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OU Women Fight Institutionalized Double Standard

By CINDY GROGAN

Women have been struggling for freedom and equality throughout history. They had to fight for their rights to go to school, to vote and to hold public office. Women are continuing their struggle for equality. Recently women have entered previously all-male professions, and have been admitted to formerly all-male universities. Now Oakland University women students have begun to attempt to make an imprint on the policies of this institution.

The campaign began on this campus when Mary Mattis, an Oakland Junior, circulated a petition stating that the University is discriminating against women, having "Set up special and separate regulations and standards for women." The petition called for the immediate elimination of all discriminatory practices the university is carrying out against women.

Both male and female students have already signed the petition which is still in circulation.

Women student representatives presented the petition to the Student Coalition on January 30. The Coalition voted to support and circulate Mary's petition as well as the drive to eliminate freshmen women's hours. The visiting representatives also asked the coalition to publicize the first meeting of the as yet unnamed group held Monday, Feb. 3.

The coalition plans to investigate the economic issues involved with discrimination on campus, reported President Dan Pfeiffer. These issues will include whether there is discrimination in choosing the position of night manager, drivers for University cars and lounge monitors.

The girls at the Coalition meeting felt that Mary's petition is a starting point for women to find out that there are other concerned women on campus who would like to make some sort of imprint on campus policies. These "concerned women" attended the introductory meeting Monday evening. The 25 participants took part in a discussion led by Pat Smith. The participants talked about some of the issues that are under investigation by the Student Coalition.

Concerning the jobs available exclusively to men students on campus, the girls were particularly interested in the position of O.C. night manager and the ground maintenance jobs. Why couldn't a girl like Kathy O'Danny qualify as a night manager? was asked. She "has had Karate, I bet she could defend herself better than half the guys around here." One girl explained that when she expressed an interest in being the night manager of the O.C. she was bluntly told "the place would fall apart if a girl took over."

A position on the ground maintenance staff has been refused to a girl that has applied for it every year. The solution offered by

Sandy Soak is that although many of girls aren't interested in these that's no excuse to seclude those girls who do-it's not fair."

Some girls on campus have expressed a desire to drive the University cars. Mr. Hicks, who is in charge of the car pool, said that the women students were not granted permission to drive the car for two reasons: 1. They can't change tires, and 2. if there was a breakdown that she couldn't handle, he wouldn't want the responsibility of some girl hitching a ride at night for help.

An example of discrimination was cited: "a girl went to a convention with a group of students from Oakland and she was not allowed to drive the car, only the male students were allowed to drive."

Discrimination is most obviously enforced when rules on women's hours are in question. Men students (even freshmen men, some emphasized) do not have hours. "A lot of people feel there should be equality and the same people feel there should also be hours for first semester women," a concerned woman commented. "They're going to have to sacrifice one for the other. If the major issue is equality, that'll have to take precedence." Even Michigan State's present policy of permitting first semester freshmen unlimited 3 o'clocks is still discriminatory according to the participants of the meeting.

Another revelation concerning women's hours was exposed at the meeting Monday night. Only girls I.D.'s are checked when they come in after hours; whereas the men can come and go whenever they please. This means that men who are not even students at Oakland University can enter the dorms after hours, while Oakland women cannot. An example of this was related by Karen Parker, the resident assistant on the sixth floor of South Hamlin. When she attempted to enter Vandenberg after-hours, the night watchman let her friend Gary in without presenting any I.D. He was reluctant to admit Karen even after Gary testified that he knew her and that she was the 6th floor R.A.

The discriminatory policies of the Administration are manifested in various ways. One is the publication of a booklet called "Women's Regulations." Another is the institution of the Women's Judiciary Board. Women students also feel that is is discriminatory to have a sign on Miss Houtz's door reading "Dean of Women" while there is no sign over Mr. Appleton's door indicating that he has the "unofficial title of Dean of Men."

The meeting was concluded: "This is discrimination and it must no longer be sloughed off. It's time to take a stand and write. Give this serious consideration—really think about it—is it fair that ONLY girls are restricted in jobs, hours, and Judiciary boards?"



WOMEN'S ISSUE

Dean of Women Interviewed

Patricia Houtz, "Associate Dean of Students (Woman)" (as stated in the Student Handbook), told The Observer that the Woman's struggle for equality will continue until women have the same rights as men.

Today's problems of discrimination, according to Dean Houtz, are an outgrowth of the historical perception of women's roles. In early civilizations, women were considered men's property. They, being weaker, were under the direct physical protection of men. Over the years, protection took the form of restrictions.

Here at Oakland, some of the women students feel that various departments on campus are being discriminatory toward them. Dean Houtz feels that the concerned student's should conduct an investigation of these areas.

