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Student Government Success Depends on Campus' Support

Government is familiar to all of us, and yet many attitudes and interpretations exist if we were to define what we mean by government and what we expect from it. Student Government is the government in which you will be participating most directly during your years at Conn.; perhaps it will be easier to come to a common interpretation of this government through a general understanding of its purpose and its aims—an understanding of why it is here and what it is doing.

As is stated in the matricula- tion section of the "C" Book, Student Government has been entrusted with maintaining a well-organized and responsible community. However, if this community is to be both well-organized and responsible, each individual must respect the principles and the goals of the group as a whole, and each must do her part in helping to maintain them. Government, then, embodies not only direction and cooperation, but also restraint and limitation. In order to maintain and to assure the continued existence of such a community, it is necessary to have a well-defined framework consisting of certain rules and regulations. At first, the rules which make up this framework may seem unnecessarily strict and burdensome to the memory, but soon, after living within them, it becomes evident that they are reasonable and not merely rules for the sake of rules—and also becomes evident that the primary function of Student Government is not to serve as a repressive body.

Student Government, in attempting to uphold high standards and to represent all of the students to the fullest possible extent, gives the students a common voice and a channel for expression of student opinion. In addition to providing a unity and a liaison between different elements of the college community, House Meetings, Cabinet Meetings, and Amalgo provide convenient opportunities for ideas and criticisms to be made known and to be discussed and also provide an opportunity for any student to speak out, to question, and to contribute to the College's operations and goals. Student Government provides the structure within which, through a spirit of mutual co-operation, it is possible to participate and to work together toward the fulfillment of common ends.

In working toward these common ends, the emphasis is placed upon the responsibility of the individual through the honor system. Under this code of honor, the student is obliged to assume what has been referred to as a responsible freedom. Without responsible freedom, and without pride, respect, and each member's awareness of the community's obligations, the honor system becomes worthless. However, even when all of these are present, no one pretends that our system is infallible. Rather, we strive to improve it and to make it as good and as effective as possible.

Student Government will be valuable only as long as its standards are actively accepted and will be meaningful only as long as it has the confidence of its participants, all of you. The strength and power to act and to accomplish comes from your interest and your response. Now, with an enrollment which is continually expanding, in order to maintain a responsible and well-organized, community, and in order to realize the responsibilities and the rights of each student while at the same time preserving close contact among them, your participation is more than ever needed. Although the areas of college life which come under the jurisdiction of Student Government and with which it is concerned have broadened, this particular government is one which is only able to work for the students by working with them. It is of, by, and for the students; Student Government is the student body. Lonnie Jones '63

Law: Discipline of the Individual in Society

As Mr. Crantz pointed out in his speech on Sunday, our contemporary Western society is by no means a simple one. The one, eternal, holy order of Sparta has been replaced by a secular, relative society which exists to avoid the natural evils and to achieve the natural goods of men. Our society has become a means for the individual to find serious purpose and self-fulfillment; it provides him with a human end for human ends, for freedom operating as a rule of action in society, helps to provide this freedom for all individuals, giving each a chance to be an equal as far as is possible to think, do, and act for himself.

Law acts to prevent one's own aggressiveness and to protect one against the aggressiveness of others. According to Raynard West, an individual has two selves: a socially-cooperative self, governed by a social instinct, and a socially-hostile self, governed by an aggressive, self-assertive instinct. Every individual accepts a proportion of each instinct as he thinks appropriate for himself. Although he can set a desirable balance between his demands and the demands of society, he is weak and sometimes liable to overstep his own interests to predominate over the interests of others. The law, established through social habit and custom, provides an external means of maintaining a balance between what the individual desires on one hand, and what society demands on the other. Organizational rules are essential to the peaceful existence of any group. To reap the rewards of group living one should be willing to cooperate with the demands of the group. It is a simple process of give and take, of a continual pushing and pulling between individual and group.

It is important to understand law, however, not only as members of a society, but also as individuals. The primary function of law is not just to perpetuate order; it is also a channel for self-discipline and self-reliance. At first, external discipline works to make one more sensitive to the limits of his own environment. For instance, when an individual oversteps his own freedom and infringes on the rights of another, the law operates to show him the consequences of his action, in addition to protecting the rights of the offended. A conscientious person is then able to see himself in perspective with others. He can define the limits of his own freedom as determined by the rights of others and by his position as a member of a social group. Law operates not to deprive one of individuality by making one conform to certain regulations merely for the sake of conformity or for order alone. It is rather an indispensable aid to self-discipline and self-reliance. It enables us to "think, live and act from a fully serious trust in reason."*

*From speech by Mr. Crantz, Sunday, Sept. 15, 1962.
Carolyn Boyan '63

'House' Requests Student Opinions

The essence of political process is that it is a process, involving change within some recognized pattern. Process does not necessarily mean progress, but for a successful government, it is vital. Constructive and meaningful change keeps a government alive and responsive to the needs of the people it serves. But the government is in large part, dependent on the people for ideas and suggestions.

At Connecticut, ideas, suggestions, and criticisms can be heard through many channels. The House of Representatives is comprised of the eighteen House Presidents who are in a position to know, at first hand, the ideas of the girls in their dorms. Each Representative brings the ideas to the House where they are discussed and passed on to Cabinet, to the Administration, and, in Amalgo, to the student body as a whole. Thus the House of Representatives is a most important instrument of progress in the political process at Conn.

Every House President needs and deserves the support of one of the girls in her dorm. Every girl in the dorms stands to benefit by hearing what the President has to say and by working with her to make dorm and campus life pleasant and comfortable.

