



—Daily photo by Dave Bockian

Demonstrators attempt to prevent a Marine recruiter from entering the Career Planning and Placement Center in April 1977. One of the issues in the anti-military rally was keeping ROTC, which has been off campus since 1970, from coming back. Now a committee of the Alumni Association plans to consider whether the association should recommend the return of ROTC.

Alums view ROTC return

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By Jim Tranquada

Beginning in September, an alumni committee will consider whether to recommend a resolution supporting the reinstatement of the ROTC program here to the 1979 annual alumni meeting.

The resolution, submitted at this year's annual meeting on May 20 by Michael Antonacci, Class of 1924, declares in part that "ROTC courses are even more vital than those courses which offer preparation for earning a living since they prepare for the defense of our way of life," and petitions the Board of Trustees, administration and faculty to grant ROTC full recognition and academic credit.

On May 7, 1970, the Academic Council voted to end all academic credit for ROTC. The council's decision was based on

the conclusion of a student-faculty committee in February 1969 that ROTC "is not compatible" with the University and that "this incompatibility is inherent in the very nature of the ROTC programs."

'Appropriateness'

The five-person committee, chaired by Alumni Executive Board member Philip Sarkesian, has been appointed to study the resolution — including the "appropriateness" of the resolution itself — and make a recommendation to the Executive Board, according to Sarkesian. The board will then decide whether to place the resolution in front of next year's assembly.

Resolution proponent Antonacci is president of the New Founders League, a private conservative alumni group formed in 1970 which has lobbied ac-

tively for 10 official goals, including the reinstatement of ROTC.

Antonacci, a San Jose resident, was unavailable for comment last night.

'Demonstrated interest'

President Richard Lyman told the Daily last year, "I have no reason to foresee the return of ROTC. Of all the efforts in the last few years, there hasn't been a demonstrated interest among students. In order for there to be any likelihood of ROTC returning, there has to be substantial interest."

Eight years ago, students demonstrated a substantial interest by demanding that ROTC be thrown off campus. By the time ROTC was finally denied academic credit, \$15,000 worth of windows had been broken, two separate sit-ins at Old Union

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ROTC committee

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had taken place and there had been two consecutive nights of street fighting between police and students which culminated in a student strike that virtually shut down the entire campus for several days.

Continued interest

Student interest in keeping ROTC off campus continues today. Some 200 people rallied in

White Plaza in April 1977 in support of the Stanford Coalition Against Racism, which advocated among other things a halt to military recruitment on campus and the denial of campus facilities for ROTC.

Some 287 colleges and universities now have full time ROTC programs. Another 500 to 700 have cross enrollment with other ROTC programs.