The spring offers; so does a new issue

Class attendance in the social science and arts and letters colleges, as examples; ranged from near normal to almost zero. And one instructor at the University College reported that a Thursday class meeting in his required course had only six attendees out of 90 enrolled.

Although daily enrollment figures are not kept for all closed-circuit television courses, one CCTV spokesman said that there were reports of absenteeism in some classes. But no televised courses were cancelled, he added.

Some classroom disruptions were noted, but few serious incidents occurred.

One of last week's casualties was an annual counselor's day conducted by the Office of Admissions and Scholarships. Scheduled for Thursday in the Auditorium, the event was cancelled in anticipation of possible disruptions. Cancellation meant telephoning more than 270 high schools throughout the state and getting word to some 2,500 freshmen on the campus.

EVEN IN the departments with reportedly wide support for students, there were concerns voiced for students who chose to miss classes, their grades and their credits. And some faculty were concerned about how they could meet the needs of students who boycotted classes as well as those of students who wished to continue having class as usual.

The University Business Office reported getting several calls from students who requested tuition refunds for classes suspended in favor of last Friday's teach-in.

Some colleges held meetings to discuss the implications of large-scale "incidents" occur, but which issues would provide the most fuel. There was the materialization of MSU's own "people's park," called "Free," there was concern for the environment; there were several episodes centered on the issue of ROTC, the most destructive of which (May 1) resulted in extended damage across the campus.

But when word spread last Monday (May 4) of the deaths of students at Kent State University, and when this became coupled with the issue of a geographically expanded war in Southeast Asia, Michigan State was confronted with the possibility of a campus shut-down. (Some students call it a strike; others, including faculty who support some sort of suspension, prefer more accurate terms, such as boycott.)

By week's end, there were confirmed reports of some class cancellations, instances of major absenteeism. There were several rallies, attracting as many as 6,000 and 7,000 persons. A number of statements were issued by the central administration, including one authorizing suspension of classes for a teach-in last Friday. A later statement from President Wharton outlined University policy regarding the status of students and faculty who chose to skip, cancel, defer or otherwise alter the normal procedures of class meetings.

Today's Faculty News attempts to look at some of the events of the past few days, events which constitute an exceptional period on the campus, and which contribute to an increased concern for the actions at colleges and universities everywhere.

MSU Faculty News
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To strike or not: Responses vary

Last week was, as characterized in a statement from President Clifton R. Wharton Jr., a period "traumatic on the Michigan State University campus."

And whatever else occurred, it must be reported that most departments and most faculty and students did not have apparent overt support for a strike. But the words and actions of those calling for a strike commanded significant attention.

The University's own position, outlined in the May 11 report of the president, emphasized its "responsibility to the State of Michigan to provide educational opportunities" was clear and couldn't be abdicated. It added, "Students who are here for that purpose cannot be morally denied their rights to fellow students may feel that a closed class as usual.

Attendance percentages were also according to figures gathered by the deans, based on faculty who reported that they were striking, Cantlon said. "We have a list of those who have decided to report that," he said.

A report from President Clifton Wharton Jr., issued Monday, May 11, pointed out that faculty responsibilities are defined in the 1969 Code of Teaching Responsibility. And he pointed out six consequences of a closed university, including extension of the school year beyond June 14 if class days were lost to strike action; students would have to be sent home; payment of wages and salaries would come under question; jeopardized financial aspects, such as fellowships, and the adverse influence a closure of the University would have on the current budget negotiations with the state Legislature. The statement emphasized that "the (Continued on page 3)
Responses vary to strike...

(Continued from page 1)

Saturday afternoon at which both campus and national issues were discussed.

And there was the inevitable appearance of "counter-strike" groups, such as the students for Rational action," which Friday issued a statement opposing moves to "force the University into the political arena."

Another group distributed "The Bulletin," a weekly newsletter in - cheek suggestions ranging from "ignore your legislators to "prohibit all firearms from campus" ("lancers, clubs and molotov cocktails are far more spectacular.") The group calls itself "The Ad Hoc Committee to Eschew Obfuscation and to Prevent Mental Pollution.

