

From: STANFORD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE 321-2300, Ext. 2558 (Bob Beyers)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD - More than 1500 Stanford students have said they would participate in another sit-in "or similar action of protest" unless the Board of Trustees responds positively to their concerns about research at the University and Stanford Research Institute by mid-May.

Stanford has more than 11,000 students.

More than 3,000 ballots were distributed to students attending a Frost Amphitheater rally Friday afternoon (APRIL 18), called by Student Body President Denis Hayes during the final stages of a nine-day sit-in at the Applied Electronics Laboratory. Results were published Saturday (APRIL 19).

When a group of about 50 students from the sit-in came toward the Amphitheater, they took some ballots away from a student checking identification there, according to two student witnesses. Less than 100 ballots were believed involved.

Students at the rally voted 3,073 to 203 to commend the April Third Coalition, which led the sit-in, for "helping focus the attention of the campus upon the nature of the research being conducted at the University and SRI."

They urged the cessation of classified research by a 2-1 majority and opposed research in chemical-biological warfare, counter-insurgency, and Southeast Asia by even wider margins.

On a 2,207 to 970 vote, they called on students and faculty for a one-day cessation of classes April 22 to examine the appropriateness of these kinds of research. The Senate of the Academic Council is scheduled to discuss a recent student-faculty report on University-SRI relations at a special meeting the same day and will consider university research policy April 24.

In a 2,630 to 572 vote, the students said it would be in the interest of the University for the trustees to discontinue the kinds of research specified and to decide the future relationship of the University and SRI no later than the May 13 trustees meeting.

When asked if they would participate in another sit-in if the board did not "positively respond" to these concerns, 1,633 said they would and 1,438 said they would not.

Hayes, who had suggested that ballots be given only to students showing identification, said he was "terribly depressed" about the incident outside the Amphitheater, even though the number of ballots involved was believed small.

The Senate of the Academic Council recently reaffirmed the faculty's responsibility for setting campus research policy. Earl Cilley, university research administrator, has said he is not aware of any campus research in chemical-biological warfare "as I understand those terms." Under policies adopted by the Academic Council two years ago, the number of classified contracts on campus has dropped from 20 to about a dozen. The great preponderance of this work is done at AEL.

SRI has two unclassified C-BW contracts, representing a current backlog of about \$50,000. A moratorium on future contracts in this field has been imposed, pending the outcome of the current reappraisal.