Surveys Measure Student Reaction To New Calendar

by Pat Strong and Mary Ann Sill

Two surveys were made to ascertain campus opinion concerning the new calendar which will be in effect this year. The general conclusions from both surveys, which will be mentioned here all, is that students are opposed to the new Academic Calendar.

The first survey was conducted by the housefellow in each dormitory and the results were presented to the Academic Policy Committee last Monday. Approximately 160 students replied to the questionnaire. The questionnaire consisted of five final exams before Christmas and the question of maintaining an extended Thanksgiving vacation in the academic year. December. Students were also asked to give their opinion of the new calendar.

The second survey was conducted by Debbie Pond '71, and included only members of the senior class. Results of this survey were significant—only 44 students from 128 who responded. The survey was sent to the junior, senior, for a week vacation in October; third suggestions for the January interim. The results of the survey cannot be stated with any statistical certainty. It is possible that the experience of October and November has caused the student to be undecided.

On the question of a mid-semester short break, again there was no indicated strong support for the present Thanksgiving vacation, 44 students favored the new calendar, and several scattered opinions (12) did not vote specifically to the question.

In the area of proposals for the January interim, the results of the questionnaire were very scattered. The responses of the students are unimportant, except to show that approximately 41% of those responding to the question favored the new calendar. The reason given as present calendar, a shorter vacation with an earlier Commencement, and the desire for the new calendar is a long summer vacation. The three survey was conducted by the editors of Satyagraha in an informal manner. Members of the faculty, administration and student body were questioned verbally on several topics relating to the calendar. The students asked were: first, would you be willing to have the same calendar next year; fourth, the determinant of their opinions to modifying the calendar.

Replies to the questions were not recorded on any form as given to the respondents. Or results were recorded. Only 35 responses of the first two surveys. Because of the varied success of the surveys, only two very general conclusions can be drawn. The first supports the idea of having final exams after Christmas to begin the new calendar. The second supports the idea of ending the academic year the same time as the present calendar. More responses from students generally favored some kind of campus-oriented academic activity during the first part of the January interim. This philosophy on this question was as numerous as the number of respondents.

The faculty also generally favored the principle of exams before Christmas, and of starting the new calendar. The members of the faculty received only 90% response to the first survey, and other departments voiced the opinion that continuity is needed by the Program.

Class deans reported an increase in the number of senior students at the end of first semester, and freshmen and sophomores who are preparing for the next semester.

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

CHANGING REGULATIONS FOR UNREGISTERED CARS

Because so many owners of unregistered cars are parking continuously, we have abused the rights of those who have registered their cars properly, there will be a new regulation to be effective as of February 10, 1971.

The fines for parking violations for unregistered cars will be as follows:

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3rd & Subsequent Violations: Car will be towed and
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$10.00 fine, payable to the Cooper with
10 days of notice, will be imposed.

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REMINDER
All parking fines from first semester are still in effect
and payable to the Accounting Office.

COLLEGE PARKING APPEALS COMMITTEE

"The Nature of America's Urban Crisis," Banfield is the author of Government Project (1955), The Moral Basis of a Backward Society (1938), Death of a People (1939), Big City Politics (1965), and The Politics of Urban Form (1966). He is the author of Politics, Planning, and the American City (1966) and Housing in Metropolitan Areas (1938), and City Politics (1965). He has written many articles and papers.

In 1969, Banfield was appointed chairman of a team to conduct a task force investigating the Federal Model Cities Program at New Haven, Connecticut. At Harvard, he teaches courses in political economy, public administration as well as urban government and development. He is the author of the Political Economy of the Federal City (1959) and Municipal Finance and Housing in Metropolitan Areas (1958, and City Politics (1965). He has written many articles and papers.

Edward C. Banfield, Professor of Government at Harvard University, will speak on "The City in Perspective" at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 11. He is part of this semester's Berenson Lectures in Government, which is centered on the general theme of the City...
A Request for Decisions

In the past seven months, Connecticut College has repeatedly confirmed the ability of its members to produce reports, studies, counter-arguments, rebuttals, attacks and counter-attacks covering every conceivable facet of that fearful and ugly monster, Academic Reform.

The Summer Study Committee, in spite of its valiant efforts at producing "revolutionary" proposals, has only compoundied the confusion by grouping all the controversies into one dizzying and unmanageable document, that neither the student nor the faculty are able to figure out what to do with. Organized and spontaneous student discussions were just as fruitless as they were worthless. The presidency of the faculty was even worse, causing hanging fangs from the "chit-chat" sessions curiously called Faculty Meetings.

All in all, last semester's tongue-wagging has resulted in absolutely nothing in the way of positive decisions. Hopefully, this semester will prove different. We doubt very much that it will unless the faculty (with the support of the students, of course) will take the initiative this time by making the proposals of the Summer Study Committee (and Mrs. Morris' counter-proposals) separately, and to decide upon them. Thanks to Oliver Brown, the "little box" has provided our faculty with a marvelous way to vote. Let's hope they use their new toy.

...And One Proposal

At the heart of the controversy between the Summer Study Committee Report and the Report of the Connecticut College Degree is the question of the abolition of general requirements. The SSC asks that a student be required to take any course he does not choose to take, although it does suggest guidelines for a sound academic program. The CCCD argues in favor of the retention of the general requirements in the four areas of study as delineated in the catalogue.

