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12-2-1977

The Ursinus Weekly, December 2, 1977

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Recommended Citation

Weibezahl, Ann; Tuberty, Sharon; Hauler, Jack; Dunn, Rebecca; Lange, Stephen M.; and Weatherwax, Nancy, "The Ursinus Weekly, December 2, 1977" (1977). *Ursinus Weekly Newspaper*. 78.
<https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/weekly/78>

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The Ursinus Weekly

VOLUME LXXVII

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1977

NO. 7

U.S.G.A. Challenges Union Circulates Student Petition

by Sharon Tuberty

At the USGA meeting held on Thursday, November 17, a motion was passed to circulate a petition with a threat of a college-wide boycott of the snack shop and to request a special meeting of the Union Planning Board. The snack shop problem revolves around high prices, employment of outside people and inadequate operating hours.

Eleanor Dusko, Manager of the Union snack shop, says that while prices have risen five cents on six items, the price of the majority of selections has remained unchanged. She also points out that although prices have been raised this year, they had not been raised for the past two academic years. The increase this past September was attributed to inflation. While this price increase may not seem substantial, it was pointed out at

the Nov. 17th meeting of the USGA that prices charged by other college Unions in this area (ie., Villanova, St. Joseph, and the University of Delaware) were significantly lower than those charged at Ursinus College.

Another matter that has caused conflict is the hiring of outside people to work in the snack shop. At this time, Dusko states that there are three non-students employed there. Dusko says that these people are more reliable and more willing to work undesirable hours. In the past she had trouble trying to get students to work clean-up at night and weekends. She also indicates that food is no longer being given away free and that there are no shortages in the cash register.

Snack shop hours have recently been extended one half hour on weekdays with the grill closing at its present time —

11:00 p.m. However, according to Suzanne Griest, Chairman of the Union Program Board, there is a strong possibility that the snack shop will not open until four or even six o'clock on weekends. Very few people frequent the Union on weekend afternoons and financial statements indicate that it is not worthwhile to operate the snack shop during these times.

Keeping the Union open on weekend afternoons to accommodate a few students raises an important question. As Griest stated, the major issue is "whether the Union is there to make a profit or whether it is there to be of service to the students." Nelson Williams, College Business Manager, feels that the Union is there to both serve the students and to make a profit, and that these two objectives cannot really be separated. Last year the Union made a \$4000 profit, while the year before its profit was \$7000. This money is channeled into the general scholarship fund of the college. When Williams was questioned as to why this money wasn't instead recycled back into the Union, he replied that it was felt that it was more beneficial to the students at large if it was put into the scholarship fund. This point can be argued when it is considered how far \$4000 would go to sponsor a college-wide event such as a concert or dance.

The USGA has set up a committee to study proposals to help alleviate the situation. These proposals include (1) a job description should be drawn up for the position of shop manager, (2) the goal of the snack shop should be just breaking even, (3) the snack shop should be open until 12:30 on weekdays and until 1:00 on weekends, (4) the shop should offer additional food selections, and (5) the Union financial records should be open to USGA inspection. A college-wide boycott is considered by some a possibility if the conflicts surrounding the snack shop are not resolved.

The Union Planning Board is holding its next meeting on Wednesday, December 14th at 4:00 p.m., according to Suzanne Griest who encourages students to either attend this meeting or to express their views to a board member.

Board Approves Calendar

by Jack Hauler

On Nov. 18, the Board of Directors of Ursinus College met and approved a number of policy actions. Of the most notable decisions were those of calendar reform and an increase in tuition and room and board.

CALENDAR REFORM

Beginning the fall of 1978, the first semester will begin on or before Labor Day and end before Christmas. The spring term will also begin earlier than in the past and will end in mid-May. The approval of the academic calendar change was the finalizing step in a rather lengthy process of discussion and consideration of what had become a major campus issue. The calendar change had the major support of not only the Ursinus student body but faculty members as well.

TUITION INCREASE

In another move of major concern to students, the Board

approved a tuition increase of \$270 for full-time students and a room and board increase of \$80, beginning the 1978-79 academic year. This boost will raise tuition to a high of \$3300 and room and board to \$1450. President Richter commented, "We recommended these increases to the Board because of the constant pressures of inflation and our desire to keep improving the educational program at Ursinus. When our students and families compare our charges with those of private colleges of similar academic quality, they will see Ursinus among the less expensive group. Also, the increase in charges will be coupled with careful decisions on tuition aid budgets for those who qualify."

