

The administration likes Why seize power . . .

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How many of you know who forms the Board of Governors? How many of you know who forms the General Faculty Council? How many of you know how many student representatives we have on those bodies? What do they do for us, and what does the faculty think of them?

We were not sure either, but after talking to University President Dr. Walter H. Johns, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies Dr. Henry Kreisel, and Vice-president in charge of Academic Business Dr. Max Wyman, we were almost able to sort out the organization of our campus "government".

The resulting diagram should be of some use to the many students here who are lost in the complexity of the argument on student power.

This is a very important argument today, for its solution may or may not breed revolution.

"Are you satisfied with the student representatives who now sit on the various U of A boards?" we asked the administrators.

The unanimous answer was "yes".

Dr. Johns cited the student representatives on the General Faculty Council being instrumental in getting earlier class terms and exams before Christmas. He also noted their work on registration procedures and the Academic Evaluation Calendar.

Dr. Kreisel strongly supports student representation on policy boards. "I was always in favor of it, and I am glad to see it," he said. The GFC has approved student

representation on the Library Council, a very influential organization.

"Does the presence of students at committee and council meetings inhibit free and open administration discussion?" we asked.

The answer, again unanimous, was "no".

Dr. Johns believes the students are certainly no hindrance. Dr. Kreisel mentioned the B of G decision to accept student representation was unanimous. He added no division is made between students and staff in the discussions.

Some Canadian students' unions have turned down similar student appointments to university boards. These unions charged they were designed to give students a token feeling of representation, while the real decisions were made elsewhere or in spite of them.

Dr. Johns contradicted this view. He said he thought a real part was being played by the students, and their record of achievement proves this.

Dr. Kreisel said "Tokenism does not exist here unless you take the extremist view that students must have 51% of

the membership of boards, or they are tokenistic. I say tokenism does not exist here because I notice a great readiness on the part of the Administration people to listen to the students. There has been a great shift in the past two to three years in the conservative attitude of the faculty and Administration as they are now much more liberal in their approval of student representation.

"I am in favor of voting privileges wherever students are on committees, and this includes the B of G.

"Good student representa-

tives, however, present a strong case which is liable to sway the Administration opinion even if they cannot outvote it. The Library Committee now has more representatives from the students than from the faculties.

"This is definitely not tokenism."

Dr. Wyman said simply, "I do not see tokenism at the U of A."

Is it worthwhile for students to sacrifice their study time in order to pursue administrative matters?

Dr. Johns thought student

