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SPECIAL EDITION

The Tan and Cardinal

VISITATION APPROVED

In swift action taken by Otterbein Board of Trustees, visitation was approved for the 1974-75 school year. Dr. Robert Bromley presented the VanSant Visitation proposal to a four-above-quorum Board of trustees. (Thirty trustees make up the board, and only 24 attended the morning session. 23 attended the afternoon session.) In a brief and very organized presentation, Dr. Bromley gave the high points of the need for visitation, the problem solutions brought about by the VanSant Visitation Plan, and the social goals of the visitation plan. The presentation included an artist's concept of the visitation areas, slides of rooms set up for the 4-2 or 4-3 plan, video taped interviews of students talking about the plan, and a final slide presentation of Towers Hall as Dr. Bromley

influenced the board with his personal note of appreciation to the task force, and give his stamp of approval to the plan. It is believed that Bromley heavily influenced the board by his personal notes, as he is a well respected and influential man on the board.

After the discussion, Chairman Funkhouser asked for discussion from the board. There was none. The vote was called for and any further discussion. There was none. At 11:35 a.m. the vote was taken: unanimous approval was given the proposal. No dissension was recorded.

The result of the passage of the proposal, which is listed below, will be implementation of the program next year. There will be no cost increase for the additional rooms provided for under the legislation. However, Dean Turley has advised the

Tan and Cardinal that an investigation will be launched to study the financial burdens of the visitation plan.

The following is a copy of the task force report and proposal which was presented to and approved by the Otterbein Board of Trustees. Also included is the list of punishments for violations. The punishment will be severe and standard in application. Finally a list of data concerning registration and room assignments is included.

Report of Housing Task Force
May, 1974

BACKGROUND

In May, 1973 the Otterbein College Senate passed Bill No. 17, titled "Proposal for
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ALCOHOL PROPOSAL GOES TO TASK FORCE

Meeting in a lengthy afternoon session, the Otterbein Board of Trustees voted an 11-11 tie on the senate alcohol proposal. Senate bill No. 13 was discussed for an extended amount of time before a vote was called for. During that discussion, a great majority of the board made itself known as to feelings about the bill. Also, in a surprise action on the request of Dean VanSant, students attending the meeting were allowed to express their views. A vote was called for when it appeared no one had anything further to contribute. Expressing his opposition to secret balloting, Chairman of the Board Elmer Funkhouser requested a hand count.

There was no opposition to the Chairman's request, and the vote was taken. Calling for affirmative votes on the issue, 10 votes were recorded. Opposition votes could have defeated the proposal outright, however only 11 votes were recorded on this side. Chairman Funkhouser proceeded to vote in favor of the issue, bringing the vote to an 11-11 tie. At this point, a bishop of the Methodist Church pointed out to the board that a chairman can vote only when there is a tie. However, the bishop did not request that his objection be supported by the trustees; consequently, it was not. An 11-11 tie was

officially recorded with a note that there had been no policy change brought about. (This note added on request of the bishop.)

