

4/22/70

CAMPUS REPORT

A Weekly Publication for
Stanford University Faculty and Staff
VOL. II, No. 27 APRIL 22, 1970

Status of Punitive Clause, Navy And Air ROTC Must Be Resolved

Although the ROTC issue apparently is decided for next year in relation to the conditions for the Army unit's presence on campus, a number of significant problems remains.

The two uppermost appear to be 1) the question of the so-called ROTC punitive clause; and, 2) the status of the Navy and Air Force units.

President Kenneth S. Pitzer noted at Thursday's Faculty Senate's meeting that the punitive clause of individual ROTC student contracts is "unacceptable as now constituted and administered."

Provost Richard W. Lyman warns that the status of ROTC on the Stanford campus will be in "gravest jeopardy" if no "substantial" progress is made toward eliminating the clause. His statements were made during an interview on radio station KZSU.

The President told the Faculty Senate last Thursday that it now "seems likely" that the Air Force ROTC unit will be withdrawn from Stanford because its enrollment "falls well below the normal minimum" for a campus unit.

The Air Force ROTC has 36 cadets at Stanford this year, down from 45 a year ago.

He also indicated that the Navy ROTC unit soon will have

to decide its future status, since 34 students admitted as freshmen for next Fall hold ROTC scholarships.

"Neither the Navy nor the Air Force has made detailed proposals since the [faculty] confirmation of the plan for the Army (ROTC)," the President said. "But clear indication has been given that such proposals must conform either to the 1969 resolutions of the Senate or to the plan approved for the Army for next year."

Under the 1969 vote, there would be no credit given for ROTC courses, starting with the entering class this Fall. The Army ROTC plans, approved on a one-year trial basis, would permit courses to qualify for academic credit on the same basis as other nondepartmental offerings. The maximum number of credits toward graduation for ROTC would be nine units, and there is no guarantee that any proposal would, in fact, receive credit.

It was during his remarks to the Faculty Senate that the President discussed the punitive clauses. He referred to a letter he sent April 13 to Professor J. Keith Mann, associate dean in the Law School and newly-named chairman of the

The anti-ROTC group voted Sunday night to deliver an ultimatum to President Kenneth S. Pitzer demanding the removal of ROTC from the Stanford campus with an answer to be given by tomorrow noon (April 23).

Advisory Committee on ROTC. (J. Victor Baldridge, education, was named to fill out the committee membership.)

He pointed out in the letter that "... there is general agreement, I believe, that the so-called punitive clauses of individual ROTC student contracts are unacceptable as now constituted and administered. Your Committee needs to begin work immediately in order to arrive at recommendations as to what revisions or substitutions for punitive clauses or what agreements concerning their administration would be acceptable to the University, would protect the rights of the individual student, and would provide protection of the Government's interest in the performance of students who have received scholarship support and draft deferment."

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Faculty Self-Discipline Proposal Is Prepared for Senate Study

Professor Stephen J. Kline, engineering, has prepared a proposed resolution for presentation to the Faculty Senate calling for the establishment of an ad hoc faculty committee on faculty self-discipline.

Professor Kline, a member of the Senate, points out in supporting documents that although the Senate adopted two earlier resolutions on the matter, the actions "... leave important questions unanswered regarding both fact and procedure."

He makes these points in his supporting documents:

"Some of our colleagues have complained that SJC procedures are not appropriate for faculty.

"It is not clear if SCLC is intended to or should provide rules for faculty.

"It is not clear what a faculty or staff member should do if he observes another member of the faculty in actions which he believes are intolerable for an officer of the University.

"Freedom exists only in the interstices of just laws or common understanding which has the force of law. In this matter we have neither, and to this extent all our freedoms are diminished."

Professor Kline requests that the Steering Committee schedule the following proposed resolution for Senate discussion:

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ROTC Issues Yet To Be Resolved

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The President emphasized that the punitive clause is "but one example of the criteria-setting task that awaits the Committee."