Agreeing that women's hours are discriminatory, Dean Houtz feels that women are mature enough to keep their own hours, as men are. Women are more mature than some of the men, she added. Two or three years ago, senior women were allowed keys. The result of the experiment was that the students were in BEFORE they had to be.

During the fall semester of this academic year, the Inter-Hall Council conducted a survey among resident students concerning dorm hours. Sixty-seven percent of the questionnaires were returned and tabulated. The following are the figures obtained from 556 women students:

	MAINTAIN STATUS QUO	COMPLETE ABOLITION OF HOURS	AFTER FIRST SEMESTER	WITH PARENTAL PERMISSION
Freshmen	12%	41%	36%	11%
Sophomores	40%	21%	31%	8%
Juniors	32%	28%	28%	12%
Seniors	37%	27%	16%	20%
TOTAL	26% (143)	32% (178)	32% (179)	10% (56)

This survey reveals that freshmen girls were not favorable to the complete abolition of hours; but ARE favorable to one semester of restrictive hours. Others felt that the hours should be dependent on parental permission.

Presently, the dorms close at midnight, Sunday through Thursday and at 2:00 a.m. during the weekend.

Budget Background: Prospects for 1969-1970

By INGO DUTZMANN

The situation at Oakland University with regard to finance is again in a rather tight position. Some time this coming June, the jointly agreed upon Michigan State Senate and House of Representatives budget for Oakland University will be made public and will apply for the period July 1, 1969 - June 30, 1970.

Presently Oakland is operating on a budget of \$7,423,788.00 or approximately \$1024.00 per student. Considering the high standards which Oakland tries to maintain with regard to quality of education and the quality of the professors who teach here, this is a very low figure, and the university has suffered because of it.

Early in January, Robert Swanson, Oakland's Director of Business Affairs, presented the proposed budget of this university to the Bureau of the Budget, which is an arm of the Governor's central staff. After consideration the Bureau of the Budget made a recommendation to the Governor and, on the basis of that recommendation, Governor Milliken formally made his recommendation to the Senate Appropriations Committee. The figure asked for from the State was \$7,586,984.00 and the Governor's recommendation was \$6,233,406.00. These figures are not inclusive of the monies which the university receives from student tuition fees. Adding these monies to the request brings the total requested budget for fiscal year 1969 - 1970 to \$10,410,903.00. In other words, the student tuition fees are expected to be approximately \$2,823,919.00. The student tuition fees for this year amounted to about \$2,377,449 and the \$446,470.00 increase reflects an increase of 900 students for the fall 1969 semester.

Assuming that the Governor's recommendation is pretty close to the actual appropriation that Oakland University will receive from the State, and that the student tuition fees will indeed produce the estimated income, the proposed fiscal year 1969 - 1970 budget will still be short \$1,353,578. At present there is no detailed outline of how the appropriation for Oakland was decided upon or how the breakdown of individual appropriations turned out but, perhaps a look at the distribution of the original request would be useful.

There are six basic functional categories in which universities in Michigan place their requests: these are: Instructional, Research, Public Services, Library, Student Services, and General Support.

The instructional category is tradition-

ally the area in which the greater amount of money is needed. This category includes the faculty salaries primarily.

The Research has to do mainly with providing faculty members some capital for preparing requests for Federal Grants. These Small "Starter Grants" are of importance also in drawing research minded faculty members to the university, as long as they also show an interest in working with students in general.

The Public Services category makes itself evident in the form of public relations (Troy Crowder's office and that of the News Service), Alumni relations (Rev. McAlpine's office), and Urban affairs (Karl Gregory's office).

The Library category is pretty much self-evident but it is important to note that, due to the tremendous importance of the library to the learning experience, it has a category of its own.

The Student Services category includes such things as the Placement Office (Mrs. Hope), the Dean of Students office (Dean Dutton), and Project 20 along with the Pontiac store-front office (The Pontiac Cultural Center).

And finally, the General Support category includes all of the highest administration salaries and offices, the Business Office itself, and the Physical Plant.

The following then reflects those six categories and the requests made in each for fiscal 1969 - 1970 along with the present budget for fiscal 1968 - 1969.

