

The Daily Tar Heel

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Harry Bryan, Editor

Tuesday, May 11, 1971

Campus Council good for students

A new organization has been formed on the UNC campus in an effort to unify other student groups in and out of Student Government.

Called the Campus Coordinating Council, the new organization is composed of the presidents or chairmen of the Interfraternity and Pan Hellenic councils, YWCA, YMCA, Association of Women Students, Residence College Federation, Black Student Movement, student body, Graduate and Professional Student Federation, Carolina Union and Men's Residence Council, as well as the editor of The Daily Tar Heel, the vice-president of the student body and the student attorney general.

The council is badly needed if students are to present a unified voice concerning University policy and if students are to work together to achieve common goals.

At present a number of student groups exist on the UNC campus, working separately with little or no interaction.

Many are working toward the

same goals but are ineffective due to a lack of strength.

However, if representatives of these groups can come together once or twice a month during the school year, effective programs can be undertaken with all organizations working together.

The council could also prove to be strong in petitioning for change in University policies.

At present Student Legislature is the most representative group on campus. But due to lack of unity in the body and the fact that UNC administrators often disregard its resolutions, SL has little power outside of Student Government.

However, since members of the council represent organizations encompassing almost every student in the University, administrators would listen whenever the council took a unified stand on an issue.

The concept of the Campus Coordinating Council is sound, and the success of the council is badly needed if students are to work together to improve student life at UNC.

Susan Miller

Walk, walk, walk, walk, walk

There are probably five hours every week spent walking to and from classes, walking to dinner, walking through errands. It is most interesting to me to spend this time contemplating people and faces. Some faces, of course, are impossible to see because of the various fashions of hair which cover them. Occasionally one can see a sneaky-looking smile peering through a beard and mustache. Other faces you can't see because of one peculiar angle of the head—namely, toward the feet. (I always thought feet were uninteresting, or, at most, ugly.)

But the faces most difficult to see are those angled straight ahead, covered with a mask of nothingness. Sometimes I think people practice putting on faces which reveal nothing, not even boredom. Blank faces and clouded eyes and lazy mouths (it takes effort to smile and to frown).

There are several different kinds of patterned plots which occur every time one travels down a sidewalk. If one thinks about them, they are peculiar, funny and sad—all at the same time.

Plot number one

On campus are pathways which merge at angles varying from zero and ten degrees (those sidewalk makers around Polk Place go crazy with those bricks) to 45 degrees to the old-fashioned right angle. The 45-degree forks sometimes blend together to go in one direction. The characters in this plot are two students, each walking on a separate fork toward the common pathway. The crisis occurs when the two strangers suddenly find themselves walking side by side. The most common reaction is to ignore each other, each pretending he is involved in a world other than that of the disastrous sidewalk. Sometimes a person is acutely aware of the Other Person and worries the whole time they are walking. A good cop-out to employ in handling this situation is to slow down one's walk and thus set oneself up for that old sin of being late for a class. Or if one has long legs and a brisk stride, he can try speeding and passing that Other Person.

Occasionally some person will try a different strange way to react to the given situation: a smile and a self-introduction.

Plot number two

What happens when you see someone ahead walking toward you and you don't particularly wish to see this person or he/she always talks too long or you're walking with someone you don't want he/she to see you with? If you're carrying books, you can hunch your head over them or hold them strangely beside your head like a horse's blinder. You can duck behind a building, tree or tall person. If you're wearing a hat, pull it down over your face. The best trick, however, is to walk along unseeing, and when you're just approaching the subject, decide to look to the right at the scenery or look at the back of your heel as if you were having problems with it.

Plot number three

Ahah! There ahead of you is someone you are just dying to talk with. He/she is walking briskly to some unknown destination and you're walking as fast as you can but you can't seem to catch up. There are three alternatives. You can run or skip to catch up, as passers-by wonder

what could be so urgent. Or you can take a short-cutting route in order to intercept your friend. Or you can yell the person's name. However, the most frustrating thing is to yell and have everyone hear except the person whose attention you are trying to gain. I have seen many a person blush with embarrassment about this mishap.

