

MINUTES—OHIO UNIVERSITY, Board of Trustees - May 29, 1970

These are the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Ohio University held at the Athletic Club in Columbus, Ohio, on May 29, 1970. Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with the following members present: Wayne Brown, Joseph Hall, Paul Stocker, Edwin Kennedy, Don Casto, and William Morris. In addition to the members of the Board of Trustees, also present were Eugene Rinta, President of the Alumni Association; President Claude R. Sowle, Provost Robert L. Savage, Vice President and Dean of Faculties Taylor Culbert, Vice President Richard C. Dorf, Vice President Martin L. Hecht, John F. Milar, Treasurer; William J. Holmes, Assistant to the President; Edward M. Penson, Associate Dean of Faculties; Wm. Charles Culp, Director of Administrative Services; and Paul R. O'Brien, Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

The Chairman announced that he would dispense with the regular order of business and asked President Sowle to review the events of the past few weeks which led to the closing of the University on May 15. President Sowle then distributed an outline of a proposed discussion of these events and called on Dr. Holmes to give, in chronological order, the events that led to the closing. Dr. Holmes gave a detailed account of these events which is attached to this copy of the minutes.

President Sowle reported that in his opinion the recent campus disruption was caused by 150 to 200 students and about 50 of this group were hard core radicals who wanted to destroy the University. In his opinion, this disruption was not "issue oriented," and the students had no plans for the future of the University after they had accomplished their goals.

The President also reported that there were some non-students present during this period, some of whom were leaders and some of whom were just here for the fun of it. There were many onlookers at these events and they caused many problems, as they were hard to distinguish from the active students attempting to disrupt the campus.

President Sowle reported that our security force was completely inadequate from the standpoint of size, to cope with the problems and that there was always present a danger to life and damage to the University. Although the total actual physical damage to the University property was approximately \$6,250, this period of disruption was not a good time for the learning process for the great majority of the students who were attempting to complete their course work. The President also reported that a great majority of the faculty, staff and students wanted to keep the University open. He felt that this experience has improved University-community relations, and the faculty and students have been drawn much closer. However, there is a serious problem that must be recognized for the future satisfactory operation of the University.

The President then asked for questions from the Trustees. Chairman Johnson reported he felt there was nothing else to do at the time except to close the University, as there was the ever present danger to life and damage to the University physical facilities. Mr. Brown inquired why we closed when the National Guard was called. President Sowle said that he felt that the danger was too much even with the Guard present, and that the Governor at this time would not commit the Guard to the University in order to keep it open. The Governor's commitment was to have the Guard help in closing the University and protect the property in the city. Mr. Stocker inquired if the 50 hard core radicals were known and, if so, could they be barred from the campus. The President replied that 7 of the leaders had been suspended and it was felt we do know 25 or 30 of the radical leaders. Mr. Brown inquired why our security force was not larger. It was reported that a request had been made at the time the budget was approved for more security people, but the limited funds available would not permit an increase in the security force.

The President felt that a mobile force of State Patrolmen should be made available for the various universities. This force could be well trained in riot control and would be available upon request of any of the state universities. It was his opinion that this mobile force would provide better protection and be less expensive than large increases in the security forces of each of the universities.

President Sowle then asked Taylor Culbert for a detailed report on academic matters incident to the closing of the University. This report is attached to these minutes.

President Sowle then outlined the reasons for the cancellation of Commencement this June. He reported that it would have been quite a logistical problem to handle approximately 15,000 visitors to Athens with the University closed. Also, and most important, was the security problem. He felt he could not assume the responsibility for this large group's security, particularly in the face of numerous telephone calls of bomb threats in the past several weeks. He also called the Board's attention to the psychological importance of cancelling Commencement with the University closed.

Dr. Savage then explained why the athletic teams still competed in the Mid-American Conference Spring Sports Meet which was held at Miami this spring.

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He reported that the members of the tennis and golf teams had been sent home and they would return to Oxford, Ohio to compete in the Mid-American Conference Meet. The track team had been invited to Ohio Wesleyan University to train at a minimal cost for room and board. Also, the baseball team had been training at a baseball training camp near Chillicothe at a minimal cost. Provost Savage also explained that all of these additional costs would be borne by private donations and the Green and White Club.

President Sowle then asked Provost Savage to outline our plans for a reduction on salary costs. Provost Savage explained that we have established a definite freeze on new hiring in the civil service area. He also pointed out that the dormitory group would be the group primarily affected by the shut down of the University. He reported that all student help was eliminated as of May 15, which will result in substantial savings. Many of our regular workers were shifted to other duties and they were encouraged to take voluntary layoffs without pay. Others were encouraged to take an early vacation so that they would be available when summer school starts. He further reported that no vacant contract position would be filled without specific approval of the Provost. He also reported that no offers had been tendered for 28 open faculty positions as of this date. President Sowle reported that the work force in other areas would be substantially reduced.

Mr. Milar was called upon for a report on the financial projections for the current fiscal year. He reported that the overtime costs during this last emergency would amount to about \$16,000. We also have \$50,000 in outstanding room and board bills not yet collected; however, his office is working on these bills and it is his opinion we will meet the financial projection for 1969-70.

The enrollment projection for 1970-71 is still hard to determine; however, all state schools in Ohio will be in the same position as Ohio University. Therefore, it is Mr. Milar's opinion that we will still meet our enrollment projections and if we do this, we will be in a satisfactory financial position for the 1970-71 fiscal year.

Vice President Dorf then reported that pre-enrollment for the fall will start on June 5 by mail and also the housing contracts will be distributed. Vice President Dorf then called the Board's attention to an inter-office from Jerry D. Reese, Director of Admissions, which indicated that his projections on the new entering freshmen class and transfer students for September, 1970, do not seem to be jeopardized by the closing of the University. He further reported that he had noticed no late rush of withdrawals of previously committed students due to the closing.

Vice President Dorf also called the Board's attention to a report submitted by Mr. Robert A. Hynes, Director of Housing, on housing contracts signed compared to previous years contracts on a comparable date. This report indicated the following conditions:

<u>Fall Contracts in as of May 25, 1970</u>		<u>Fall Contracts in as of May 26, 1969</u>	
Freshmen	3742	Freshmen	3504
Branch	181	Branch	170
Transfer	241	Transfer	160
Upperclass	3925	Upperclass	4397
Graduate	42	Graduate	5
Re-enrollment	15	Re-enrollment	20
Total	8146	Total	8256

Vice President Dorf explained that the decrease in upperclass housing contracts was caused by the closing of the University, as the month of May is when these reservations are ordinarily accepted and since the University closed the middle of May, it accounted for the decrease in upperclass housing contracts.

