B.A.S. Unsatisfied With P.U.P.C.

Friday, September 29th, and Sunday, October 1st, B.A.S. representatives met with SGB members and Tammy Hadad, president of PUPC, to discuss their dissatisfaction with PUPC concert procedures.

PUPC's (Pitt Union Program Council), states that any concerts involving Pitt students must go through PUPC concert procedures. Student organizations are no longer allowed to produce their own shows. Instead, matters have to be dealt through PUPC, who in turn informs promoters about shows that will sell on the college campus.

On May 15th, the B.A.S. Programming Committee submitted a letter to SGB accepting the new programming council under protest. B.A.S. major objections were as follows: Black Action Society's programming have been successful in the past. Therefore, they see no need to go through a promotor to produce a show that has been done successfully in the past. B.A.S. feels that students gain invaluable experience from programming their own concerts. PUPC's procedures drastically limit the amount of students who attend these events. Also, for the past seven years, B.A.S. has produced their own concerts. Having a promotor will break an established tradition. This letter also predicted that since there were no contractual agreements promotors had the perspetive to back out at the last minute. As of September, this prediction has come true.

It is now October. B.A.S. is still fighting against PUPC's established rules. The future of the Black Week concert is still unknown, a concert which B.A.S. would already have publicized if they were producing it. At this time no contractual agreements have been made with promotors.

As a result, promotors have backed out. PUPC is trying to have the concert in the Carnegie Music Hall which only seats 1500. With one act, the charge will be $5.00 per ticket. Many students won't pay this price for just one act.

PUPC's concert procedures interfere with B.A.S. programming. The idea of working with promotors makes it harder to establish a date preferable for promotors as well as B.A.S. For the Black Week concert, promotors either want the concert a week before Black Week or days afterwards. B.A.S. did not wish to have films during Black Week. Yet the Visual Arts committee of PUPC went ahead to schedule the film SHAFT for Tuesday, November 14. B.A.S. feels if anything, this is a racist movie and is an exploitation of the Black race.

Tammy Hadad, of PUPC, later states that Pitt's film series is a continuous program; they have constant film presentations. Though they chose SHAFT on their own accordace, they apologized for its implications and retracted the movie, to be replaced by another. Ms. Hadad confirmed that there would be no publications of SHAFT with Black Week.

At Friday's meeting, Black Action Society requested four things be done by the Student Government Board, they are:

- PUPC should uphold their priorities to minority students and women
- They should have a student senator
- A budget to ensure a quality Black Week concert
- Insure quality Black programming for the remainder of the year
- Provide funding for a spring concert
- B.A.S. should produce their own concerts in the future

If they find that PUPC hasn't met its commitments, consider disbanding PUPC until the concept is redesigned and the foundation of the council be administered by all student organizations.

At Sunday's meeting, Tammy mentioned that Donna Sommers will be appearing at the Stanley Theater on November 17. B.A.S. reacted strongly against this proposal. Their reasons being Donna Sommers does not appeal to majority of the Black population.

Because of occasions of “PUPC” is a new organization created to present students with efficient programming system. Their main purpose is to utilize student government to the fullest, and to cover the general interest of the students.

“The way it was before,” says Tammy, “five members of a committee decided everything. Now that’s all changed.”

The Council provides programs aiming at the interest and needs of the college campus. The Council develops a year round calendar of events with all programs planned and implemented by student committees. These committees include cultural arts, lecture, special interests, music, visual, and recreation. PUPC's chairman serves as a liaison to the student government, student organizations, and university departments.

PUPC is also an information and resource center. Membership is open to all students.

Suggestions are welcomed. Ms. Haddad encourages people to come in and talk to PUPC about any questions and problems.

"PUPC is beneficial to students because it provides a lot more activities for the students; a lot of them are free. We have a lecture series every Tuesday night. We have movies on Fridays and Saturdays and every month there is a lecture demonstration. This month we're having a jazz workshop, in which Grover Washington, Jr., will take part in."

Recently Black Action Society has complained about the function of PUPC's concert procedures. The trouble lies in establishing a comprised date of a concert with the promotor. As a result of this problem

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