Annual Report of the Student-Faculty Conference Committee on Educational Affairs 1969-70

The Student-Faculty Conference Committee on Educational Affairs met seven times during the Academic year 1969-70 to discuss questions of organization and academic issues of interest to the student body.

Organization. The structure of the committee was the subject of a debate involving the Student Government, the Student Life and Interest Committee, and the UWM Post. The Codification Committee, in consultation with the existing committee and these outside organizations, devised by-laws for a restructured committee, which will be submitted to the Faculty Senate at its meeting in April. The main effect of these changes will be to include three deans or their representatives as non-voting ex-officio members of the committee to assure speedy communication with the College and Professional Schools.

While these negotiations were going on, the committee established new channels of communication with the Deans and Student Government. Following a letter by the Chairman of November 20, 1969, the Deans agreed to co-ordinate the activities of committee on relevant academic matters. As a result of this agreement, the committee solicited and received the opinions of five deans on the thorny question of the Add and Drop periods and the "Z" symbol.

Co-ordination with the student government was slower to develop but precedents have been set for future activities. On March 4, 1970, the Committee requested and received a poll of the Student Senate on the questions of Adding and Dropping of Courses and the "Z" symbol. The Committee, in addition, hopes to arrange for the inclusion of referendum questions on the spring election ballot of the Student Government.

Issues. The committee has taken the initiative on several issues, but plans further action. The Faculty Senate has accepted committee recommendations to extend the add and drop periods and the committee is considering the measures necessary for the abolition of the "Z" symbol. The Faculty Senate has endorsed the principle of Faculty and Course evaluations, and the committee hopes to find other ways of documenting student opinion on the efficacy of instructors. On the proposed referendum, the committee will poll student opinion about the possibility of extending the pass-fail system and about proposed changes in the University calendar and curriculum.

Faculty

Carol Baumann
Bruce Fetter, Chairman
Rolf Hickman

Students

Ronald Rosen
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