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Colleges Brace for Demonstrations

Claremont Collegian

Friday, Oct. 11, 1968 A Free Student Voice Vol. 6, No. 8

CMC Faculty Approves Disruptive Protest Ban

The CMC faculty approved Monday a regulation prohibiting disruptive demonstrations. In order to become part of college regulations their suggestion must be ratified by the ASCMC Senate, the President and the Board of Trustees.

This regulation was proposed to fill a void at CMC as there is currently no rule against obstructive demonstrations. This proposal also attempts to define "obstructive" demonstrations in contrast to legitimate voicing of student opinions.

The statement, made public Wednesday evening, upholds traditional rights of persons to criticize and dissent but warns that such expressions "must not infringe upon the equally fundamental right of all members of the academic community to speak, teach and learn".

The proposed regulation prohibits "demonstrations which disrupt the operations of The Claremont Colleges, prevent speakers invited to the campuses of The Claremont Colleges from speaking or being heard, or physically restrain the movement of anyone on campus."

The regulation goes on to further specify prohibited acts: "a) obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic; b) disrupting or obstructing classes, drills, athletic contests or practices, scheduled meetings and ceremonies, administrative and service operations, or other activities of the College; and c) demonstrations on college properties or areas not generally open to the public."

It also prohibits any demonstration which violates the law. Recommended punishment was "suspension or such lesser penalty as the appropriate college official or judicial body may determine."

The faculty's action is an out-product of the "sit-in" last year at Pomona against the Air Force recruiter. While PC already had a policy against such interference, CMC had no rule under which to discipline those participating in the incident.

Charges Answered

Chief Defends ROTC

By BILL KELLER
Managing Editor

"I will categorically state that there is no control as such exercised over cadets by the military science department with regard to activities outside of the ROTC program," according to Colonel Bowen Smith, head of the Department of Military Science at Pomona and CMC.

In a two hour interview Tuesday, Colonel Smith responded to charges made against his department, and commented on recent demands for changes in the status of ROTC. Smith stressed that he doesn't acknowledge the seven demands presented by the Student Committee for Social Change, because "most of the demands are ridiculous. We don't send propaganda to incoming freshmen. We don't get any special treatment in the orientation program. We don't have control over the curriculum of other courses taught here. The accusations are simply false."

However, while Smith commented that he "cannot take these demands seriously," he was willing

to defend ROTC against the accusations.

To the charge of control outside the classroom, he responded: "We caution the cadets to exercise discretion and good judgment in the things that they do, and we advise them not to wear their uniforms in any activity other than that decidedly related to ROTC, because that might connote army or ROTC support of that activity."

"If a cadet participated in an activity that in the considered judgment of the military was in poor taste, we certainly would counsel that young man. But there is no disciplinary control. There is no objection to a cadet participating in a peace vigil or rally that is acceptable."

Asked if a cadet would be disciplined for participating in anti-war activities in uniform, Smith said, "I personally would not participate in such a thing in uniform. If people associate the uniform with open criticism and dissent, this looks bad." He added that if a cadet did so, however, "I don't think anything would happen to him."



ANSWER CRITICS -- Colonel Bowen Smith defends ROTC program.

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PC Obstruction Policy

Pomona's College Council passed a resolution at its Wednesday meeting clarifying the scope of the College's present obstructive demonstration policy and announcing its intention to reexamine that policy in the near future.

The present demonstration policy, passed in February 1968 by the College Council, states that "no obstructive or non-peaceful demonstrations will be permitted on the Pomona College campus..."

The intent of the new resolution is to clearly include off-campus Pomona classes, such as ROTC classes held at CMC, within the meaning of "Pomona College campus."

In adopting the resolution, College Council members expressed the desire neither to antagonize students, nor to challenge them to retaliatory action. At the same time, they stressed the need to openly clarify this phrase to the students and judiciary so that the legal jurisdiction of the demonstration policy would be defined and understood.

