Release on Receipt

COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 21. -- Final official action has been taken authorizing a change in the policy governing the foreign language requirement for the Ph. D. degree earned at Ohio State University.

The Council on Academic Affairs has informed the Graduate Council and members of the Faculty Council of its action confirming the Graduate Council's earlier decision to eliminate a blanket language requirement. The new order is that individual departments will decide whether a foreign language will be required.

Implementation of the new procedures is left up to the Graduate Council and the various university departments.

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New Plan to Open Closed Classes

7-23-70
By RONALD ISHOY
Lantere Staff Writer

The Council on Academic Affairs has approved an 'emergency measure' that will put an almost unlimited enrollment on normally-closed, highly-demanded courses, beginning Autumn Quarter.

The two-phase plan asks that deans and department heads take faculty from low-enrollment courses and use them in high-enrollment, normally-closed courses. Some specialized, low-enrollment courses would be temporarily suspended.

Richard A. Tybouts, a member of the committee and professor of economics, emphasized the new program was a temporary answer, and that "over the long-run, we are going to have to rely on more appropriations and higher fees to solve the problem of closed courses." More money, from bigger government appropriations and higher student fees, would enable the University to hire more faculty, and to expand its physical capacities, Tybouts explained.

Tybouts said Wednesday that if "we succeed (in the program), then everyone will get in," referring to all of the courses normally closed.

First Phase in Autumn

In the first phase of the program, course enrollment limits are to be set at "a level that would have prevented courses from closing in Autumn, 1969." This would reorganize staff and departmental offerings "in a way that is expected to approximate what will be needed in Autumn, 1970."

The second phase, as outlined in the text will complete the reorganization based on actual enrollment data to be made available to the departments, schools and colleges prior to rescheduling, through compilation of actual enrollment before students return to classes in the fall.

Faculty Shuffled

The report explains that in reorganizing departments, it is suggested that faculty be taken away from present low-enrollment courses, and be assigned to the larger areas of student demands. Faculty members will also handle more people in a particular class than was enrolled in previous quarters, while some of the low-enrollment elective courses will be given every-other year instead of on a continuous, yearly basis.

However, there is a possibility the course a student wants, "usually an elective" according to Tybouts, also chairman of the Committee on Closed Courses, will not be offered during the year the student wants it.

Tybouts explained Wednesday there is no additional money involved in the new structure, since the reorganization will just use existing staff, space, and facilities in different areas, particularly the lower-numbered, high-enrollment courses.

"We are still subject to previous budget constraints," Tybouts said. "There is just no new money we can use to help alleviate the situation.

As to whether the new program would mean that there would be a lower ratio of students to faculty, Tybouts said that "on the average, the number of students per instructor, per quarter will be increased."

Serious Results

Tybouts admitted that by suspending specialized course there might be some serious ramifications as to where the educational system was headed.

"The new idea is a trade-off — one for the other," Tybouts said, "but we are not looking for our efforts to be a permanent program. We recognize it is important to be a graduate center and to have specialized courses, and that is why we are suspending them, and not eliminating them."

Tybouts said the Council was not very concerned about the possibility of inadequate space. Of the 396 closed courses last Autumn Quarter, only eight were closed because there was not enough room, Tybouts said.

"I'm very optimistic because the assistant registrar (Bruce Bursak) who assigns the rooms says he thinks he can handle it. Historically, it has not been a major problem.

Tybouts added the laboratory and other special room situation may be a problem since there is only so much equipment the University has resources for.

"Studies in the fine arts building and labs could cause some difficulty," he said. "But last Autumn Quarter 62 courses of the 396 were closed because of special room problems, and 62 closed courses is better than 396.

Enrollment Limits by July 31

The new plan calls for the first set of enrollment limits be submitted to
33 Courses Reported Closed
Autumn

By RONALD ISHOY
Lancer Staff Writer

Despite elaborate efforts to keep closed courses open, 33 courses are already closed for Autumn Quarter, according to Richard A. Tybout, chairman of the committee studying closed courses.

Tybout explained that the courses, mostly in fine arts, are closed because of special problems due mostly to lack of studio space and other equipment.

The departments with the majority of the closed courses are fine arts, sociology and journalism.

In the Journalism Department, a number of courses are closed because of lack of typewriters or photographic equipment, Tybout said.

The Sociology Department “experienced some staffing problems,” he explained and the committee is currently investigating that department.

Tybout added all courses that closed will be reviewed after all data of actual enrollment is complete.

The first phase of a two-part program, being finished this week, has generated “good response and cooperation” from University colleges and departments, Tybout said.

The first phase, which officially ended July 31 and is currently being studied by the committee, asked department chairmen and college deans to set course enrollment levels for Autumn Quarter “at a level that would have prevented courses from closing in Autumn 1969” through reorganization of staff and resources.

The plan suggested this reorganization be carried out by assigning some faculty previously used for low enrollment courses to high enrollment, normally closed courses.

However, no list of cancelled courses has been released.

“I would expect at this stage that there are no cancelled courses, but we can’t say for sure,” Tybout said.

He said an overall composite of figures showing how the University responded with raising course limits will be tabulated next week, but added he was very pleased with the apparent results.

“We have more gold stars than problems,” he said, explaining that task forces, five groups of faculty, are working to alleviate those specific problems that have arisen, such as those in fine arts.

An Aug. 31 deadline to file schedule cards for Autumn Quarter is part of the second phase of the overall proposal to keep closed courses open.

According to Tybout.

The deadline for filing schedule cards for Autumn, 1969 was Sept. 22, nine days before classes began.

The objective of this year’s early deadline, an emergency procedure, as outlined in a report by the Committee on Closed Courses, is to give the departments more accurate and comprehensive information on which to make last minute adjustments in courses and sections and to systemize student rescheduling so those first closed out of a course will be the first readmitted if the course is reopened.

The current emergency scheduling procedure gets actual enrollment figures to department chairmen several weeks sooner than in previous years.

They are then able to finalize structuring of their staff so when rescheduling of courses for the time normally used to add, drop or change a course begins Sept. 14, more spaces may be opened for students originally closed out on their autumn schedule cards.
Academic affairs unit awaits student reps

Although a total of six student seats were created for the Council on Academic Affairs and the Research Council, no students have yet been approved to fill the positions, according to James A. Robinson, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

The six representatives who will have full voting rights, were to be selected from undergraduates, graduates and professional students by their governing bodies, but no student attended the first Council on Academic Affairs meeting Wednesday.

Robinson said that although he notified the presidents of the three student governments after the Board of Trustees approved the student seats, he received only one nomination and that one came "indirectly and verbally."

