

A Bill Of Rights Now

People change their minds and so do newspapers—the University cannot afford to hesitate any longer about a Student Bill of Rights.

Less than four hours after the editorial "Answer the Questions" had been written for Thursday's Daily Nebraskan, the paper realized that students should begin immediately working for the bill.

The editorial concerning Steve Abbott's speech to Senate in Thursday's paper itself shows that a Student Bill of Rights is needed.

That editorial points out that at the present time there is no code that really says what students' rights are.

If the University, the Board of Regents and the state of Nebraska in almost 100 years has never gotten around to specifying an exact code, it looks like someone had better do it now.

And there is no reason why that someone shouldn't be students.

Plans for a bill of rights as specified by CFDP point out that such a student code will follow the local, state and federal laws and the U.S. Constitution.

Thus if rules on a university campus have to be made and its agreed that they will follow guidelines set for all citizens—why shouldn't 18-22 year-old people who have to obey these rules make them.

What would result is not some type of radical code allowing drinking, dope and free sex for all students, but a responsible code that would be suitable to a modern, serious campus and worked out and voted on by the students.

With such a code the University would take a large step in establishing a real educational atmosphere where students can take pride in their studies and educate themselves both inside and outside the classroom.

At the University now a student goes to class, takes notes and then goes home and forgets about education completely unless he's cramming for a test the next day.

With a code concerning conduct out of the classroom made by students—a whole new look at the students' role in the University would be taken regularly stimulating an atmosphere of ideas, inquisitiveness and serious thought.

A Student Bill of Rights considered and voted on at yearly intervals would be an aid not a hindrance to the educational ideals of the University.

As Steve Abbott pointed out in his speech to Senate Wednesday, the University's definition of a university could be accomplished in no better way than by a Student Bill of Rights.

What better could the University have to improve its "environment directed toward a goal of total education" than a Student Bill of Rights which would result in the "acquisition of a pattern of knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that will result in increasingly responsible and productive behavior."

Again as Abbott stresses—"No one learning is meaningful or significant except that which the student gets on his own."

No one could disagree with Abbott when he says, "Arbitrary and autocratic administrative control simply cannot teach people."

And the point is that a Student Bill of Rights would not hurt administration, but help it make this school a real educational experience. A Student Bill of Rights would not make it easier for students, but would give them the responsibility for their conduct and the kind of University we have outside of the classrooms.

ASUN President Terry Schaaf asks how we can ask for a bill of rights until we have definite evidence that our rights or privileges are being mistreated by the University.

But Schaaf is ignoring the bigger concept. More than individual rights being mistreated—the point is that the University is not giving students the kind of education on a university campus that they need for today's world.

This is the education of thinking and ideas—not just memorizing out of a text book.

Schaaf says that the University has cooperated with ASUN's request for a clarification of the rules. But there still definitely is no code—any document for the morale or atmosphere of the school.

Furthermore Schaaf, the leading student opponent of a bill of rights, says that students do not have the right to govern themselves outside of the classroom, but that this is a privilege that must be earned.

The Daily Nebraskan feels that the best way to earn this "privilege" is by letting the school know that the students feel the educational atmosphere and surroundings at this school are unsatisfactory and that the students would like to be responsible for improving them.

Last year Dr. David Trask, then associate professor of history and now a professor in the state of New York, said that unless the University started doing something to improve its education especially outside the classroom, Nebraska would experience conditions similar to the riots at Berkeley, Calif.

It is obvious that one of the best ways that the present non-educational and unstimulating feeling at this school especially outside of the classroom could be improved is with a Student Bill of Rights.

The Daily Nebraskan, while considering all the school's other great problems at this time, hesitated Wednesday about immediately trying to help improve another and perhaps even bigger problem—the condition of education and its connection with students on this campus.

But we realize now that the students at this University, the student government and the paper have hesitated and ignored their responsibility to this school too long.

We must now declare ourselves for a Student Bill of Rights and begin working for it immediately—so that the University will not remain just another state school with a thousand problems, but will be an institution of learning.