Mr. Stocker inquired if the present economic conditions would make any difference in next year's enrollment. It was explained that in the past when young men could not obtain jobs they, in some cases, entered the University. These additional students will ordinarily offset the drop in enrollment due to economic conditions.

President Sowle then reported on the status of the seven students suspended from the University by him. He reported that the President's Advisory Council is studying these cases and Dr. William A. Boram is preparing bills of particulars on each student.

Vice President Dorf was then called upon to explain the disciplinary procedures incident to students arrested during disturbances and persons under investigation by the Security Office. Vice President Dorf reported that as a result of the disruptive activity of May 13 and 14, there were approximately sixty (60) persons arrested by the Athens Police and the University Security Police. All of these people pleaded not guilty and hearings are set for the first two weeks of June.

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Several of the Trustees inquired what would happen to these people if they are found guilty by the local court. Vice President Dorf explained that after the cases are settled in the Municipal Court the University Disciplinary Committee will then hear these cases and the Disciplinary Committee will recommend appropriate action against these persons.

President Sowle reported that he had received many ideas from various faculty members, alumni, and students for developing a comprehensive plan for action in future crisis. The President reported that he was planning on establishing a representative group of thirty-five to forty persons that would be made up of Senior Officers, administrators, alumni, Athens businessmen, faculty members, students (both graduate and undergraduate), and Trustees to develop a comprehensive plan for meeting future crisis. He reported that this large group would be broken down into six sub-committees and these sub-committees would be assigned the following areas to study in depth: (1) student participation in University governance, (2) the present judiciary system at the University, (3) the present University security and control, (4) communication in a crisis situation, (5) student and faculty dissent at the University, and (6) the complete University structure.

He plans to have this group work intensely for seventy-two hours, and the present plans call for the sub-committees meeting during the day and their reports to the full committee in the evenings. These meetings will be held at the Ohio University Inn from June 8 until June 11. It is hoped that this group will come up with some good recommendations for handling any future crisis at the University.

Mr. Stocker inquired if any of the faculty members were active in encouraging the recent crisis. Taylor Culbert replied he feels that a very minor faction of the whole faculty participated in the disturbance.

Mr. Johnson then reported that he was upset about the Faculty Senate's action during the crisis and that if any faculty member is guilty of inciting a riot, he should receive appropriate punishment. Mr. Johnson further stated that he did want to commend the administration for their attempt in keeping the University open during the crisis.

The Chairman then called on Mr. Kennedy for a report of a meeting held the previous night between Mr. Kennedy and the administrative committee of the Faculty Senate. Mr. Kennedy reported that he had dinner with this group last evening and clearly expressed his dissatisfaction with the Faculty Senate's actions during the crisis. Mr. Kennedy reported that this committee felt that 90 per cent of the faculty were supporting the administration, but some officers of the Faculty Senate had made errors in judgment in some of the action taken by the Senate during this period.

It was the consensus of the members of the Board of Trustees present that the Faculty Senate should devote their time exclusively to academic matters in which they are well qualified to advise the administration and their advice should not be sought by the administration on other administrative matters.

President Sowle reported that his mail was running almost 99 to 1 in support of the action taken by the administration during this crisis and he felt certain that a great majority of the student body was not involved in any disruptive action.

It was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Brown, and unanimously carried that the procedures for developing a comprehensive plan for future emergencies as proposed by President Sowle be approved.

President Sowle reported on a meeting called by Governor Rhodes with the presidents of all the state universities. It was clear from this meeting that all the presidents had great concern over the present conditions at the various state universities, but there was no agreement on steps to be taken to correct these conditions.

The President also reported on a meeting he had with members of the General Assembly. He felt this was a good meeting and that Ohio University was well respected by members of the Assembly. The legislators indicated that a bill will probably be passed which would consider the University's security forces, the open admission policy, and a possibility of cutting off the University's subsidies in the event the University closed. Also, they would consider cutting off credit for courses not completed by the students in the event of the closure of the University.

President Sowle then presented the following names which were recommended by the Honorary Degree Committee to receive honorary degrees, and he recommended them to the Board of Trustees for their consideration.

It was moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously carried that the following honorary degrees be awarded to George W. Starcher, Doctor of Humane Letters; Joseph B. Hall, Doctor of Law; Warren Corning, Doctor of Humane Letters; Barton A. Holl, Doctor of Law; Martin W. Essex, Doctor of Law; and Paul M. Kendall, Doctor of Humane Letters.

