Agenda Days

This week's Agenda Days are an excellent opportunity for the entire Institute community to take a thoughtful look at where we stand and in what direction for needed changes in our institution.

Some may think these activities to be a frivolous distraction from the proper business of the Institute. While this may be true in the past, government policy of the day overrode all other concerns. The faces and the potential of the university for dealing with them makes it imperative that each member of the community who cares come and address his input to those who must confront these problems on a regular basis. Those who in the past have relied on the administration to shield them from these realities should be shocked to realize that by its own admission, the problems are so great that the administration cannot handle them alone. Many of the inputs would add the corollary that we must now allow the administration to even attempt to do so.

The problems we face are immense: how to rationalize Institute participation and support of government policies so many of us find repugnant; how to allow individuals within the community to participate in the general run of things; how to make the Institute a better instrument for accomplishing needed improvements in society, how to structure the Institute so as to make its policies acceptable to the consciousness of all members of the community.

It is absolutely vital that this week's program be looked not as an end in itself, but rather as a beginning to problems which we spend a couple of afternoons and evenings discussing them, but we probably will have a better understanding of what the issues are. Merely talking about issues will do nothing. However, provisions have been made for those who will be charged with settling some of these problems to be present at discussions that will collect inputs for their deliberations. Finally, it is hoped that a clear exposition of the issues we face will bring home to many the urgency of our situation. If so, it will be done soon; for many people, this may be their last good chance to influence decisions which will affect them.

SACC: The unions

The attempt by the Building Services Int'l Union, AFL-CIO to obtain an injunction against further deliberation by the Pounds panel on the grounds that it constituted a threat to the jobs of union members dramatizes one of the many side effects of the continued existence of the labs. How is it possible and desirable to reorient the direction of the Institute so as to make its policies acceptable to the consciousness of all members of the community?

It was intended to provide a clear statement of student feelings on matters.

This month, the General Assembly meets the evening before the faculty meetings at which ROTS will be considered. If it is deemed too late to have an adequate effect on the faculty, a petition signed by only a quarter of the General Assembly members of the 500 who constitute the population will be sufficient to require the UP to call a special meeting to discuss the matter.

There are great advantages to be had for which even the possibles is able to win a vote of confidence from the General Assembly. If some sort of compromise is reached, the venture is not to be construed as an argument against changes in the nature of our research efforts which will have to be considered in any reorientation of the Institute. It was intended to provide a clear statement of student feelings on matters. The attempt by the Building Services Int'l Union, AFL-CIO to obtain an injunction against further deliberation by the Pounds panel on the grounds that it constituted a threat to the jobs of union members dramatizes one of the many side effects of the continued existence of the labs.

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