

Point Count System

The student activity awards system, long a quagmire of controversy and criticism, has laid itself open to a fresh series of blasts.

A point system has been set up under which the various extra curricular activities are listed and assigned point values. Not to be used this year, the system, will come under a comparative study with the present awards system, and be evaluated.

Not to be used exclusively for award judgment, the point system will be used at the discretion of the awards committee. Despite this, a point system presents three overwhelming difficulties.

It will be difficult to categorize student union posts in the first place, that is to decide how much each one is worth. Once the positions are categorized, it will be nearly impossible to make judgment on whether to award a candidate full marks for the job he has done.

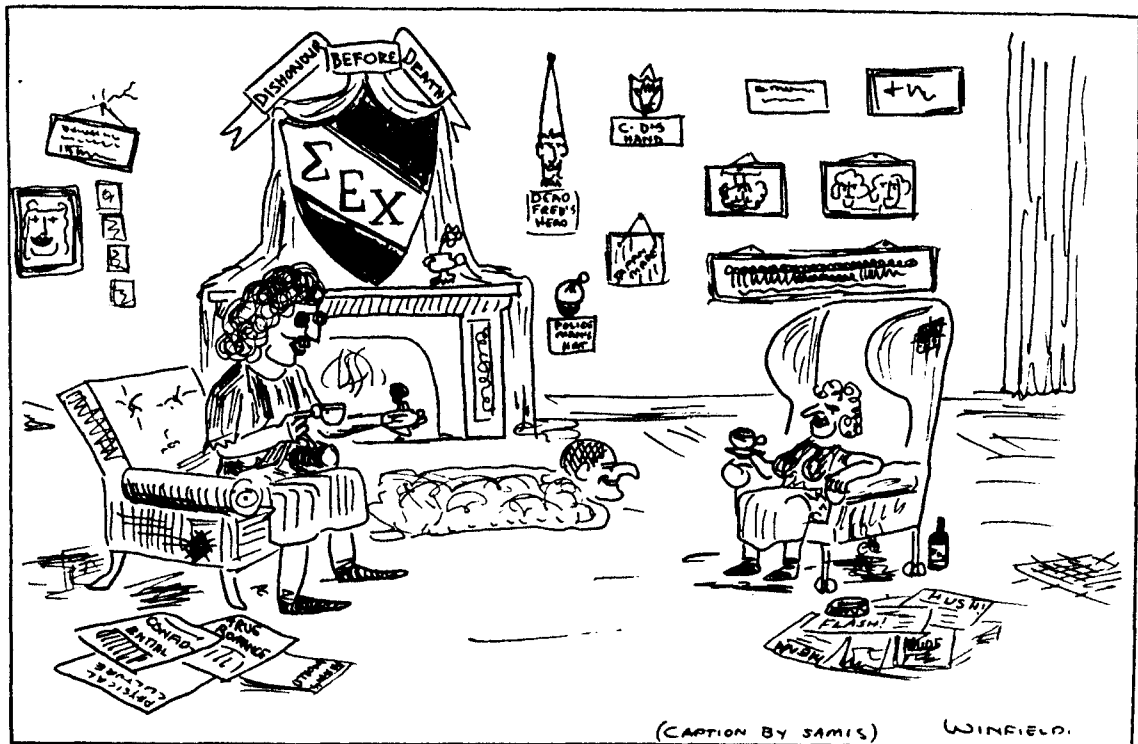
An even greater danger lies in the unlimited possibilities for the glory-seeking element on campus, particularly those who care nothing for the organization they belong to, provided they are given credit for belonging.

As a service to these cold calculators we set out the seven categories, along with pointers on how one may accumulate the greatest number of points and the highest awards with a minimum of effort and/or competence:

1. Students' Union executive (maximum 25 points).
2. Students' Council, executive Evergreen Gold and The Gateway, public relations officer (maximum 20 points).
3. Mixed Chorus, WUS, NFCUS, Wauneita, education and engineering (maximum 18 points).
4. Nursing, medicine, commerce, law, agriculture, pharmacy, physical education, household economics, promotions, physiotherapy, IFC and panhellenic, Freshman Introduction Week, Varsity Guest Weekend, Radio Society, Golden Key Society (maximum 15 points).
5. Political science, drama, debating, leadership seminar, McGoun debate, senior class graduation committee, residence committee, telephone directory and handbook, United Nations club, Homecoming Weekend, Model Parliament, Jubilaires, Students' Union campaign and campaign managers, musical club and symphony (maximum 12 points).
6. Ballet, band, discipline, interpretation and enforcement committee, VCF, Newman Club, LDS and LSA, Tri-Service mess committee (maximum eight points).
7. Hillel, theologs, St. Basil's, Illarion, SCM, Mennonite Students, Canterbury Club, United Church Girls' Fellowship, departmental clubs, Amateur Radio Society (maximum five points).

With a sliding point scale, "so that quality as well as quantity" may be ascertained means a poor Student Union president might get only 15 of 25 points, while an excellent Freshman Introduction Weeker could receive 15 of 15.

