

ROTC enrollment drops

Enrollment in ROTC programs at Stanford has dropped by more than one-fourth this fall, a preliminary survey indicates.

The drop has been sharpest among freshmen and in the military science program.

Preliminary enrollment figures, compared to the same time a year ago, are as follows:

	1969	1968
Army	101	160
Navy	113	141
Air Force	36	45
TOTAL	250	346

(Stanford freshman enrollment in naval science dropped from 43 to 29 and in military science from 19 to 8. Enrollment of junior college freshmen taking military science at Stanford increased slightly, from 48 to

were compiled and telegraphed to President Nixon Nov. 3 by Coalition Chairman James Schnieder.

"The President made it quite clear that he was not going to recognize standard kinds of student protest as being a valid measurement of sentiment on the war," Schnieder said. We believe the poll will present him with an objective analysis of student opinion, one which he would be more apt to accept."

The Coalition includes more than 90 students, faculty, staff and alumni committed to work for positive change through non-violent means as within the campus commu-

51.)

Marine Col. Robert Thomas, chairman of naval science, attributes the "sizable reduction" to growing protests again Vietnam. The criticism is "louder, and coming from people in positions of influence," he comments.

"Anticipation of changes in the draft law and lower draft calls also have had an effect," he adds.

In a report to the Stanford faculty, President Pitzer said university officials are negotiating with all three services with the objective of retaining ROTC programs at Stanford on a noncredit basis, as voted last spring by the faculty. The change will not affect those now enrolled in the program. It will start with the freshman class entering in 1970.

Pitzer said he expects the negotiations to continue for the balance of the fall quarter. "There are difficult problems to work out, and it is too early to speculate on the outcome," he added. Following student and faculty consultation, he has named an advisory committee to oversee the negotiations.

In April, the faculty voted 400-356 to end academic credit for military training. The campus-wide mail ballot followed an extensive student-faculty committee study of University ROTC relations and a 28-8 vote of the faculty Senate.

In February, a 3-2 majority of students voting in a campus referendum said "ROTC has a legitimate place on campus and deserves support and credit from the University

for all those parts of the program that are of genuine academic interest." The vote was 2,106 to 1,397 among 11,400 students.

In March, the Board of Trustees called ROTC "vital to the continued supply of civilian leadership for the military service" and urged Pitzer to continue negotiations with the Defense Department "leading to appropriate actions which will improve and vitalize this important program."

Last month, a Special Committee on ROTC Affairs of the U.S. Department of Defense issued a 61-page report recommending that "appropriate credit be given for ROTC courses" and urging closer college supervision of ROTC courses on their campuses.

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Letters must be signed and may be edited for brevity, not substance. Names will be withheld on request, for issue, but preference will be given to identified statements of fact and opinion.

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