It was suggested that the alcohol proposal be investigated by a task force. Trustees recommended that the task force look into the number of students who drink, the effect on financial contributions if drinking is permitted, and various other aspects of alcohol consumption. The trustees agreed that a task force would be a good idea and consequently voted to set one up. The task force will likely be composed of members
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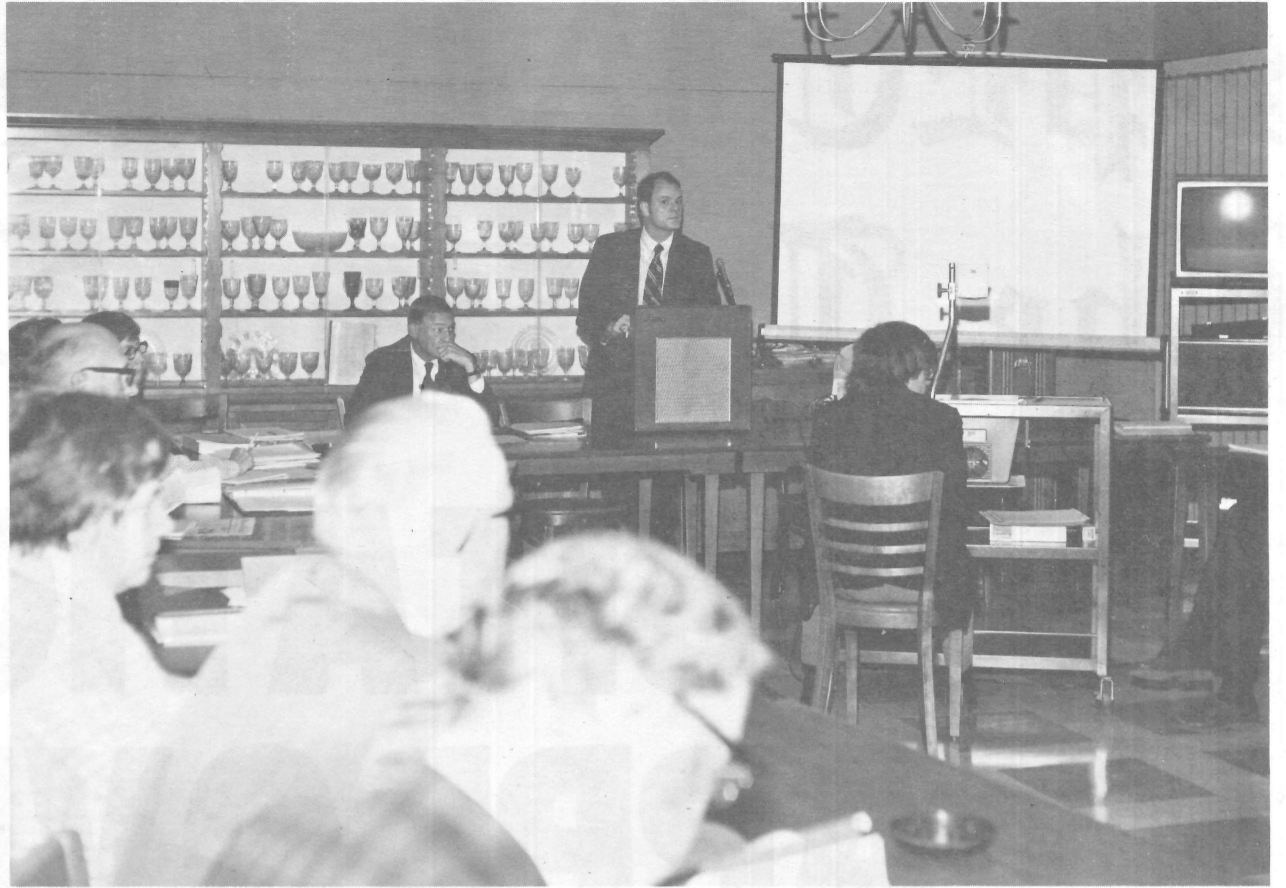
Visitation". Conservatively drawn as compared with visitation policies of many other colleges, the Bill was offered for the purpose of furthering social inter-action among students.

Although the Trustees at their June 1973 meeting did not approve the Bill, they commended the Senate for focusing attention on the existing need to provide students with better opportunities for social inter-action between men and women, and for individual and small group privacy in residence hall life.

Believing that visitation is only one facet of a much larger problem, the Trustees directed that a study be made of the social implications of all possible housing patterns. The purpose of such a study would be to examine the situation in whole rather than in part, and in the context of Otterbein's educational and social goals as a residential institution.

Accordingly, a special Housing Task Force was appointed by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and directed to make the study and report back to the Board at the June 1974 meeting if possible. The Task Force appointed included a Trustee as chairman, and representatives of the At Large, Alumni, Church, Student and Faculty Trustees, the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, one student, one faculty member, and the chairman of the Parents' Committee.

A budget of \$3,000 was established for the



study, funds to be furnished by the Ford Foundation Venture Grant.

PHILOSOPHICAL ASSUMPTIONS

1. Housing patterns should implement Otterbein's stated purpose "to sponsor a program of liberal arts education in the Christian tradition".
2. The Christian tradition of Otterbein College is reflected not only in its relationship to the United Methodist Church, but in the value assumptions which form the basis for the College sense of community. The residence hall program, like the academic and co-curricular program, should reflect the Christian value orientation. The values include Christian love, and emphasize the worth and dignity of persons, the worth of cooperative patterns, the healing function of human relationship, the flexibility of thinking, born of both the perspectives of self-awareness and openness to renewing experiences.
3. Christian values are values of choice. Neither the Church nor the College should attempt to impose Christian commitment or values on

individuals. Rather, both should seek to encourage individuals to make a Christian commitment and adopt these values. *The College has an obligation to provide a positive environment*, not one in which all behavior patterns are rigidly controlled, but also not an environment of indifference to the needs of students.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

To recommend living and housing patterns which will best support the educational mission of the College as a residential institution.

