

ROTC Communications

The following is the complete text of President Pitzer's letter to the Steering Committee of the Academic Council:

On February 13, 1969, the Senate adopted six of eight recommendations from the Majority Report of its ad hoc Committee on ROTC, and referred two other recommendations to a committee to be established subsequently (See SenD no. 329). Recommendation Six stated that "University authorities should promptly initiate action leading to revision or termination of the contracts between Stanford and the armed forces...."

On my instructions, Vice Provost Brooks began negotiations with the three services for revision of the contracts to bring ROTC as closely as possible into conformance with the recommendations of the Senate. At about the same time, I also appointed a President's Advisory Committee on ROTC Affairs in general accordance with Recommendation Six, the faculty members being recommended by the Senate Committee on Committees and the student members by the then ASSU President, Denis Hayes.

On October 22, 1969, the Professor of Military Science, Colonel Stanley M. Ramsey, with the approval of the Department of the Army, submitted a proposal for revision of the Army ROTC contract, pursuant to Mr. Brooks' request. (See SenD no. 324.) On October 30, I asked the President's Advisory Committee on ROTC Affairs for advice on the proposal.

The Committee has spent the past two months (Minutes are on file in the Academic Secretary's Office) considering the Army proposal. At the same time, the Air Force and the Navy have indicated that they would generally consider the fate of this proposal as setting a broad precedent for their own approaches to contract revision. In other words, if the Army proposal is acceptable to the University, we can expect the other two services to use it as a model for similar proposals.

I now have the Committee's recommendation; a copy is attached (See SenD no. 332). The Committee, by a six-to-two vote, has recommended that I accept the Army proposal for revision of the ROTC contract with one or two minor changes, which have been made, and subject to obtaining the "advice and consent of the Senate on the proposal for the granting of academic credit on a course-by-course basis in accordance with the procedures and standards of the Committee on Undergraduate Studies."

In accordance with the Committee's recommendation, I therefore request that the Steering Committee place this question prominently on the Agenda of the Senate for its January 22, 1970 meeting. There is some urgency since the three services need to know whether or not they can enroll scholarship students in the coming Fall term.

I should state that I, personally, find the Army proposal reasonable and acceptable, and very close indeed to the recommendations adopted by the Senate on February 13, 1969. The Army has offered substantial concessions to the University and seems to me to have met virtually every requirement except on the matter of individual student contracts (see Senate Recommendations Four and Eight). Legislative remedy seems necessary, and I agree with the Army's judgment that the present congressional climate is definitely not propitious for an effort to secure such remedy.

The question of granting limited academic credit is the crux of the matter before us. The proposal submitted by the Army accepts as a starting position that there will be no blanket credit for military-taught courses of military training and education. But the proposal calls for the review of such courses "in accordance with normal University procedures and to grant appropriate academic credit toward graduation for those courses which meet established University standards." The President's Advisory Committee on ROTC Affairs has interpreted this to mean that selected proposals for selected courses would be submitted to the Committee on Undergraduate Studies, which has jurisdiction over non-departmental undergraduate courses, specifically Undergraduate Specials, and which has a regular procedure for reviewing course proposals. The Army is prepared to accept the Committee's judgment and let the issue of credit stand or fall on the Committee's decision on each course proposal.

In contrast with the present 27 quarter units of credit for military-taught courses in military training and education in the Army ROTC program, the Army proposes to submit to the Committee on Undergraduate Studies individual course proposals up to a combined total of six to nine quarter units.

In regard to other matters included in the recommendations adopted by the Senate on February 13, 1969, the Army proposal abolishes departmental status as well as faculty rank and Academic Council membership. The program is removed from the School of Humanities and Sciences and placed under the Provost's Office, thus ensuring adequate supervision. A Center for Military Studies is substituted for the present Department of Military Science, and the title "Director" is accorded the senior officer instead of "Professor." Other officers would be entitled Associate or Assistant Directors. The status of the military officers assigned to the Army ROTC unit would be the same as that of temporary members of the University staff, which currently includes about 1,750 persons in addition to the Faculty. The perquisites of the University Staff include

privileges, reserved parking stickers, eligibility for consideration for Faculty Club membership, reduced ticket prices for athletic season tickets, and the like. They may attend regular meetings of the Academic Council without the privileges of the floor or of the vote.