Wayne Kreuscher

THE TROUBLE WITH THE UNIVERSITY IS AFTER RUSH WEEK, PLEDGING (HIC!) PARTIES & OTHER PARTIES, THEY EXPECT US TO GO TO CLASS & STUDY



Our Man Hoppe

The Plan To End All Plans

Arthur Hoppe

Good news! For years we've worried about being incinerated to death by a thermonuclear explosion or suffocated to death by a population explosion. Well, we don't have to worry any longer. We're all going to be bored to death instead. This exciting warning comes from Professor Rene Jules Dubos, who told the American Institute of Planners that our mass-organized, computerized, over-planned society was

going to stifle us all. So the planners, he said, had better plan a better plan to preserve our individual spirits. In a planned sort of way. But fear not. The planners can count on us individual spirits in this brave battle ahead. Of course, we can't fight our organization society alone. So to preserve our individualism we've organized the National Organization to End

Organizations. Ah, what a glorious initial planning session we held. The meeting was opened by our Acting Associate Executive Director, Dr. Homer T. Pettibone, who delivered a rousing prepared address on the desperate need in our society for individual initiative and freedom of action. When the ovation had died down he read us the 22 pages of proposed by-laws for our organization and called for a vote on their adoption. Unfortunately several delegates equipped with Roberts Rules of Order objected and a lengthy debate ensued over whether a third amendment to a substitute motion took precedence over a quorum call on a move to table. "Members, members!" cried Dr. Pettibone, banging his gavel over the din. "We cannot hope to preserve individualism unless we are prepared to proceed in a more orderly fashion." With the by-laws at last adopted as amended, the next item on the agenda was a brilliant speech by Professor Percy B. Planner on "Our Basic Goal: Untrammelled Creativity." Unhappily, his time was up before he could reach his point, but mimeographed copies of the full text were distributed to the press. Each member then submitted his own plan on how best to preserve individualism. This resulted in some acrimonious debate. As a compromise, it was suggested that a Comprehensive Planning Study be made of all plans with the members agreeing to abide by its results. This was adopted on a split vote. It was thus 2:07 before we turned to New Business. A motion was immediately made and seconded that we disband the National Organization to End Organizations. It passed unanimously. "We hope by this unanimous action," Dr. Pettibone later told the press, "to set a shining example for all organizations." But to tell the truth, the reason it was unanimous was that we were all in danger of being bored to death. Nevertheless, I, for one, plan to carry on the fight. Professor Dubos can count on me. Every time a planner wants to plan my individualism for me, I plan to tell him it's none of his business.



Jan Ikin Writes...

Who Would Have Thunk It?

A returning alumnus could easily take a glimpse at the new University buildings, the vast increase in enrollment, the shiny new cars and speeding Hondas and conclude that "things have certainly changed."

If he'd spend a little time at the University and find out about the resurrection of three-dimensional Homecoming displays, the same old micky-mouse organizations that are still around and doing little and hear the hushed whispers that the sub rosas are on the comeback, he might conclude that "the old University looks different, but will always be the same."

Those who know the real situation, however, realize that its only just below the surface that the University is the same and that at the roots of the University, things have changed vastly since the "good old days"—or even since last fall for that matter.

Who would have thunk it that after many years of neither knowing nor caring, the inhabitants of this campus in the midst of an essentially conservative state would finally decide that they do have a right to make decisions?

With all due apologies to Mary McCartney, just who would have thunk it? The changes in the thinking of the University student were shown last year in bids for the senior key system (which hopefully will evolve into keys for all 21-year-old women and for those women under 21 who have parental consent), the ASUN tuition study and the establishment of a pass-fail system to take effect for second semester.

Two items currently in the news, however, accentuate this change in thinking more than any other project—the drive for a student bill of rights and the questions arising from the distribution of student activity funds.

Who would have thunk it in a million years that students at this university would ever express the desire to truly govern themselves and not simply play at it?