He added that the new student seats are the result of a "recommendation I made to the Faculty Council at a special meeting Sept. 1," and that the Board of Trustees approved the action during its Sept. 10 meeting.

"Of course, I'm disappointed," Robinson said. "I thought this is what the students wanted. I took the leadership in the Faculty Council to get this enacted and now I haven't seen hide nor hair of the student members."

Although no students have attended the meetings, Joseph T. Tolliver, a junior from Akron, and Margaret Warrick, a junior from Fairborn, have been appointed to represent undergraduate students. But the appointments have not been confirmed by Student Assembly.

Tolliver said he did not attend the first Council on Academic Affairs meeting because he did not receive notification of the meeting. He also said his appointment has not been ratified by Student Assembly. He added that ratification will probably come at the Assembly's regular meeting Thursday.

Miss Warrick said she would attend the Research Council meeting Wednesday even without the Assembly's ratification.

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Change Possible in Defense Requisites

By Eric Gerard

The National Defense Option (NDO) requirement may undergo considerable change within the next week, The Lantern has learned.

The Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) is now considering a change in the NDO that would require the individual colleges in the University to provide a block of 12 elective hours, outside their degree granting programs, which may be filled by ROTC.

The burden of declaring alternative courses to the ROTC requirement now rests with the student.

The revised rule would shift the burden of providing alternative electives to ROTC to the colleges. The student would no longer have to specify what courses are replacing his 12-hour ROTC requirement.

The CAA is now considering the wording of the new rule, which probably will no longer be called NDO.

Because the change will affect most Ohio State students and most of the colleges in the University, the CAA wants to make sure the proposed change does not disrupt their operations, according to one University official.

A recommendation to abolish the NDO originated in the curriculum committee of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences (ASC). That recommendation was approved in the ASC Senate and sent to the CAA.
CAAA rejects proposal to add student members

By John Oller
5-27-76

The Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) defeated a proposal Wednesday by Undergraduate Student Government (USG) President Rick R. Theis to add five student representatives to the CAA.

The proposed increase in students would have equalized student and faculty representation on the council by adding another five undergraduates, to be appointed by the president of USG.

Currently, the 14-member CAA consists of two undergraduates, one graduate and one professional student, along with nine faculty members and one administrator.

Theis said because both faculty and students at Ohio State are greatly affected by academic policy, the two groups deserve an “equal voice” on the University’s chief academic advisory body.

Recommendations from the CAA must receive approval from both University Senate and the Board of Trustees before becoming University policy.

Theis said students are greater in number and contribute more financially to the University than faculty, but faculty have greater “expertise” in academic matters.

Therefore, he said, neither group “can completely justify absolute dominance,” and recommended equal representation as the best alternative.

However, CAA member Laurence C. Gerckens, director of the School of Architecture, said Theis’ proposal was “totally without foundation.”

He said faculty of state universities in Ohio have been “charged by the legislature” with the governance of their respective institutions.

Gerckens said the faculty at Ohio State “choose to share” this governance on CAA with students and administrators, but said students have no claim to representation on the basis of their size or financial contribution.

He added that other groups that have a stake in the University, such as alumni, are not represented at all on the council.

Other objections raised were that adding five students would make CAA too large or that the power of appointment would make the USG president too powerful. Theis, however, said all appointments would be made with the advice and consent of USG Student Assembly.

Theis was the only CAA member who voted for the proposal. Of the three other student members, one abstained while two left the meeting before the vote was taken.
CAA opens meetings

By Marilyn Geewax
1-9-76

Future meetings of the Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) will be open to the public as a result of a unanimous vote to adopt new procedural rules at Wednesday's meeting.

The new rules concerning open meetings are:
- All regular meetings of CAA will be open.
- Special meetings of CAA will ordinarily be open except that they may be closed by a two-thirds vote of the members at a prior regular meeting. No action can be taken at a closed meeting.
- When the council is acting in a purely advisory capacity, it may hold closed meetings at the discretion of the chair.

PREVIOUS meetings of CAA had been closed because Ohio's Sunshine Law does not apply to committees and "there was no precedent for opening the meetings," said Rick Theis, a sophomore from Warren and a student representative to the council.

At the Nov. 19 meeting, a Lantern reporter tried to sit in, was repeatedly asked to leave and ignored the request. Theis then asked that the meetings be open. The council formed a subcommittee to look into the matter and adjourned.

At Wednesday's meeting, the subcommittee reported its recommendations to the council. After a few minutes of discussion, the proposals were adopted unanimously with only minor changes.

One student, who wished to remain unidentified, attended the meeting. He said he attended because he was "really angered" when he read that the meetings were closed. He came to the meeting to "see what kind of people are making decisions" concerning students, he said.

CAA approves music programs

By Cris Campbell
5 March 1976

The Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) Wednesday unanimously approved two new major programs under the bachelor of music degree; audio recording and jazz studies.

The audio recording major will be coordinated with courses in electrical engineering by Robert Lackey, associate professor of electrical engineering.

Lackey said most recording studios are run by people with some musical background. He added the engineering courses would supply the music students with enough theory to know what is and can be done in recording.

John P. Malcolm, assistant director of the Telecommunications Center, said students with training in both areas would be in demand.

Since recording engineers often become the final interpreters of recorded music, a musical background would be extremely valuable, said Robert Hare, director of the School of Music.

The council approved the new major in jazz studies because the School of Music can accommodate the related courses under its present budget.

Hare said there is a need for this kind of program because many music educators find themselves involved in high school jazz ensembles without the proper background.

Burdette Green, associate professor of music, said many other universities have been offering this type of program for about 10 years. He added that Capital University is instituting a major in Jazz Studies this fall.

The new courses would give composers versatility, Green said. The latest ideas in composing and arranging could be taught to interested students.

Hare said the school now has between 70 and 100 students interested in the major. He added he has two staff members qualified to teach the necessary courses. The school is also hiring new faculty members who have abilities in the jazz area, he added.

In other business, suggestions for a computer system to be used for Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET) forms were referred to a subcommittee.

Robert G. Arns, associate provost for instruction and chairman of CAA, said the system would probably be incorporated into the University's Evaluation and Testing Center.

The council will consider a system similar to one used at Purdue University where a large variety of possible questions for the evaluations are placed in the computer. Some of these questions could be highly general and used on all evaluation forms, Arns said.
Admissions
OSU council accepts new policy

By Laura Palko
Lantern staff writer 2-8-82

The Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) voted 7-3 Tuesday to accept a subcommittee's college preparatory requirements for OSU's conditional/unconditional admissions policy.

A subcommittee of the CAA in consultation with the Council on Admission and Registration was charged with developing acceptable admission standards after the University Senate approved the stiffer admissions policy last October.

