

EC backs Tomaso on drugs; SCC gets non-voting woman

Female to be added if one is not elected

By MARSHALL BOSWELL
Staff Reporter

The Executive Committee on Monday narrowly voted to add a woman ad hoc member to the Student Control Committee if no female is elected, and easily defeated a similar proposal for a minority ad hoc member.

The proposal for the female member passed 5-3-2; the proposal for a minority lost 4-6.

The Coeducation Steering Committee had recommended that the EC appoint a freshman woman as a non-voting member of Student Control next year if a woman were not elected to the committee.

The steering committee had said in its resolution that "not simply the perception of fairness, but fairness itself, depends upon female representation."

Secretary Sam Dalton, senior representative Dave Jonson and freshman representative Brandt Wood opposed the resolution to add a woman ad hoc member, while sophomore representatives Andrew Caruthers and Shayam Menon abstained.

The resolution to add a minority ad hoc member was opposed by Dalton, Jonson, junior representative Pat Hayden, Caruthers, Menon and Wood.

During the extended debate, Jonson and Dalton were outspoken in their opposition to the idea of a woman ad hoc member.

"With all guys on the committee, at least you get a general consensus," Jonson said. "With one woman, you run the risk of her one view being taken as the general feeling of most women. Who's to say her one view is the right one?"

Dalton expressed similar views. "You're limiting it to the view of one woman," he said.

"There will be 13 other guys on the panel," countered third-year law representative James Crutchfield. "The woman doesn't even have a vote. A single woman's voice won't be the determiner of the outcome."

Senior representative Bob Tomaso, the EC's ad hoc member to the SCC, said, "This committee is not as serious as the EC. But I think a woman will help it a great deal. Think how they will feel next year. I think this will be something that they can notice as our effort to make their transition easier."

EC President-elect John Lewis was adamant in his opposition to the proposal.

"This tokenism will ruin W&L," he said. "If we start putting people on committees just so they can represent a minority, then we're hosed."

Jonson also expressed a fear that a woman ad hoc member might represent a separation in the perception of honor.

"There are some situations where there is a clear distinction between honor and dishonor. I'm worried about this separation," Jonson said.

EC President Cole Dawson supported the resolution. "There are tons of things girls talk about that they would never talk about around guys," he said. "There might arise a problem in which the girls won't want to talk to an all male SCC. I'm afraid a lot of things might not go in front of the SCC."

Dawson also said it "is known" that student control is "not as serious" as the EC is.

Dawson asked that the resolution state that the need for a woman ad hoc member be reviewed next year. Caruthers said that if next year's EC wanted to review the

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Asks that slurs be 'minor,' not 'major'

By MARSHALL BOSWELL
Staff Reporter

The report of the Drug Policy Review Committee and a minority report written by head dormitory counselor and committee member Bob Tomaso were endorsed unanimously by the Executive Committee on Monday, with only a few minor changes.

The faculty-student University Council was scheduled to discuss the report at its meeting this afternoon. The faculty will discuss it and may vote on it on Monday.

The drug committee, formed by President John D. Wilson last fall at the request of the Board of Trustees, called for a distinction between "major" and "minor" offenses under the jurisdiction of the Student Control Committee and for a number of changes in the SCC's procedures.

The committee also recommended that possession or use of drugs not be punishable by the University. Tomaso's minority report, endorsed by the EC, stated that not penalizing use of drugs would place dormitory counselors "in an impossible situation."

Tomaso also wrote that "hypocrisy would exist when students are allowed to use drugs in the dormitories when very few members of the community are actually willing to allow such behavior."

Sophomore representative Andrew Caruthers said he agreed with Tomaso's view.

"What might happen is that one hall might become a party hall," Caruthers said. "Everyone goes over to this hall to do drugs because the dorm counselor allows it, and then there's this one kid alone who could really feel offended."

Speaking about the committee's 30-page report as a whole, Tomaso, one of three students who served on the committee, told the EC, "We want to elevate Student Control to the level of the EC."

As examples, Tomaso pointed out the reports' report's proposal for recorded testimony at SCC hearings in addition to the designation of "minor" and "major" offenses (all of which fall beneath honor violations in severity).

A second minority opinion, written by Dean of Students Lewis G. John and Professors Louis W. Hodges and Michael A. Pleva, was specifically opposed by the EC.

The opinion, which asked for greater faculty representation in Student Control decisions, stated that the faculty "have been little involved in discipline, save to howl ineffectively when we thought students were too lightly punished for what we perceived to be gross misconduct (to wit: the boxwood incident)."

The list of "minor" and "major" offenses evoked a lot of interest of the parts of various EC members.

The drug committee's report proposed that penalties for students convicted of "major" offenses include possible expulsion or suspension from the University. Penalties for "minor" offenses would include such things as dormitory or social probation.

First-year law representative James Crutchfield expressed some concern about the distinction.

"I'm afraid that many of these "major" offenses would be, in my opinion, honor violations," Crutchfield said.

Tomaso explained that the offenses were designated as "minor" or "major" in an effort to clear up problems with the University's current policies toward conduct.

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