McCormick problems persist

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According to Diane McKnight '75, a member of the McCormick Judicial Committee (Judcomm), the subject was first brought to the attention of Ken Browning, Assistant Dean for Student Life, in the beginning of November. At that time, there were few specific complaints, and the committee, aware of the role of Senturia in McCormick, was to be concerned primarily with the dorm. McKnight stated she thought her conversation with Browning had had an unfavorable impact, but that a few days later she received a call from Senturia about it.

Some time after this initial meeting, Senturia sent a letter to the dormitory tutors, stating that Judcomm and the dormitory tutors should go to the Dean's office. Judgment was also questioned in connection to the survey. Hope, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, talked to Eisenberg, Judcomm member, their integrity was considered "flawed and uncontrolled," according to some Judcomm members. The committee unanimously agreed that they should go to the Dean's office. Judcomm members Lorna Giles '73 and Beverley Herbert '75 then went to talk to Mary Hope, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. They requested that the situation be handled quietly, due to the personal nature of the complaints involved. Hope advised them to go to Eisenberg, but that they should have written documentation of the problems within the dorm, since more concrete presentations of the problems would be needed.

Judcomm then began writing the 40 page "letter" which was later presented to Eisenberg. It was written partially by Judcomm, and partially by specific residents involved in the complaints. Judcomm also conducted a survey of dorm attitudes, for a feeling of the extent of the problem. The survey found that 37% of the 120 residents questioned were dissatisfied with the Senturias' performance. Eisenberg has since stated that the survey was "flawed and uncontrolled," apparently since it was taken during IAP and was not well-documented. According to one Judcomm member, their integrity was also questioned in connection to the survey. "We were accused of looking for certain answers, and even of throwing some questionnaires away."

Since receiving Eisenberg's letter, members of Judcomm have met with Chancellor Paul Gray '50, to discuss the possibility of a review of the Dean's office decision. Gray stated that there was no such mechanism for the review they requested, and that Eisenberg's decision would stand.

Dirac links constant to universe's age

By Stephen Blatt

Professor Paul Dirac of Florida State spoke to an overflow audience March 21 at the Physical Colloquium on "Problems of Time and Space."

Dirac proposed a "large number hypothesis," connecting all large dimensionless constants to the age of the universe, which would be on the order of magnitude of 10^-10 over 10 years - "quite a small change but not impossible to measure by presently available techniques." In fact, this theory is currently being tested, according to Dirac, who went on to say that it was true and some consequences would result.

The number of nucleons in the nucleus of the universe is on the order of 10^37.

By Stephen Blatt

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