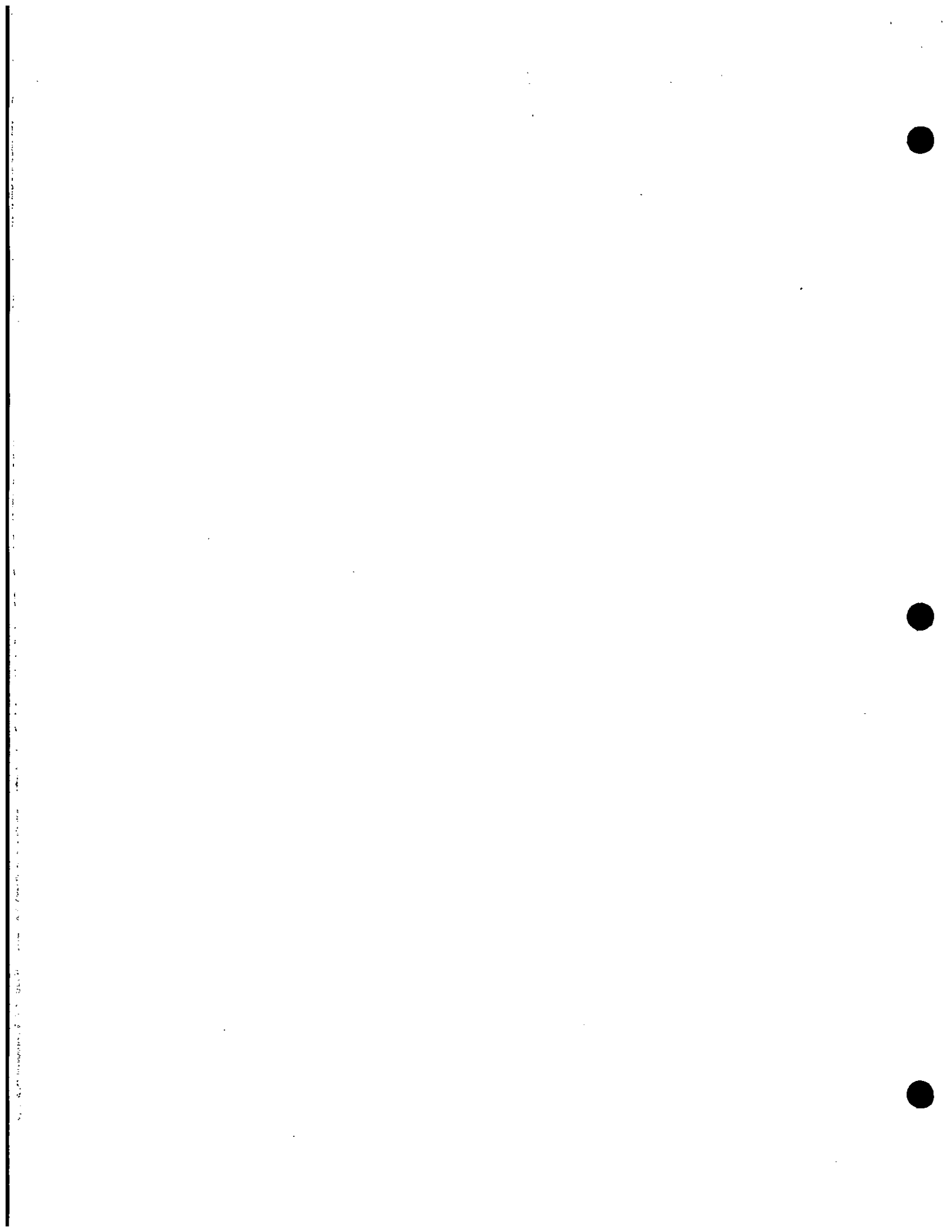
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It was decided that President Sowle be authorized to present these degrees at appropriate times during the year, due to the cancellation of graduation exercises this year.

Vice President Culbert was then asked to discuss the possibility of tuition refund to the students due to the closing of school. Vice President Culbert pointed out that since all of the students received credit for the courses for which they had registered, he recommended no tuition refunds be made. There was a discussion of this suggestion and it was the consensus of the Board that no tuition refunds should be made.

Mr. Milar was asked to explain the alternatives for refunds for room and board due to the closing of the school. Mr. Milar presented four alternatives as follows:

OHIO UNIVERSITY
RESIDENCE AND DINING HALL CURRENT AUXILIARY FUND
FOUR-WEEK ROOM AND BOARD REFUND-SPRING 1970
VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES

	<u>Amount Per Student</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>	<u>Refund Amount</u>
A. Refunds based on the Forfeiture Schedule printed in the Housing Contract			
Standard Room (single or double)	\$ 63	2,686	\$169,200
Non-Standard Room (triple)	43	5,188	223,100
Outside Boarders	65	109	7,100
Total Refund Amount		7,983	<u>\$399,400</u>
B. Refunds Based on Prorated Income Allocation (4/11 of the quarter)			
Standard Room (single or double)	\$130	2,686	\$349,200
Non-Standard Room (triple)	123	5,188	638,100
Outside Boarders	65	109	7,100
Total Refund Amount		7,983	<u>\$994,400</u>
C. Refunds Based on Estimated Cost Savings Resulting from the Close Down of Operations (See II)			
Standard Room (single or double)	\$ 33	2,686	\$ 88,600
Non-Standard Room (triple)	32	5,188	166,000
Outside Boarders	27	109	2,900
Total Refund Amount		7,983	<u>\$257,500</u>
D. No Refunds			-0-

Mr. Milar recommended Plan C or refunds based on estimated cost savings be adopted.

After further discussion, it was moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Hall and unanimously carried that the following resolution be adopted.

WHEREAS, Ohio University was forced to close its Dormitory and Dining Halls on May 15 as a result of riotous condition in order to protect the students living and eating therein; and

WHEREAS, certain variable cost savings can be attributed to the close down; and

WHEREAS, the University Dormitory and Dining Hall System should not profit as a result of the close down;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to refund the costs thus saved based on a detailed cost analysis using recognized accounting principles; said refunds to be made in appropriate amounts to each former resident and boarder.

Mr. Johnson then reported that many insurance companies were not interested in carrying the fire insurance on our dormitories since the student disruption. It is his opinion that we will be able to get coverage; however, the rates will be substantially increased in the future.

A discussion followed relative to the security of the President and his family since their residence is located on the campus. It was pointed out that the present residence of the President could be used for badly needed office space and that an attempt

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should be made to locate another suitable residence for the President's home away from campus.

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It was moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Hall and unanimously carried that the Board Administration Committee in cooperation with the administration of Ohio University be authorized to locate and acquire another more suitable residence for the President of Ohio University.

There was a discussion of the use for the East State Street Airport property after our aviation program has been moved to the Albany Airport. It was reported that the administrative officers have no plans at present for the use of this area for educational purposes. After a further discussion, it was moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Stocker and unanimously carried that the following resolution be adopted.

WHEREAS, Ohio University will no longer need the East State Street Airport after our aviation activities are moved to the Albany Airport, and

WHEREAS, the present University master plan does not include another educational use for this area, and

WHEREAS, it is possible under R.C. Section 123.77 for the Trustees to ask the Department of Public Works to lease surplus University property for a period of forty (40) years with the privilege of renewal and for the proceeds of the lease to be added to the appropriation of Ohio University,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustees have determined the East State Street Airport property will not be required after our aviation program is moved to the Albany Airport for the use of the University, nor will it be required for the future use of the University, and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the administrative officers of Ohio University are authorized to advertise for proposals for the development of this property and bring any proposals for the lease of the property back to the Board for their consideration.