Plot number four

The walkway is relatively unpopulated. In the distance you see a friend. Your eyes meet as you notice each other at the same time. Now, big decision. Should you wave, yell hello or smile and keep walking until you get close enough to exchange your niceties? This type of scene always reminds me of that old Clairrol commercial, picturing two lovers running with the grace of gazelles (i.e. in slow motion) as a voice says romantically, "The closer you get, the better she looks."

Plot number five

This is the most embarrassing of all. Worse than having to walk beside someone you don't know (as in plot number 1) is having to walk beside someone you do know but not very well. Making conversation for a 10-minute walk is very difficult, when it's with a mere acquaintance. The old standbys about the weather, the dull class you're going to, did you go to Jubilee, friends in common, the ridiculous amount of work you've got to do, etc. get worn out in about two minutes. The other eight is usually and unfortunately spent in silence. What a waste.

The tragedy is that you might have turned that mere acquaintance into a friend.

Letters

The Daily Tar Heel accepts letters to the editor, provided they are typed on a 60-space line and limited to a maximum of 300 words. All letters must be signed and the address and phone number of the writer must be included.

The paper reserves the right to edit all letters for libelous statements and good taste.

Address letters to Associate Editor, The Daily Tar Heel, in care of the Student Union.



Bonnie Braendgaard

Danish dormitories rated 'M'

A couple of years ago I had the opportunity to study for a year in Denmark, and while I was there I lived in two different dormitories and was able to visit others.

Danish dormitories, with only two exceptions I can think of, are co-ed. That is, males and females live in adjoining rooms, on the same hall, and the number of men and women is as equal as possible. Some of these are private, some run by the town, or district of a city, some are run by the universities themselves.

The dormitories are divided into "corridors", each of which has between 10 and 20 residents, living in single rooms, who share a kitchen, which is the social center for the whole corridor. The kitchen has ample cooking area, refrigerator space for all, and separate cupboard space for each resident which can be locked. In some dorms the kitchen is equipped with dishes and pots and pans, in others, students furnish their own dishes.

The rooms, as I have said, are all singles. In some dorms, each room has private bath; in some, bath and toilet are shared with the next-door neighbor, who isn't necessarily of the same sex; in some,

bath and toilet, one for each sex, are provided for the entire corridor.

Since there is a kitchen with each corridor, most students eat there. Sometimes the entire corridor gets together for food, rotating cooking for the entire group. Or else a smaller group does the same, maybe only once or twice a week.

There are also numerous parties involving the corridor. Whenever a Danish student has something to celebrate, like a birthday, end of exams, engagement, etc., he has to buy a case of beer for his corridor. Corridor meetings also involve the purchase of a case of beer, which of course leads to a party. Occasionally the corridor gets together for a banquet, which may involve a long line of tables down the hall, or else in the kitchen. Afterwards there is dancing, and finally a midnight snack of sandwiches and coffee.

Usually one person in the corridor is designated as "beer man". He is responsible for keeping a supply of beer and soft drinks in the kitchen, which residents pay for as they use them.

In most such dormitories there are also small apartments for married students. There have even been small children

brought up in these dormitories, being cared for by their "large family".

A similar system could be set up at UNC. The main thing would be to convert one room per floor into a large kitchen. This would be useful even if the halls themselves weren't co-ed. On South Campus, it would not be too difficult to have floors co-ed, probably keeping one sex per suite. On North Campus, the privacy problem is greater, of course, but the situation wouldn't be any different from those Danish dorms with bathrooms for the entire hall. Some dorms could of course be set aside for all women and all men, in case some students don't like such an arrangement.

I rather think that this living arrangement would become popular, so that the University wouldn't have such difficulty renting out dorm rooms... thereby easing the housing situation in town perhaps. It provides most of the conveniences of an apartment with the further conveniences a dormitory provides: ready-made social life, proximity to campus, etc.

Residents from the same corridor are all good friends, in a rather family sort of way. There is very little dating between

members of the same corridor, which would seem almost incestuous. I think "promiscuity" is probably reduced because of this living arrangement. In Denmark students are accustomed to meeting members of the opposite sex in a very informal, homelike situation, rather than through the artificiality of a blind Saturday night date. People seem to pick their dates more carefully, so that it often happens that they have not dated many different people before they start dating the one who eventually becomes their spouse. There is very little "dating around" and very little casual sex. (The girl, as a rule, pays her own way on a date.)