GOALS

1. To improve opportunities for growth through interpersonal interaction between men and women.
2. To improve opportunities for individual and small group privacy.
3. To provide a variety of living patterns.

PARAMETERS

1. Must be within the framework of existing facilities, and any modifications to be at a moderate cost.

2. Must promote and encourage behavior consistent with norms accepted for other adults in the constituency and community.
3. Must not create any unreasonable security risks.
4. Must respect and not infringe on the personal rights of any students.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A variety of housing options should be available to students
 1. *Fraternity and sorority houses* should generally conform to College regulations and patterns for group living. Subject to approval of the Greek alumni associations, the College Senate and the Board of Trustees, Greek organizations could develop some variation from college regulations and patterns. Juniors and seniors are allowed the option of living in fraternity or sorority houses.
 2. *Apartments and approved housing* within a 10-mile radius of the College may be selected by seniors or students over 22 years of age beginning with the Fall of 1975.
 3. *Residence Halls* should be occupied by all students except commuters, married students and those in categories 1 and 2 above. Residence Halls should include:
 1. Rooms designed for single occupancy
 2. Rooms designed for double occupancy
 3. Clusters of rooms designed for small group occupancy.
2. Priority should be given to the re-arrangement of a substantial number of residence hall rooms into small group clusters.
 1. "*Group Cluster*" means several rooms occupied collectively by four or more students. The concept involves the allocation of space in terms of function. A typical configuration for six students would consist of one room for sleeping, one for studying, and one for socializing. A typical configuration for four students would consist of one room for sleeping and studying and one room for socializing and studying.
 2. *The sleeping area* might best be an upper floor, whose physical isolation would contribute to quiet and privacy. Bunk beds would conserve space, and any remaining area in a room might be used for a dressing table or a study carrel.
 3. *The study area* would basically consist of a

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study room occupied exclusively by an individual cluster group. In addition, auxiliary study areas could be provided, such as a few public study rooms in each residence hall; date-study rooms; and possibly a carrel in the group's sleeping quarters.

4. *The socializing area* would be a room belonging to an individual cluster group, furnished for the purposes intended. The preferred location for such a room probably would be on the ground floor or the first and second floors of residence halls which are multi-storied. Separation would be by wings for those men's halls which are one story, with one wing devoted to sleeping/studying and the other to socializing. This room would be comparable to the living room of a private residence, providing an appropriate and adequate facility for social interaction.
5. *The financial cost* of providing cluster groups is nominal when compared with alternative re-designing of living patterns. Since no remodeling is involved, most of the cost would be confined to purchase of bunk beds and study carrels. A typical budget for converting to a cluster group is appended.
3. Visitation
 1. Residential facilities suitable for visitation between men and women students will enrich the learning experience at Otterbein. A main objective of the residence hall experience should be learning to live and work in groups. This involves a heightening of perception, the art of accommodation and respect for the privacy and rights of others. It involves developing group spirit and a sense of order and structure.
 2. The problem at Otterbein has been to find a way of providing suitable spaces for visitation. The present residence hall pattern of two students in one all-purpose room has two major flaws as regards suitability: (1) Social entertaining in a bed-room environment has obvious drawbacks, and (2) the right of privacy for the room-mate not entertaining is abridged. Consequently under the existing residence hall pattern the presence of members of the opposite sex in bedrooms on living floors or in living areas would not provide an acceptable environment.
 3. The cluster group "socializing" room provides a suitable place for visitation. The

atmosphere and furnishings are those of a living room not a bedroom. Furthermore, those in the group who do not participate in the socialization at a particular time, are not pushed out of their quarters. They continue to have access to their own group's sleeping and study rooms.