There was a discussion of the problems faced during the past few weeks and it was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Brown, and unanimously carried that the President and administration of Ohio University be commended for their efforts in attempting to keep the University open and that they are assured of the full support of the Board of Trustees in their efforts.

There was a discussion of a date for the next meeting of the Board of Trustees and after checking with all members present, it was determined to hold the next meeting on June 29, 1970 at the Athletic Club in Columbus, Ohio.

The Chairman then called the roll for comments. Mr. Eugene Rinta, the representative of the Alumni Association, expressed his appreciation for being permitted to attend Board of Trustees meetings for the last two years and reported he had learned much of the problems of the University during this period and since his term as President of the Alumni Association was expiring at the end of June, this would be the last meeting he would be attending in this capacity. He thanked the Board for their fine cooperation with the Alumni Association during this period.

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Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Hall, and unanimously carried that the Chairman of the Board be commended for the fine service he has given the Board during the past year, which has been a trying year and probably the most trying year in the one-hundred sixty-six year history of the University.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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A Chronology of the Student Disturbance at Ohio University

- Thursday
January 29 Following a demonstration by students at Haning Hall protesting fee increases for 1970-71, approximately 75 students entered Cutler Hall and demanded that President Sowle appear in the corridor to discuss the increases which had been approved January 12. President Sowle, feeling the atmosphere precluded rational discussion, asked through Vice President Dorf that five representatives of the group meet with him the following morning to discuss the reasons for the increase.
- Friday
January 30 No representatives arrived for the meeting with President Sowle. Instead, a crowd of 300 gathered in front of Cutler Hall, chanted for the President and, when he did not appear, became disruptive. Windows in the building were broken and entrances blocked during a four hour siege which ended only after Highway Patrolmen had been called to the campus, 46 students had been arrested for failing to disperse, and an injunction obtained to insure campus order.

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Saturday
January 31 Governor Rhodes commended President Sowle for acting promptly against civil disorder.

Bomb threats for university buildings continued from the weekend including one during a WOUB radio broadcast by President Sowle. Statements of support from the University's academic deans and student presidents of residence halls commended the President for his efforts to promote discussion of student grievances rather than having student dissidents resort to force.

Thursday
April 16 After several days of small anti-ROTC demonstrations, and a threatened burning of a pig, a statement was issued by Provost Robert Savage stating that "The question of the status of ROTC on the campus is being discussed within open channels of due process." He announced a Curriculum Council subcommittee report on ROTC would be discussed at an open council meeting April 29 and called for "reasoned discourse," "rational discussion" and "peaceful expression of individual opinion."

Friday
April 17 Over 400 students gathered on the College Green for an anti-ROTC demonstration. Approximately 100 students then attended a University Board of Trustees meeting and were allowed to speak on a number of issues including ROTC.

Tuesday
April 21 Several students met with Colonel William Bohn to set ground rules for visiting ROTC classes. These were agreed to by all parties.

Wednesday
April 22 Associate Dean of Faculties, Dr. Edward Penson, was called by Colonel Bohn and informed of the guidelines for classroom visitation agreed to on Monday and Tuesday (April 20 and 21). Colonel Bohn also reported that a number of rumors persisted which suggested that the guidelines would be ignored. Dean Penson then visited Colonel Bohn's office and upon leaving the building, noticed eight girls "marching" into Carnegie. He returned to the building and attempted to dissuade the girls from entering the class of Major Stanley White. He informed them of the fact that classroom disruption could not be tolerated. They entered the room despite the efforts of Dr. Penson and Major White to persuade them to leave. Eight women students then disrupted the Army ROTC class in violation of the agreed upon ground rules. When they did not leave upon request of the instructor, Dr. Penson called the Security Office for assistance. The women students and a male on-looker, who joined an ensuing corridor fracas, were arrested for trespassing and resisting an officer.

Thursday
April 23 A student group meeting on the College Green and in Copeland Hall to discuss the ROTC issue and the arrest of the so-called "Athens Nine," -- those students arrested as a result of disrupting the ROTC class -- culminated with 50 students breaking into a regular meeting of the President's Advisory Council in Cutler Hall. After an extended discussion, President Sowle agreed to attend a noon meeting the following day on ROTC in Memorial Auditorium.

Friday
April 24 A two-hour mass meeting attended by more than 2,000 people was held in Memorial Auditorium to discuss whether ROTC should remain on campus and whether the University should drop charges against the nine students arrested two days earlier. Students expressing varying points of view took turns addressing the meeting. During the meeting, the dissident students, realizing that they were not winning adherents, marched out.

Thursday
April 30 President Nixon announced that "several thousand American ground combat troops had entered Cambodia."

A banquet for the Green and White Club, a sports-support group, was briefly interrupted by a small group of students. Later water balloons were thrown at police cars followed by a trash fire in the middle of Union Street in front of Baker Center. Students were arrested.

Monday
May 4 A noon demonstration on the College Green protesting U.S. entry in Cambodia swelled after the news that four students had been killed by National Guardsmen during a Kent State University demonstration. Kent State was closed immediately. A statement released by President Sowle called for "reasoned discussion" and "persuasive appeals to national leaders" regarding the Cambodian crisis. He also appealed to the University community "to spare no effort in assuring that Ohio University shall not be subjected to the unbelievable and sickening violence and destruction that have recently brought Ohio State and Kent State universities to the edge of chaos." An evening demonstration on the College Green drew over 2,000 students. Students supporting a "peaceful strike" were urged to wear red arm bands the following day. The issue was non-violent attention.