The approved policy pattern requires high school seniors to complete four units of English and three units of math. Three credits each of science, social studies and a foreign language are "strongly recommended" by the subcommittee in order for students to gain unconditional admission to OSU.

The OSU Board of Trustees approved the new policy last September. It is to begin in autumn 1983 or 1984, depending on what the trustees decide.

Subcommittee members considered comments of the university community as well as the opinions of public school administrators, teachers and counselors in their policy research.

Members of the policy committee include Robert B. Sutton, committee chairman and professor of foundations and research; David H. Boyne, chairman professor of agricultural economics; Lloyd A. Horrocks, professor of physiological chemistry; Donald B. Cooper, professor of history; and Thomas A. Wilke, vice provost for Arts and Sciences.

One of the major issues of the policy concerned the foreign language requirement.

Several CAA members said a foreign language should not be a necessary requirement for unconditional admission to OSU.

In response, other members said that proficiency in a foreign language is advantageous and will help students in other subjects.

Terry P. Roark, chairman of CAA and vice provost for academic affairs, warned the council that there were going to be at least two opinions concerning the policy. Acceptance of both is not possible, he said.

"About one-half of the people who are interested will be unhappy," Roark said.

During the policy discussion, differing opinions on other subjects also were presented to the council.

Helen C. Swank, associate professor of music, said she felt the requirements should include the visual and performing arts.

David L. Meeker, associate dean of arts, agreed saying, "OSU is of serious concern in the demise of the arts in public schools.

"We have a serious stake in this for the cultural talents in our public schools," he said.

The CAA recognizes the need for an admissions policy in order to better prepare high school students for college-level work, Roark said.

"We have to take the students at the level they are at and help them to succeed," he said.

The new admissions requirements will be presented to the University Senate for vote March 13.
Time rule on disposal of class material considered

By Lynne Brungarth
Lantern staff writer 12-3-82

The Council on Academic Affairs will begin working on guidelines to determine how long instructors will be required to hold gradebooks and final exams before disposing of them. Currently, no clear university rules or guidelines exist which define how long course material should be kept.

However, the supplement to the 1982-83 Code of Student Conduct addresses the problem briefly. The addition to the code says, “materials will be discarded by the last day for a grade change unless otherwise specified by instructor, department or college.”

A current faculty rule, which outlines the procedure for student grade grievances, says the last day for a grade change is two quarters after the grade was given.

Elmer Baumer, chairman for the council on academic affairs, claims the language in the code is ambiguous.

“‘There is an expectation to students but it isn’t clear what the expectation is,’” he said.

According to Don Good, university ombudsman, the lack of guidelines causes a problem when students file a grade grievance and the physical evidence necessary to prove the grade has been destroyed.

“If we don’t have anything (physical evidence) then we can’t do anything when students appeal a grade,” he added.

“Most departments... do have policies to hand in grade books,” Good said. But the policies are different for each department, he added.

The student code briefly outlines the guidelines for students but many faculty members are not aware of it, Good said.

“We need a policy that will be accessible to everyone,” he added.

Good said a rule, however, might cause a physical storage problem. “There is not enough physical space to store things from quarter to quarter. I think there should be a time limit,” he said.

According to Good, many students wait too long before they decide to appeal a grade. The longer they wait, the harder it is to prove a grade, Good said.

The necessity for an existing faculty rule which would concur with the guidelines outlined in the student code was brought to the attention of the council by the University Senate rules committee. In a 9-2 vote, the council decided some form of faculty rule would be a good idea.

According to Baumer, the two dissenting voters did not object to the necessity of a rule, but favored amending the existing faculty rule which pertained to student grade grievance procedures over drafting a new rule.

According to Baumer, a critical issue involved in any rule will concern the length of time instructors must store grades or finals.

Baumer and other council members also expressed concern over whether the university would have available space to store all the necessary records for longer than two quarters.

“We are concerned with trying to keep the exam for a reasonable amount of time and in a reasonable fashion,” Baumer said.

Baumer said another problem exists because instructors may hand back all the material to the students. If the student wishes to later appeal the grade, yet doesn’t have any physical evidence, it is difficult to determine whether the instructor is responsible.

The specifics of the rule will be put before a council sub-committee for discussion.

After establishing a rule or amendment, the proposal will be presented to the University Senate for approval.
Status requests to be studied

By Cindy Dill
Lantern staff writer 1–28–83

Guidelines for determining how OSU academic schools or departments can become colleges will be discussed by a subcommittee Monday.

Glen H. Schmidt, a member of the Council on Academic Affairs, proposed the idea for guidelines to the council in October, because he heard “scuttlebutt” that several OSU schools were going to request college status.

Schmidt, who will head the subcommittee, said guidelines are needed to determine “what a college is” before college status is granted.

“There are standards for departments and schools, but nowhere could we (council members) find standards for a college,” he said.

The schools of Allied Medicine, Nursing and Home Economics are considering college status. Only home economics has applied to the Council on Academic Affairs for college status, he said.

According to Schmidt, it is important for a college to have unique subject matter, the ability to set goals and directions for the unit, and the ability to carry out OSU’s college functions — teaching, public service and research.

Schmidt said research is important because, “You can’t have an effective long-term college unless you add to its knowledge base. A college needs to disseminate new knowledge.”

Elmer F. Baumer, chairman for the Council on Academic Affairs, said the subcommittee may adopt guidelines, but will not make specific rules.

“I don’t think you can work within specific rules because there is a very wide variety of colleges that exist on this campus,” Baumer said.

If the guidelines are approved, they will be used to evaluate proposals submitted to the council, not to evaluate existing colleges, he added.

Schmidt said he hopes to submit the guidelines to the council at its Feb. 16 meeting. If approved, the guidelines then must be passed by the University Senate and Board of Trustees.
Early finals require university approval; professors must follow official schedule

By Cynthia L. Quigley
Lantern staff writer

Students anxious to start summer jobs or leave early for vacation probably won't mind taking final exams early.

But professors who change the dates of finals without permission are breaking university policy.

The final exam policy says, "Official examination schedules shall be strictly adhered to by all instructors. Any deviation must first be approved by the appropriate university official."

Elmer Baumer, chairman of the Council on Academic Affairs, said all students who are not graduating are expected to take finals during finals week.

If there are special circumstances, such as a student who must leave early for an emergency, they must be worked out with the instructor, Baumer said.

"I am quite aware that professors do work out deals with their classes about early finals, but a student has a right to a final exam during finals week," Baumer said.

However, he said there have been no complaints made from students.

James R. Tootle, Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the final exam policy is for the "protection of the student."

"If a professor wants to give an early final, then he should give two exams, one during finals week and one during the last week of class," Tootle said.