4. Visitation hours: Visitation in the designated space of the cluster group should be encouraged and not artificially or unnecessarily restricted.
5. It is believed that freshmen also may benefit from the positive environment provided by the group cluster and that visitation privileges should be extended to them.
6. Restricted non-visitation areas should be provided for students who prefer such living accommodations.
4. Continued efforts should be made to improve *social programming* in residence halls. Such programming should focus on coeducational activities.
5. Increased emphasis should also be placed on *intellectual programming* as part of the residence hall experience. Such programming should include discussion groups and interaction with faculty and members of the Columbus metropolitan community.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING USE OF SOCIALIZATION ROOMS

1. The maximum number of hours that socialization rooms may be open to members of the opposite sex is from 12:00 noon to 12:00 midnight Sunday through Thursday, and 12:00 noon to 2:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Those participating in the program may vote by secret ballot for fewer hours. A vote will be taken at the beginning of each term.
2. Violations:
 - Category 1
 - A. Entering areas of the residence hall not set aside for socialization.
 - B. Entertaining a guest in an area not set aside for socialization.
 - C. Use of other private areas of the residence hall including socialization rooms or entertaining a guest in these areas at times other than those established by the residents of the hall.
 - Penalties:
 - First offense — Suspension for one term
 - Second offense — Suspension for one year
 - Category 2
 - A. Entertaining a member of the opposite sex

in a public area other than at scheduled hours.

Penalties:

- First offense — Disciplinary Probation for two terms
- Second offense — Suspension for one term
- Third offense — Suspension for one year

RATIONALE FOR PENALTIES:

1. Students shall be given the responsibility for seeing that the regulations are enforced by accepting the responsibility to entertain only in areas and during times which have been agreed upon.
2. A severe penalty is needed in order to save \$35,000.00 to \$45,000.00 per year by having to provide desk help or check-in systems and other security.

INFORMATION PERTAINING TO ROOM SELECTION

1. Room selection will be held in the Main Lounge of the Campus Center:

WOMEN — MONDAY — JUNE 3
Seniors — 7:30 p.m. — 8:15 p.m.
Juniors — 8:15 p.m. — 9:15 p.m.
Sophomores — 9:15 p.m. — 11:15 p.m.

MEN — TUESDAY, JUNE 4
Seniors — 7:30 p.m. — 8:15 p.m.
Juniors — 8:15 p.m. — 9:15 p.m.
Sophomores — 9:15 p.m. — 11:15 p.m.
2. Rooms will be selected on the basis of classes (Seniors, Juniors and Sophomores) and lottery numbers (1 - 160). For example, the senior woman who drew the lowest number will select her room first; her roommate/s — regardless of their class — will also sign up at that time.
3. To select a room, it is necessary for you to:
 - a. have pre-registered and paid \$100 deposit,
 - b. sign a "Residence hall and Meal Contract."
4. *NO* rooms will be reserved for freshmen, and all residence halls will be open to upperclass students.
5. Telephones: It is recommended that you sign up for telephone service at the same time as you select your room if you are going to select this option. There will be an additional \$12.50 installation charge for all telephones ordered after August 15, 1974.
6. Single Rooms: At the present time, the only single rooms that can be identified are those that are single rooms by structure: Double rooms rented as single rooms at an additional \$150 a year cannot be identified at this time because we do not know how many people will be in the housing program for the 1974-1975 academic year.
7. Linen will be an optional service next year, and the cost will be as follows:
 - a. two sheets and one pillowcase — \$19.80 for 33 weeks
 - b. two sheets, one pillowcase and three towels — \$29.70 for 33 weeks

It is my understanding at this time that all arrangements will be made directly through the linen company for this rental service, and students will sign up for it in the fall when they return to school. Further information will be forthcoming on this matter.
8. Off-Campus Study Programs: All students taking part in off-campus programs for a

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portion of next year should go through the room selection process, and arrangements will be made to reserve a room for you when you return to campus.

Continued from

of the various areas of the Otterbein Community, as was the housing task force. Chairman Funkhouser and President Kerr will discuss the panel makeup this coming Sunday when Funkhouser returns to Otterbein for graduation ceremonies.

In a brief telephone conversation, President Kerr stated his wish that the proposal had passed the trustees. The President also noted that the tie vote was a step in the right direction, being better than total defeat. Dr. Kerr does not feel that the trustees directly opposed him by technically defeating his recommendation that the bill pass. He believes that there are many aspects of the bill that must be studied in depth, and that the task force is a realistic request by the trustees.

Defeating the proposal was a large group of church-oriented trustees. Included in this group were two bishops of the United Methodist Church. According to attendance records, neither of the bishops have come to more than two trustee meetings in the past. Bishops Kerns and Ensley spoke of the moral decay of our society and related alcohol consumption to that decay. One bishop suggested that the proposal not even be discussed because 'we all know how we feel about this proposal.' (The implication was that the bishop thought the bill didn't have a chance of passage.)