LITTLE OR NO support for a strike was reported in the College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Home Economics. In agricultural economics, animal husbandry and horticulture said attendance was at or near normal. H. John Cazew, professor and chairman of horticulture said that attendance was good in this department. We assume that the student has an individual choice regarding class attendance."

Ronald H. Nelson, professor and chairman of animal husbandry, reported that everything was normal last fall in his department, except for disruptors who stand in the door ways and shout.

All was reportedly near normal in the College of Engineering. The chairman of chemical engineering, M. H. Chetrick, said classes in that department were reporting about 100 per cent attendance last week.

"We are very sympathetic to the cause," he said, "but don't think the way to solve the situation is to strike. As long as there are students who want to go to the classes and who have paid their tuition, we'll meet them.

The DEAN of the College of Business, Kollero Loubi, said that the college had experienced no class cancellations "except in the psychology department." He reported that about 100 students met Thursday and voted not to strike.

A spokesman for the College of Natural Science said that his group had met with any committee or individuals at all.

The department teachers probably would come up with this week with a meeting of the college department chairman.

He said that attendance in the natural science departments for the week was "in-credible," both for classes and for meetings. "Let's be practical," he noted. "If you were a chemistry major and you know you have a payment of work you'd be in a fix.

And he questioned the propriety of discussing political matters in a science class.

"I have an apotolic science class," he said, "but they can't drag in politics, unless you're conducting a class in political science."

"GENE RIEFERS"

Announcements have come - taped - in doorways, announced at rallies - just as faculties meet with their student majors; announcements have come - taped - in doorways, announced at rallies - just as faculties meet with their student majors. Actions taken by some of the departments on campus are listed below along with meeting statements from the departments, some according to announcements at the Faculty Graduate Assistants Strike Committee meetings.

College of Home Economics: An option to class: A resolution proposed that Kresge Art Center remain open "and that each teacher, in consultation with those of his students who wish to attend classes, find a way to address the situation in various ways: Conducting normal classes, suspending the issues of the strike in classes, not meeting classes at all. A report at the Sunday meeting devoted to future educational policies in his department, however, was that the anthropology department was "shut down.

Justin Morrill College: Classes postponed indefinitely.

African Studies Center: Business as usual suspended; interdisciplinary courses closed down.

Chemistry department: Classes are not cancelled. Two resolutions were passed today by faculty - to support a ban against loaded firearms and to make an attempt to allow students who miss class "in good conscience" to make up any missed work.

History department: A meeting with graduate students was to have been held last night to discuss the tentative hope; the faculty was to present a statement similar to that of the psychology department might be adopted.

Sociology department: Each faculty member and graduate assistant is free to act according to his conscience. Academic amnesty is not guaranteed.

Physics department: A meeting was to be held today.

Art department: Passed a resolution: Saturday, May 9, supporting "wholeheartedly the humanitarian implications of the strikes of the MSU strikers," and stating that "we find "business as usual" an impossibility."

The resolution proposed that Kresge Art Center remain open "and that each teacher, in consultation with their students, decide on their proper course of action as the situation develops;" and faculty, however, was that the anthropology department was "shut down.

"Let's be practical," he noted. "If you were a chemistry major and you know you have a payment of work you'd be in a fix.

The Council of Graduate Students issued a statement last week supporting the strike and urging graduate students and graduate assistants not to cross any picket lines. On Monday, the council reported that some of the issues of the strike, to not conduct "business as usual" and to support the strike. He said that attendance in the natural science departments for the week was "incredible," both for classes and for meetings. "Let's be practical," he noted. "If you were a chemistry major and you know you have a payment of work you'd be in a fix.

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Sunday meeting devoted to future moves

Approximately 200 faculty and graduate assistants met Sunday night to further discuss problems of and recommendations for suspending University strike, postponement of classes - with which they have joined some 6,000 to 11,000 students.

About 35 departments of the University were represented at the meeting.

The Report from President Clifton Wharton Jr., dated May 11, was read and discussed by the group.