ASUN calls itself a government, but yet it does not govern—except by consent. Alright, some might say, if you don't like it, change schools or they might suggest that anarchy would result.

Those who look back to the statements the CFDP members made last spring, however, can easily see they do not want anarchy and some of us happen to think the University is a fine place to be but could be alot finer.

The CFDP'ers only desire that the students be allowed to make rules to govern themselves outside the classroom—rules within the existing structures of local, state and national laws.

Since rules and laws would still be made that would retain a sense of order, is it that outrageous that those laws be made by the elected representatives of the people who must live under them? I think not.

What would the American people say if someone told them that the federal government with their elected representatives would only have the power to serve as a pressure coup to an outside force that would make laws yet not be required to live under them.

It is most likely that the laws or rules that a governing student government would pass would be more respected than present rules are (even if the rules were to remain the same) for the simple reason that the rules would then be self-imposed.

(And as any coed can tell you, a self-imposed diet is the only kind that ever works.)

Along the lines of becoming a real government, another question brought forth by Abbott arises. Why is it that student fees are distributed by an outside force and that student groups have to beg for allotments?

Why can't the ASUN distribute the funds between student groups that use them?

Without this power, ASUN is a travesty and any plans toward governing are doomed to fail. (If you disagree, review your American history text as to the reasons behind the failure of the Articles of Confederation and you'll see that not having any financial authority is one of them.)

As of this moment, probably not many people are concerned about this concept, but watch this angle—it may be an area of concern.

Steve Abbott's Agenbite Of Inwit

Some people think Communism is the worst evil in the world, that it alone deprives people of freedom and full humanness. I reject this view. Complacency is the worst evil, the pride of moral viciousity. This evil I call the System.

C. Wright Mills said the political ideologies of both East and West are bankrupt. I agree. Jefferson and Marx? They were true radicals who acted on ideals. LBJ and Kossygin are victims as well as agents of the same defunct System. In fact all major world leaders are victims of nebulous ideals and impersonal institutions, and this is our grief, for no matter whether totalitarianism is for people or against them, it is still the same bane.

Liberalism, which parades under the banner of social concern, always tends towards the same bureaucratic welfareism (i.e., the System). Conservatism, which pretends to be the great protector of individual rights, always tends towards the same intolerant conformity (i.e., the System). Where do you turn? A council of big businessmen make America's political decisions, and any meaningful participation in this Republic by ordinary men is today an illusion.

But do the citizens even care? Sen. Hruska quoted Arthur Sylvester as saying: "Look, if you think an American official is going to tell you the truth then you're stupid. Did you hear that? Stupid." But despite the government's admitted penchant

for lying, most people continue to believe Big Brother. "Our System Right or Wrong" is their unthinking slogan. Do you doubt me?

And when did you last question or get involved in any political action? Oh Agenbite of Inwit. We listen to Bob Dylan and think that is doing enough toward protesting against the System of spiritual degradation.

The Bible introduces this conviction in the OT: Men are referred to the action of God in history; the group-interest nature of man's ideas is exposed; the self-justification of man's justice is shown. Only a living reality with Christ. Only by leaving everything to follow the living Christ will man be saved—that is, by showing this relation by loving others.

The New Left existentialist also revolts against totalitarianism. First you are responsible for awakening yourself. Then you "carry your private complaints to their public dimension." You are called to "participate" in democracy by acting. It is not enough to be the arm chair critic complacently sitting in an ivory tower.

Repentance, Agenbite of Inwit, leads us to look seriously within our selves and see really what is happening. We must throw aside the categories of our fathers, of society even, and look through our own eyes. Anything else is based on illusion. The opposition today is not between Communism and the Western world, but between the apathy-breeding System and our own vibrant selves.

Campus Opinion

Bowl Game Problem

Editor:

With the football season not even starting until Saturday, this is hardly the time of year to be thinking about bowl games, especially in a year when we must open against well respected Texas Christian and Utah State, play probably for the Big Eight Title at Colorado, and play at Oklahoma, where Coach Devaney has never won.

