

A CALL FOR OPEN DISCUSSION

Now is the time for open discussion of our situation as students. Human events demand continuous reappraisal. The continuing claims of each group must be examined objectively. Objective appraisal of our condition is what we need now. A Student Week without classes will serve the purpose of engaging all members of the college in an open discussion. It will be a varied and useful week in which we can take stock of life here, propose changes, and implement changes.

This proposal is not an expression of dissatisfaction, overt or covert, rather it is a recognition of the need to change with changing times. Conditions change rapidly, and as we participate in the present we must also participate in our own futures. This Week is the measure of our hope for the future.

This is not, however, an appeal to sentiment. Student Week will be of practical benefit to the community in these ways:

1. Co-ordinated expression of opinion will provide concrete proposals for changes students desire. With these popular proposals clear action could be taken to implement them.
2. Student Week would give interest groups a chance to express their needs to the whole student body and achieve changes not otherwise possible
3. It would cover important topics not covered adequately by Superweek and new situations which have arisen.
4. It would bring together people who would not ordinarily meet to discuss topics of shared interest
5. It would draw students who were not here last year into discussion
6. It would offer other groups a clearer picture of student life and opinion
7. Finally and most important a student-planned and run Student Week would stimulate awareness of our position as students and demonstrate our willingness to think and act constructively

Student Week answers the needs of our situation. The time for positive action is now. Certain criticisms have been made of the plan for Super Week. The substance of these criticisms is this:

1. Student Week will not lead to action
2. It will be chaotic
3. Now is a bad time for a Student Week
4. The Faculty and Administration will not approve any student proposals

First, the expression of opinion and the achievement of student consensus on particular proposals is the only basis for action. Student Week will provide the basis for any action which should be taken in the eyes of the students. This will not be a Super week it will be a week of student participation on which all action depends. The week will not be chaotic. A framework for discussion and a tentative program of events for Student Week is included in this statement. These suggestions, which can be changed to include any other important interests, will insure the orderly and productive quality of the week. Third, this is a good time for a week of discussion and action. This is the time that was chosen last year after extensive study. The beginning of the year is the time when we should look forward to plan for this year and years to follow. Finally, it is up to us to initiate active criticism of ourselves and the school. Until student opinion is heard it cannot be heeded. Now is the time.

Student Week will be useful if there is rational organization of activity during the week. This is a tentative program of discussion which will lead to a set of proposals. After proposals have been agreed on there will be discussion of means of implementation. The schedule is:

1. A general meeting at the beginning of the week when issues pertinent to the whole student body will be discussed and topics of further discussion set
2. Students will meet in smaller groups for the discussion of these topics
3. Some issues are not of interest to the whole student body but cannot be overlooked. Interested students will organize groups for discussion of these issues and the formulation of proposals
4. Specific proposals derived from meetings will be voted on by the entire student body
5. A final general meeting will be held to discuss implementation of approved proposals

Possible topics for discussion in Student Week are:

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| 1. P.E. and Collection | 7. Role of the trustees |
| 2. Grading | 8. Social Activities |
| 3. Majors | 9. Admissions policy |
| 4. Distribution Requirements | 10. Relations with the surrounding communities and outside world |
| 5. Role of Student Council | 11. Student Power |
| 6. Dorm Life and Off-Campus living | 12. Conflicts of interest |
| | 13. A permanent Student Week |

This is a tentative list designed to provide an initial frame work for discussion. No topics will be excluded from discussion if they are of broad interests.

THERE WILL BE A DORM MEETING TONIGHT
IN EACH DORM TO DISCUSS THIS PROPOSAL.
IF OPINION WARRANTS THERE WILL A SECOND
GROUP OF DORM MEETINGS AND A VOTE ON THE
PROPOSAL WITHIN A WEEK. AT MEETINGS
STUDENTS SHOULD DISCUSS THE SUBSTANCE OF
THE PROPOSAL, THE TENTATIVE PROGRAM AND
BEST DATE FOR THE WEEK (IT HAS BEEN
TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE SECOND
WEEK AFTER THANKSGIVING, BUT THIS COULD
BE CHANGED AS STUDENTS WISH.) This Week
will be student-planned, student-run and
address itself to student problems as well
as school problems. The time is now.