Committee Statement, page 4

The reaction to President Wharton's statement was summarized by the committee: "the faculty indicated that "to arrange mechanics to protect the rights of everyone, to break down the authoritarian character of the way things are going, will take more time than "business as usual" and will be more educational, so no one is running swing from his responsibilities - that is a red herring, a farce.

Charles Larrowe, professor of economics and chairman of the steering committee of the Faculty Graduate Assistants Strike Committee, read a report from the New York Times concerning actions on grades taken at seven now - closed colleges and universities. He then read five recommendations concerning actions on grades taken at MSU. These were:

1) Arrive for students to complete take - home exams plus an optional paper "if he wants to be taught by you.

2) Base a grade on the work done up to the point "where the student is in the class at the time of his joining the strike, or when the faculty member joins the strike;

3) Give a credit or no - credit grade; 4) No student should be forced to present this group's position on the strike's demands and to be held; then students will be called out of their courses.

A psychology graduate assistant explained that the 467 students enrolled in his course will be graded according to a decision by the graduate assistants who handle the course. Everyone has earned at least a 2.0 from the strike alone; anyone wishing a higher grade can by completing a take - home exam or by expressing himself through a paper or discussion. "It is our responsibility," he said.

The committee of the group that grad was a problem to be worked out by individual faculty members and that they be urged to negotiate with their students. The group voted to propose the five recommendations to the University community and to request the Academic Senate to endorse University policy not to use grades as reprisals and to use the credit - no credit system more flexibly this term.

A LETTER written by medical school faculty was read to the group for consideration on the implications for faculty action on grades at MSU. These were:

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Masterson, associate professor of social work, said the proposal said students had gone to the library to look up names and addresses of three people, and suggested that the national strike movement should move its picket lines to those people's homes.

MSU Faculty News, May 12, 1970

Social Work: One group notes on stand-off

(Continued from page 1)

effect of any course of action which forces closure of the University is to make it the target and the victim, not the policy- makers in Washington.

All spokesmen were references to ROTC (a May 26 Academic Council meeting on the topic is set); black enrollment ("The University has attempted to develop an intelligent and realistic program of steadily increased black enrollment, rather than accepting arbitrary quotas or ceilings."); political trials (MSU "clearly has no power to control the activities of individuals, regardless of the feelings held by many individuals on the campus"); Indochina ("One must remember that it is in Washington where the decisions are made, and not on the MSU campus.")

"Additionally," the statement concluded, "it is gratifying to note that many students are supporting the suggestion that petitions be prepared containing the views of the MSU community on this issue. The offer to take some of these suggestions to the MSU Congressional delegation in Washington still stands."

A FACULTY - Graduate Assistants Strike Committee was established Wednesday night when about 200 people, including graduate assistants, attended a meeting to discuss joining the student strike which began Monday. Members of the steering committee are: assistants.

"Variety of ranks, departments, ages, experience," the resolution noted. "A meeting was held on campus. Community people gathered in the Library. The longest discussion of the meeting was that it (the subject of the meeting) was that people were faculty and graduate assistants.

Faculty at both meetings included a variety of ranks, departments, ages, and races.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT's discussion centered on: To strike or not to strike; alternatives to striking; how to protect the students and faculty.

A steering committee of four faculty and six graduate assistants was elected to establish liaison with the student strike steering committee, to be responsible for establishing a committee to meet with the student strike steering committee, and to organize a meeting of the entire faculty.

Members of the steering committee are Charles Larrowe, professor of economics; chairman; Patrick Doyle, professor of mathematics; John Masterson, associate professor of mathematics; James Troxler, assistant professor of human development and Justin Morrill College; and Jim Lewis, graduate student in anthropology.

At the group's request, the steering committee at the 2% - hour meeting to discuss a statement based on the consensus of the group's discussion, and the 2% - hour meeting to distribute was distributed Thursday and discussed at the Thursday afternoon meeting.

The decision to strike was perhaps best explained by the comment of one faculty member, who argued that the Department of Administration had chosen to go outside the political process in its handling of the graduate assistant problem and now striking college campuses had chosen to go outside the political process as well.