T.G. RENOVATION

The renovation of Thompson-Gay Gymnasium into a dramatic arts facility with television studio also met with Board Approval pending receipt of gifts to fund the project.

Bio. Dept. Reacts

by Rebecca Dunn

The changes in the Academic calendar proposed for the 1978-79 school year passed its final test as it passed a Board of Directors vote on November 18. This followed recommendation from the USGA and an October 5 vote by the Faculty. Among the dissenters at the October 5 Faculty meeting were members of the biology department, citing inconveniences and the cutting short of total classroom hours for courses.

Doctors Peter F. Small and David Phillips of the Biology Department argued against the calendar saying that it would work a hardship on Biology majors taking field courses.

The second semester ends too early to complete field work in some science courses. Small pointed out that the educational rating committee suggests increased field and lab study. According to this new calendar, two outdoor labs will be cut out of the final spring semester, leaving only two chances for the students to go outside. The course this involves is plant morphology and taxonomy. The student shall lose valuable experience and possible accreditation from the rating committee because of this cut-back in field study, according to Small.

Phillips, who teaches a course in invertebrate zoology, claims that since the majority of invertebrates are cold-blooded and live in the ocean and since the ocean warms up slowly, there aren't any active conditions among these animals until late spring, when Ursinus would close according to the plan for 1978. In addition, it takes the first part of the semester to lay the ground work for these outdoor labs.

There was also an objection from the physical education department concerning the M.A.C. championships. Final exams are scheduled during the week that the championships are held. Participating students must either forfeit going to the conference or take finals at another time. This, according to critics, would create confusion and extra work.

In the minutes, Dr. Charles T. Sullivan is quoted as saying, in answer to all these oppositions, "what we're trying to arrive at is the principle of doing the most good for the most people." The biology department's answer to this is that "most people" are bio. and p.e. majors. What "good" is this calendar doing them?

Small and Phillips advocated extending the semester break one week. If the vacation was ex-

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Ursinus News In Brief

Craft, Broadbent Appointed

Dr. James P. Craft Jr., has been appointed Vice President for Planning and Administration. Craft had been serving as Executive Assistant to the President since February 1977. He also moved from Associate Professor to full Professor of Political Science. Craft is responsible for long-term planning and the self-study for reaccreditation. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and holds a master's degree in engineering from MIT and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania. He is currently First Vice President of the Pennsylvania Political Science Association.

Mr. Harry E. Broadbent III, head librarian of Myrin Library was recently appointed to the position of Special Assistant for Institutional Research. He will work with Dr. James P. Craft in gathering and correlating information on a quantitative basis to be used by the Task Force on Student Life in the self-study of Ursinus College.

Advance Ursinus Raises \$1.68 Million

The Board of Directors recently approved a schedule of gifts for the College's current fund-raising campaign, "Advance Ursinus 76-80," led by Thomas J. Beddow, a Washington, D.C. attorney and 1936 graduate of Ursinus who is Chairman of the Board's Development Committee. The College has raised \$1,685,414.94 so far in gifts and pledges toward its \$4.4 million goal.

NSEF Sponsors Competition

The National Student Educational Fund is sponsoring a national competition to recognize college students who produce the best informational materials for other students.

\$12,000 in scholarships will be awarded in this national competition called the Better Information Project: Prizes in Education (BIPPIE).

Individual students or student groups are eligible to submit entries in any media produced during the 1976-77 or 1977-78 academic years. Materials must be aimed at informing fellow students about campus programs, opportunities and experiences.

Prizes will be awarded in two categories: general information aimed at the entire student community (such as orientation guides, course and teacher evaluations and financial aid manuals) and information aimed at specific student groups including but not limited to women, the handicapped, minorities and older students.

Each of twelve winners will be awarded a trip to Washington, D.C. to accept, on behalf of their school, a \$1,000 scholarship, which will be given to a student with financial need.

Application packets and competition rules are available on request from the National Student Educational Fund, 2000 P St. NW, Suite 305, Washington, D.C. 20036. Entries must be postmarked no later than February 28, 1978.

