

The Oakland Observer

February 18, 1967

Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan

Vol. VIII, No. 18

Student Fast Protests War In Vietnam

“Review Of Faculty” ‘Act Of Conscience Symbolizing Peace’ Publication Set

By Carol Rissman

A group of students have banded together this term in efforts to compile a publication which will rate professors.

Katie Rest, Mike Honey, and Marty Reisig are leading the group which includes students from all of the major departments.

Supported by SACC, Dorm Council and Commuter Council, these students are following a tradition begun in 1924 by Harvard students, and are explicitly supported by the American Council of Education.

According to Reisig, the rating of professors would serve at least three purposes. It would, first, aid students in choosing professors, and aid advisors in counseling their advisees. It would, moreover, provide necessary feedback to professors. Third, as Oakland extends itself into the field of graduate studies, publish or perish would not need to stand as a criterion for tenure on promotion.

Some controversy has been initiated, primarily because professors feel that the sanctity of the classroom is being invaded. They point out, moreover, that students' grades are not made public, and neither should these. Reisig explains, though, that while students' grades are used only by graduate schools and by the student himself in making personal decisions, the intellectual satisfaction of three or four hundred students partly depends on the publication of this review. There is no point at all, he said, in compiling these comments with out making them available to the student body.

The procedure for rating professors is as follows: One upper-classman chairs a committee of ten students in each de-

partment, who fill out a semantic differential prepared with the help of the Psychology Department.

(Has he motivated you and involved you in the subject matter of the course? 1 (little) to 5 (very much). A similar questionnaire was distributed to residents of Hill and Van Wagoner. Results will include editorial comments and will make distinctions between upper and lower level courses.

The Student Review of Faculty will be published in time for its use in selecting next Fall's professors, hopefully by April. Its price will be only enough to cover expenses.

Speaker Series

Han Suyin: Chinese Scholar

By Carol Rissman

Han Suyin, a best-selling novelist and distinguished doctor of medicine, will speak on "Life in China Today" at 10:30 a.m. Wed., Feb. 22, in the Wilson Hall auditorium.

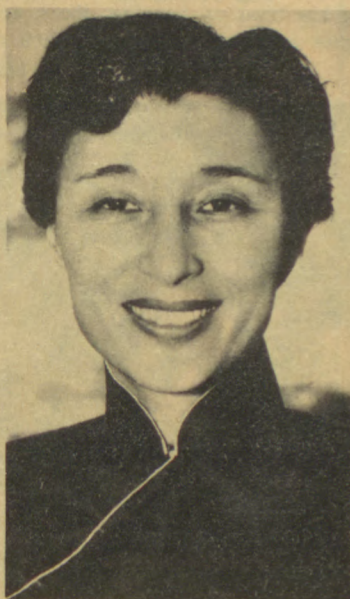
Dr. Han, an Eurasian, is the daughter of a Chinese railroad official and a Belgian mother. Though she was looked down upon by both Chinese and Europeans, she was able to grow up with a foot in each camp.

Admitted free passage in and out of China, Dr. Han is an ardent Communist who is well-connected with many Asian heads of state. In the first two volumes of her autobiography, "The Crippled Tree" and "A Mortal Flower," She champions the cause of the Chinese Communists and Mao Tse-Tung. "Her defense of the Reds," says Russell Barnes of the Detroit News, "is an absolute and strident as the

daily outpouring of the Peking radio and newspapers."

Active in the World Health Organization and the World Family Planning Association, Dr. Han plans to return to her medical practice in Singapore on completion of her five-volume work on China (part autobiography, part history and part biography.)

Her lecture, open to students and faculty, will be followed by an open-ended seminar in the Gold Room at 2:30.



Han Suyin

**THE BIG
"A"
IS COMING
TO OU**

the values of the Johnson administration don't coincide with our own, we don't want to be implicated in the guilt of their actions in Vietnam."

The flyer that the group printed up added, "This is an act of conscience symbolizing our personal commitment to peace, and, while we realize that fasting will not bring an end to the war, we hope it serve as a means to emphasize man's allegiance to man, and that the suffering of one man or one nation concerns us all."

In order to remain unified, the OU students decided to stay together as a group in the Vandenberg lounge for the entire 24 hours; the only break in this unity occurring when individuals attended classes.

A problem arose at midnight when the Vandenberg lounges were no longer open on a co-

educational basis. At this time the fasters were asked to leave by Assistant Head Resident Carol White. But after a brief meeting, the students confirmed their intention of remaining as a group. A crisis was averted when James Appleton, Dean of Housing, and Edward Birch, Director of the Oakland Center, decided to allow the protesters to spend the night in the Oakland Center. Appleton and Birch "joined" the group as chaperones.

The fasters held numerous, informal discussions about the war and about the purposes of anti-war demonstrations. They also sang anti-war songs.

At 5:00 p.m. Thursday, the students voted to end the group fast. Some students continued the fast as individuals for as long as 72 hours.



Students partake in discussions and group study in Vandenberg lounge during the first part of a 24-hour anti-war protest.