"It happens from the grass roots as well as from the grass roots," he said.

"Shutting it (the University) down seems to be the only way to get the point across."
Debates set for AUP meeting

A debate on student participation in academic activities at the University of Michigan is featured on Thursday's (May 14) meeting of the MSU chapter of the American Council on Education.

Last week's meeting of the Academic Council, postponed from May 10, was rescheduled because the students wanted the Council to consider abolishing ROTC on the campus, a move that would be voted on Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the auditorium.

Council members will be seated on the floor of the auditorium, and the balconies will be reserved for spectators. Today's meeting has the same agenda as last week's session: The Proposed faculty bylaws changes to implement recommendations of the McKee Report on student activities, and the agenda for the Council to consider abolishing ROTC on the campus.

Taking part in the debate will be Leonard Schlesinger, director of the peace and human rights program at the University of Michigan, and Charles Killingsworth, University professor of labor and industrial relations and leading opponent of the McKee Report.

Also on the agenda are discussions of a proposal for a state university strike, due to be voted on Tuesday at 5 and 6, and election of AUP officers.

Nominees so far include: President, Dr. Pauline Alpert; Vice President, Robert Leitz; Executive Officers, James E. McDonald, Edward A. McCahill, and Charles H. MacDonnell; Secretary, Sidney N. Kelley; and Treasurer, John F. Curley.

18 will be cited at awarded convocation

The 1970 Faculty Awards Convocation at which 18 faculty members will be honored has been scheduled for 8 p.m. Wednesday (May 13) in the Michigan Union Ballroom. The Faculty Awards Contests Committee will be recipients of: Six Distinguished Faculty Awards, in recognition of "outstanding contributions to the intellectual development of the University," six Teachers of excellence was awarded for "devotion and skill in undergraduate teaching," and six Excellence in Graduate Student Advising for recognition of graduate assistants for "care and skill in meeting classroom responsibilities."

The Distinguished Faculty Award Committee - headed by Kenneth Shumway, chairman of the Faculty Senate - tentatively set for May 26 in the Anthony Ballroom, will join the same agenda as last week's session: implementing recommendations of the Academic Council to consider abolishing ROTC and the question of ROTC on the campus.

The Faculty - Graduate Assistants Strike Committee responded to President Clifton Wharton Jr.'s offer of mediation, but emphasized that the question of the consequences of the President Wharton ruled in favor of the proposal to revoke ROTC on the campus. We, the faculty and students, respectfully submit to the University community that the normal learning process has been rendered inappropriate, indeed, impossible, because of sustained policies of repression by the National government, and local institutional strategies.

An individual responds

"As an individual, I am concerned about the power of the state in our society, and the role of the University in the power of the state. Although I have not been actively involved in the continued pursuit of normal activities; about, most certainly, just how serious the present crisis is, whether the strike has led to a come to an invariable step in breaking the American way of life."

-3. Several things have become evident in the last week, and especially in the movement of political power in the United States; how we can think about the political system, and the extent to which the system is capable of the power of the state, and the extent to which the state is capable of the power of the state."

In a campus controversy, we are constantly about the power of the University to influence the lives of people in the United States; how we can think about the political system, the extent to which the system is capable of the power of the state, and the extent to which the state is capable of the power of the state.

"The University should not be shut down by the strike, but should continue to function. The organic solidarity of students, faculty, and students is necessary for confrontations or wish to redress immediate grievances. The University is not yet fully functioning until its American society, we are declaring our resistance to unbridled political power in the organized power of the nation, widespread, authentic protest in its colleges and universities. I, third, we cannot, must not, be oblivious to these developments. And here, I submit, we must be the broadest view of this nationwide strike.

"There is unquestionably a crisis. Our nation and world ramifications. The practices that form the component to these policies. Simply, basic learning cannot be meaningfully without the presence of institutions that are capable of the power of the state.

"The immediate situation that the University can in the nationwide setting, we ARE able to succeed in Business Without Really Trying."