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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD - It now "seems likely" that the Air Force ROTC unit will be withdrawn from Stanford because its enrollment "falls well below the normal minimum" for a campus unit, University President Kenneth S. Pitzer reported to the Faculty Senate Thursday (APRIL 16).

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

Pitzer also indicated the Navy ROTC unit soon will have to decide its future status, since 34 students admitted as freshmen for next fall hold NROTC scholarships.

"Neither the Navy nor the Air Force has made detailed proposals since the (faculty) confirmation of the plan for the Army (ROTC)," Pitzer noted. "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 plan, approved on a one-year trial basis, would permit courses to qualify for academic credit on the same basis as other non-departmental 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.

Pitzer told the Senate he had named Prof. Keith Mann of the Law School chairman of the Advisory Committee on ROTC, succeeding Prof. Alan Manne, economics, who resigned. Prof. Victor Balderidge of the Education School was nominated by the Faculty Committee on Committees and has been appointed to fill this vacancy in the membership.

In a letter to the new chairman, Pitzer said it was "critically important" for the committee to "work toward the establishment of adequate criteria by which to judge performance under the new (Army ROTC) plan next year."

In particular, he added, the committee should begin work immediately to develop 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."

Noting that a student referendum is now in progress on ROTC, he told the Senate: "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."

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