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MINUTES—OHIO UNIVERSITY, Board of Trustees - May 29, 1970

- Tuesday
May 5** Several classroom and administrative buildings were picketed by students asking for support of a student strike. An afternoon meeting of students on the College Green was peaceful and at 2:15 President Sowle addressed the crowd, answered questions and received support for his plea of non-violence. A 9 p.m. rally in Grover Center attracted over 3,000 students to hear President Sowle speak and answer questions. He said, "I applaud you for the means you select to protest. I am in deep sympathy with the problems." He repeated his afternoon stand that he would not close Ohio University for the strike saying, "We will protect the freedom of those who want to go to class."
- Wednesday
May 6** Governor James A. Rhodes recommended that all state universities in Ohio experiencing unrest be shut down immediately. University officials were told privately they would not be helped by the National Guard or Highway Patrol. A group of about 35 students walked through downtown Athens businesses demanding that they close in support of the strike. A 4 p.m. peaceful "March Against Death" by 2,500 people moved from the campus through the business district and back to the campus. An evening rally attracted about 2,500 but a majority of the crowd votes not to strike. President Sowle issued a statement to the University community stating:
- "In these difficult days, it is easy to bow to threats of violence and to close down a University. It is much more difficult, and yet much more meaningful, to stay open, to show restraint, and to express without violence and destruction, our deep distress and concern over recent events.
- "Notwithstanding the great tensions that grip all of us tonight... Ohio University is prepared to demonstrate that there is at least one university in this country that can discharge its responsibilities and, at the same time peaceably attempt to influence the course of events in this country. I ask that all members of the University community work with me tonight to keep this University open." Ohio State University closed following disorders and violence which brought National Guard troops to the Columbus campus. Akron University dismissed classes for the rest of the week.
- Thursday
May 7** At 4 a.m., two fire bombs were thrown through the windows of the ROTC Supply Room located in Peden Stadium. The resulting fire destroyed uniforms and damaged the building to the extent of \$4,000. President Sowle again stated that while he deplored this act of violence, he remained firm in his resolve that "Ohio University must remain open."
- Miami University closed in response to student disruption. President Sowle was told by Chancellor Millett, speaking for the Governor, that the National Guard and Highway Patrol were not available to assist Ohio University to remain open. A Student Committee of Issues and Actions emerged to try to coordinate College Green activities including small discussion groups, a Rumor Control Center and groups circulating petitions addressed to national leaders. Green meetings placed constant emphasis on non-violence. Provost Savage called to confirm the statement about the non-availability of the Guard.
- Twice in the afternoon, groups of students marched into the downtown area and harrassed merchants. Nearly 30 stores were closed after several were occupied. Calls went out to students and faculty for volunteers to patrol the campus on foot. A large evening rally on the College Green remained peaceful, although tense. Shortly after 9 p.m., approximately 400 students blocked the intersection of Court and Union for 45 minutes. A call was made to the Highway Patrol for assistance. This aid was refused. Traffic was diverted by police from Athens, Belpre, and Logan, Ohio. Police wore riot helmets and carried night sticks. Student and faculty marshals helped to keep the crowd peaceful and the crowd dispersed at about 1 a.m.
- Friday
May 8** President Sowle issued a morning statement which said: "Events of the last few days have reinforced my belief that it is possible to keep Ohio University open. My continuing faith is based in large part upon the magnificent response of our students, faculty and staff."
- The nine students previously arrested for the ROTC sit-in appeared for hearing and requested jury trial.
- President Sowle flew to Washington to appear on Howard K. Smith's discussion panel on AIC regarding President Nixon's press conference on Cambodia. Despite one meeting until 3:00 a.m., the night on campus was generally quiet. A small group met President Sowle upon his return with a request that he meet the next morning with a representative regarding the use of facilities. The University of Cincinnati closed in response to student disruption.

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- May 8 contd Throughout the week, the Post supported editorially the efforts to keep the University open and urged non-violence.
- Saturday May 9 A mass peace rally was held in Washington, D.C. In Athens, the campus was quiet on Saturday and Sunday.
- Monday May 11 Approximately 2,500 students gathered in Grover Center to hear speeches by John Froines (Chicago Conspiracy Eight), Richard Taube (Yippie) and Benson Wolman (ACLU). Following the talks, a crowd of 100 broke into Chubb Library, then unoccupied awaiting renovation. Those in Chubb claimed the building for a Free University despite warnings that they were in defiance of University regulations.
- Tuesday May 12 At 1:30 a.m. a fire was set in Nelson Cafeteria followed by a 1:45 a.m. alarm in a dormitory. Both buildings were uncompleted structures on the South Green. Damage for the cafeteria was set at \$120,000 and at \$2,000 for the dormitory. The buildings were not yet University property but still belong to the contractor.

During the early morning hours, students remained in Chubb Library despite repeated requests by administrators and faculty for the occupying students to leave. During the night the Administrative Committee of the Faculty Senate and the president of the AAUP met with President Sowle. It was decided that the students should be removed. A request made to the Highway Patrol for aid was refused. At 6 a.m. the remaining students in Chubb left upon threat of arrest if they did not.

Facilities were made available for a "Free University" in Baker Center. No educational planning came from it.

A morning statement by President Sowle reported the night's events and said: "This University's continued existence depends upon the determination of the total University community. It will take the active participation of the overwhelming majority of the students, faculty and staff to keep this University open in the face of a tiny minority bent on disruption and destruction."

Throughout the day bomb threats, false alarm reports and fires were reported. A request from the provost's office for student marshalls brought several hundred volunteers.

In the late afternoon, the following announcement was released from the Office of the President; "In light of conditions currently existing on the Ohio University campus, the institution's Board of Trustees today adopted a resolution reaffirming the inherent authority of the President of the University:

"1. To declare and enforce a campus curfew should he conclude that conditions existing on the campus necessitate such action.

"2. To suspend or expel a student, and ban him from the campus, whenever, after a thorough review of the facts, the President concludes that the continued presence of the student on the campus constitutes a clear and immediate danger to the orderly functioning of the University community. Any student thus suspended or expelled shall be afforded an opportunity, subsequently, to appeal for reenrollment."

A few hours later, President Sowle announced the immediate suspension of seven students, two of whom were not currently enrolled but were living near campus. The suspension notice stated: "This action, in my opinion, is a significant step toward the achievement of "keeping the University open." An evening meeting of 75 students in "The Free University" in Baker Center produced a list of demands which were delivered to President Sowle's house. The demands dealt primarily with dropping actions contemplated or already taken against students for participation in disruptions. The groups demanded compliance within 24 hours. This issue became submerged in later events.

- Wednesday May 13 A day of tension centered primarily on the previous day's suspension of seven students. In the late afternoon, the Faculty Senate met and recommended an appeal procedure for the suspended students and, by amendment to that procedure, that the suspension be lifted. President Sowle, on a radio program, agreed with the procedure but refused to lift the suspensions. The students and faculty in the President's Advisory Committee were designated as a hearing body for appeals for reenrollment.