Phil Angelo, assistant professor of journalism, gives final exams during the last week of classes.

Angelo said finals that are subjective, such as essay tests or those that contain editing, should be given during the last week of classes, and objective finals, such as multiple-choice tests, should be given during finals week.

He said more time is needed to fairly grade essay exams and portfolios before final grades must be turned in.

Brian Pullins, assistant professor of political science, said he gives three exams that are equally weighted. Each exam covers about three weeks worth of material.

He gives his last exam during the last week of classes, but, does not consider it a final exam because it is not comprehensive.

"It is my understanding that I can give a midterm any time I want to," Pullins said.

He added he has never had any complaints from students about his exam policy.

Students have mixed feelings about the final exam policy.

"We have so many exams in one week, it makes it easier to go ahead and get one final over with during the last week of classes," said Kelly Willer, a junior from Columbus.

Julie Becker, a junior from Trotwood, disagreed.

"I don't like having finals during the last week of classes because it is so rushed," Becker said. "I don't have time to study adequately."
Freer access to exams proposed

By Mike Sponhour
Lantern staff writer

A faculty proposal requiring that students be allowed to see any term papers or exams by the second week of the following quarter was passed by the Council on Academic Affairs Wednesday.

However, the proposal allows departments and faculty to decide when and where the materials will be viewed. It was sent to the University Senate for final approval.

The policy was written to enforce a similar statement, adopted in 1978, in the OSU Student Handbook.

The proposal does not require the materials to be available for the entire two weeks, but only at some time during that period.

Council member Charles E. Corbato, professor of geology, drafted the policy. He acknowledged that it allowed restricted viewing, but said the University Senate instructed the council to draft a rule according to the handbook policy and not to change that policy.

Council members were concerned that the rule would allow a professor to make exams and papers available for only a few hours during the two weeks of the new quarter.

"Let the buyer beware if that is the course that you want to take," Corbato said.

Council member Ronald Rostottom, chairman of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, was not satisfied with the policy.

"We are not providing recourse to a student who is intimidated by a research professor," he said.

Council chairman Elmer Baumer, associate provost for academic affairs, said he had received only one student complaint about access to course materials in the last year.
Academic council rejects proposal to discard final exam requirement

By Mike Sponhour
Lantern staff writer

The Council on Academic Affairs rejected proposals Wednesday that would have allowed professors not to give final exams and made final exams optional for graduating seniors.

The original proposal, submitted by the Calendar Committee of University Senate, suggested that final exams are not required. It also provided a two-hour time block instead of a final to be used in any way instructors see fit.

A Council on Academic Affairs' subcommittee also studying the problem suggested exams be made optional for graduating seniors.

Administrators made the proposals because they said the current system encouraged professors either to not give senior exams, to give tests to the entire class before the regular finals week, or to inflate the grades of seniors and lower those of undergraduates so there are not too many high grades given in a particular course.

Senior exams must be taken during the last week of classes. All grades for graduating seniors must be turned in by the Thursday before finals week.

Academic Affairs Councilor Charles E. Corbato, a professor of geology and mineralogy, said senior grades must be turned in early to allow time to check records and diplomas. Programs for commencement must also be printed, he said.

Elmer Baumer, associate provost for academic affairs and council chairman, said a recent poll found a majority of faculty members opposed early exams. However, Baumer estimated that as many as half of all classes were given exams before finals week, a violation of university rules.

Ronald C. Rosbottom, a council member, said he was shocked by the poll's results.

"I am sitting here stunned that this is going on," said Rosbottom, chairman of the Romance Languages and Literature department.

The council felt the original rule was too broad and it would make the elimination of all final exams possible. A subcommittee proposal that senior exams be optional drew fire from council members.

"We need to start with one fundamental principle - everybody takes an exam, then figure out how to work it," said Douglas S. Kerr, an associate professor of computer information science.

The attack was led by Rosbottom, who said, "the pressure on professors not to have exams will be almost unbelievable."

Brad Britton, an undergraduate student representative on the council, said if the proposal were accepted, students would avoid classes that had exams.

Rosbottom said he did not like the university senate's proposal to make all finals optional or the subcommittee's suggestion to make senior finals optional.

In other matters, Rosbottom said the university must again decide between quarters or semesters. Semester would require only two commencements and give professors more time to grade potential graduates.
Semesters vs. Quarters
Quarter system, senior exams anger profs

By Mike Sponhour
Lantern staff writer

Faculty and administrators vented their frustrations over early senior exams and the current quarter system at a joint meeting of the Council on Academic Affairs and the University Senate Calendar Committee.

Friday's meeting was the result of the Council on Academic Affairs' rejection of a proposal Nov. 5 that suggested professors do not have to give final exams to graduating seniors.

The quarter system was also criticized because students are hurt academically if they miss any part of the 10-week quarter, and seniors now miss the last week of classes, administrators said.

The committees decided to abandon the senior exam issue for now. However, they did form a subcommittee to determine how long a quarter should be and what exceptions could be made for potential graduates.

Presently, seniors must take their exams during the 10th week of the quarter because the Registrar's Office requires that grades for graduating seniors be turned in on Thursday of the final week of classes. Extra time is also required because the university presents the actual diploma to each student at graduation and needs to print the commencement programs, said Charles E. Corbató, a member of the Council on Academic Affairs and a professor of geology and mineralogy.

Several committee members said early exams cost seniors a week of classwork. Also, it is difficult for professors to issue grades to graduating seniors early because many classes are graded on a curve, which is based on the performance of all students taking the class.

"If there is any question, the senior will get the lower grade," said Abbot S. Gaunt, a professor of zoology and a member of the calendar committee. "It is the only defense I have."

While many committee members prefer that all students take final exams during finals week, the Council on Academic Affairs' report stated that changes would have to be made in the graduation ceremony to make that possible.

The council's report suggested that commencement be held on the Sunday following finals week, rather than on a Friday. This change would make it possible for seniors to take exams during the regular finals week but would still provide enough time for graduates' transcripts to be checked.

Another solution mentioned at the meeting was not to give graduates a copy of their diploma until after the ceremony, which would leave the university more time to verify students have met all degree requirements.

However, any change would end an old university tradition that mandates Ohio State have a quarterly commencement on Fridays and that graduates receive their actual diploma at the commencement, Corbató said.

"Our sister institutions around the country have been able to push these parameters around and it hasn't ruined the institution," said Elmer Baumer, chairman of the Council on Academic Affairs and associate provost for academic affairs.

"There is a growing sense of frustration," said Ronald C. Rosbottom, a member of the Council on Academic Affairs. "Whenever we are confronted with a case of academics vs. whatever, we lose. Academics have to come first."

