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Student Rep. to Senate



SIMON FRASER STUDENT SOCIETY

simon fraser university / burnaby 2, b.c. / telephone 291-3181

Office of the President

October 31, 1966

The Senate
c/o Mr. D.P. Robertson
Secretary to the Senate
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby 2, B. C.

Dear Mr. Robertson:

I have been instructed by the Executive Council to inform you that after considerable discussion and careful consideration the Executive Council must regretfully decline acceptance of the Senate offer to place a student elected Rector on the Senate. The Council's decision is contained in a three point resolution as follows:

Whereas, the Senate resolution as communicated to the Executive Council of the Simon Fraser Student Society in a letter dated September 14, 1966, involves students in the responsibility for decision making without allowing sufficient student voice, be it resolved that:

1. The Executive Council of the Simon Fraser Student Society rejects any and all forms of student representation on Senate that are not accompanied by a proposal to carry on the business of Senate in open and public meetings.
2. The Executive Council of the Simon Fraser Student Society rejects the specific Senate proposal for a student elected Rector on Senate as being guilt by association without sufficient representation.
3. The Executive Council of the Simon Fraser Student Society proposes as an initial step towards adequate student representation on the Senate that at least two student representatives be elected by the student body to the Senate.

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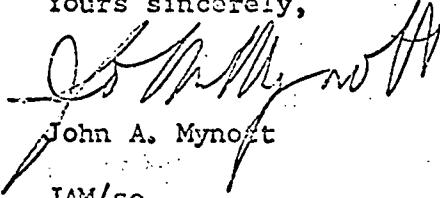
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In reaching its decision the Executive Council took into consideration the possible problem arising from a student serving a three year term as a member of Senate. The consensus reached was that since the main purpose of student representation on the Senate is to present the students' point of view and to present problems encountered by students from time to time, direct student representation is the most efficient means of reaching these goals. Election of an upper class man for a three year Senate term would accomplish two things. First, the student elected would have at least two years experience as a student at the University. Second, even if this student representative were to graduate before the end of his term of office, he would be temporally close enough to his student experience to give adequate representation to the student body. Such a plan would lend itself to some multiple of three as the number of representatives for the student body. Thus, one-third of the representatives could be elected each year.

The above plan is only one of several possibilities for incorporating direct student representation in the academic Senate of the University. The Executive Council would welcome and appreciate the opportunity to review or discuss other possibilities. We appreciate the Senate's sincere efforts to increase the democratization of university government.

Yours sincerely,


John A. Mynott

JAM/se