The Faculty Senate recommended the pass-fail option and withdrawal. The English Department recommended that the University close. At 7:30 p.m., 300 students met at Baker Center and marched through all the greens urging others to join them. Few did. The group, unruly, moved to Cutler Hall to protest the suspensions. President Sowle appeared around 11 p.m. to try to talk with the group but was shouted down. Around midnight, bricks were thrown through windows of Cutler Hall.

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MINUTES—OHIO UNIVERSITY, Board of Trustees - May 29, 1970

Thursday
May 14

Beginning around 12:30 a. m. the crowd in front of Cutler Hall moved toward the Court and Union intersection where pieces of bricks were thrown at Athens policemen and through windows of Logan's Bookstore. City policemen, assisted by police from Logan and Belpre, sealed off the downtown Athens district and moved the crowd back onto the campus with tear gas and pepper fog. The crowd smashed windows in several buildings on and around the College Green. Throughout the early morning the police used tear gas to break up groups. One group of 75 to 100 dissidents gathered at the foot of Jefferson Hill. Security forces did not exist in sufficient numbers to contain and arrest them. By 4:45 a. m. this group had dispersed and by 5:30 a. m. the campus was clear.

The senior administrators, the administrative committee of the Faculty Senate and AAUP representatives met throughout the night. A statement was issued to the Post at 6 a. m. which said, "(This group) has been meeting in continuous session in an attempt to assess the state of the University on the basis of reports we have been receiving. As a result of these reports and on the basis of our confidence that the educational process is going on in the classroom, we feel the University should remain open."

Two statements of support for President Sowle and his efforts to keep the school open were issued, one from the Faculty Senate, another a general faculty list of signatures. Classes continued as usual during Thursday and small groups of students met on the College Green.

At 9:30 p. m. a crowd gathered in front of Baker Center and around 10 p. m. moved to the Court and Union intersection and were joined by more students. Store windows were broken about 10:30 p. m. prompting the use of tear gas by police. For the next three hours the crowd, estimated at from 350 to 800, swarmed over the College Green breaking windows in many of the buildings. Tear gas canisters thrown by the police were volleyed back by the students as well as bricks and bottles. A force of approximately 300 student and faculty marshals wearing identifiable armbands guarded buildings and attempted to control the crowd. One University car was burned. Local police were aided by their auxiliary force and officers from Logan and Belpre. Howard Hall and Baker Center were evacuated because of tear gas. Some parking meters were broken off and small fires were set.

During the evening 26 students were treated at the Health Center for non-serious but demonstration-associated problems. A total of 54 people, a majority of them students, were arrested on charges stemming from the Wednesday and Thursday night disturbances.

The third of three calls to the Highway Patrol asking for assistance was made. Aid was refused.

Friday
May 15

President Sowle met with senior administrators, administrative committee of the Faculty Senate, and AAUP representatives throughout the night and early morning. After midnight President Sowle and Athens Mayor Raymond Shepard jointly requested that the Ohio National Guard be called to protect the city of Athens to help close Ohio University. To keep Ohio University open with the Guard in the city of Athens seemed impossible in light of the Kent State tragedy. The Guard which was available to Ohio University once it was closed was scheduled to arrive by 6 a. m. A statement from President Sowle and Mayor Shepard said: "This action was taken as a result of the events which occurred during the past several days, climaxing last night in personal injury and substantial property damage. The request for the Guard was made after city and university law enforcement resources had been exhausted by several nights of constant disruption." By 3 a. m., plans for the immediate closing of the University were complete. President Sowle announced that Ohio University was closed effective immediately until the summer session. Students were directed to leave campus and to clear their rooms of all belongings.

In his announcement closing Ohio University, President Sowle said: "It is sad indeed that this inspiring period in the history of Ohio University must end in such an unfortunate way. The result, however, in no way detracts from the magnificent efforts of the great majority of our faculty, students, and staff to keep the University open. We tried, but we failed."

Report of Taylor Culbert, Vice President and Dean of Faculties

I. Completion of courses, credits, and grades. The main academic problem incident to implementing closure of the University was the development of suitable policy for completion of course work, grading, and credit policy for the Spring Quarter. The Faculty Senate, at its meeting of May 16, 1970, recommended a policy under which an undergraduate student had the option of completing his course work by special arrangement with his instructor and seeking a letter grade upon completion of the regular work for the quarter. Since the student could not be on campus, faculty members arranged special assignments which could be completed off-campus for those students electing this option. Particularly where subsequent courses depended upon completion of this quarter's

