

STANFORD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

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Statement of Dr. K. S. Pitzer to Faculty Senate re ROTC April 16, 1970

Concerning ROTC, I would like to make several remarks.

First, I wish to note that Professor Keith Mann has accepted the chairmanship of the Advisory Committee on ROTC and Professor Victor Baldrige has been appointed, on nomination by the Committee on Committees, to fill a vacancy on that Committee.

On April 13 I sent the following letter to Professor Mann as Chairman of the Advisory Committee on ROTC:

"Given the report of the Academic Council referendum, we must now proceed to carry out the revisions of Army ROTC called for by the Senate's resolutions.

"In so doing, 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.

"For example, 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.

"That is but one example of the criteria-setting task that awaits the Committee. I urge that you begin work on this problem immediately. 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 towards a clear-cut resolution of these complex issues in the course of the next academic year."

The mail vote of the Academic Council confirming the Senate action completed the establishment of conditions for the Army ROTC for next year including the review of which I have just spoken.

Neither the Navy nor the Air Force has made detailed proposals since the confirmation of the plan for the Army, but clear indication has been given that such proposals must conform either to the 1969 resolutions of this Senate or to the plan approved for the Army for next year.

Since the enrollment in the Air Force falls well below the normal minimum, it seems likely that the Air Force unit may be withdrawn for that reason.

Among those admitted to Stanford as freshmen for 1970, 34 are also winners of Navy scholarships. I have asked that these students be informed promptly concerning status of the Navy ROTC program.

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.

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4/16/70

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Beyers/Jeff Littleboy, ext. 2558
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD--Campus judicial proceedings have been initiated in 32 cases stemming from protests against ROTC during the past two weeks at Stanford, the University disclosed today. More cases are being studied.

In a separate development, Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge George A. Barnett postponed a "show cause" hearing on contempt charges against four persons involved in the protest until 9:30 a.m. April 28. The defendants---Janet Weiss, Michael Sweeney, John Shoch, and Leonard Siegel requested a court-appointed attorney. Art Busse, a fifth person cited, said he had not been served but "came down to see if he could help."

The campus cases, referred to the Stanford Judicial Council, include 19 stemming from the Academic Council meeting April 3, eight from the mill-in at ROTC offices and classes April 7, and five from an ROTC class at the Graduate School of Business April 7. The blocking and locking of the entrance to the building housing ROTC offices April 8 is among the incidents still under study.

Some individuals were involved in more than one case. No names were disclosed by the University.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD--About two dozen persons identifying themselves as members of "Grass Roots," invaded the Board of Trustees office in San Francisco at 2 p.m. Thursday (APRIL 16).

After being informed that no trustees were there, the group went into the Board's office and held a mock meeting. They taped a "Why Dillingham?" sign beneath a portrait of Chancellor Wallace Sterling.

After their departure, a "Board of Trustees" sign outside the office was missing, according to Mrs. Elizabeth Combiths, administrative assistant to the Board.

The "Grass Roots" group has strongly opposed the \$15 million Palo Alto Square project backed by Dillingham. Unanimously approved by the Palo Alto Planning Commission and City Council, the finance and hotel center will be built at the intersection of Page Mill Road and El Camino Real in the Stanford Industrial Park.

"Grass Roots" had announced plans to stage a protest at the Dillingham offices at the Wells Fargo Bank building in the San Francisco financial district today, but the move to the Board of Trustees office came as a surprise.

The group departed after about ten minutes, leaving literature about Dillingham and ROTC in the office.

Dillingham officials reported that about two dozen persons came to the corporation's offices at 44 Montgomery Street, asked a receptionist if they could see the president, and were told he wasn't there. Twenty minutes later the group returned and found the doors to the lobby had been locked. They proceeded to smash a model of the Palo Alto Square project which they had brought with them and slide pieces from it beneath the doors.

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