We think a middle ground exists between these two positions. Some requirements of requirements make educational and institutional sense in that they show concern for study of several areas and also optimum use of faculty and resources. Yet the CCCD should show some sensitivity to the needs and wants of its students.

Specifically we propose that the four area plan be retained, but that students be asked to complete requirements in only three of the four areas. Admittedly this is a temporary compromise, but one that may work.

In support of this idea, consider the probable effect upon students. Many students fulfill requirements quite easily and naturally and would not be affected by the plan. But a significant percentage of upperclassmen and graduates who look back upon fulfilled requirements as "irrelevant". There are probably too many cases of upperclassmen and graduates who look back upon fulfilled requirements as "wasted time and energy.

The departments most likely to suffer from the absence of requirements would be the language, math and science departments.

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Hillel Demands Graduation Change, Judaism Courses

by Patti Melby

Ann Louise Gitelman, "I led a meeting of approximately 30 students who met in the living room of Juci Addams on Feb 3 at 4:30 to discuss issues involving Jewish students on this campus."

A major point of concern was the scheduling of graduation day, May 30. To coincide with the Jewish holiday of Shavuot, the Feast of Freedom.

According to Rabbi Spiegelman of the Ocean Avenue synagogue, this is the second year that the graduation of seniors has conflicted with this holiday.

Three years ago, Rabbi Spiegelman continued, when President Shain was confronted with the knowledge of the conflict, he assured Rabbi Goldman that he would not allow a repetition of this mistake to recur.

This year, on Oct. 2, Ann Louise asserted, President Shain was again approached, this time by Reverend Shepherd, and this time the response was that the college could take no action of religious holidays.

Spiegelman is a time when many people are confirmed into their synagogues. Therefore, students who attend graduation will be unable to attend the confirmations of younger brothers and sisters.

Paul Friedland, "I1, who called the scheduling of graduation "an act of blundering prejudice on the part of the Administration," added the observation that two years ago many freshmen had to delay their arrival for Orientation day because of Rosh Hashana.

The general consensus was that action taken on this problem should include a joint statement by members of different religions on campus to the effect that the Administration would respect the faiths of all students. This statement would make note of the fact that on the present calendar, students will be obliged to attend school after Spring vacation on Easter Sunday.

Another problem aired at this meeting was the lack of kosher food on campus. One student suggested that Jewish students, who wanted to keep a kosher diet might launch a joint program with the Organic Foods Kitchen.

Also considered was a need expressed by many students for more Judaic theology courses. Ann Louise noted that the last time the "History of Jewish Thought," offered in alternate years, was taught, the professor complained that it was oversubscribed. If such an interest does indeed exist at Connecticut, students would not have to experience the inconvenience of traveling to Wesleyan for all their Judaic courses. One student suggested at this time that a Jewish professor necessarily be employed to teach new courses proposed unpopular.

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OR CALL:

Pat Strong, Ext. 505 or
Mary Ann Sill, Ext. 506

Candidates for Student Government offices will speak at an Amalgam meeting Tuseday, Feb. 6 at 7:00 p.m. in Palmer Auditorium. Elections will be held on the following day in Cro from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation of New York City recently made a $200,000 grant to Connecticut College for library expansion. To date $600,000 out of the necessary $3 million has been given to the program.

According to President Shain, the library has had critical shortages of seating and shelf space for the past five years. In 1941, 1940 students had the same seating area that 1,765 students are expected to use today. The shelf capacity is 300,000 volumes and the present library collection is 260,000 volumes with 80,000 volumes being added each year.

The last addition to Palmer Library was completed in 1941. The present plan is to more than double the size of the library and to provide shelves for 556,000 volumes, the expected collection in 1990.

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LETTER
(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5)

the administration of this school could (twice be so inconsiderate as to ignore the rights of this large segment of the student body. There is still time for the college to alleviate this situation. We demand that a change in date be made immediately.

Sincerely,
Pauly Friedland '71
Ann Louise Gitelman '71
Hillel

FACULTY MEETING
(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

members to confer with students about final exam results if the student so desires.
The only voting results available were those regarding the music major and the proposed Physical Education course. The faculty unofficially approved the increased number of courses permitted for music majors, disapproved the proposed language requirement, and disapproved the Physical Education 202 proposal.

CALENDAR
(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)
papers as a remedy to this situation. Several members of the faculty and administration also expressed support for an October vacation and a regular four-day holiday at Thanksgiving.
The Registrar's Office reported a rise in the number of incomplete grades recorded for the first semester, as compared with last year. Some hardship for college employees was also evidenced because of the five-week semester break.
The overall conclusions which are supported by the three surveys are that general support for the present calendar is evident, but that some adjustments will have to be made, especially in the area of due dates for papers and perhaps a shorter January interterm.

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To us, your particular field of study is a secondary matter. We're far more interested in your personal qualities - imagination, drive, and the like. Why don't you check with your Placement Director about sitting down with the man from The First. He'll be visiting your campus soon. If you want the straight facts on banking today, he's the first person to talk to.

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