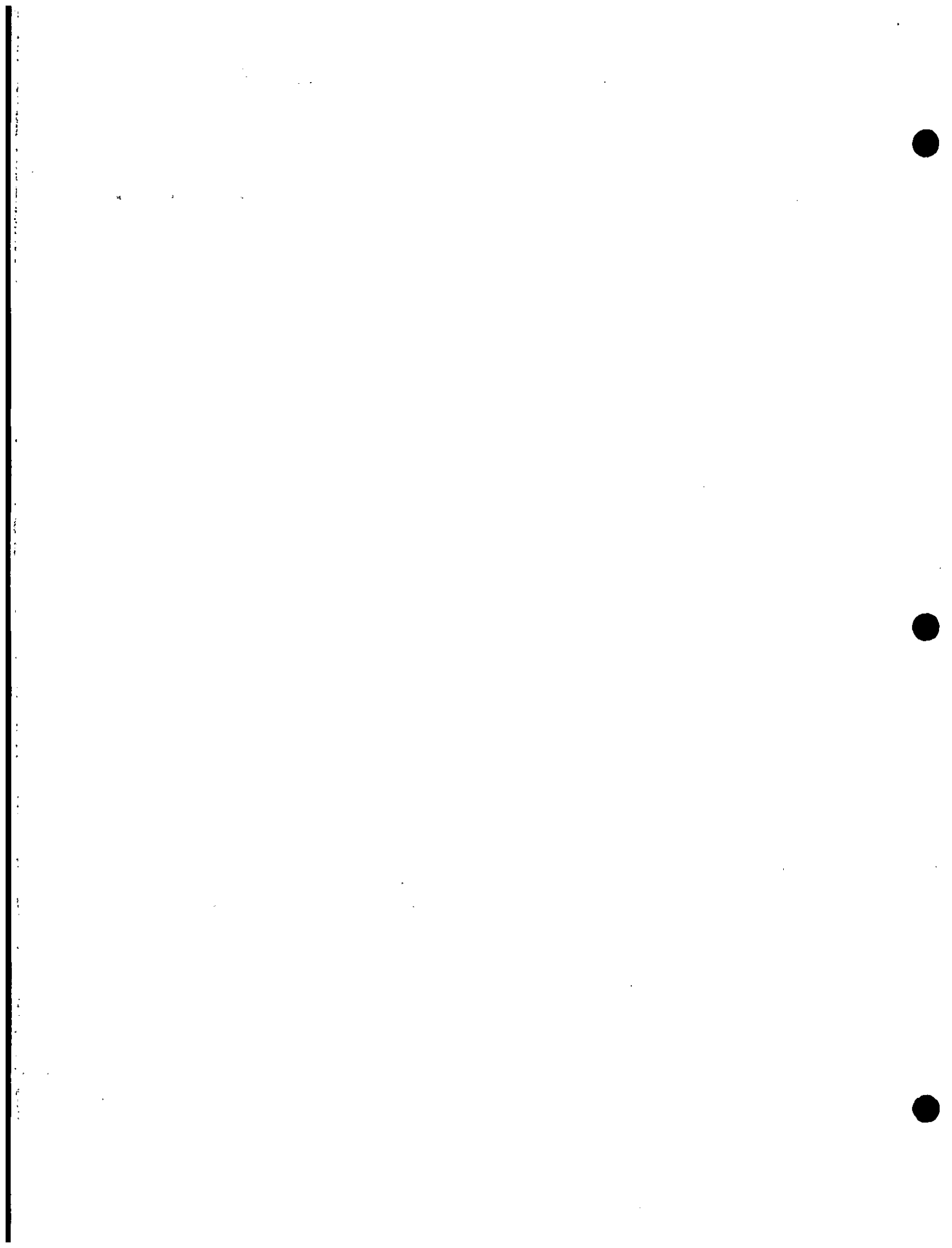
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work, students were advised by mail to elect this option, so that they would have mastery of this material before undertaking other courses in a sequence of courses. The other option available to an undergraduate student was to receive a grade of "CR", meaning "credit" for the course, based upon the work that he had completed before the closing of the University.

Graduate students were required to complete the quarter's work through special arrangement with their professors; no "CR" option was available for graduate students. As it turned out, graduate students were able to return, within a few days, to the campus. In practically all cases, the graduate program is proceeding in a more or less normal way.

These options were sent by mail to every student, graduate and undergraduate, in a letter, dated May 18, 1970 (exhibit A, attached), along with other suggestions for the implementation of this procedure.

The prevailing philosophy behind the Senate's recommendation, with regard to grading, credit, and completion of course work, was the following: No student should be unfairly penalized for the closing. The Senate's plan permits a student who was forced by the events prior to the closing to fall behind in his course work to receive credit without penalty merely by electing the "CR" option. This plan also permits a student who was doing badly in a course to receive a grade of "CR," which perhaps he does not deserve. This evil was judged to be an acceptable price to pay for the certainty that no student would be unjustly penalized. Any other system would run the grave risk of subjecting students to grade penalty, which they did not deserve; the Senate felt that there was some danger of a penalizing backlash that would end up using grades as punishment. The Senate hoped by its plan to avoid this very disastrous effect.

On May 20, 1970, the administrative committee of the Faculty Senate sent out another document (exhibit B, attached), explaining its rationale and adding some interpretive comments pertaining to the policy described above. This explanatory document was sent only to members of the faculty and sought, through further explanation, to get a uniform application of the plan for grades and credit.

II. Operations at branch campuses went on without change, since the closing applied only to the main campus.

III. Initially, both graduate students and undergraduate students were barred from the campus for security reasons. Four or five hundred of the graduate students, however, were on a service contract calling for some kind of teaching responsibilities. All such graduate students were really part of the teaching staff and, therefore, were required to be on campus in order to implement the plan stated above concerning completion of course work by undergraduates. This meant that the ban from the campus applied to only part of the graduate student body. Within a few days, it was clear that many of the graduate students who had been banned from the campus were still in town and making special arrangements to complete their quarter's work. It was determined that since a substantial number of graduate students were required to be on the campus, and since others were still in town though not on campus, graduate students as a group presented a tolerable security risk and they all should be allowed back on the campus. The graduate students in number are relatively few, and this alone reduces the security problem. Secondly, they are well-known to their faculty, since graduate instruction makes possible close working relationships between faculty and graduate students. Thirdly, it was believed their commitment to education was of a more professional nature than that of an undergraduate and that, therefore, their stake in keeping the University open was as great as that of the staff or the faculty. On these grounds, the decision to permit all graduate students to be issued passes allowing them on the campus was made.

IV. Community service and other projects. Other special groups were, after careful consideration of the risks involved, permitted to resume operations on the campus.

Various conferences and special workshops, bringing people to the campus sometimes for a day, sometimes for longer periods, were permitted to proceed as scheduled.

The Library was opened on a reduced schedule, the reduction arising in part from the fact that most of the Library services were manned by part-time undergraduate student help which was not available. The Library offers those services that it can with its professional full-time staff.

Our sheltered workshop for retarded children resumed operation within a day or so of the closing of the University. Its clients are non-students and its staff professional people.

The children in the Putnam Elementary School, grades 1 through 6, were permitted back on the campus. They seemed to pose a minimal security risk, since most of them could not even lift a brick. Besides, the irate wives (mothers) would doubtless have caused us more trouble than a hundred toddlers.

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Our speech and hearing clinic resumed operations. This clinic operates with professional staff and serves people with speech and hearing problems in the south-eastern Ohio area. Undergraduate clients of the clinic were not permitted to use its services.

The hundreds of undergraduate students who were engaged in practice teaching in schools throughout Ohio were permitted to continue in a perfectly normal manner, since they posed no security threat to the main campus; the great bulk of them were in Cleveland. Those six undergraduates doing their student teaching at the Putnam School were not permitted to continue, but other arrangements were made for them so that they will receive credit for their practice teaching.

The flight training program was moved to an airport outside of Athens, so that those students engaged in the actual driving of airplanes could continue on this special basis to complete that aspect of their work.