University Registrar Gene Schuster said many instructors who have graduating seniors will give their entire class a final during the 10th week to avoid giving exams twice. Also, about half of all classrooms reserved during finals week for exams are never used.

"I see no justification for this. It is bad enough to have early senior finals, but to use it as an excuse to eliminate a whole week of instruction, it is reprehensible," Rosbottom said.

Baumer said many other universities on semesters have only one or two graduation ceremonies a year. Several committee members said they wanted the university to study the feasibility of switching to the semester system.

Rosbottom, chairman of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, said committee members had urged Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Myles Brand to incorporate the semester versus quarter issue with the university curriculum review currently under way. However, Brand felt the two should be separate, he said.

"There are many people who think we are going to be on the semester system sooner or later," Rosbottom said. "To the provost, it is 'don't mix apples and oranges.' But to us, fruit is fruit."

Brand said he feels the curriculum review and the quarter system are separate issues.

"I think it would muddy the waters to run the two together," Brand said. "I taught 10 years under the two systems. There isn't a great difference."

However, Brand said he would support a separate review of the quarter system.
Second-day class drops proposed

By Maureen Kilkenny
Lantern staff writer

A proposal to require students to be in class by the second day or be dropped would open positions sooner for others trying to add classes.

The Council on Admission and Registration presented the proposal Wednesday to the Council on Academic Affairs.

Frank Carroll, chairman of the admission council, said the intent of the proposed change is to alleviate the problem of closed courses. “The no-shows occupy space on rosters, and therefore, that class space cannot be assigned to students waiting to get into the course,” he said.

The rule currently says the chairman of the instructor's department may drop a student from a course if “by the third instructional day of the quarter..., the first Friday of the quarter, or the second scheduled class session of the course, whichever occurs later, the student fails to attend the scheduled course without giving prior notification to the instructor.”

The amendment to the rule would change the word “later” to “earlier.”

The proposal would also amend the rule to say, “Students enrolled in courses that do not meet by Friday of the first week of classes may not be disenrolled under this provision if they attend the first scheduled class meeting.”

Carroll said this amendment will protect the student who is enrolled in a class which meets infrequently.

He said each department uses the rule differently and the proposed changes will not affect that flexibility.

Joan Leitzel, chairwoman of the academic council, said the proposals have been sent back to the admission council to clarify wording, and will be sent to the University Senate — which reviews all rule changes — if it is approved. Final approval is up to the Board of Trustees.

Carroll said it is difficult to know how many students are affected by closed courses each quarter.
Proposed drop rule on hold for spring quarter

By Debi Detwiler
Lantern staff writer

A proposal requiring students to be in class by the second day of the quarter or be dropped from the roster will not be in effect for spring quarter.

This proposed drop policy would open positions sooner for students trying to add the class than the present policy permits.

The proposal was reviewed by the Council on Academic Affairs and recommended to the Council on Admission and Registration, said Bobbi Davis, administrative associate for the Council on Academic Affairs.

The rule currently says the chairman of the instructor's department may drop a student from a course "if by the third instructional day of the quarter...the first Friday of the quarter, or the second scheduled class session of the course, whichever occurs later, the student fails to attend the scheduled course without giving prior notification to the instructor."

The amendment to the rule would change the word "later" to "earlier."

Carroll said it is difficult to know how many students are affected by closed courses each quarter.
Firing coverage hurts education

Council says academics overshadowed by athletics

By CHRISTOPHER J. BINDER
Lantern staff writer

The recent personnel decision pertaining to the athletic department has raised a few eyebrows on the Council on Academic Affairs.

"All the attention that's been given this past week to that issue and all of the emotion that's around it should never be allowed to either diminish or overshadow the academic mission of the institution, and the recent efforts on the part of this administration and the president," said Randy Smith, vice chairman for the council.

The council feels the coverage of President Jennings decision has reflected negatively on the educational and academic aspects of the university, said Ronald Rosbottom, chairman for the department of Romance Languages and Literature.

"Had the story lasted a day or two and had only the personnel decision been criticized, I'm sure the council would have preferred to let the matter lay," he said. "But increasingly the stories were implying that somehow academics was the primary concern of this institution, of its president, of its academic leadership."

"That concerns us because we've seen an extraordinary turnaround at this university in the last six or seven years in its priorities and in the effort to increase the academic education profile of the institution," Rosbottom said.

The Committee on Academic Affairs is a committee of the University Senate made up of students and faculty. "It reviews and evaluates every major curriculum change in the university," he said.

Smith said the council meets in committee and subcommittee groups every other week.

"Every week individual departments try to come to grips with improving the quality of their programs, preparing students as best they can for their activities when their undergraduate or graduate program is completed," Smith said.

He said people should focus on these activities, instead of letting the athletic issues overshadow them.

Rosbottom said he had no information available to him and would not comment on the president's statements.

"One of the major advances is improvement of the quality of the preparedness of the students who are entering Ohio State," Rosbottom said.

Attrition rate of entering students fell (this year), he said.

"Six or seven years ago 25 percent of all the students who entered Ohio State left the first year usually because they weren't prepared," he said.

Rosbottom also mentioned that because of Ed Jennings, it is much easier to recruit faculty than it was six or seven years ago.

"Faculty come to this institution to be involved with research activities and teaching, to interact with other new, quality faculty in good programs," Smith said.

He said his department in competition with Rutgers University and the University of Southern California, attracted a major scholar in contemporary French culture.

"We got him because he was excited about what he found here," Smith said. People want to come here, he added.

"High faculty morale is very important because it encourages the faculty to think up new curricula, to work harder, to review their curricula, to think more about the educational process they're here for, and less about their own personal careers," he said.

Rosbottom said students care about faculty morale as well.

"No student likes a grumpy faculty member," he said.

Other advancements in the university's academy include an increase in the quality of some of the programs and the introduction of new ones, he said.

"It's established a level of excellence at this institution that is important for the students who choose for whatever reason to come here, and large numbers do, and for the faculty who choose to come and stay here and large numbers do," Smith said.
Council of Academic Affairs concerned about the growing enrollment numbers

By Jay Gross
Lantern staff writer

The Council on Academic Affairs has recommended to the University Senate an extension of the OSU selective admission program for all quarters because of increasing enrollment figures.

"Open admission in winter and summer is creating problems like we had in the fall," said Joan Leitzel, associate provost of curriculum and instruction and the chairperson of the Council on Academic Affairs. "We are getting too many applications. We will eventually have to go to selective admission in the winter and summer."

Selective admissions is presently in effect for fall quarter only. Under open admissions, the application deadline for fall quarter freshmen had to be moved back earlier each year to keep within the state mandated enrollment ceiling. Many students were unable to get their applications in on time because of confusion from the changing admissions deadlines.