Again is the problem of how to label a Students' Union president as "poor" or 100 per cent. Of course, this grading problem would



(CAPTION BY SAMIS) WINFIELD.

extend to all ranks, but how will an awards committee decide if the president of the United Church Girls' Fellowship is worth 2, 3, or 4 points?

Returning to the cold calculators, an examination of the above seven categories opens golden vistas.

Ideal point-gathering would mean stints on Freshman Introduction Week and Varsity Guest Weekend for a starter. Good jobs might mean 30 points.

Moving down to the 12 point category, the cold calculator would look into the leadership seminar, the senior class graduation committee, the telephone directory and handbook, the United Nations Club, Homecoming Weekend, and then work on someone's campaign. For these seven activities an industrious chap could garner at least 50 of the 84 possible points.

Thus, by spacing his energies over a number of short-term projects, our cold calculator could conceivably obtain around 75 of a possible 114 points, over a year or two.

Besides his monumental 75 points, the meagre 20 points of a first-rate Students' Union president would look pathetic. Our loafing calculator would be first in line for any award to be handed out, thereby neatly defeating the purpose of the entire awards idea.

Unless the point system as it now stands is drastically changed and improved, the system will find its way in the wastebasket along with the other artificial awards machinery that has been set up periodically over the years. A point system even used with discretion lacks flexibility, an important factor when human beings are being judged.

Bumbling Bureaucrats

Under the guise of streamlining a Students' Union that was put into its present form for a depression drained University of 2,000 students, committees recently appointed by the Students' Union are not only failing in their task, but are wrapping the union in an even more complicated maze of red tape.

Again this spring a complaining committee on student affairs will ratify a maze of crapulence, passing for law and order that will confuse an already muddled set of union law books.

This council, this year is doing its damndest to set up a near perfect system, but they have failed miserably thus far, by simply not realizing that students revolt at what others including their peers tell them. They want change for changes' sake, and would change everything around again in two years just to see what it looks like.

The task of modifying a bureaucracy bottles council capabilities so much that they are often unable to evaluate a problem that falls to their reign. They should be given the bylaws to make the transitions from one year to a next and then start all over again fresh.

One of the most ludicrous aspects of modifying bylaws is that until you start tearing them apart their failings are unseen and unknown. Leave them alone and they will lie in the corner, breathing softly, no one will know they are there, or that they are filled with error and omissions, or little about what's in them and the Students' Union will function at least as well as it ever has.

Give a council a broad outline of their duties and start fresh each year. No student or student government enjoys the bureaucratic corset, but instead of taking it off, all the silly ass does is add frills, or as this council is doing, buying a brand new one.

The propitious paragons of this year's Student's Council are succeeding in doing at least one good thing. By the time they are through with the Union shake-up, they will have enough regulations to keep future councils busy just carrying them out. The new robot-like, impersonation of 20 grand moguls will be a pleasant change in one respect, they will cease their continuous clamour to be listened to by virtue of mouths and minds sealed by the red tape of bumbling bureaucrats.

Final Check Point

Every student who, if successfully in his current program of studies, will qualify for a degree or diploma in the spring of 1961 is urged to check the tentative graduation list in or near the office of his Dean or Director. He should satisfy himself:

- (1) that his name appears on this list;
- (2) that the order and spelling of his names are correct;
- (3) that no nicknames, initials or abbreviations have been used in listing his name, and that his full name is given as it should appear ultimately on his graduation diploma;
- (4) that his home address is listed correctly as this is to be printed in the Convocation Program this year;
- (5) that the address given for his present address is correct so that all Convocation memoranda may be sent to him.

After having checked these points, and made revisions where necessary, the student should sign his initials in the column to the left of his name.

Any student who will not have access to Alberta daily newspapers during the two weeks prior to Convocation in May should arrange with his family or a friend to advise him whether or not his name appears on the final graduation list.

A. D. Cairns
Registrar
University of Alberta

- Council Shorts -

Allan McKenzie, Eng 4, was appointed Graduation Class Committee Chairman, and Gail Lewis, Arts 3, as a members, with one more to be chosen.

Dave E. Jenkins, Law 1, was appointed next year's Gateway editor John Whittaker, Eng. 3 the Gateway's advertising manager, and Bob Hicks, Dent 3 as the director of the Evergreen and Gold.

There were no applications for the position of Director of the Student Handbook.

WANTED

Director of the University of Alberta Handbook. Responsible for the publication of the University of Alberta Handbook for 1961-62 term.

Pads Remain

Edmonton's new zoning by-law will not affect residents of Garneau, Alan Macdonald, city solicitor, told The Gateway Tuesday.

The bylaw, which was brought before city council for preliminary reading Monday, is designed to restrict suites in one-family dwellings. However it will only apply to those districts which were subdivided and built up following the Second World War.

Eventually, similar regulations will

be instituted for the entire city. The only other areas near the University that will be affected by the present bylaw, though, are Belgravia and Windsor Park.

The new regulations would make it illegal to have a suite (with cooking facilities) in a home located in a one-family dwelling area. Up to four roomers or boarders may stay in a one-family home without changing its status.

The proposed bylaw will be discussed at a public hearing, March 6, at 4:30 p.m., in the city council chamber.