V. With regard to tuition refunds, no tuition refunds are contemplated or justified, because every student has the option of completing all of his courses, graduate students by actually being on campus where classes and other academic work can proceed in a normal manner, and undergraduates, because every single student can complete, through special arrangements, his work for the quarter and receive a regular letter grade upon completion of it. If a student opts for the "CR" option, it is his choice not to complete the work which is available, and this is akin to his electing in a normal quarter to cut a few classes. The faculty is on duty and is available to arrange, through various mechanisms, for the completion of course work. Under the circumstances, there is no basis for refund of tuition.

Exhibit A

May 18, 1970

Dear Student:

Since Ohio University has, unfortunately, found it necessary to close normal campus operations prematurely, certain extraordinary measures have been adopted to insure that all students have orderly procedures for the completion of the Spring Quarter 1970. Accordingly, the following policies have been adopted for the current quarter only:

A. Until further notice, all students, graduate and undergraduate, are barred from the campus, except those on a presidential contract or a Graduate College contract that carries a stipend for service to the University. Such contract persons are entitled to be on campus only for performance of the services for which they are being paid.

B. On May 16, 1970, the Faculty Senate recommended, and the President has since approved, the following policy for grading:

"For the Spring Quarter, of 1970, all students will be able to complete their course work under one of the following options:

(1) An undergraduate student may contact his instructor to arrange for a regular letter grade as based upon additional work and/or work already completed during the Spring Quarter. The student wishing this alternative must make the initial contact with his professor before June 5, 1970. The student must complete all work by September 30, 1970.

(2) As an alternative, undergraduate students may receive credit (Cr) for each course taken in the Spring Quarter 1970. The grade of "Cr" adds credit hours toward graduation, but is not included in the calculation of grade point averages.

(3) Graduate students will complete the quarter by special arrangement with their professors. Grades for graduate students will be handled under regular procedures.

Options approved May 13, 1970, are superseded by the rules of May 16, 1970.

Note: The provisions adopted above do not establish a precedent for future arrangements in situations of a like nature."

If you intend to elect option (1) above for one or more of your courses and work for a letter grade, you must write your instructor, or contact him in some way other than a visit to the campus, before June 5, 1970. You may address mail to your instructor in care of his department (for example: Professor John Doe, Department of English, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, 45701). If for some reason you are uncertain of his name or department, you may direct your correspondence to:

John O'Neal, Dean of Admissions, Registration and Student Records
Ohio University
Ewing Hall
Athens, Ohio 45701

For each course where you do not elect option (1) above, you will automatically receive a grade of Cr. In other words, if you do not get in touch with your instructor



before June 5, 1970, option (2) above will apply.

Since graduate students must complete their work for the Spring Quarter 1970 by special arrangements with their professors, and since option (2) above does not apply to graduate students, each graduate student must get in touch with his professors either by mail or by telephone as soon as possible to institute a plan for the completion of his work.

The last paragraph in the Faculty Senate recommendations above refers to options approved on May 13, 1970. Those options concerned special pass-fail arrangements and the special use of withdraw (W). Those options will not now be available to anyone.

Information about graduation ceremonies and registration for the Fall Quarter will be sent to you soon.

Taylor Culbert
Vice President and Dean of Faculties

Exhibit B

Members of the Faculty May 20, 1970

Administrative Committee of the Faculty Senate

Subject: Rationale Behind the Grading Procedures Recommended by the Faculty Senate on May 16, 1970

In formulating the grading options for students for the aborted third quarter, the Faculty Senate gave careful consideration to various alternatives. The Senate had met during the previous week and began to discuss grading alternatives. On May 16th, it was felt that it was imperative that we act promptly to inform students how credits and grading would be determined.

The primary aim of the grading system is to provide a just method of grading for the majority of students, particularly those who seriously made efforts to keep the University open and, at the same time, continued to pursue their studies and academic responsibilities. A large majority of the students fall into this category. Moreover, closing the University has made it impossible for a student to complete his work in any normal way. Therefore, the student should not be penalized for a phenomenon that was essentially beyond his control.

The major disadvantage of the system is that some students (predicted to be at most 5 to 10%) will receive "CR" in one or more courses in which the student would have failed even under the best of circumstances. We admit this and, while some faculty members may feel this is improper or unacceptable, we hope that because of the events of the past weeks most faculty will understand the reasons for our decision. There will also be those whose standing in class was low at the time of University closure, but for whom it would be very difficult to assess the reasons (i.e., strike, workshops, serving as marshals, etc.) for low standing. These students are given the benefit of doubt by the grading system. Some adjustment was clearly in order for the majority of students whose lives and academic progress were disrupted.

A major advantage of the system is that the professor can and should provide counsel to a student on his option. For example, if a student is in good standing and would have received a grade of A, B, or C, the professor would be able to encourage the student to take a letter grade instead of a "CR."

A disadvantage to the student electing a "CR" is that he will not receive potential grade point increases, and, more significantly, may find himself poorly prepared to advance to a higher level course in a given discipline. It is expected that faculty members would advise students that repeating or retaking certain courses, or making up certain work, would be advisable.

INTERPRETATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The following refer to the options in the letter to students of May 18, 1970:

Option (1): The instructor sets the requirements that the student who selects this option must meet in order to earn a letter grade. A student who selects this option but fails to fulfill satisfactorily the requirements provided by his instructor may receive a failing grade.

Option (2):

(A) If a student has not been attending regularly and there is no valid basis for determining a grade, the instructor may leave the grade sheet blank. The student would then receive an "NR" on his grade report.

(B) If a student is not in your class, but his name appears on the faculty grade sheet, simply draw a pencil mark through his social security number.

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(C) If the student has opted to receive a grade and will not have the work completed by the deadline for handing in the faculty grade sheets (June 15), the appropriate grade would appear to be a "PR" (pending).

Option (3): Since "CR" has been acceptable under regular procedures for graduate students, the professor still has the prerogative to award a "CR" in a graduate course wherever it has been appropriate in the past.

In the event of a dispute, the student may appeal to the Student Grievance Board.

Stanley Grean, Chairman
Norman Cohn, Vice Chairman
Ted J. Foster, Secretary
John Jewett


Fred H. Johnson, Chairman


Paul R. O'Brien, Secretary