This status is that normally conferred upon professional persons attached temporarily to the University. A group analogous to the military officers assigned to ROTC duty at Stanford might well be the members of the Stanford United Ministry who perform various campus services while basically employed by organizations or institutions other than the University; and from time to time give undergraduate special courses for credit. They too could be members of the University Staff.

It appears to me that this proposal is a reasonable one. Subject to Senate approval of the proposed credit mechanism, I intend to accept the Army proposal and put it into effect as rapidly as possible.

It is a matter of considerable University interest that a reasonable compromise between the military services and the academic community be reached. There are substantial numbers in the faculty and in the student body who wish to see ROTC continued in some form, with some degree of academic credit, in ways that do not do violence to academic standards. It seems to me that the Army proposal, which has been carefully and thoughtfully reviewed by the Advisory Committee on ROTC Affairs, meets the principal objections to the existing program and offers a reasonable prospect for the future. I strongly urge favorable Senate consideration.

The following are excerpts of the Army's original ROTC revision plans, which were submitted to the University administration in October:

3. The Department of the Army has established certain essential elements which must characterize the ROTC and these are the basis for the proposed revisions and comments in paragraphs 5 and 6. These essential elements are:

- a. Departmental status.
- b. Adequate facilities on campus furnished by the institution at no expense to the Government.
- c. Military Science Department course offerings listed in the institution's catalogues.
- d. Military Science subjects offered during the academic day, on the same basis as other institutional course offerings.
- e. Selection, by mutual agreement, of academic subjects applicable to a military career as part of the ROTC curriculum.
- f. Senior officer to have status of a department head and rank of professor.
- g. Subordination to a dean or an administrative governing official of the institution.

5. In line with the above paragraphs 3 and 4, the following revisions to the institutional contract, DA Form 918, Application and Agreement for Establishment of Army Reserve Officers Training Corps Unit, are offered (deletions from current provisions are bracketed and additions are boldface):

Paragraph 2a. To establish a [Department of Military Science] Center for Military Studies as an integral element in the academic and administrative [department] structure of this institution and to adopt as a part of its curriculum (1) a four year course of military instruction; (2) a two year course of advanced military instruction; or (3) both of the above [which the Secretary of the Army will prescribe and conduct.]

Paragraph 2d. [To grant appropriate academic credit toward graduation for successful completion of courses offered by the Department of Military Science.]

To provide for the review of courses offered by The Center for Military Studies in accordance with normal University procedures and to grant appropriate academic credit toward graduation for those courses which meet established University standards.

7. With respect to requested changes in the individual contracts so as to conform to actual practice and the so-called punitive clauses:

DA Form 597-2-R, Army ROTC Financial Assistance Contract;

DA Form 3036-R, Acknowledgement of Understanding of Service Requirements Army ROTC Financial Assistance Program; and

SAH Form 144, Acknowledgement of Understanding of Service Requirements.

the law, Section 2107, Title 10, United States Code, as implemented by Army Regulations (AR 145-1), provides the scholarship student with the opportunity to terminate his scholarship at his request without penalty at any time during the first two years of a four year scholarship and the first year of a two year scholarship.

These provisions insure that a scholarship student is not irrevocably committed to a military career as he enters the ROTC scholarship program, offering him a reasonable period of time to give further consideration to his decision. The cadet is informed of the provisions of the regulations at the time of enrollment into the scholarship program. The specific provisions of the AR 145-1 read as follows:

"A 2-year scholarship may be terminated at any time prior to the completion of the first year. The first year of the scholarship is completed with the beginning of the first semester or fall quarter of the second academic year or at the end of 12 months from the beginning of the scholarship. A 4-year scholarship may be terminated at any time prior to completion of the basic course. The basic