CATEGORIES	PRESENT	REQUEST
1. Instr.	\$4,112,717.00	\$5,551,915.00
2. Res.	61,800.00	72,846.00
3. Pub. Ser.	175,540.00	289,170.00
4. Lib.	657,570.00	1,176,465.00
5. St. Ser.	596,678.00	910,742.00
6. Gen. Sup.	7,423,788.00	2,724,726.00
TOTALS	\$7,423,788.00	\$10,410,903.00

As you can see there is a good sized difference between the present budget and the new request. This increase over the present budget amounts to \$2,987,115. and can be broken down into the following, sub-totals:

REQUEST FOR:

- 70 new faculty members (45 to accommodate the 900 new students and 25 to lower the student - teacher ratio) \$840,000.00
- 7% wage adjustment (to keep university wages on par with those outside the university) \$411,566.00
- 5% inflation (to meet the rising costs of everything) \$78,460.00
- Computer rental (for use not only by the math and science departments but also the Business Office and the Registrar, and the Dean of Students) \$120,000.00
- Urban extension and disadvantaged students. The Pontiac Cultural Center (expansion of Project 20), tutorial services, staff and materials \$191,740.00
- To match the clerical and labor rates of the U.S. Civil Service \$107,325.00
- Unfunded 1968 - 1969 budget items (many asked for last year)
 - Instructional \$169,138.00
 - Library \$467,022.00
 - Student Service \$162,230.00
 - Physical Plant \$301,588.00
 - All other \$84,041.00

The total for these five items comes to \$1,184,024.00.

8. Debt Retirement (for O.C. & I/M) \$2,987,115.00

In talking with Ray Harris, the university Budget Director who gave me these figures, I discovered that of the \$2,987,115.00 asked for only \$2,540,645.00 would come directly from the State, if approved. The remaining \$446,470.00 is to come from the estimated increase in enrollment of 900 additional students.

With the present budget allowing \$1024.00 FYES (Fiscal Year Equated Student) per student, the new request asks for \$1302.00 FYES. The Governor's recommendation for Oakland amounts to \$1070.00 FYES or an approximate increase of \$46.00.

Oakland's budget request is now in the Senate Appropriations Committee. From there it goes to the Senate, to the House Appropriations Committee, to the House, to a joint Senate - House reconciliation Committee for a final vote in both Houses.

Probably the question foremost in the minds of most students is that of "What about a tuition increase?" It is of course impossible to say prior to the final vote on the budget in June but according to Robert Swanson, the Board of Trustees would be very reluctant to approve such an increase due to two straight years of increases, and would only do so in the event that it was impossible to run the school at a minimum pace without it.

One further point which needs clarification is that of the construction going on at Oakland and the costs of paying for all of the additional buildings.

Dormitories are paid for by the room and board charge paid by all of the residents. The other buildings, on the other hand, are paid for privately or by the Government. Besides the request just reviewed above, Oakland has submitted a request for \$5,560,000.00 for the construction going on presently and for construction which is still in the planning stage. This figure of \$5,560,000.00 is broken down into the following areas:

AREAS REQUEST

- Funds for continuing projects already approved by the State (Classroom Bldg. #1 and the Central Heating Plant) \$2,000,000.00
- Public Service Building . . . \$500,000.00
- Library Extension \$1,000,000.00
- School of Education expansion \$2,000,000.00
- Planning costs for Social Sciences Building \$150,000.00

TOTAL \$5,650,000.00

In summary then, the total request made by Oakland University for fiscal year 1969 - 1970 outside of the request for construction was \$10,410,903.00 of which \$7,586,984.00 was requested directly from State funds. Of the latter figure the Governor recommended \$6,233,406.00 and the final decision will be made public sometime in early June. In addition the University has requested \$5,650,000.00 for construction and is awaiting an answer to that request also.

If the final appropriation to Oakland university will be near the figure recommended by the Governor, then it is safe to assume that the university will be in a little better shape than last year but still short in many areas and far from satisfied.

Commission Votes on Hours

The Commission on Student Life at its Jan. 29, meeting recommended that the University discontinue freshman women's hours. The proposal was introduced by Inter-Hall Council and coincided with the presentation of a petition by Commissioner Jeremy Rose calling for an end to University discrimination against women.

The petition was originated by a group of women students who felt that women's regulations were unfairly discriminating against women. The Inter-Hall Council mentioned that they were also concerned about the discriminatory aspects of the present situation, but felt that the elimination of women's hours was

an important issue even aside from this.

The eventual results of the recommendation is uncertain. A previous Commission proposal to eliminate hours for second semester freshmen has been on the Chancellor's desk for nearly a year. Bill Hammerlee, in calling for the question on the proposal stated that the Commission should pass this proposal indignantly, since its previous proposal had not been acted on.

To provide better communication with the student body the student members of the Commission will be available in the commission office in the activities center for questions and discussions. The present sche-

dule is for Marsha Guerein to be in the office from 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, and Steve Gaynor 1-2 p.m. Thursday. Commission member Ken Meldrum is also available in the SAB office from 11-12 a.m. on Mondays. Also available will be Jeremy Rose 12-1 p.m. Fridays, and Dan Pfeiffer 9-11 a.m. Tuesdays.

Chancellor Varner has announced that in "an attempt to involve students" in the Dept. of Public Safety, a five man "student auxiliary." These students will assist Safety Officers in such tasks as checking buildings, directing traffic, and enforcing parking regulations.



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