

THE COLLECTIVE



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We have always been skeptical of Stanford student government because it has been a rubber stamp of the Administration, a pretense of student autonomy, or a stage for ambitious politicians. We have been cynical of "working within the system" because that has too often co-opted and evaded vital issues and movements. We have also been critical of ourselves, questioning our own integrity and possible hypocrisies.

And we have decided to run for the ASSU Council of Presidents because it would indeed be a hypocrisy not to run, not to exhaust every legitimate channel of change and to confront in all possible ways the most vital and pressing issues facing us all: racism, sexism, Stanford's complicity in the war, the control of the University by a few men and a very few women and many others.

These are not academic issues. They are radical in the most literal sense, for they challenge the very basis of our institutions and our roles as Stanford students.

We will make student government confront these issues:

RACISM: Institutional racism permeates the University and must be combatted in a two-fold manner; by fulfilling the needs of minorities and making the practice of racism intolerable in the University.

SEXISM: Oppression of women in society has been reflected at Stanford, including discriminatory admission quotas and the lack of programs and faculty to serve the needs of women.

COMPLICITY IN THE WAR: The use of the Placement Center for war-related and military recruiting, Dept. of Defense strings to money grants and the usage of Stanford laboratories for research on how to improve killing, and vital issues which should not be decided by a few men who control Stanford in the interests of their war-profiteering corporations but rather by the entire community.

WORKERS ISSUES: As a substantial segment of the Stanford community, the lives, issues, and rights of workers should be of importance and concern to the student body.

MENTAL ALIENATION: Students have lost control over their own lives, find their identities at Stanford to be unwhole: we have become intellectual commodities of the educational process, socialized and trained, unable to express our humanness by making the decisions that control our lives.

COMMUNITY CONTROL & DUAL POWER: Referendums of the student body have been ignored by the Administration .. Committees making recommendations contrary to Administrative interests have been ignored. Illegitimate judicial systems have been railroaded through and inquisitions begun. Bruce Franklin has been fired against student opinion. We can assert community control only by creating dual power and neutralizing the Administration's authority. This means people realizing that they have control over their lives by simply taking control over their lives.

In confronting these issues, we will use student government to accomplish as much of the following programs as possible:

- The creation of an ASSU Professorship and rehiring of Bruce Franklin;
- The end of sexist admission quotas, and the creation of an accredited Womens' Studies program also open to the community;
- The creation of a Committee to Investigate Racism or other appropriate grievance mechanism so that charges of racism may be brought to attention by any student, worker or faculty and be duly redressed;
- A moratorium on all cases heard by the CJP until the new University Judicial System (UJS) as proposed by the Student Senate undergoes a referendum;
- Taking firm stands about the binding character of referendums and legitimacy of student opinions;
- Seeking alternative funding for the University while opposing strings to Federal grants;
- Opposing war-related research and implementing the recommendations of the student referendum and Committee on Student Services regarding the Placement Center;
- Supporting and implementing the expansion of the educational program to provide night classes for workers and community people;
- Continual opposition to the decision-making structure of the Board of Trustees and finding alternative ways for decisions concerning the community to be made collectively.
- The creation of a drop-out center to help find viable alternatives to an education at Stanford.

All the resources of the ASSU Council of Presidents would be used to accomplish the programs and focus community attention on the issues.