OSU President Edward H. Jennings' staff is reviewing the recommendation by Academic Affairs this summer.

"Implementation of selective admission in fall quarter has gone very well," said James Meska, special assistant to the president. "It seems to be accomplishing many of its purposes. Whether it's extended to other quarters raises additional problems that we need to fully explore."

Paula Compton, director of freshman admissions, said "The demand of students wanting to enroll in the university for other quarters has increased the need for selective admissions to be implemented in those quarters."

In 1989, for the first time ever, the university had to close winter admissions earlier than expected, Compton said.

Admission was closed before the normal deadlines because of the great demand for enrollment that quarter, she said.

"No one can argue that open admissions is fair," Leitzel said. "Our selective admissions policy in the fall is better than the open policy other quarters."

In April 1986, the University Senate approved a selective admissions plan for the Columbus-campus.

The selective admission program began with the selection of the incoming freshmen class of fall 1987. The program was seen as a more objective system of admitting freshmen and as a way to raise the academic level of freshmen.

Jennings called for a selective admission program at Ohio State in the fall of 1985. Open admissions in the fall was not fair to prospective students, Jennings said.

"The open admissions policy we had before was unfair to the people of Ohio," said Gene Schuster, university registrar.

In some parts of the state people were not aware of the changing application deadlines, he said.

"If we admit too many people, no one will be able to get classes," Compton said. "Admissions must be monitored to keep the school operating properly."

Since the program has been instituted, the academic level of incoming students has been raised in class rank and college preparatory courses. Retention figures are up more than four percent for the freshmen classes who have been admitted during selective admissions.

"For Ohio State it will work better to use the selective process," Schuster said. "We will wind up with a stronger institution, offering less remedial courses, better retention rates, and save money in recruiting students, making the university more successful."

Selective admissions is not based on grades, test scores and class rank alone. Admissions factors also include academic potential, leadership, competitiveness of the high school and special hardship factors, said Leitzel.

"If we were just judging students by ACT scores and grade point averages, we would not be getting a diversity of students," Leitzel said.

Leitzel credited the faculty admissions committee for keeping diversity in the freshmen classes admitted under selective admissions.
Seniors may take exams finals week

By Michael Zawisza
Lantern staff writer

Traditionally, early finals have been the last hurrah for graduating seniors, but not for long if a proposal to eliminate them is adopted by the university.

A motion to eliminate early finals for graduating seniors is being considered by the Council on Academic Affairs.

If instituted, graduating seniors would be required to take finals with other students during finals week, said Lewis Greenwald, an associate professor of Zoology and council member.

Greenwald says the current rule cheats students out of their chance to reap the benefits of a full quarter of education.

"They (graduating seniors) have nine weeks to do what everybody else has ten or 11 weeks to do," Greenwald said. "It's bad for students the way we do things now."

The proposed rule change has been researched by the subcommittee of the Council on Academic Affairs for over a year, with input from the Office of the Provost and Registrar Gene Schuster.

The subcommittee has faced several problems with the current policy, Greenwald said.

The tenth week of the quarter is a hectic time when many research projects and term papers are due, leaving little time for students to concentrate on finals, the subcommittee said. They added that some faculty could ease the difficulty of finals for seniors by placing fewer essay questions or calculation problems on their finals so the grades could be handed in on time.

Another concern raised by the subcommittee was the fact that some faculty give one final to all students during the last week of class, depriving all students of several days of instruction, thus, shortening the quarter for the entire class.

The subcommittee also said the faculty is hampered by the additional work involved with the development of two tests, limiting their involvement in separate research activities.

Although the change may help alleviate these problems, it might create others.

Commencement ceremonies would probably be held on the same date, the Friday of finals week. However, final grades would not be determined in time to give each student a diploma. Greenwald said a certificate designating each student as a "candidate for a degree" would be handed out in place of a diploma, which would be mailed to the graduates about two weeks after the ceremony.

Jennifer Novelli, vice-president of the Undergraduate Student Government and council member, voiced concerns about what she described as, the "emotional factor" of graduation.

"What about those students who go to the commencement ceremony and later find out that they didn't graduate?" she questioned.

The designation of students who graduate with honors at commencement would also be complicated because final grades would not be completed.

Greg Bruce, a senior from Perrysburg, said the rule should not be changed.

"I plan on graduating this year and everything will come to a head at the end of the quarter," said Bruce. "That's all I need, something else to deal with."

If the rule is changed, it won't become effective for two years after it is approved.

The Council on Academic Affairs will vote on the rule first, then submit it to the University Senate. Upon revision, the rule will be voted on by the Board of Trustees.

The committee plans to gain further input from students as well as faculty to revise the plan.
Early senior finals may be eliminated

By Michael Zawisza
Latern staff writer

OSU seniors are one step closer to taking their finals with all the rest of us.

A motion to eliminate the current system of early senior finals has passed its first test, receiving approval from the Council on Academic Affairs by a seven to four vote.

However, the decision to accept the proposal was not made without a few sticking points.

Council members representing USG voiced adamant opposition to the new plan, saying students feel strongly about receiving their diplomas at the graduation ceremonies, something which would be difficult if the current system of early senior finals is eliminated.

"The undergraduate students have asked me to defend the tradition of having diplomas at graduation. It is through senior finals that we can ensure this tradition," said Jennifer Novelli, vice-president of USG and council member. "I urge you to listen to the students and to vote no to eliminating senior finals today."

But other council members felt education takes precedence over tradition.

"We need to concentrate much more on the quality of the diploma and less on when the graduate receives it," said Gregory Baker, council member and professor of mathematics.

"This present system was created to recognize our students in a manner that few universities, and no other universities of our size do," Novelli said. "It was created in order to give parents of graduates the chance to touch their child's dreams and potential. It was not created based upon academic justifications."

With the council clashing on this fundamental aspect of the plan, a compromise was made.

Kitty Locker, associate professor of English and one of the architects of the proposal, offered an amendment to the draft that said the goal of canceling early senior finals but also distributing diplomas at graduation will be pursued.

Novelli said this doesn't guarantee the compromise will be accepted, but it will be seriously considered as a solution to satisfy both the students and the administrators.

"This was a stalemate. What I did in there (the meeting) was I presented the students' viewpoint as it was expressed to me," Novelli said. "My opinion is that students aren't in opposition to senior finals. What they are in opposition to are not getting their diplomas at graduation," Novelli said. "This doesn't ensure having diplomas at graduation, but this endeavors to be able to receive the diplomas on time."