Clark Appointed Stores Head

The responsibility for the supervision of the University Services Section (comprising mail, audio visual, mimeograph, reproduction, and stores functions) has newly been assigned to Frank D. Clark.

Clark is new at the University,

coming here with fourteen years of related experience with the Air Force.

Comments and suggestions leading to the improvement of these sections are welcomed by Clark, who can be reached at ext. 2163.

60 Profs. Ask Viet Halt

More than 60 members of the Oakland faculty have given permission for their names to be used in a newspaper ad asking President Johnson to stop the bombing of North Vietnam.

The signatures have been sent in to the Ad Hoc Committee on Vietnam. This committee has already run two full-page ads in the Sunday New York Times. The ads, containing more than 6,000 signatures of college professors throughout the country, read simply: "Mr. President Stop the Bombing."

Richard Tucker of the history department coordinated the signature drive at Oakland. Tucker stated: "The two Times' ads showed that the movement to stop bombing North Vietnam is wide-

spread. Many people are deeply concerned over this issue. Although the situation in Vietnam is complex, it is clear that the first step toward peace should be the stopping of the bombing of the North."

Tucker continued, "I felt that a lot of faculty members here believe that the bombing should be stopped, so I set out to find out how many would 'put themselves on the line.' I had guessed that the response would have not been so great, but the concern showed by many faculty members is not surprising. In fact, other professors feel that the bombing should be stopped, but feel that an ad will have little tactical value."



Popular jazz artists, The Ramsey Lewis Trio, will perform on campus Saturday, February 25. The concert will be held in the Intramural Building at 8 p.m.

Editorial Page

The Oakland Observer

The opinions expressed in this column are the opinions of the paper. They are not necessarily the views of the university, faculty or other students. Signed columns are the personal opinions of the authors.

Student Civil Rights

A recent investigation carried on by campus authorities has resulted in the incorporation of at least one more safeguard for student rights, but perhaps this is not enough.

In a recent meeting with Ernest Mazey, of the American Civil Liberties Union, new procedures for the interrogation of students by the Department of Public Safety were outlined. This meeting attempted to define the new role of the Department of Public Safety as an investigatory body for university and civil offenses.

The meeting was prompted by a group of students concerned over recent investigations on campus concerning the use of marijuana and the tactics of questioning and general interrogation. Until this year, all investigation of student infractions had been handled by the Dean of Students. But with the inevitable work load, the newly created Department of Public Safety, headed by ex-secret service man Thomas Strong, has taken the lead in the investigations. Strong's office comes, strangely enough, under the aegis of the Business Department.

The Office of the Dean of Students has newly rewritten its due process procedures to include more than ample provisions to insure student's rights once he has been charged with an infraction.

However, with the creation of this new department, a new question arises, namely that of investigating procedures. No matter how many rights a student has at the time of his hearing, if he elects to have a hearing, if the information against him was collected illegally he has no safeguard against this. And as the Department of Public Safety is not controlled by the Dean's office, it follows that the due process procedures of that office will not carry over into the Department of Public Safety.

The problem is further complicated for several other reasons in this unusual set of circumstances. Strong is also a deputized member of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department. He has a dual role of enforcing university law and civil law on campus, with the power to make a legal arrest. This becomes more important in the marijuana investigations when a student is not sure if he is talking to a university official or a public official and his information is to be used against him in a Federal or state court.

The situation usually ends up in such a confused state, that the student is so confused he will accept an alternative of informing on other campus users or dropping out of school in return for not being prosecuted in a public court.

The university has argued consistently (and perhaps rightly so) that it acts in the best behalf of the university and the student when it personally handles the investigation.

It benefits the university by not having its name dragged through the mud and benefits the student by not having his record marred. Which of the reasons is the main motivating one is hard to tell, considering that the university seems to have gone to some lengths more to protect its name than the students involved.

A group of concerned students, Marc White, David Black, Bob Heasley, and Norm Hale, met with the Chancellor, the Dean of Students, representatives of the Business office and Department of Public Safety, to determine whether or not there were infractions of acceptable investigating techniques, and if students, disregarding guilt or innocence of anyone involved, had been in fact, informed of their rights, not only in the university, but within the framework of state and Federal law, considering the nature of the offenses.

Procedure for the operation of the department are still unclear, perhaps due to the newness of it. It seems however, that standardized police techniques of interrogation are being used. No longer is a student called in by a dean, who operates as a non-legal official of the university, for a discussion or informal interrogation. It is a professional job handled in a professional way. This is not undesirable.

What is undesirable, is that students are not aware of the change, and the seriousness of any statements he makes, or of anything he confesses to. Clearly, Strong has an obligation to enforce both sets of rules and conversations with this office cannot be regarded as privileged communication. His job is to collect the facts and present them.

But just as there are procedures to protect an individual during his trial or hearing, there are also certain rights he must be made aware of

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Students involved in the recent students rights discussions. From left: March White, Dave Black, Bob Heasley and Ken Weingarden

The Publications Board is now accepting applications for editor of the Ascendent 1967-68, editor of the Oakland Observer Summer 1967, and Fall-winter 1967-1968, and Business Manager of the Oakland Observer, and of the Ascendent for the summer semester and winter-fall terms.

