Fall final exam schedule revised

By Glenn Brownstein

A revision of this fall’s final exam schedule that will eliminate tests the day after classes end was passed unanimously by the faculty Wednesday.

According to the adopted schedule change, proposed by a Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP) of her faculty-student group, there will be no longer be exams on Friday, Dec. 17, the day after classes with no final end. Instead, eight exam weeks will be scheduled over the three weekdays following those on both Monday and Tuesday (morning-afternoon exam), and two on Wednesday (morning-afternoon).

Exams with three finals in one day will be allowed to treat use of them as a conflict. The Spring 1977 exam schedule, also included in the SCEP proposal, replaces the planned Friday-after-class-end exam schedule with morning and afternoon exams on the following Thursday, May 27.

According to SCEP Chairman Louis Tooton ’77, the proposal submitted to the faculty was primarily the result of responses to a questionnaire distributed in living groups by the committee the last month, in which students were asked to rate examination schedule preferences.

Of 1,013 replies received by the ad hoc group thus far, 454 voted for the eventually adopted plan. 263 chose a six-period, three-day schedule with conflicts resolved on the second day. Some wanted to retain the original schedule and added: “Give me two exams on the 17th, 20th, 21st, and 22nd.”

Although Tooton explained that although the committee made its recommendation largely based on the statistical evidence, he added that the group sought advice from other faculty and students, and that the tabulated evidence indicated “reasonableness of the 6-period plan” for the proposal finally adopted. The new examination format, which will begin immediately with this year’s course, was designed to work within faculty regulations for exam periods.

The Spring final exam schedule as published in The Tech was altered from one of nine the Monday before the Spring final period, giving four days for final examinations instead of three. A proposal was made to eliminate finals altogether, but was opposed. “I had a personal conflict in that idea,” said Dr. Dale Hathaway, director of the International Food Policy Research Institute, who had presented the proposal.

“There is a lack of applicable technology, however,” he said. “Because of the high cost of fertilizers and insecticides, many farmers in the Third World and developing countries do not have the technology to make use of the fertilizer. We are now in the process of developing new techniques for increasing food production in these countries.”

Hathaway argued that the Third World and developing nations must develop public food policies to avoid famine. “The only area of concentrated public food policy is in these countries will have to be food aid,” he said.

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Hathaway charged that US policy has not been very effective in reducing hunger in the Third World. “We are now in the process of developing new techniques for increasing food production in these countries.”

By Donna Bielinski

People must understand their depths and themselves before working world change, former anti-war activist Jerry Rubin told an audience at the Harvard Law School Wednesday night.

He said that each individual should withdraw from his own personal false images and illusions to find an inner strength from the his real self, and with that new-found inner strength, renew the battle against worldly injustice. “People were competing to see who could be the most radical,” Rubin said, adding that he too imagined himself to be a “superhuman” hero — a “left-wing John Wayne.”

The main purpose of the revolutionary movement at that time, he said, was to expose the power system for what it was. “Through violence and aggression we were overthrowing the world,” Rubin recalled, noting that this movement reached a climax at Kent State University.

Prior to that incident, he said, the anti-war movement had been unable to analyse its own actions. “There was a dramatic change. We had to examine our own process.”

As a result Rubin said he realized he had been the embodiment of the exact image he was fighting against — violence and aggression — and that his movement as competitive as the government it opposed. “I had been conned into the desire-and-success oriented fantasy, and I realized that if I just concentrated on myself and reality, I might have strength enough to change everyone else,” he added.

He said that many others are also making the personal and political change necessary. “If we can do it, other people can do it too.”

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