The resolution reads: "We interpret the Pomona College Policy on Obstructive Demon-

strations to apply to a Pomona College Course given on another campus, in respect that such facilities will be considered an extension of the Pomona College Campus.

At the same time, the College Council does wish to make clear that it will reconsider its entire Pomona College Policy on Obstructive Demonstrations and will hold open meetings in such consideration."

As indicated in the resolution's second paragraphs, the Council also intends to reexamine the College's present demonstration policy in future meetings and plans to invite all interested students and faculty to attend those meetings and present their views. The Council hopes this will initiate a policy of greater interest and participation in the College Council's meetings, which have always been open, except when judicial matters are being considered.

Further information on the demonstration policy reexamination meetings will be announced later by the Council. The group's next meeting is Wednesday at 4 p.m. in Gibson PDR.

ROTC March

The Student Committee for Social Change is sponsoring a march from Memorial Field to Bauer Hall next Monday at 1:00 to protest against ROTC at its first drill.

According to Rick Marcus and Bob Burke, the SCSC does not advocate an obstructive demonstration as it feels that the channels for dialogue and peaceful revision of the present ROTC program have not yet been exhausted. According to Marcus, the SCSC may consider an obstructive demonstration only when all other avenues are closed.

AAUP Chapter Hits Presidents' Statement

By BARRY SIEGAL
Assistant Managing Editor

The Claremont Chapter of the American Association of University Professors voted yesterday afternoon to condemn the presidents' letter of Sep. 17 dealing with disruptive demonstrations on campus.

The AAUP's primary objection to the letter was indicated in their statement that "we believe that presidential suspensions under the emergency powers outlined in Article 3 of the presidents' letter of September 17 would violate stu-

dent rights and could possibly precipitate an institutional crisis."

The condemnation took the form of a five-page letter addressed to the "Presidents of the Claremont Colleges and Graduate School." It was drafted by the AAUP Committee on Academic Freedom and approved by the Executive Committee before it was presented to the full AAUP at a specially-called meeting.

Dale Johnson, chairman of the AAUP and assistant professor of sociology at Pitzer and CGS, stated that "I agree with all criticisms

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Battle of Mills Opens

By PAUL RESNICK
Assistant Editor

The Mills Avenue controversy erupted again this week amid threats by CMC students that they would close the street if the city didn't.

Meeting with the Claremont traffic safety commission Tuesday night, a committee of the CMC student senate asked that group to take immediate action to insure pedestrians some degree of safety on Mills. They also asked that proceedings be begun to close the street at the critical places.

Councilwoman Mrs. George Gibbs discussed the issue with the entire Senate Wednesday night. In the process she denounced anyone speaking unilaterally for the city council.

With the exception of councilman and ex-officio commission member Martin Groethe, the traffic safety group was sympathetic to the students' fears and desires concerning Mills. Senator Irv Potter pointed out to the group the problems that now exist due to the completion of Bauer Hall on the eastern side of Mills. He said that 800 students now attend

classes in Bauer and are thus forced to traverse Mills from two to six times a day. In addition, two of the three CMC parking lots and the gym are on the same side of the street. The dorms are on the western side.

The facilities on the Bauer Hall and Pitzer side of Mills necessitate crossings from the southern end of the gym lot to the northern end of Pitzer, a distance of about 250 yards.

At the Tuesday night meeting it was agreed that immediate steps should be taken in the form of adequate safety devices, and enforced speed limits. However, the necessity for closing Mills was made evident and the commission, with the exception of Groethe, seemed favorable to the idea.

Potter explained the danger and offered a plan whereby traffic would be rerouted from Foothill down Claremont Boulevard to Sixth and west on Sixth to Mills, thus avoiding both the dangerous section of Mills and the bottleneck on Claremont Boulevard. Groethe then said that a meeting should be set up where students would "present the side of the student

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MRS. GIBBS SPEAKS -- Councilwoman Mrs. George Gibbs explains that no one can speak for the entire council.

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