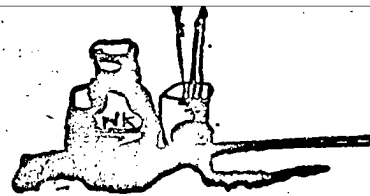


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Letters To The Editor

On the CIA



Dear Editor:

The Career Counseling and Placement Bureau is an office of Hunter College, one of whose aims is to aid students in obtaining jobs after they receive degrees.

There have been protests to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA's) use of the Bureau for the recruitment of future employees on the grounds that the school will be used to "facilitate a government agency." IBM also recruits on this campus; so does Equitable Life Assurance. If there is to be a protest, why isn't the use of the school to facilitate these private concerns protested? Or, if one is in sympathy with business and not with government, why did the Peace Corps recruitment go unprotested? Isn't the Peace Corps also an agency of the government?

The issue here perhaps goes deeper. Students fear that an atmosphere of "super-secrecy" in the interest of the national security may somehow eventually pervade the entire college and lead to an end of free speech. While it is true that the

CIA, necessarily, has secrets, this is not an issue here. They have come to Hunter to recruit future employees; there is no secret as to what the conditions of employment are to be. The applicant is told what will be expected of him, which is no less than he is told by private organizations and other government agencies. There is no secrecy about the job to be filled — and to fill jobs is the only purpose the CIA has in coming here. If there is free inquiry about this purpose, which, after all, is the only purpose, then no atmosphere of "super-secrecy" can or does exist.

But perhaps the largest issue of all is that of student involvement in the decisions of the administration. The Career Counseling and Placement Bureau sets up a schedule of interviews as a service to the student. At registration each semester, every senior is informed of the recruitment schedule for that term and is invited to register with the Bureau. If any organization, government or private, wishes to interview students after the initial list is published, notices of this are sent to the chairmen of all departments. Employment interviews with any organization are completely voluntary and are never forced upon the student. If one disagrees with the aims of the CIA, he can simply decide not to be interviewed by them. The schedule of interviews is just a convenience to the student who is, seeking employment.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Smith,
Sophomore, English

A No Vote

Dear Editor:

I am a club representative to Park Avenue Student Council and I want to strongly object to a decision made by that body at the PASC meeting of Tuesday, December 13. Unfortunately, the meeting generated a great deal of heat and very little light. The resolution that was introduced by the Executive Board and passed by Council stated that, "Resolved: That the Park Avenue Student Self-Government Association adopt a policy of noninterference with the functioning of this Bureau, [Career Counseling and Placement], specifically with regard to the prospective visit of the C.I.A. recruiter on December 22, 1966."

Because the issue was obscured

by polemics, the arguments of those opposed to this resolution, including my own were not heard or objectively considered. I am opposed to the content of the resolution because I believe that the Counseling and Placement Bureau should not have the sole right to decide which organizations should be allowed to recruit on campus. The students of Hunter are vitally concerned with this service and should have a strong voice about its operation. It is for this reason that I voted against the resolution and raise this objection to what passed Council.

Marilyn Marcossou
Sophomore, Political Science

A PASC Critic

Dear Editor:

The most recent Student Council meeting, held December 13th, not only seemed to follow the trends of past meetings, but surpassed all previous meetings. To quote from Shakespeare, the meeting was "... full of sound and fury, but signifying nothing..." This past meeting turned into an emotional session in which members cultivated their hang-ups and took out their aggressions on the other members of the body. Unfortunately, name-calling was resorted to, during which people were called such things as "saboteurs." The representatives seemed to be acting in their own interests, disregarding totally the interests of the students they were supposedly representing. These voting members of Council had access to the agenda from the Friday before the meeting, but I doubt whether any of these "student representatives" went back to their constituents and consulted them about such issues as student

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representation on the Faculty Council, or the CIA's recruiting on campus.

I guess I was mistaken in having the notion that a student representative was not to impose his personality and opinions upon every phase of student government. I felt that the Council meeting just wasn't the place for it. Individuals, as well as the body as a whole, showed no courtesy to any of the speakers, and seemed to spend the major part of the evening debating whether or not they should debate. The meeting was completely successful only if one wanted to ignore issues completely and vote in a state of hysteria.

Certainly, I blame the individuals present, the executive board, and Student Council as a whole, but the students are also to blame. Student Council and its representatives should be working in your interest; if they are not, it is your responsibility as students to make your voices heard by your representatives.

Sincerely,
Lisa J. Moskowitz
Sophomore, History