(The financial role of the church has been declining over the last few years, and now contributes a little over \$85,000 of a \$5,000,000 college operating budget. President Kerr was quick to point out that the \$85,000 was significant in keeping costs down. In the future the church will reduce its funding to a \$50,000 level.)

In rebuttal to the seldom-attending bishops, Don Goodwin, an Otterbein student, was given permission to speak by Chairman Funkhouser. Goodwin proceeded to tell the bishops that he was 'disgusted' with their attitude towards our society. "More good things are happening today than ever before," said Goodwin. In his oratory which lasted some five minutes, Goodwin gave one of the strongest presentations in favor of the bill which had been approved by the senate.

Student trustee-elect Paul Garfinkel expressed his dismay over retiring student trustee Chris Chatlain Miller's negative vote. If Mrs. Miller had given her vote to Garfinkel, he would have proceeded to vote in favor of the issue, thus approving the bill.

The task force will now be arranged by Chairman Funkhouser, based on advice from President Kerr. The task force will report to the whole board next November. It is important to note that the bill has the backing of Chairman Funkhouser, President Kerr and Dean Oldag. These three opinions will count heavily in favor of the bill.

The following is a copy of the proposal which the senate approved concerning alcohol. The trustees have technically defeated it with a 11-11 tie vote. The task force will take the senate bill under advisement, and probe the alcohol situation on campus and among youths across the nation.

The proposal:

Senate Bill No. 13

Action: Passed by the Otterbein College Senate 3/6/74

Title: Alcoholic Beverages Proposal

(The statement on page 31 of the Campus Life Handbook shall be replaced by:)

I. Otterbein College does not encourage the use of alcoholic beverages; however in our society the choice to abstain from or use alcohol is widely recognized, although use is circumscribed by laws relating to age, time, place and behavior. Westerville, in which Otterbein is located, is legally dry under local option. Otterbein, as a United Methodist related college, recognizes the merit in the United Methodist position that abstinence is one responsible form of Christian love and witness. The Otterbein community functions on the basis of mutual trust and responsibility, and the consumption of alcoholic beverages without discretion is potentially disruptive of this educational environment. Otterbein seeks to offer the maximum individual choice within the framework of its unique traditions, church and community relationships and educational goals. Therefore, at Otterbein:

A. The consumption of alcoholic beverages and/or the possession of an open container of an alcoholic beverage on campus grounds, public areas of College buildings and in all public areas of residence halls (such as corridors, lounges, date rooms, club rooms, restrooms) and in public areas of fraternities and sororities is prohibited.

B. Disruptive behavior while under the influence of alcohol is prohibited in all on-campus areas, public and private. Disruptive behavior includes fighting, unreasonable noise, abusive and insulting language, interference with accepted rights of others and damage to property. When destruction of or damage to property does

result from such behavior, the student will be liable for that damage or destruction.

C. Students are legally responsible to civil authorities for violations of the alcohol laws of the State of Ohio and Westerville when committed on the Otterbein campus. Such violations are also considered violations of College regulations.

II. Violations of the Otterbein alcohol regulations may be adjudged by the Judicial Council as major or minor. Major violations substantially threaten the security of the college community and of the rights of the people within the community and/or violate the rules of the state and local communities in which the College is located. Minor violations disturb the peace and order of the college community but cause no substantial disruption of activities either in the college community or in the community surrounding it. Consumption and/or possession as defined in I A are considered minor violations.

A. The penalties assessed for a major violation are:

- (1) first offense: disciplinary probation or suspension
- (2) second offense: suspension for a minimum of one full term, or dismissal
- (3) Third offense: dismissal

B. The penalties assessed for a minor violation are:

- (1) first offense: disciplinary alert
- (2) second offense: disciplinary probation or suspension
- (3) third offense: suspension for a minimum of one full term, or dismissal
- (4) fourth offense: dismissal

RATIONALE:

1. This policy is designed to provide individual choice within the confines of the developmental counselling approach, the College's church relationship, and its liberal arts goals.
2. This proposal also is defined to emphasize the United Methodist doctrine of abstinence as a form of Christian love; however, taking into account the choice to not abstain, it also clarifies the distinction between punishable activities and non-punishable activities.
3. If this proposal is implemented, the Campus Regulations Committee will make several recommendations to the Student Personnel Office concerning all drug abuse, freshman choice of roommates, and other considerations related to this proposal but outside of the actual regulation.

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