One further thing. Most of the dormitories I have seen had a co-op grocery store connected with them, so that students could buy most of their food supplies there. Such a store is sorely needed on South Campus, also for the residents of Odum and Victory Villages. Couldn't some arrangement be made in Chase Cafeteria to solve this problem?

Dormitories such as I have described are to be found not only in Denmark but all over Europe from Helsinki to Madrid. Certainly American students are no less mature!

Send parents a letter; beat the Post Office

Written home lately?

If you haven't better do it quickly. Time is fast running out. After this week, writing home won't be as easy as it used to be.

And we're not talking about exams coming up next week—that's a subject best avoided in the spring.

The point about writing a letter home this week is that the price of stamps is going up again.

Starting Sunday it'll cost eight cents to send home a note saying, "Hi, Mom and Dad, I'm alive and well in Chapel Hill and out of money again."

Eight cents.

And that's for the normal first class letter.

If you're desperate and need money from home fast, air mail will cost 11 cents.

And if you're really broke and can't afford anything but a postcard, chances are you might have to borrow a penny to pay the six cents the Post Office will be charging next week.

The Post Office Department is claiming the rate increase is needed to help the department break even financially, but speculation in many newspapers is that the whole thing is a Republican plot to get rid of the Democrats on the postage stamps.

After all, FDR was replaced on the six-cent stamp by Ike, wholesome smile and all.

Kennedy is being taken off the airmail stamp.

Next thing you know Herbert Hoover and Warren Harding will be smiling from the morning mail.

Oh well, anything but Spiro Agnew.

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79 Years of Editorial Freedom

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Will computers predict war and peace?

"Dave, never in the history of the 9000 series computer has there been a mistake."

"Hal," the computer in "2001: A Space Odyssey"

We now have computer football and computer fights for the heavyweight boxing championship of the world but can you see a computer war?

Computer use in the Vietnam war is already a strong reality as it has been for a number of years.

And computer usage is getting out of hand with the ABM. Not one prominent computer scientist has yet stated that the

computer guidance system for the ABM will work.

Our technology has become more complex mostly due to wartime needs. Unfortunately warfare and its causes have become proportionately complex.

A team of researchers at the University of Michigan has undertaken a massive statistical study. The purpose of the study is to discover which characteristics and actions of nations and men tend to lead to international war.

The "Correlates of War" project, according to Dr. J. David Singer, a political scientist at the Ann Arbor campus and director of the study, is an

attempt to construct what he calls an "applied science of war prevention."

It has attracted wide attention among scholars and has just been awarded a \$149,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to continue its work for another four years.

"We do research to get rid of sewage, reduce air pollution and build better bridges. What makes us think we do not need to understand what really causes war it's clearly something more complicated than the absence of good will," said Dr. Singer.

After seven years of work the project has identified for study and statistically

described 93 international wars fought in the 150 years between the end of the Napoleonic period in 1816 and the very recent past, 1965.

From this has emerged a computer-generated statistical handbook, entitled "The Wages of War," soon to be published by John Wiley and Sons.

Eventually it is hoped that it will be possible to detect behavioral patterns associated with war.

Singer hopes to compare the behavioral sequence in 50 conflicts that led to outright war to 50 similar conflicts that did not, to determine if there are some critical behavior patterns that cause

armed conflict to be avoided.

This could be essential to our prevention of conflict such as the present Vietnam situation. Knowing the reasons people fight one another could help guide our actions in the struggle to end the war.

The idea is very noble and the theory might be sound but how much do we let the computer control? How much trust do we place in the computer to solve the problem?

Football and boxing are just games. If you put two teams on the football field (all other variables, i.e. weather, the same) or the two boxers in the ring it does not necessarily work out like the

computer predicts.

Many football coaches have told their players, "No matter how great you are, anyone can beat you on any given day." There are so many emotional, psychological and physical variables involved that the result is almost unpredictable.

Human behavioral patterns toward war can work the same way. If we give the computer too much responsibility in our society could it turn against us as in the motion picture "2001"?

Perhaps the computer can find the answers, but then again it could end it all...