But the proposal is far from finished as it heads to the University Senate where it will probably be remanded down to the Rules Committee for further review. From there it returns to the Senate, and if passed, it will move on to the Board of Trustees where a final vote will be made.
Restructuring rules considered

By Lisa Webert
Lantern staff writer

Although the deans of every college and department will be submitting their restructuring proposals to the Office of Academic Affairs by February 1, the Council of Academic Affairs still has not approved guidelines to govern the proposals’ framework. The CAA discussed a preliminary draft of guidelines which are intended to aid the college administrations, faculty and staff in the preparation of the proposals for college and departmental reorganization in Wednesday night’s meeting.

“We must be awfully careful about applying criteria on those who have already put in tremendous amounts of time,” said Dale Bertsch, professor of city and regional planning and public policy and management.

Bertsch said CAA should ask each college and department what criteria they have already imposed on themselves. If the criteria sound reasonable, then the council would superimpose standard university criteria to regulate all colleges and departments.

“We seem to be closer to obtaining a set of questions we are happy with.” — Donald Dell

The draft of the proposal guidelines was a consolidation of suggestions submitted to Associate Provost Donald Dell, by CAA members.

“We seem to be closer to obtaining a set of questions we are happy with,” Dell said.

Dell added that CAA was trying to provide a list of questions that they hoped proposals would address. However, the list would not reveal criteria that will govern decisions regarding the proposals.

According to the draft, presenters of proposals will be required to address three general areas in great detail: the proposed changes and underlying rationale, the process that led to the proposal, and the impact of the proposal on the entire university community.

Dell said the questions that will be asked are of a generic nature, which will allow each college and department to tailor the questions to their specific needs and resources.

After much discussion, it was decided that minor changes would be added to the draft by Dell and submitted to CAA for approval at a later date.

In the February 1 proposals, deans must submit plans for a possible 2 percent, 4 percent, or 7 percent reduction in their budgets, as well as plans for internal restructuring.
Academic council outlines restructuring task

By David Tull

Guidelines for academic restructuring should be both flexible and generic, according to members of the Council on Academic Affairs.

Several members used these descriptions as the council met Jan. 19 to discuss proposed guidelines. CAA members made clear that they do not wish simply to generate another level of reports from academic units.

"What we are about is not drawing up an outline for a new report," said Don Dell, associate provost and council chair. "We are trying to let people know the kinds of things that are on our minds — the kinds of questions we'll probably ask — as we entertain proposals for restructuring."

By Feb. 1, deans will submit plans to the provost identifying potential reductions of 2 percent, 4 percent and 7 percent for the 1995 fiscal year. In addition, they will identify reallocations of 7 percent over five years to improve their colleges' research and education programs.

In some cases, the February proposals are just a starting point for discussions, according to Robert Arnold, associate provost. In other cases — the colleges of Agriculture and Engineering, for example — restructuring is fairly far along.

CAA's principal concerns are academic: curriculum, department consolidation, majors and the like. Based on the discussion of the council Jan. 19, council members will ask deans:

- What changes are proposed?
- What is the rationale for changes?
- What process was used to develop the proposals?
- What will be the impact of the proposals?

Committee members stressed that their primary considerations are the academic impact of proposed changes. "We need a clear statement of how (changes) will serve the mission of teaching, research and service, and how these will be enhanced by the changes," said Lewis Greenwald, associate professor of zoology.

Changes should not tarnish the academic missions, said Kitty O. Lockey, professor of English.

At the same time, members suggest that financial gain would be a factor if it provided opportunities for enhancing other academic efforts.

Universities in general are designed for growth, not reduction, said Dale Bertsch, professor of city and regional planning and Bertsch. CAA's guidelines must provide "an emerging and dynamic kind of inquiry" in restructuring.

No vote was taken on the draft guidelines. Based on CAA discussions, Dell will make revisions and circulate a second draft to members, he said. It may be voted on at the next meeting Feb. 2.

The final version may be put to the test quickly. Some colleges may be so far along that CAA may see some proposals this quarter, Dell said.

Restructuring "is a major opportunity to improve this University," said Arnold.

"We're very excited for the potential in that. When it's over, we are going to have a stronger, more focused and much better University."

Oversight committee to meet this week

By John W. Fees

The chair has been chosen, a staff member has been named and the Ad Hoc Senate Oversight Committee on University Restructuring has begun the process of outlining its role in the restructuring process.

"My goal is simply to make this a better university," said Susan Huntington, University Professor and professor of history of art, who was elected chair of the OCR panel. "We're actually looking for ways to work with all groups involved in restructuring.

Joan Patton, chief fiscal officer for the College of Medicine, was named as staff representative last week. Another staff member chosen Dec. 4 had turned down the position.

Patton, who has been on campus since 1973, said she too is waiting to see just what role OCR will have in the restructuring process. "I feel it's something extremely important to this University," she said.

In addition to the staff member, there are 14 others on the committee, including eight faculty members (three of whom are ex-officio), three administrators (one, Richard Sisson, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, will also be ex-officio), and three students.

Huntington said the group is holding its first two meetings this week.
CAA passes restructuring while protesting process

By J.P. Finet
Lantern staff writer

The Council of Academic Affairs (CAA) is protesting the lack of student and staff involvement in a restructuring plan that will see departments cut.

In a meeting Wednesday, the CAA passed a proposal for restructuring the Colleges of Engineering and Veterinary Medicine, 7-4 with one abstaining, and unanimously decided to write a letter to the Office of Academic Affairs voicing their concerns about the process of drafting the proposal.

The letter stated the council thought students and staff should have had more input in the proposal.

“Students already feel that they have been left out of the process,” said Bonita McGee, an undergraduate representative of CAA. “And this is just a testament that says, ‘Look, we are.”

Brian McGee, CAA graduate-student representative who abstained, said his reason for not voting was the fact students and staff were omitted in the process.

“I cannot say, as a good citizen of this university, that I find it possible to vote for this promising product when the process was so flawed,” he said.

Much of the discussion addressed the council members' concerns that approval of the Veterinary School proposal would send a message to other colleges that student and staff interest was not important in the formation of a restructuring proposal.

According to the proposal, the departments of Veterinary Pathobiology, Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology and Veterinary Anatomy and Cellular Biology will be combined into one department, which has yet to be named.

Much of the discussion addressed the council members' concerns the approval of the veterinary school proposal would send a message to other schools that student and staff concerns were ignored.

“I think that if we approve this, we will not be giving the green light to other colleges to be sloppy in their consultation,” said Lewis Greenwald, an associate professor of zoology. “I think that after this, every other committee which submits a proposal will make very sure that the process they go through is correct.”

The College of Engineering's proposal for restructuring, which would cut the number of departments in the college from 15 to eight, won unanimous approval from the council.

