrance.

The amendment stirred up some ill-feeling with the library and Student Affairs. The old constitution guaranteed representation for these groups, but under the new one they would not be represented except for Chancellor's appointments. Student Affairs has registered no official complaint with Witherspoon, but Joseph Boykin, head librarian, let Witherspoon know that he could not support the amendment.

Some colleges and faculty members would have liked to have the amendment broken down and a vote taken on each item. This suggestion was not brought up until after the amendment was passed as a package, too late for input on the matter.

The philosophy of the Senate is that all people regularly connected with the university are touched by its government and have a right to input.

At the time the Senate was established there was no strong faculty organization. Now that the faculty has its constitution and has become a powerful, viable group, some members see the Senate as a kind of threat to its authority. And though they may have approved of the senate in the absence of a strong faculty organization, that day is over. The faculty is especially touchy in the area of curriculum planning.

—by charlotte porter

A good number of the faculty members have come to UNCC recently, after the Senate came into being, and lack the ability to understand the concept of university community that the Senate is committed to. Neither in their student nor professional experiences have many of them been exposed to this idea and so they are confused as to the aims of the Senate.

Witherspoon feels that department chairmen and deans who have not sufficiently oriented their faculty as to the functions and concepts of the Senate have in way betrayed the university.



"Last time I wasn't interested I was called a frigid bitch."

"This time I'm a bourgeois individualist."

# What is done with your student fees?

—by charlotte porter

The platform of one candidate who was running for student body president at UNC-CH was the abolishment of student activity fees. His reason was that his money and the money of other students like him was going to support "yellow journalism" and student government actions of which he did not approve. We "yellow journalists" here at the Journal thought you might like to know where your money was going.

Each full-time student pays a flat \$79 fee. The first part of this, \$10, goes to what is called a registration fee. This may mean that computers need to be paid for. Whatever it is, it's a pain to pay for something that gives you an even bigger pain.

Anyway, onward. Next, ten dollars goes to the Union Building Fee. You may or may not have known that the Union is paid for by student funds; in effect, we own the Union building. There is also an eleven dollar Union Operation Fee, four dollars of which goes to salaries of workers and other expenses and seven to utilities.

The medical fee is only ten

dollars, by far the lowest at any of North Carolina's major educational institutions. At Chapel Hill and Greensboro, the fee is around \$24-28, but then again, they give you your medicine free. Here there is a nominal cost for medicine, tests, and equipment.

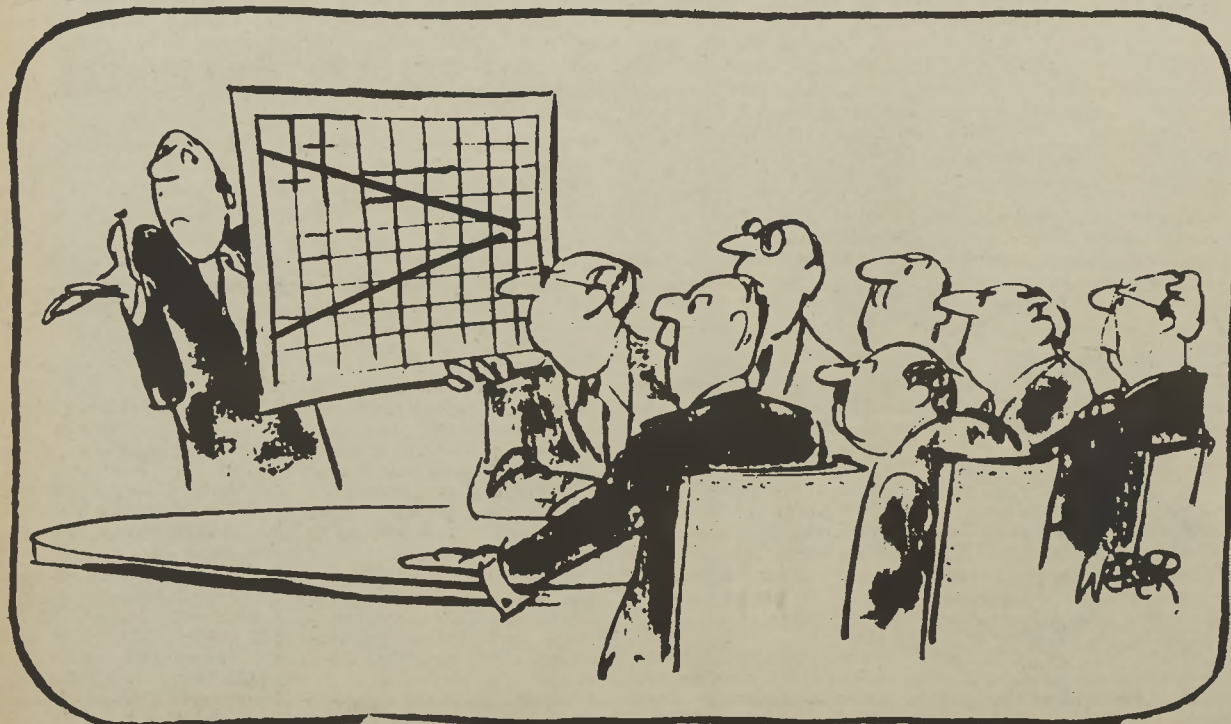
There is an eight dollar athletic fee and a four dollar intramural fee. Now I don't know for sure (keep those nasty letters coming, folks) but one would assume that this goes for equipment, transportation and uniforms.

The other biggie is the student activity fee of fifteen dollars. This money is rationed out to the major campus groups such as the Student Body Government, Student Union Board and the various forms for student media.

Former SBG president Stan Patterson couldn't remember right off the top of his head, but figured that the government gets about \$40,000 a year. He says that this has gone up lately. For another example, the Journal gets about \$11,000 a year. There is seven thousand this semester for us to work with.

Student fees are still a controversial subject in Chapel Hill. David Boone tried to sue the Daily Tar Heel and have their fees taken from them. He lost, so don't get any ideas.

On this campus, student fees can be seen in the money allocated to clubs and organizations: the funds with which to pay for the Engineer's Fair which brings vast amounts of attention to UNCC each spring; the mini-submarine purchased by the Scuba Club, the buses which take kids and players to basketball games, and the paper this is printed on. Whether this is good or bad is up to you.



"Our company, er... I mean, the University isn't doing too well."