Despite this, I'm still confident that the 1966 Huskers will go to a bowl game and I see a very interesting and perhaps bad situation developing.

Jan 1, 1967, falls on Sunday. It is traditional to play the big bowl games on New Year's Day but when it falls on a Sunday, the games have in the past always been moved up to Monday, Jan. 2.

Looking at our schedule for this year I see we are going to start school again on Monday, Jan. 2. Can't you see it now? The football team playing an important game in Dallas or New Orleans and the students won't even be able to watch it on TV because we'll be in class.

If we do to a bowl game, I do hope the start of school will be delayed, but after last year when we played on Saturday night and were to be back in school Monday morning, I have to wonder.

One last comment for comparison: this summer, I had the opportunity to talk with some students from Michigan State, who played in the Rose Bowl on the same Saturday we played in the Orange Bowl. They said that their classes didn't start until the following Thursday.

Harry Argue

Chaff Quotes Enjoyed

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is a portion of a newspaper article I recently enjoyed:

"Capital City—Mobs jeering students were quieted today after being 'stirred up' by outside agitators who were not inside the Cabinet.

"Quelling the disturbance was silver-haired R. Wilkins Chaff, who implored the gathering to 'return to your cubicles and be students again.'

"Cause of the trouble, one Marty Luther Aitken, was given a warning for disturbing the peace of mind of those present. Under her direction, it was reported, the hundreds of spectators usually seen and not heard at Senate meetings chanted 'Student Power, Student Power.'

"Student leaders universally deplored this totally new tactic, which left thousands of undergraduates maimed and thinking. Chaff, very typical of the responsible response, said in a prepared statement that the new doctrine might endanger harmless clauses in the Constitution.

"This so-called Student Power is dictatorship in reverse," declared Chaff, "and I will have none of it. As elected leader of the students, I will continue to ask Administration what the students want."

"Chaff went on to say that students might earn their rights by proving to the Faculty Senate that students are people. Talking what rightfully belongs to one, he pointed out, has never been the accepted method in our student movement.

"Let us never forget," he concluded, "that the A in ASUN means not Able to think, but Administered."

Freud McKissick

A Gummer's Bullets

... By Phil Boardman

I came across a rather interesting little pamphlet the other day—a pale green triple-fold entitled "Under the Ivy."

"Freshman Weekend," it said, "will take you behind the formal scenes of the University... What does (the professor) know other than the notes he feeds you every M-W-F?... You will get to know student leaders and find out why campus life is vital to them... test your opinions and beliefs on anything and everything that is of interest to you..."

Probably the most striking thing about Freshman Weekend, sponsored by the University YM and YWCA, is that the above claims are true.

I was fortunate to have been one of the upperclass counselors invited last year, and it provided me with an experience I will not forget, and which I should not have passed up as a freshman.

Take for instance the faculty members who will be along on the weekend outing: Dr. Patterson from philosophy, Dr. Pickering from UCCF, Dr. Mienka from math, and Dr. Bonneau, selected Builders Outstanding Professor last spring. Plus some others.

And Camp Kitaki, where Weekend takes place, is a nearly perfect retreat from our sometimes sterile campus—a rather rustic cabin and forest setting on the Platte River.

Though a close accounting would reveal that the Y's and YW actually lose money on the deal, they advertise a cost of \$15 covering registration, transportation to and from the camp the weekend of September 30, two nights lodging and six meals. Freshmen attending the camp have always felt it was a rewarding experience. It serves as a very personal introduction to living a meaningful student

life. As one freshman last year said, "I needed to get away about then and talk to someone."

I am only sorry that a conflict with Derby Day will probably compel most pledges to miss an educational experience that the Greeks might do well to recommend to their freshmen.

In any event, I urge freshmen to take advantage of this lively investigation of college life. It's one of those experiences you can always be glad you were a part of.

So do stop by the Y office, third floor Nebraska Union, pick up the information, and sign up. Find out what's "Under the Ivy."

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