Norristown, Curtis, Met Soloists to Perform

"MESSIAH" PERFORMANCE DECEMBER 9

The Concerto Soloists of Philadelphia and four vocal soloists will be featured in Ursinus College's 40th annual performance of Handel's oratorio, "The Messiah," Dec. 9 in Bomberger Hall.

Directed by William J.

Gatens, of the Ursinus music department, the mass college choir will include students and faculty for the traditional Christmas program.

Soloists will be Winifred Dettore, soprano; Shirley Cressman Metzger, alto; Dan Marek, tenor, and Rov Wilde, baritone.

The Concerto Soloists directed by Marc Mostovoy, appeared on campus in November, 1976, but this will be their first "Messiah" appearance at Ursinus. The ensemble has achieved a widespread reputation for virtuosic performances of music from every

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COMMENT . . .

by Stephen M. Lange

The Student Life Task Force needs to address some basic questions as to its responsibilities and accountability.

The Task Force has as its Chairman James P. Craft, Ursinus College Vice President. The Campus Planning Group has as its Chairman James P. Craft, Ursinus College Vice President. The Task Force is nominally responsible to the Planning Group. Is then the Chairman of the Task Force accountable to himself? Craft is administratively responsible to the College President. Does the structure of Task Force accountability parallel administrative lines? Are students, instructors and alumnae cut out of the group's supervision? What are the lines of communication from the group? Will students, instructors or other interested parties be allowed to inspect the meetings of the Task Force even if only silent observers, or will the Task Force attempt to operate behind closed doors? Can

any group operate behind closed doors and claim to act representatively? Will reports of the Task Force's findings be communicated by the administration through "presidential memos" or reports drafted by the chairman? Isn't the control of communication ultimately control period?

Already the Task Force has conceded two points: Craft is Chairman, without vote of the Task Force, and students were elected to membership, a democratic process, only after selection by the Task Force's parent body, which exemplifies management from above and smells a little like ripe limburger.

If the Task Force does not demand answers now, they will forfeit the opportunity to demand answers at all. If the USGA and Faculty do not demand accountability now, the Task Force may become merely an administrative appendage instead of a cooperative effort.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Your editorial of November 23, 1977, about the effect of fear on the expression of student and faculty opinion in the Weekly aroused my interest. I hope it stimulated some ideas among other members of the campus community as well.

Perhaps by contributing a few reactions to the piece (instead of saying, "I meant to write!"), I can help sustain a useful public dialogue in your pages.

To begin, I'm sure all your readers will understand that the editorial did not mean to say that no one is successfully cultivating the ability to think logically and critically at Ursinus. The free public expression of opinions and the ability to think logically and critically are, to be precise, two separate matters. The editorial inadvertently, I believe, suggested that they were the same and found them both stifled.

It seems to me reasonable and accurate to state in the catalog that one of our aims is to cultivate logical and critical thinking — whatever students and faculty members may or may not be saying in the Weekly.

Of course, a well-developed ability to think logically and critically on a campus such as ours ought to lead to a lively and literate process of public opinion. By my own day-to-day observations, a great deal of opinion about the purposes and the performance of Ursinus is indeed expressed — in faculty coffee lounges, in dorm rooms, in the snack shop, in one-to-one meetings, and more formally in committee meetings where students, faculty members and staff members work together.

I know of no system for stifling student or faculty expression and believe that the faculty and staff, along with me, would like to see more students taking more active part not only in public dialogue but in other activities on campus. Such involvement is an important element in a liberal education.

Recently, for example, about 245 students out of some 1050 eligible voters took part in the election of representatives to the Task Force to Improve the Quality of Student Life. Considering the importance of student life in the minds of most

people on campus, many of us would have welcomed a higher voter turnout.

If there is indeed an "atmosphere of fear" on campus, as the editorial suggests, some of your readers, I am sure, will fail to see its all-pervasive and totally deadening effect. To the extent that there is such an unwholesome atmosphere, we should all work to dispel it, not merely to help the flow of material to the Weekly but also to help students develop their ideas and their roles as responsible citizens.

Some persons may refrain from submitting comment to the Weekly not because they fear some covert system but because they are excessively uneasy about having their ideas judged in public by students and faculty members. Some uneasiness is natural wherever ideas are taken seriously.

Students are particularly prone to it, since they are constantly in the position of having their ideas judged mostly by older persons expected to know more about a particular subject than students.