The proposals will go before the University Senate for final approval during a special session to be held May 21.
CAA accepts first two plans

By Gemma McLuckie

Like players with a Rubik's cube, colleges and departments have spent many hours this year turning their disciplines this way and that until the colors matched.

The Council on Academic Affairs has the job of determining if all the squares truly match, what the impact is of new groupings, and if colleges have played by the "rules," guidelines contained in a November memo from Frederick Sisson, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost.

The council has determined that the College of Veterinary Medicine got the colors right, but didn't give staff and students enough say in the process.

CAA also found that the College of Engineering gave everyone a chance to play and came up with new groupings that will allow faculty to work more closely together.

However, on May 4 CAA voted to forward both proposals to the University Senate for consideration.

With a unanimous vote, CAA members approved the College of Engineering restructuring proposal, which calls for reducing the number of teaching departments from 15 to eight.

"The end result of restructuring will be eight departments that are closer to a uniform size," said Joe B. Cruz Jr., dean of the College of Engineering.

The college also plans to consolidate the School of Architecture and the departments of City and Regional Planning and Landscape Architecture into a single unit without departments but with three programs.

Faculty in the eight engineering departments will focus on one or more "key technologies": electronic materials, manufacturing, transportation, advanced information processing and high performance computing, environment or bio-engineering.

Collecting together faculty who have similar interests will encourage the "possibilities of forming cross-disciplinary centers," Cruz said.

The college is committed to intercollege research, added William A. Bacsilack III, associate dean for research and college development. Already, the college's "joint appointments endorse the spirit of collaboration," he said.

Faculty with joint appointments work in two or more colleges.

Also, the college plans to fund interdisciplinary projects, which "will gel, get rolling, then build external funding."

Administrators provided many opportunities for faculty, students and staff to contribute to the discussion of mergers and consolidation, noted Bernard Araven, chair of the CAA sub-committee that considered the engineering proposal. There were 57 meetings or forums, weekly meetings for the School of Architecture, and requests to college and University groups for written input.

The College of Veterinary Medicine, on the other hand, erred in not providing students and staff enough opportunities to have their say, members of CAA noted. The council discussed the matter at its April 27 and May 4 meetings, trying to decide if the proposal should be sent back to the colleges.

"The process of consultation is less desirable," Greg Baker said April 27. Baker is chair of subcommittee A, which brought the veterinary medicine proposal to the entire council.

Brian McGee, graduate student representative, was more blunt.

"How bad does the consultative process have to be before we say it's not acceptable?" he asked. McGee pointed out that there were no students on the college's restructuring committee. He said one forum for students was scheduled during exam week, and others for staff and students were held after faculty received ballots in late January to vote on the proposal, which was due in the Office of Academic Affairs Feb. 1.

Higher-level staff in the college did participate, said Glenn Hoffis, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. He admitted that "staff up and down the halls" did not have as much opportunity, and that students were "involved a bit late in the game, but prior to the faculty vote."

He added, "If we had to do it over, we would change the scheduling."

On May 4, council members, 7 to 4 with one abstention, approved a motion to send Veterinary Medicine's plan to reorganize five departments into three to the University Senate for consideration. McGee said he will write a minority opinion against acceptance to accompany the CAA recommendation to Senate.

CAA also unanimously passed a second motion that asks the provost to send a warning to Veterinary Medicine that it did not consult enough with students and staff before submitting its plan, and that in the future, CAA expects college administrators to allow faculty, staff and students a larger voice in any decision-making about academic matters.

Veterinary Medicine's new configuration is grouped around the two aspects of the field: applied skills and basic research.

A new department will serve as the college's primary research arm. Its faculty also will teach basic sciences and pathology. The Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine will continue to serve as the focus for interaction with the College of Agriculture and the state's livestock producers and veterinarians. The Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences will continue its primary responsibility for clinical teaching of future veterinarians and treatment of animals.

"The college needs to be based in science," Hoffis told CAA members April 27. "The way to draw in faculty and graduate students is to have strong basic science.

"The new, larger department gives the college flexibility in setting up cooperative projects and in funding decisions that were not possible with the old, smaller departments," he said. "Once we join them together, and with the passage of time and movement of people, possibilities will open that will allow collaboration of basic sciences with more disciplines."

The two proposals will be considered by the University Senate at a special meeting, 9 a.m. May 21 in 130 Kottman Hall. If approved by the Senate, the plans will be sent to the Board of Trustees.

Proposed restructuring

Veterinary Medicine
Reduce departments from 5 to 3 by:
- Merging departments of Veterinary Anatomy and Cellular Biology, Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology, and Veterinary Pathobiology

Engineering
Reduce departments from 15 to 8 by:
- Combining Civil Engineering and Engineering Graphics
- Combining Industrial and Systems Engineering and Welding Engineering
- Combining Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, Engineering Mechanics and Aviatio
- Also, consolidating School of Architecture and the departments of City and Regional Planning and Landscape Architecture into a single unit with no departments but three programs.
Student Affairs: senior final tradition to stay

By Robbin Bowman
Lantern staff writer

Despite suggestions by faculty that Ohio State delay its tradition of finals week commencement by one week, the Council on Student Affairs voted last night to maintain current procedures until the issue could be further researched.

The issue was first raised by the Council of Academic Affairs in response to the strain put on faculty members administering early final exams to graduating seniors, Council Chairwoman Kathleen Carberry said.

Decision on the issue became a problem because faculty members favored delaying graduation so that everyone takes future final exams at once, while seniors generally did not want to attend classes an extra week.

"Seniors like the idea of getting done early after four or five years here," said Mike Meneer, next year's chairman.

"After going through their entire college career, this is something they have to look forward to, and I'm not willing to vote to take that away from them," Meneer said.

The Council on Enrollment and Student Progress, which later heard the issue, suggested two alternatives. First, delay graduation by one week or hold commencement on the Saturday after the last week of classes. Secondly, students would receive their actual diplomas a week later.

While some student representatives on the council favored the second option, others opposed it, and faculty members saw it as problematic.

"This is a tradition we take very seriously here at OSU," Meneer said. "We are one of the last major universities that gives out diplomas at the actual graduation."

"The real issue here is how quickly you can get grades collected," said University Registrar Gene Schuster.

"Final exams aren't due until the next Monday after finals week. This makes it difficult for grades to be processed in a period between Thursday at noon and Friday morning. It would actually be impossible," Schuster said.

Our current system also deals in a certain way with student "surprises," which lets people know their status ahead of time so they're not standing at commencement, with relatives around, being told that they didn't make it," he said.

The Council on Enrollment and Student Progress agreed to go on record as being against a 12th week commencement option that would delay graduation. The body also said it would look into surveying faculty, staff and students in the future, concerning their opinions on early senior graduation.