

U-M won't aid draft resisters

University of Michigan Regents have rejected, 8-2, a resolution that the university replace federal financial aid for protesters against the Solomon Amendment, a law which requires students receiving federal aid to certify that they have either registered for Selective Service or are ineligible.

Favoring such a policy were regents Gerald R. Dunn and James L. Walters. Against were regents Deane Baker, Paul W. Brown, Robert E. Nelder, Sarah Goddard Power, Thomas A. Roach and Nellie M. Varner.

The Solomon Amendment is being enforced under a U.S. Supreme Court stay on a ruling by a Federal District Court in Minnesota that the law is unconstitutional.

U-M President Harold T. Shapiro told the regents that the university should "stop absolutely short of replacing federal aid for students who do not comply with the law."

Since the university has a fixed amount of institutional funds, replacing federal aid would, in effect, take funds away from other students, Shapiro said.

Shapiro nevertheless believes that the law inappropriately places universities in the role of policemen and is therefore different from other federal policies "with which we disagree but continue to meet."

Following defeat of the motion, the regents agreed to consider at their January meeting whether to join a Friend-of-the-Court brief in behalf of the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union's legal challenge to the law. U-M would join several other universities, including the University of Minnesota, which have signed on the brief.

THE U-M Office of Financial Aid has collected about 14,000 Solomon Amendment compliance statements from students on the Ann Arbor campus while five have refused to sign, according to Harvey Grotrian, director of the Office of Financial Aid.

The Office of Financial Aid is providing counseling and referral services to students who refuse federal aid for reasons of conscience.

Oakland home to Focus:Hope

Focus:Hope, a metropolitan Detroit civil and human rights organization, has extended its food and prescription program into Oakland County by opening a center at 150 Osburn, Pontiac.

An estimated 35,000 low income mothers and children in Oakland qualify for the free food the program provides.

Congress recently appropriated additional funds to expand the food prescription program at the urging of local community organizations, churches, with help from area congressmen and U.S. senators.

Mothers are eligible for benefits while they are pregnant and for one year after giving birth. Children are eligible until their sixth birthday. Family income must meet federal guidelines based on unemployment, low wage earnings, or eligibility for public assistance programs such as AFDC, Medicaid and Food Stamps.

U.S. Department of Agriculture commodities — including meat, fruit, vegetables, instant milk, cheese, cereal, instant potatoes and instant formula — are given out.

For the past 12 years, Focus:Hope has been providing government commodity food supplements to mothers and preschool children in Wayne County.

Recently the elderly poor in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties have received help from the Food for Seniors program, a national pilot program that provides food for 4,500 elderly.

College aid is still available

Observing Gov. James Blanchard's declaration of January as "Financial Aid Month," the Michigan Student Financial Association has planned a month-long series of presentations on aid available to college students.

The sessions will provide the latest information on financial aid and the application process at various types of colleges and universities.

The sessions are planned to reach a large audience including high school students and parents as well as the non-traditional older or returning students in the area.

THE SCHEDULE:

• Dearborn — 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, Henry Ford Community College, 5105 Evergreen, Dearborn. The session will be held in the U. Grant McKenzie Fine Arts Building. Presenters will be Glenn O'Kray and Judy Layer.

• Western Oakland County — 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, Oakland Community College's Highland Lakes Campus, 7350 Cooley Lake Road, Union Lake. Making the presentation in the lower level of the Student Center will be Spencer Johnson.

• Southeast Oakland — 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24, OCC's Royal Oak Campus, 739 S. Washington. Making the presentation in the auditorium will be Jo Bastin and Phyllis Robinson.

• Livonia — 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, Madonna College, 36600 Schoolcraft. Making the presentation in the Activity Center (gym) will be Chris Ziegler and Robert Collier.

• Farmington Hills — 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, OCC's Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Rd. Making the presentation in 306 J Building will be Diane Chambers.

WSU chief eyes general ed reforms

Wayne State University President David Adamany told the university's board of governors he will create a commission to make recommendations on reforming the general education program of Michigan's third largest state university.

The 17-member Commission on General Education will examine the requirements students must meet outside of their majors in order to obtain a baccalaureate degree at WSU.

Chaired by Law School Dean John Roberts, the commission membership includes the deans of three other colleges — Social

Work, Nursing and Liberal Arts — as well as 10 faculty, two students and the university's associate provost, E. Burrows Smith.

THE COMMISSION was asked to file its report by October 1984, so that the new academic policies can be considered by the board of governors and implemented by the fall term of 1985.

Adamany said the basic skills attained by a WSU baccalaureate degree-holder should be extended beyond the current requirements in basic English writing and mathematics proficiency.

Adamany suggests adding programs to assure basic skills in five more areas:

- Library use.
- An understanding of the mission and character of the American university.
- Computer use and instruction.
- Improved writing skills.
- Speech.

Beyond these basic skills, Adamany proposed that requirements for the study of American political institutions be examined to be certain they are adequate to assure that students are able to participate fully in American civic and political life.

THE PRESIDENT recommended deliberations on the so-called "General Education Distribution Requirements," the broad areas such as social sciences or the arts in which a student must study and the number of courses which must be taken in each area.

Besides these general education requirements, which are usually taken early in the college career, Adamany suggested the possibility of adding an interdisciplinary general education course or courses at the upper division level.

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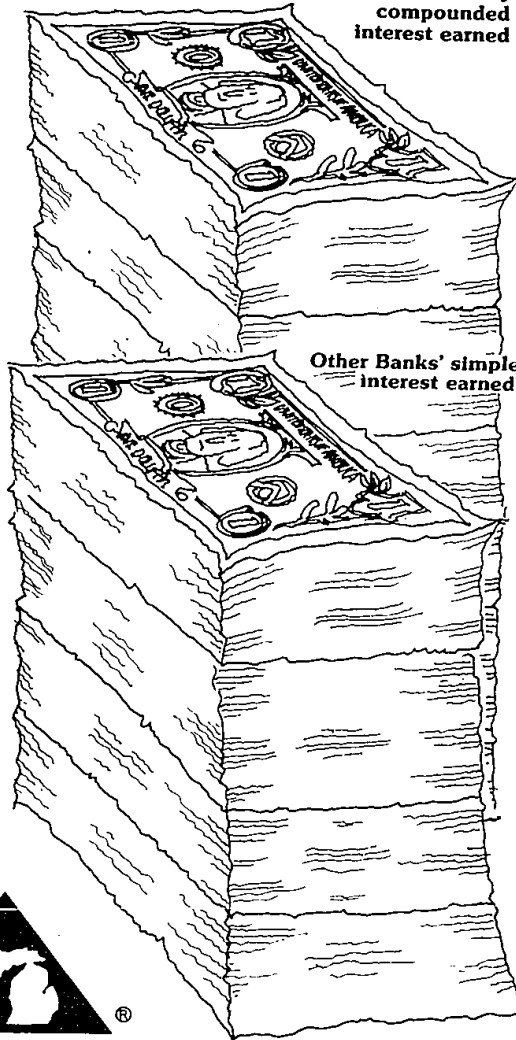
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