Flora Barth

Reminder
Mr. William Meredith
"Readings from Four Modern Poets"
Friday 7:00 p.m.
Palmer Auditorium
Take A Giant Step...  

Youth traditionally scoffs whatever it considers time-worn and old fashioned. We listen to the inevitable about-to-leave-for-college advice with scepticism and impatience and feel secure in our own self-contrived dreams of what college is all about. College is the last of all the small synthetic worlds we pass through from kindergarten, grade school, junior high school, and high school, and it is essential that we grasp the reality of this step, for the next is a giant step. This microcosm of college life approaches closest to that life we meet after graduation, and the realities are similar.

Recognition as a thinking human being with the ability to assume a certain amount of responsibility and deal intelligently with problems is the most gratifying realization. The ability to tolerate differences, and to consider alternative solutions to problems as having possible validity are perhaps the most essential qualities to be developed. Our success as human beings depends to a large degree on just how well we acquire these qualities which are developed as we push our way through Chaucer's Middle English, pound in the rules of German grammar, debate the problem of the existence of God, decide how we're going to get five papers done in two weeks, and rationalize ourselves over the next step, however, keep our eyes open, and see Conn. for what it is, and though several dreams may be shattered, one will find their fears are unjustified. Good luck! —A.G.

Support and Know Your Honor Court  

Honor Court is the judicial body of Student Government with the power and authority to enforce the Honor System. With its full membership the Court is comprised of two girls elected by each class, a Chief Justice elected by the freshman class, and the President of Student Government sitting ex officio.

Until November, when you will elect two judges from your class, the following girls are now representing you on Court:

Sylvia Blenner ... 63
Robin Lee ... 63
Lucy Maule ... 64
Ann Weatherby ... 64
Ann Skelly ... 65
Nan Shipley ... 65
Lonnie Jones, ex officio ... 63

Carolyn Boyan, Chief Justice '63

Please feel free to bring any suggestions or questions to any one of these girls at any time. My "official" office hours are Monday and Thursday from 5:00-5:30 in the Student Government Room above the Book and Clothing Drive.

In formal hours are "any time, any place.

Each judge has been entrusted by the college community to interpret and decide upon those situations presented to Court. The name of the girl involved in each case is known only to the Chief Justice in most cases, and the student involved makes the decision.

Personal Notice

Entertaining, stimulating, controversey campus newspaper (that's us, ConnCensus) needs vacancies filled immediately. Qualifications listed below:

• Repertory Positions: foreign-language, trench coat, good hearing, fast hand with a pen.
• Feature Writing: eyes and/or ears, knowledge of adjectives, opinionated, belligerent personality preferred
• Headline Writing: can you count up to 27?
• Proofreading: some knowledge of type-setting desired, desire to learn, fascinating code.
• Reasonable salaries, doled out in frequent staff "coffees," convenience of nearby coke machine, the delight of working in heated but charming office with hectic but charming girls, and every Thursday evening, the satisfaction of seeing the latest issue of ConnCensus cause anything but a consensus.

Shopping Around

Conn College's shopper reports that though New London is small, there are numerous shops available to fill the needs of even the most fastidious freshman.

The big item this week is room furnishings, Marvels, and Nassers make curtains and bedspreads, and will supply you with just about every other room essential. Don't dismay though, if you need extra furniture. The Student Development Fund will hold a bargain sale in three weeks.

For your wardrobe, Gorras, the Sport Shop, Dicero-Sylvestri, and the House of Tee carry a full line of sportswear. Bernard handles mainly dresses, suits and coats. For accessories, try Kaplans and again, Gorras. At Carwins you'll find a selection of shoes, including Pappagallo's, Mademoiselle, and Woejeans.

Leaving State Street, turn left on Indian Pond. If you're interested, shop, records, turn right into Roberts, which also rents radios and record players, and do electrical repairs.

For the unusual in knick-knacks, try the Far East House, on Green Street, off State.

A.A. Launches Program; Various Sports Offered

As summer now becomes part of the past, we find ourselves beginning a new life of academic exposure. For those of you who were not here last year, or even those who were, the College annual Bazaar tonight, which is there is a wide enough range of interests in college. In the thirty years of the ancient past, we find ourselves the Lawrence Memorial Hospital. On another hospital. Opportunities are also open to those interested in working with the TWCA and the Girls Scouts. With Service League as a guide, the college community contributes to the causes of Music, the Saint John's Haiti Relief, the Book and Clothing Drive, and most important of all, the annual Community Fund Drive.

Our Social Chairman, Nancy Holbrook, is responsible for planning the college mixers and Mid-Winter Formal. She is now planning the Coast Guard Reception which will be held Saturday night at 9:00 in Crozier-Williams. Freshmen, Transfers, and Foreign Students, if you have not already, sign up now! There will be Cadets for all! Singing groups from both schools will be there to entertain.

We extend to each of you a sincere welcome, and hope to see you participating in the many activities that Service League offers.

Sue Bohman  
Pres. of Service League

Bazaar Presents

On behalf of Inter-Club Council, we welcome the Class of 1966. Most of you, during high school, have been involved in that Coast Guard Reception, and have most important of all, the annual Community Fund Drive.

Bazaar will give everyone a chance to see the different campus activities and will help you to decide which you wish to join. The Bazaar will be held Saturday night at 9:00 in Crozier-Williams. Freshman, Transfers, and Foreign Students, if you have not already, sign up now! There will be Cadets for all! Singing groups from both schools will be there to entertain.

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