

PRELIMINARY REPORT TO THE FACULTY COUNCIL BY THE FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF FACULTY DISMISSING CLASSES
IMMEDIATELY BEFORE AND AFTER VACATION

The Committee apologizes for the delay in this first report. At the time the problem was referred to it the Committee had not yet been constituted. The Committee was convened by Dr. Ziemer on the 27th of March. Dr. Murray was elected Chairman of the Committee essentially by default since he was the only one eligible (the by-laws state that the Chairman must be a member of the Council).

From a discussion of the problem the Committee felt the need for guidance from the Council on the direction it should take. We do not have a sense of the extent or the urgency of the problem and ask if the Council desires the Committee to undertake a systematic survey of the problem. It was, however, the opinion of the Committee that unless such a study were urged by the Council it would not be undertaken.

It was agreed that a broad statement of policy relating to this issue should be a part of the Faculty Handbook. Since the Handbook is to be substantially revised in the near future, such a statement might best be considered in relation to other aspects of the revision rather than piecemeal. However, if the Council so desires the Committee will draft a statement. It would reflect at least the following general features agreed upon by the Committee:

- A. A positive statement about the desirability of maintaining classes on these days.
- B. The undesirable pressure placed upon some professors by other professors who dismiss classes on these days.
- C. The general principle that implementation of the policy is most properly a departmental matter and that departmental chairmen are in the best position to see that the policy is followed. Any survey of the problem might best be done by departments as well.

Respectfully submitted,

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