To state one's ideas in print, with the knowledge that they will be judged by everyone on campus, takes a certain resolve.

Sincerely,
Richard P. Richter
President

November 28, 1977

Dear Editor:

As Advisor to the Ursinus College Ruby I am responding to Thomas J. Glorioso's letter. While I share his concern about the economic pressures felt by Ursinus students, the primary purpose of contracting with Zamsky Studios is to provide consistently high quality prints for the Ruby. In return for an agreement to use only Zamsky's "senior portraits," they are permitted to sell their services to our students.

In planning the 1978 Ruby we considered several proposals from other studios; however, we elected to continue with Zamsky because of their excellent performance. There is no obligation for anyone to buy from Zamsky, but I believe you will find the price competitive and the work excellent.

Sincerely,
H.E. Broadbent, III
Ruby Advisor

Messiah

(Continued from Page 1)

period, but especially for masterpieces of the 18th century, and "The Messiah" is one of the group's specialties.

A native of Philadelphia, Dettore has had extensive oratorio experience, including work with the Oratorio Choir of First Baptist Church, Philadelphia, under Earl Ness. She also appeared with the Philadelphia Lyric Opera.

She is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia, was a finalist in the 1959 Metropolitan auditions, regional winner in the 1960 Singer of the Year contest, and recipient of the Pennsylvania Federation of Music Clubs' Young Artists Award in 1961.

Metzger is a 1973 graduate of Ursinus College, and was active in musical groups while a student. She appeared in previous performances of the "The Messiah" since her graduation. In addition, she made numerous appearances in school and musical theater.

Marek has a distinguished career in concert and operatic work, and appears regularly at the Ursinus performance of "The Messiah." He has made numerous appearances with the New York Civic Opera and the Metropolitan.

Wilde, a Norristown resident, is a graduate of the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. His extensive experience in oratorio includes 19 years with the Oratorio Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, under Dr. Alexander McCurdy.

Bio

(Continued from Page 1)

tended one more week, more labs could be offered by the department. Students could also take advantage of this extra time to travel to various field stations and do projects in marine biology. Rating of the graduates was the second point. As previously stated, lab work is becoming increasingly important in these ratings. The conflict of the M.A.C. games and finals could also be avoided. Phillips' fourth point stated that closing down during one of the coldest months would conserve energy and money. Last, and least, was the consideration of making up a schedule with the sole purpose of having a vacation.

Interested Writers:
Weekly meetings are held at 5:45 on Sunday evenings in Bomberger Shiproom. Please attend. — Ed.

THE URSINUS WEEKLY

Published each week during the academic year by the students of Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pa. 19426
Seventy-seventh year of publication.

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Mailing Address: Campus Post Office, Ursinus College

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Subscription Rate: \$7.00

College Scholars Described

by Nancy Weatherwax

Ursinus students who are interested in topics that are not taught as regular courses here should try looking into the College Scholars Program. They must have had an 85 percent average the previous semester and must have an approved prospectus of what they want to study. About a dozen students participate each semester. The way it is set up now, the College Scholars' Committee can handle up to twenty students a semester.

The Committee consists of Drs. Gayle Byerly, Allan Rice, Martha Takats, and Derq Visser. Tutors are usually members of the Ursinus faculty, but there have been tutors from outside the college. Some students take a course, some do a research paper, and others do something in between. A great variety of projects have been done. Students have studied Russian, Italian, Japanese, Hebrew, Danish, Dutch, and Egyptian hieroglyphics. Projects have been done on batik, the history of the French horn, and computer

music. Two economics papers done in the College Scholars Program by Caryn Antoniaci and Charles Brant under Dr. Pilgrim have been given awards in the Student Awards Program of the American Production and Inventory Control Society. Paper titles cover many fields. One student wrote a novel. The College Scholars Program has two noontime meetings a semester where the students can meet some of the others.

The Committee performs two functions. If the student is taking a course, the Committee makes sure that the course maintains high academic standards. If the student is doing a paper, the Committee will read and judge the paper.

The final exam is usually an hour long. Students taking a course often have a written exam and an exam by the Committee. Those writing a paper answer questions on the paper. Whether taking a course or writing a paper, students get the benefit of having an oral exam, which is a good preparation for oral exams in graduate school.

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