

The radicalization of a moderate at SF State

by nancy rikker
reprinted from
the california aggie

Mrs. Arlene Daniels is an assistant professor of sociology at San Francisco State College.

Under the repressive actions of California governor Ronald Reagan and college president S.I. Hayakawa, she became radicalized and joined other members of the American federation of teachers in supporting the continuing strike at SF State.

In a sociology lecture at UCD two weeks ago she described her radicalization and AFT's part in the strike.

The situation at San Francisco State, as seen by a member of the American Federation of Teachers, was the basis for a sociology lecture given Wednesday by Arlene Daniels.

The lecture was titled, "Radicalization of a Moderate in the San Francisco State Crisis," a description that applied to Mrs. Daniels' change of attitude as she became involved in the problems there.

Mrs. Daniels is an assistant professor of sociology at San Francisco State and is currently trying to raise funds for the AFT to continue the strike. A witty speaker throughout the lecture, she noted that she had a collection of "the sayings of Chairman Hayakawa." She also had literature on "how to bore through institutions from within."

Introduced by sociologist Bennett Berger, Mrs. Daniels was described as transformed

from "moderate agonizer" to militant picket." Then she began her talk by discussing the basic situation at San Francisco State and listing some of the demands presented by the striking teachers.

According to Mrs. Daniels, the coalition of the AFT with the students is one of the largest coalitions in the country. It includes labor and management, Blacks and Whites; and it converts men and women of ideals into men and women of action. As a representative of AFT 1352, she said the teachers have the only recognized strike, but the students lead it. "We were cornered into this stance by the moral leadership of the students."

The faculty went out on strike with a list of their own demands, but the first one was that the administration must negotiate or settle the demands of the students. Mrs. Daniels said that as things stand now at

San Francisco State, it is impossible to return to teaching. "San Francisco State College no longer exists," stated Mrs. Daniels. With the ever present threats of bombs or property destruction by one side to the other, a teacher cannot carry out educational operations. The constant presence of police marching around or riding horses is more than a distraction.

The demands are aimed at all sources of power within the state college. According to Mrs. Daniels, the three sources include administration of the college, the State College and the governor and legislature.

An ethical and moral issue, according to Mrs. Daniels, is one of the first demands (1c). The Black Student Union and Third World Liberation Front issues must be resolved. A second demand is that all administrative issues settled under 1c must be binding on the Trustees.

The goal of this second demand is an adjustment of the power base. The Governor and Trustees represent certain issues and they should have a voice, but at the same time so should the faculty and Students. At the level of the college, Mrs. Daniels advocated an over haul of relationships so that a consensus exists in the system of teaching and learning. President Hayakawa arbitrarily refused to accept grievance measures through the Academic Senate. This process then became a privilege rather than a right. In the same way, all decisions are ultimately made by one interest. Thus demand 1a is for rational contractual base to which everyone must adhere and which sets up regular procedures not privileges.

Another demand is for "constitutional rights; through amnesty to all those who have been suspended for violation of those rights. The suspensions were based on the declaration of a state of emergency which was used to end all rights. This demand is especially important for those students who face disciplinary action.

Mrs. Daniels described the circumstances around another demand. Last year when President Summerskill was fired, the trustees approved the Black Studies project. The

State Legislature then approved the project and sent it to the Governor. According to Mrs. Daniels, Governor Reagan then cut it out of the budget. "A frivolity that we do not need now, said the crystal ball bearer." Hiring Black teachers for this project is then one of the demands.

Two other demands include nullification of ten vague disciplinary rules established with the first wave of trouble, and approval of the "student union plan" which involved student control over student money. Mrs. Daniels concluded, "It's fun to yell 'scab' at my colleagues, but I am not happy about the polarization and I want an academic atmosphere again." She also noted that at first she did not like SDS, "but now I admire them." "I do wish, however, that they would learn

not to throw things and break things."

In answer to a question, Mrs. Daniels said there are between 400 and 450 striking teachers out of a total of 1100 faculty. She added that only 200 backed Hayakawa and the rest were moderate.

The question and answer period was very emotional with a walk-out by one student who felt the revolutionary tactics used at San Francisco State were destroying the college and that Mrs. Daniels was part of an influence that might ultimately destroy the country.

Other debated centered around the student demand of admittance to all Black people next year, newspaper coverage of the strike, and the idea of a stratified educational system in the state where the university equals the elite and the state college equals the peasant.

Reagan readies State Police

BERKELEY, Calif. (CUP - CPS) — Despite a relatively peaceful day last Wednesday on the University of California campus here, governor Ronald Reagan has declared a state of emergency at Berkeley.

Reagan said he made the declaration at the request of Alameda county sheriff Frank Madigan and administration president Charles J. Hitch in order to make state highway patrolmen available on a continuous basis to help maintain "law and order" on the campus.

Edwin Meese, Reagan's executive secretary, said the number of highway patrolmen who will be available "is a matter best left for the dissidents to speculate on." Meese said highway patrolmen can assist local police at any time but a state of emergency must be declared to make them available on a continuous basis.

He said a state of emergency was not declared at San Francisco State because local police were able to deal with the disorders with only occasional assistance from the highway patrol.

The additional police will be

under the command of sheriff Madigan, who earlier this week criticized the university administration for not taking a strong enough stand against student strikers.

Berkeley campus chancellor Roger Heyns, who asked Hitch to join Madigan in the request stressed that "the state of emergency, required for technical reasons, does not imply any change in our normal campus life."

But Reagan said he made the declaration to "clearly indicate that the state of California is determined to maintain law and order on the campuses of its university as well as all other educational institutions.

"I just feel we have come to the end of the road in depending on local law enforcement," he added. "It isn't good enough anymore to wait until rocks are flying and beatings start and then come in and restore order."

Heyns said the police assistance presently available from local agencies "cannot continue to meet our needs."

Reagan also announced he has sent severe new laws to the state legislature to curb student protest. The measure, he said, will end "acts of violence caused by a coalition of dissidents and criminal activists who have attempted to close down the university."

The laws would cover not only the multi-campus University of California but also its junior equivalent, the state college system which includes junior colleges and high schools.

One proposed measure would prohibit from public schooling for a year students convicted of a criminal offence during the campus demonstrations.

However, the campus was fairly quiet Wednesday after Tuesday's battles between students and police. About 500 students marched around the campus chanting "On strike, shut it down" and "Power to the people" but did not enter any buildings where they assumed there were police.

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