

Faculty mail ballot set on trial plan for ROTC credit

The faculty will vote by mail ballot on a plan endorsed by its Senate which would permit Army ROTC courses to qualify for limited academic credit on a one-year trial basis.

On Feb. 12 146 professors opposed to the Senate decision filed a petition calling retention of ROTC with academic credit "repugnant to the entire faculty," which voted on the issue last spring. The Academic Council held a special meeting March 2, and approved the mail ballot procedure.

The petition called "at a very minimum" for the Council to restore the position voted by the Senate and the faculty last April. In a mail ballot then, the faculty voted 403-365 that "after a transitional period, there should be no academic credit received for participation in programs of military training and education," sustaining an earlier 28-8 Senate vote.

Under the proposal submitted by the Army and approved by a 6-2 vote of President Pitzer's advisory committee on ROTC affairs, ROTC instructors would no longer be Academic Council members.

In its vote, the Senate emphasized that the Committee on Undergraduate Studies "will consider each Army course proposal for academic credit on its academic merits, with

no presumption that any such proposal will be accepted."

Pitzer, who has personally endorsed the Army plan, said that "to refuse flatly consideration of credit would be seen by many as undue discrimination against military science when we have a reasonably flexible system for credit."

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