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SUNY board violates public law

Lack of members creates problem for SASU board

By VIRGINIA MARTIN

The public law requiring three members of the SUNY Board of Trustees to be present during the Board's Public Hearing was violated Wednesday, said Fred Asczarte, SASU vice president of campus affairs, during his presentation.

Only Board members D. Clinton Dominick and Everette Joseph were present for the hearing. Acting chancellor Jerome B. Komisar was also present.

Asczarte said this emphasizes there is a lack of members present for the hearings. The reason the hearing was moved to Albany, he said, was to accommodate the Board members. In the past, he added, the members had to rotate cities.

Asczarte said he wants to see Board members going out to campuses to get input in-

stead of having everyone come to Albany.

Cortland College Student Association president, James Cullen, made a presentation regarding the negative consequences of self-sufficient dormitories.

Despite the fact that SUNY dorms have become self-sufficient, Cullen said, students statewide are paying higher rents this year than in the past.

The State University College at Cortland, SUNY at Buffalo, and SUNY at Binghamton all expect increase in dorm rates for 1987-88, Cullen said. "These increases in light of severe federal financial aid cuts pose serious threats to the accessibility of higher education in SUNY," he said.

Dorm rates have to be controlled by budget subsidies for the accessibility to SUNY to be preserved, Cullen said.

In many SUNY districts,

Cullen said, a surplus of cheap off campus housing exists. As dorm rents increase, it's only understandable that students will move off campus, he said. This only means, he added, that the students who do live in dorms will have to absorb additional costs.

The new 21-year-old drinking age has also driven students off campus, according to Cullen.

"Both increased costs and stricter alcohol policies will have the same effect in the long run — an even larger increase in room rent," Cullen said.

Many SUNY schools, Cullen said, are forcing second year students to live on campus, often against their wills. More campuses may be forced to do this, he said, as enrollment drops and other factors take their toll.

"When a system has to rely on forceful, repressive means to work it may be an indication that the system is fundamentally flawed," Cullen said.

Self sufficiency gives campus administrators budgeting responsibility, he said, when

the students should have the major role.

Students should also assume tenant status, Cullen said, like other people living in 'public housing' in New York. "At the very least, basic civil rights of students should be respected in the dorms."

A representative from Maritime College presented his ideas on student recruitment. He emphasized that the problem isn't limited to just one campus, but is nationwide.

As a result, he said, a task force should be established by the Board to look into the problem. The task force should work seriously with a receptive attitude and not distribute a report of inaccuracies as a previous task force had done.

'...basic civil rights... should be respected in the dorms.'

Jim Cullen CCSA

The president of the Student Association at Buffalo presented the Board with the problems of asbestos on campus.

It should be a strong concern, he said, since a strong correlation was established in the mid 1930s between asbestos and cancer. Still, he added, it's used in fire protection and sound proofing.

Parts of the Student Union on the Buffalo campus, he said, have been forced to close because of an asbestos problem.

One section is threatening to be closed, he said, because of darkness. He went on to explain how the Environmental Health Organization has pronounced this particular area dangerous to change the light bulbs, therefore, the bulbs cannot be changed without asbestos particles filtering down.

Positive steps need to be taken, he said, before the problem gets even worse.

Open discussion held on Cortland's water

By DANETTE GILSON

"No measurable amounts of TCE (trichloroethylene) have been found in the city of Cortland's water," said public forum moderator Craig B. Little, member of the SUCC sociology/Anthropology department, at a meeting Tuesday evening in Sperry 209 entitled "The Water We Drink."

The event, sponsored by CCSA, the Sociology/Anthropology department, and NYPIRG, gave several guest speakers the chance to present different aspects of the water problem to students and city residents.

Little also said that toxins in the water are still a serious issue for the city and college community because of prediction that the chemicals will reach city ground water within one year.

Members of the panel included Jim Cullen, CCSA president, Carmen Pace, co-chairman of the Cortland County Clean Water Committee, Richard Novitzki, member of the U.S. geological survey, Dr. James Bugh, SUCC geology dept., Richard J. Brickwedde, regional attorney of the N.Y.C. of Environmental conservation, and Ken Deutsch, NYPIRG representative. Smith Corona declined the offer to send a representative on their behalf.

Cullen put the water crisis in the proper perspective by saying that no traces of TCE were found although the chemical is headed towards the city water supply.

Cullen told students and citizens that CCSA wants a water filtration system installed with Smith Corona absorbing all costs. He also said that CCSA urges the college and the community to pressure Smith Corona into following the Community Right to Know Law.

A six point monitor of the water situation was proposed by Pace. Some points included in his speech were a full

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Let it Snow!

This weeks snow makes it hard to travel no matter which way you prefer to go, by bike or car. After Tuesdays snow various snowball fights occurred around Neubig Road. More snow is in the works for this weekend.

Amy Cuomo/The Press

Inside This Week

