

Legislature Preparing For Another Year

by eric stenstrom

The Student Legislature of UNCC is the main focus for student involvement with the administrative processes and "Powers that Be" which affect everyone on campus, and through Student Government the student can actually have a say in what happens in programs and planning that can and will affect him or her. More important than this however, is that Student Government is where some student activities fees are spent, so it is here that the real work is done.

In the past, Student Legislature has provided particular complete funding for various student programs and projects. The other main duty of Legislature is to enact and enforce laws and policies of the Student Body which affect the students campuswide. Legislature is completely

representative, with members elected yearly. In the past apportionment has mainly been divided between commuters and dorm residents, but in the last year a great effort has been made to change this to more emphasis on representation by college majors and academic class status. This will alleviate some of the communication problems which arise because of the commuter sentiment that justifiably dorm residents have favored position on campus in regards to University programming and opportunities in using facilities. This year Legislature will be involved with assisting the Dean of Students office in establishing a Commuter Life office to offset the dorm students Resident Life office.

The Legislature's work is done mainly in committee,

those committees being, respectively Finance, chaired by Kat Braswell, which scrutinizes all budgetary and financial legislation and allocations, Clubs and Organizations, chaired by David Brown which investigates and charts all student organizations and club activities on campus, Judicial, with Dennis Hall, which is the legal-beagle and Constitutional authority, Rules, with Alex Berkley, which is mainly involved with "in house" procedures, and Ways and Means, chaired by Eric Stenstrom, which is supposed to handle all matters which don't involve the other committees. There is also an Executive committee which is chaired by Jack Dunne, and is the policy council of the Legislature and is composed of the regular

committee chairpersons and at large members. Each committee has a different angle on student affairs and rights on campus so that through their respective membership there is input from the students to all levels of the Administration. The Chairperson of each committee has the important duty of seeing that all work is done and must see that all bills from committees are handled thoroughly and completely. At the weekly meetings, Old Business and committee reports are taken first so that on-going business may be handled and discussed, and then New Business is accepted for the legislators to attend to.

Any student on campus may participate in Government elections, vacancies are filled in the Fall and Spring, either by Presidential appointment or

special election. New legislation is generated by student request and opinions, and also by Legislature consensus. A Student Opinion Service is going to be created to help Government find out exactly what the student is thinking and how they feel about their school, but it will only work if the student does.

This year the various student organizations have been given portions of the student's fees to use in providing services, programs, and activities for and by the students. Involvement is not a petty business.

Student Body Government Offices are located on the first floor of the Cone University Center, to the left of the lobby. Meetings of the Legislature will be every Tuesday at 12:30 in the University Center. Every student is welcome to attend.

Senate Organizing

by mike evans

The University Senate may be the most useless organization on campus. The committee which compose the Senate do not work for common goals and rarely work for anything meaningful.

A report on UNCC students 21 and above was among the Senate's accomplishments. This certainly was interesting information but it did not serve any purpose toward reaching the Senate's goals. Even if 90% of UNCC's freshmen are 19

years of age, it is not a fact that is going to change the course of student history at UNCC.

Other encounters by the Senate included a teacher's certificate for Human Development and Learning Majors (presently HDL is taken as a co-major), the formulation of an International Studies Department, and a new set of academic regulations for the engineering department. The Long Range Planning Committee also

submitted a report on the zoning of the UNCC campus.

The HDL report was the most organized thing accomplished by the Senate last year (even though the HDL department was largely responsible for the report). It called for students to be able to major in HDL under the same stipulations followed under the other departments.

The International Studies report was so confused, even its authors probably cannot understand it. The idea was unique though not suited to this campus. However, the Senate will undoubtedly pass the recommendation and nothing may ever be heard about International Studies again.

The zoning report simply showed that UNCC's present construction is not on the best possible building sites, which does the University little good at this point. It may prove helpful in the future, however.

The University Senate's functions are outlined in the University Constitution. The Senate is supposed to review and

make recommendations on all phases of UNCC growth. The Senate only has the power to make recommendations, not laws.

The composition of the Senate is: seven Chancellor chosen senators, ten senators from the faculty and the students and one senator from each college. Any organization of the University can have a Senate representative provided they have petitioned and gained permission through the Chancellor. This is set aside for in Article 5 of the old constitution.

Any student attending UNCC is eligible to run for a position on the University Senate. If the idea of a government organization laying powerless on someone's desk of blood stained ideas irks you, sit in on a Senate meeting.

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