Salaries for the positions are Ascendent Editor: Two hundred twenty-five dollars per semester; Observer Editor: Three hundred dollars per semester; Observer Business Manager: Three hundred dollars per semester.

Letters of application should be submitted immediately to the secretary of the Publications Board, Edward Birch, in the Oakland Center.

The letter should state qualifications, interests, and availability. Selection will be made within three weeks.



"We've got the only one here with soul"

The Oakland Observer

Published weekly at Rochester, Michigan, by the Students of Oakland University. Financed solely by student fees and advertising revenue.

Offices are located in Oakland Center; telephone 338-7211, extensions 2195 and 2196. Hours: Mon, Wed., Fri., 1-4

Tues., Thurs., 3-5

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Students Rights In

Question

Cont. from Page 2

when initial contact is made by an investigator. In Detroit, an individual is requested to sign a statement acknowledging that he has been fully informed of his rights before questioning has begun. And that he has been advised of his right to counsel at the same time.

However, no policy of any sort has been conceived in this situation. As we noted, procedure for trial hearings and the like are fully covered in the Student Handbook. But there have been no provisions for a student's rights before this hearing. The separation of the investigatory and disciplinary bodies has left the investigatory body with no ground rules, at least no written ones.

Strong has consistently declared that any student being questioned is immediately informed of all his rights upon entering the office. It is his option at this time to either decline to talk to that office, or make such statements as he sees fit.

The only flaw in this system, is that a student, unaware of what he is being called in for, and not being a hardened criminal, is likely to confuse alternatives or not even be aware of them in a confused state of mind.

Unfortunately, this is too often the tool police methods make use of.

The students, recognizing this situation proposed several points, which they believed to be entirely fair and equitable:

1. That the university define the purposes of the Department of Public Safety in both university and civil law and make known the office is not under control of the Dean's office.
2. That the department request interviews with students in writing before the meeting (the procedure has been to telephone a student, requesting his presence the same day).

3. That the request contain a list of all rights, including the right to refuse to answer all questions.

4. That the university publish all pertinent material in the Student Handbook and supplementary materials.

It is our opinion that the institution of this letter process is the only fair way to insure student rights during an investigation of this type, carried on in secret, when a person's rights are most in jeopardy. Word of mouth, or a statement of rights when a student enters a police office on campus is not enough.

University officials agreed to re-define the role of the Safety department and include this in the Student Handbook. They refused to institute the letter process because it was not standard police technique and because it might hamper the efficient interrogation and apprehension of violators.

No investigation on campus has been so urgent as to require immediate compliance to a telephone call. It is also not likely that a student will skip town to avoid the interview.

The question should not be one of police procedures but of the fairest way to get at the truth. The fairest way is to be sure that student is aware of his rights before he enters an interrogating session, not as he comes in.

The result is that a procedure is being enacted where a student will sign a statement indicating that he has been fully informed of his facts. Unfortunately this statement is presented to him again as he enters the office and not before.

Under this system, it still behooves a student to be aware of all of his rights.

Our only hope is that the university sees fit to be more than fair in all of its proceedings and not see as its major purpose sneaking up on students, getting them to confess secretly, and removing them before anyone knows what is really going on.

N. Hale
R. Heasley
M. White
D. Black

Comment

on Issues of Interest
to the University Community

To The Editor:

A faculty - administrative committee, chaired by Chancellor Varner, has recently issued the first draft of a new constitution for OU. The drafters of the new constitution have aimed to bring forth a document suitable not only for the present but also for the future, a constitution that will ease the University's inevitable growing pains. The committee is, I believe, to be commended: the draft constitution is liberal in spirit and, after modest amendment, deserves to be adopted by the Academic Senate and tenured faculty. (The latter groups, in combination, have the power to accept or reject the final draft presented by the committee.)

A brace of open faculty-administrative meetings, (the first but not the second was also open to students), has revealed that virtually all of the potentially controversial sections of the draft constitution are amendable to negotiated compromises, revisions acceptable to all persons. But curiously, this may not be true for one of the most liberal and farsighted sections, viz., the provision for student membership on the governing board, the University Senate. Debate on this issue has tended to become distressingly personal; the passionate advocacy of individual preferences has

tended to obscure considerations of general policy.

The provision for student membership on the University Senate is wise and, I believe, consistent with the long-run interests of the University as a whole, although certainly not consistent with the view that the University is a faculty club or administrative fief.

From a policy point of view, student representation is akin to an insurance policy, viz., it doesn't cost much from day-to-day and it may prevent (or alleviate) a disaster. The costs are straightforward: some potential members of the University Senate are inhibited by students and are reluctant to speak frankly in their presence. The potential disaster is obvious: student unrest at Berkeley and elsewhere was aggravated if not caused by the fact that the students had no non-trivial channel of communication with the universities' power structures. The insurance, I believe, is worth the cost.

As insurance, student representation is rational; as common decency, it is just. Students have an enormous stake in the University, presently and prospectively. (Even if requests for transcripts don't haunt them for the rest of their lives, the alumni office will.) They deserve some

Cont. on Page Four

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