

SATORI SPECIAL

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REORGANIZES

The last open meeting of the Committee to prepare a student government was held on January 11, 1968, at which time a final list of fifteen members was made.

In light of recent mixups concerned with committee policy, the following resolution was passed by the fifteen members of the committee. "The committee shall publish comments for the committee. No member shall act for the committee or be the voice of the committee. The committee will function as the 'Temporary Student Government body' of Richmond College, for the purpose of affecting a liason between the faculty and the student body. The opinions of the committee will not constitute those of the student body, but rather of a representative group of interested students."

Topics to appear on future meeting agendas include:

1. Student representation on faculty committees.
2. Student apathy.
3. Types of student government.
4. Constitution ratification in part or totally.

The committee has set up guidelines under which they will work. These include regulations on non-member participation at meetings. Visitors may not have a voice or vote on any committee business unless the visitor has submitted his questions or comments to the committee chairman, in writing, prior to the meeting.

The fifteen members will have a voice and vote on all issues connected with their work and will be required to attend all meetings. (non-attendance endangers membership on the committee.)

EDITORIAL

This is a "new college". The faculty takes care of your academics, but no one is going to spoon-feed you as has been done in the past.

The apathy you are showing to your school is reflected, not only in your attitude, but also in your lack of participation. This lack of participation is crippling every attempt to establish a foundation for student activities. We would like to know exactly what it takes to make you get up and show that you are more than just academic robots. There is just so much we can do. We can write editorials from now until doomsday, but in the final analysis it is you who will make or break Richmond College.

SO NOW WHAT? Will you read this editorial and forget it, or will you finally wake up.

You now have SATORI. Many of you were not happy with it, but none of you are willing to help improve it. So, in effect, you have a few people speaking to you and not a true voice of the students.

Whether you know it or not----you now have a closed student government committee. You have practically nothing to say about what it does. In the final analysis, you will either approve the constitution that they write, or have no student government at all.

Ordinarily the editors of SATORI would not approve of such a student government organizing committee, but in light of your behavior, or rather the lack of it, we have no choice.

YOU DESERVE WHATEVER YOU GET. DOES THIS SCARE YOU....IT SCARES US!

Certain students were admitted to Richmond College on a probationary status. This status meant that a student must maintain at least a 2.0 index. In accordance with our pass fail system, this stipulation is meaningless. In order to clarify matters Lou Diamond, member of the Student Government Organizing Committee, corresponded with Dean Ned Shrom. The result was the following letter:

Dear Lou:

I am pleased to have your letter of December 27, 1967 because I have been conscious of the need to interpret the probationary status held by students who were admitted with the requirement to earn a 2.0 this term.

I appreciate your acknowledgement of our having required the 2.0 grade average before Honors-Pass-Fail had been subsequently approved as a faculty policy relating to student evaluation, thus eliminating the index resulting from a five point scale or any other system based on specific letter or number grades.

As you may know, students' academic status will be determined by the Faculty Committee on Admissions and Standing. It is anticipated that this committee will be in operation by the end of the Fall semester, thus being organized in time to concern itself with the standing of presently enrolled students (using student evaluation data including grades earned during the fall term) as well as being concerned with developing admissions policies and evaluative criteria relating to future classes, in addition to your own.

Not only will the committee be concerned with students who have been identified as "on probation", when admitted, but also with the present standing of those not so identified. My response to your question cannot be separated from the response that would be given to a student who inquires about, "What will determine whether or not I am doing satisfactorily at the close of this semester?" even if he were not on probation: naturally, I cannot speak for the committee, but it has been generally assumed that all of the students who began their academic work in September 1967 will have at least one year at Richmond College to prove themselves. Following the organization of the faculty committee, and other important developments, we will subsequently be concerned with "course in standing" at the conclusion of each semester, and no doubt in future years it will be possible to be "dropped for low scholarship" at the conclusion of only one semester of course work, if not satisfactorily completed according to their existing requirements. However, in view of all considerations attendant to this first semester of course offerings at Richmond College, it is anticipated that even those students who do poorly would have the full year to establish their academic record. Of course, were a student to earn four failing grades in four courses, the absence of an immediate drop notice from the new committee (in accordance with the expectation of a year's opportunity) does not preclude the possibility of self-realization that the chances of satisfactory completion of the academic requirements seem limited.

During ensuing semesters, not only will this faculty committee be concerned with questions of standing relating to failing grades (How many grades of F result in dismissal?" etc.) but it will also develop policies for establishing positively oriented criteria: honors organizations, special recognition for outstanding academic achievements, and other motivational aspects of concern to all of us in being desirous of students achieving their academic goals.

FINAL'S OVER?
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