Noting that the provisions carry a one-year trial period, the President said:

"We must face squarely the need to review the performance under the new plan well *before* the end of the academic year 1970-71, so that decisions can then be taken as to whether the plan is satisfactory, or, if not satisfactory, how serious the difficulties are, what their nature is, and what remedies can be invoked.

"The closeness of the faculty vote makes clear an unhappy state of division in the Stanford academic community as to the merits, considered prior to actual experience, of the new plan. It will be critically important for your Committee to work toward the establishment of adequate criteria by which to judge performance under the new plan next year."

He then urged the Committee to begin work on the problem immediately, pointing out:

"A state of acute division within the academic community is always a source of weakness, and makes difficult the University's pursuit of its educational objectives. I most earnestly hope that experience under the new plan, coupled with well thought-out procedures and criteria for review of that experience, will lead the Stanford faculty toward a clear-cut resolution of these complex issues in the course of the next academic year."

In a separate statement on KZSU, Provost Lyman explained that the status of ROTC will be in grave jeopardy unless progress is made in eliminating the punitive clauses.

He suggested that ROTC scholarships be changed into student loans, forgivable in return for military service as officers after graduation.

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PUBLISHED weekly in Autumn, Winter, and Spring Quarters, and biweekly in Summer Quarter (except during Finals Week)—Five issues in April; four in January, February, May, October, and November; two in March, June, July, August, and December; and one issue in September. Published by the University Relations Office. Stanley I. Wilson, editor; Patricia J. Black, assistant editor.

News items, letters to the editor, questions for the Q and A column, housing notices (Stanford faculty and staff only), and other editorial communications should be directed to the Publications Service, 332 Encina Hall. (See Calendar for special instructions.)

On-campus distribution queries should be directed to the Interdepartmental Mail, Ext. 2450; at the Medical Center, to the Mail Room, Ext. 5130. U.S. mail (first class) subscriptions at \$6.00 a year available at Publications Service, 332 Encina Hall, Stanford, Calif. 94305; make checks payable to Stanford University. Second-class postage paid, Palo Alto, Calif.

On the national level, Provost Lyman said it is "perfectly plain" that ROTC is under "severe pressure." But he emphasized that even those who strongly supported last year's faculty vote to eliminate academic credit for ROTC had maintained they did not want the program forced off campus.

Following the 1969 faculty vote, he said, the University tried to get what the faculty wanted enacted with the Defense Department. The resulting compromise proposal "went further toward the Faculty Senate than toward the Army's camp," he said.

The compromise was strongly endorsed by President Pitzer.

In response to a student question, Provost Lyman said he "has yet to hear" of any specific charges that any member of the administration brought "illicit pressure" to bear on members of the Faculty Senate, which approved the plan 23-13 January 22.

On this, as on other issues, he noted, college administrators can be charged with "meddling" if they take a positive stand or with "abdication of their responsibility to provide leadership" if they fail to make their views known.

Criticizing the symbolic escalation of the ROTC issue on both sides, he said that "if charges are to be made, they ought not to be made through outright coercion [or] the give and take of rocks."

Cites Student Views

In relation to student views on ROTC, President Pitzer told the Faculty Senate:

"A vote is now in progress which samples student opinion concerning ROTC. In my letter of February 12, 1970, to the Stanford community and on other occasions I have recognized the student referendum of February 24, 1969, on ROTC and have indicated that student views so expressed were influential in my own decisions and were doubtless influential with the special committee on ROTC and with the faculty.

"To the extent that past student referenda influenced past decisions, so the new student vote will be similarly influential with me—and I assume with others—with respect to any policy formulated in the future.

"I reiterate my stand that the matter of credit for ROTC courses lies with the faculty."

His comments came shortly before last week's student referendum ballots were counted in which Stanford students voted by a narrow margin in favor of keeping ROTC on campus.

The vote to retain ROTC was 2,919 to 2,781. The vote against academic credit was 3,616 to 1,898.

The results represent a shift from last Spring when students voted 3-2 in favor of keeping ROTC, with credit where appropriate.

The total vote cast in the two-day referendum, 5,700, was a record turnout and represents more than one-half of the total student enrollment. The previous high of 5,619 votes in a student referendum was set in April, 1968.