Surveys Measure Student Reaction To New Calendar

by Pat Strong and Mary Ann Sill

A careful analysis of the results of the surveys which were made to ascertain campus opinion of the new calendar which will be in effect this year. The general conclusions of the surveys, which will be mentioned here all academic year. The Academic Calendar.

One survey was conducted by the housefamilies in each dormitory and the results were presented to the Academic Policy Committee last Monday. Approximately 160 students replied to the questionnaire. The问卷 contains questions that are important to the question of maintaining an extended Thanksgiving vacation and a week vacation in October; third suggestions for the January interim. The results cannot be stated with any standard error, but the overwhelming support for exams before winter break, and supporting this idea was 84%, as compared with 11% and an undecided.

On the question of a mid-semester break, again the indicated strong support for the present vacation, which will be used to raise funds to replace the heater and museum trips, and other activities.

The summer program is largely to encourage high school students from the Connecticut area who participate in the Upward Bound Program this year. The Upward Bound Program, sponsored by the Federal Education Office, is designed to help students from low-income families to enter college.

Rector and museum trips, and other activities will be included in the summer program. The Upward Bound Program, which borders on burlesque, is played by Negro performers from the Negro Ensemble Company. The cast of the play will include a director who will be in charge of the performance of Douglas Turner Ward's "Upward Bound Program."

Mrs. Axelrod, Assistant Director of Humanities-Upward Bound Program, stressed the need for campus support of this benefit performance. For one dollar members of the college community can view what promises to be a worthwhile performance, and when in turn will provide funds greatly needed by the Program.

The second survey was conducted by the editors of Satyagraha in an informal manner. Members of the faculty, administration and student body were questioned vocally on several topics relating to the calendar. The questions asked were:

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academic policy cite. reports on new courses

by Mary Ann Sill

Aside from a short and rather uneventful discussion of the calendar, the bulk of the Faculty Meeting on February 18th centered around a set of proposals presented by the Academic Policy Committee. These matters were all discussed at the Faculty Meeting on February 18th.

The committee announced its approval of the roofing of Black Music and its Place in Contemporary Society, for the current semester. It was recommended by the Committee that the faculty disapprove an increase in the number of semester courses a student majoring in music is allowed to take in the department. This would extend the maximum number of courses for students majoring in composition from 13 to 16, and for those concentrating in applied music from 14 to 16. The Committee also recommended that the proposed language requirement for music majors be dropped, and in place of this proposal, establish a recommendation that prospective majors fulfill the language requirement with French, Italian, or German.

The Committee also urged that the faculty not approve the Physical Education 202 course, Physiology of Exercise. In dealing with the Economics Department, the Committee suggested the Economics 253, Quantitative Methods I: Probability and Statistics, be dropped, and that the revised descriptions of the following two courses be approved:

- Government 203, Statistical Methods, research methods; a study of the sources of information, the research methods; a study of the sources of information, the nature and interpretation of statistical data. An introduction to the basis of statistical decision making. Two lectures; two hours of laboratory work.
- Mathematics 254. Quantitative Methods. Applying modern theory to economics with special emphasis on correlation, regression, analysis, and the use of computerized matrices. A course in matrix algebra and the use of calculating machines or computers. Some knowledge of calculus is recommended. Prerequisite, Course 153 or permission of the instructor. Mathematics 253.

Also recommended was the faculty adopt the following changes, with regard to Economics 247, Urban Economics: increase in the number of hours and credit value for the course: 111 and 112 or permission of the instructor. Original recommendation by Miss Morris. Another suggestion was that the faculty approve the listing of Sociology 256, Social Stratification, among the pre-major courses required for majors.

The Committee also urged faculty (Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)
A Request for Decisions

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

The Summer Study Committee, in spite of its valiant efforts at producing "revolutionary" proposals, has only compounded the confusion by grouping all the controversies into one dizzying and unending document, that neither the reader nor the faculty are able to figure out what to do with. Organized and spontaneous student discussions were just as fruitless as they were earlier. The persistence of the faculty was even worse, only feeding more fuel to 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 and do something of the value proposed by the Summer Study Committee and Mrs. Morris' counter-proposals, separately, and to make decisions upon them. Thanks to Oliver Brown, the "little box" has provided our faculty with a marvelous new 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 better academic program. The CCCD argues in favor of the retention of the general requirements in the four areas of study as delineated in the catalog.

We think a middle ground exists between these two positions. The requirements of requirements make educational and institutional sense in that they show concern for study of several disciplines and also optimum use of faculty and resources. Yet the College 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 number of students are bothered about fulfilling just one of the four areas. Our plan would relieve these students of the pressures to take courses they consider boring or repugnant, or to use the time-worn word-"irrelevant." There are probably too many cases of upperclassmen and graduates who look back upon fulfilled requirements as a waste of time and energy.

The departments most likely to suffer from the absence of requirements would be the language, math and science departments. Under our proposal only a student would be required to take any course he does not choose to take. A significant number of students are bothered about fulfilling just one of the four areas. Our plan would relieve these students of the pressures to take courses they consider boring or repugnant, or to use the time-worn word-"irrelevant." There are probably too many cases of upperclassmen and graduates who look back upon fulfilled requirements as a waste of time and energy.

Our proposal would relieve some unhealthy and unnecessary pressures on students and hopefully would not threaten the balance and stability of any department. We especially urge the Academic Policy Committee to discuss and adopt this plan.
Hillel Demands Graduation Change, Judaism Courses

by Patty Meltzer

Ann Louise Gintzler, "I led a meeting of approximately 30 students who met in the living room of Juan 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 Spelman of the Ocean Avenue synagogue, this is the second year that the graduation of seniors has conflicted with this holiday."

Two years ago, Rabbi Spelman continued, when President Shin was confronted with the knowledge of the conflict, he assured Rabbi Goldstein that he would not allow a repetition of this mistake to recur. This year, on Oct. 2, Ann Louise assured, President Shin was again approached, this time by Reverend Shepherd, and this time the response was that the college could take no action of religious holidays.

Shavuot 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. Paula Friedland, "11, who called the scheduling of graduation "an act of blundering prejudice on the part of the Administration," observed 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 return to 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 Judaism theology courses. Ann Louise noted that the last time the "History of Jewish Thought," offered on alternate years, was taught, a professor complained that it was under subscribed. If such an incident does indeed exist at Connecticut, students would not have to experience the inconvenience of travelling to Wesleyan for all their Judaism courses. One student has suggested at this time that a Jewish professor necessarily be employed to teach new courses proved unpopular.

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Candidates for Student Government offices will speak at an Amalgam meeting Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 7:00 p.m. in Palmer Auditorium. Election results will be announced 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 $320,000 grant to Connecticut College for library expansion. To date $60,000 out of the necessary $3 million has been given to the program.

According to President Shin, the library has had critical shortages of seating and shelf space for the past five years. In 1941, 760 students had the same seating area that 1,765 students are expected to use today. The shelf capacity is 200,000 volumes and the present library collection is 280,000 volumes with 0,000 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 respond to this question as to whether the rigors of large school or the small student body. There is still time for the college to alleviate this situation. We demand that a change in date be made immediately.

Sincerely,
Paula Friedland '71
Anne Louise Githelman '71
Hilli

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 unanimously 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 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 intermission.

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