STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE FOR CO-ED HOURS

Petition for Parietals

Mark Mortensen '73

We, the resident students of Lowell Technological Institute hereby submit this informal petition for co-ed hours. We have requested temporary parietals repeatedly and have been denied repeatedly. We have been told by Dean King that he will not take positive action on temporary parietals until a decision has been made by the many committees concerning permanent parietals. This decision has been postponed repeatedly for no apparent reason. We feel there is no rational reason for not granting our request for temporary parietals or taking immediate action concerning permanent parietals. The actions of the residents during All Tech Weekend demonstrate that we are mature enough to handle the responsibility of parietals. There were no major incidents reported during the times the girls were present in the dormitories. Why were we then denied temporary parietals? We feel that parietals (which shall henceforth be known as co-ed hours) will have a markedly beneficial effect upon dormitory life:

1. It will promote a relaxed, home-like atmosphere in the dormitories releasing the tension due to the dungeon-like effect inherent in all-male dorm life.
2. It will promote personal hygiene and cleanliness of the dormitory, thereby lifting dorm pride.
3. It will promote an awareness of future social responsibilities.
4. It will give the student an opportunity to take upon himself the responsibility which his age and maturity warrant.

We therefore request a plan of weekend co-ed hours within the immediate future in keeping with the majority of progressive state schools in this country.

Election Results

In the special ballot concerning parietals held in the dorms on Thursday night, February 26, 1970, shortly after the demonstration, the results were:

With 85% of the total dorm residents voting:
92% were in favor of parietals
7.8% were in favor of weekend parietals
0.2% were against parietals
99.9% WERE IN FAVOR OF PARIELTALS!

For those interested in numbers:
763 of the 900 dorm residents voted
Daily - 460
Weekends - 60
None - 7

It appears that a majority of the students DO want parietals!

Non-negotiable Demands

We, the undergraduate resident students of Lowell Technological Institute believe that Dean King must exercise the responsibilities obligated to him as Dean of Students to let it be known to deans of other universities that they are obligated and recommended to the Board of Trustees that the Residence Halls of the Institution be open seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day to all facets in posthaste without automatic conformation.

POWER TO THE STUDENTS
From the beginning by Jack Costello & Mike Goldeen

The Dormitory protest, held in Leitch Hall Lounge last Tuesday night, was the powerhouse form which set off the powder keg. The issue was protestable, the aton was held with distinction.

After having a memorandum affer mentioned in neglected or ignored by the administration, the students were quick to respond to the call for protest. A general dorm meeting was held in Bourgeois Hall, despite negative support from the proctor staff of which funds were procured to placate materials and plans for a work party were drawn up. The Low Sun was notified as to the proposed student activities of Wedgedate last Tuesday, to which they gave from paper coverage the following evening. The dorm meeting held in Leitch Hall Lounge at 8:00 P.M. that night, limited the activities of the following day, to which the students were distributed and the remainder of the evening saw the residents of the dorms expressing their feelings on the cardboard, which they would circulate everyone the next day. It was shortly after this meeting that Dick Bettei, proctor of the third floor, was personally contacted by Dean King and informed that the Dean was bound to address the students at the expected demonstration.

At 11:45 A.M., the spirited students appeared on in front of Leitch Hall, placards in hand, and proceeded to Deppert Hall, across the Table Avenue Bridge, in an orderly but undaunted fashion. Local news coverage included WACF, WBRZ, WCRU, and WMEX. WRBZ's Jack Bosset later interviewed Dick Sulzgroove, Jack Leitch, Dean Morrissey, and Dick Bettie, who were instrumental in planning and leading the demonstration. The students split into two separate groups, which then circled about each side of the town in front of U. S. Club until the opening speech by Dr. Gerald O'Connor of the LL. Department.

Dr. O'Connor approved the concept of parietals in the words that "Responsibility shows a certain amount of freedom just as freedom entails its designated amount of responsibility." He also urged the students to protest to impart the same courtesy to Dean King as they had given to him. Speaking to the microphone, Roy Richards, student trustee, congratulated the students on their sanity and impressed upon them the value of competent representation. He also read a motion concerning daily parietals.

Mark Mortensen, a resident of Leitch Hall, expressed the opinion of the demonstrators in the form of a formal petition, (see front page) which, after his delivery, he handed to Dick Bettei, who in turn handed it to Dean King, mixing the petition official.

Dean King, placing the book, claiming that he did not have the power to grant permanent parietals, while ignoring the possibility of temporary parietals.

Dean Objects To Weekdays But Supports Weekends

At 3:40 P.M. on February 26, 1970, the "Text" spoke to Dean King and asked him to make a statement concerning the issues of parietals on the Campus of L. T. I. The Dean goes on record saying, "I am in favor of weekend parietals under certain guidelines to be established by the students and the AD HOC committee. Due to the demands of the academic requirements at the Institute it is not sound to have them (parietals) during the week." He further went on to comment that the students displayed a respectful and orderly atmosphere of the demonstration which pleased him.

The next on the agenda was Dean King's address to the students concerning the issue at hand. The Dean attributed the cause of inefficiency concerning this matter to the "bogging down" of the issue in committee, namely the Institute Council, and discovered any personal responsibility for the hold-up. He stated his approval of weekend parietals but defended weekday privileges in view of the heavy academic load. In a question-and-answer period, Dean seemed lost for answers to questions directed to him by the student body. The statement by the Dean that the majority of students presently residing in the dormitories were not in favor of parietals, sparked the demand for a student vote on the issue. When the students were asked when they wanted the elections, they replied, "Tonight! Tonight!" As the Dean left the stairs, Roy Richards, deferred the Dean's excuse of red tape policies toward parietals, stating that the Board of Trustees could approve or disprove any issue regardless of its stand in committee. In other words, the trustees don't need the approval of any other committee to pass on an issue.

The students participating in the protest demonstration conducted themselves in an exemplary fashion. If displaced conduct and respect for authority is valuable guidelines for responsible maturity, then the dormitory students of Low Tech have proven themselves worthy of unapproved parietals.

Dr. O'Connor, Student Council Advisor, spoke out in favor of student demands for open dorms.

O'Connor Favors Daily Co-Ed Hours

Let me briefly try to place the subject of co-ed hours (parietals) in its proper context. Co-edity in the scenic view of some student, administration, and administrators, the issue of co-ed visiting hours is not social trivia. Rather, it is one of the most important parts in the total educations of every college student. The college at the University of Alabama recently reaffirmed this principle. "Visiting hours involve most profoundly the ways in which the different generations perceive each other, respect each other's seriousness of purpose, and make each other's commitment to rationality, responsibility, and maturity. Unfortunately this principle has never been recognized at Low Tech. As far as possible the faculty suffers from academic arthritis, the administration suffers from bureaucratic encrustation, the student body from intellectual...

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Co-Ed Dorms

Many students, especially those who find their present dormitory life dreary, may wonder why the women continue to have difficulties with off-campus housing. Many perceived problems, such as housing quality, furnish the students' dissatisfaction.

The administration has apparently decided to do nothing to alleviate these grievances. However, the women's lived grievances have not been believed by the administration. Instead, the administration prefers to ignore the complaints.

There is no indication that the students' problems are being investigated. This is especially true in the case of the off-campus housing.

The administration has not been concerned with the women's grievances. Instead, the administration has been more concerned with other issues, such as academics.

It seems that the administration is unwilling to listen to the students' concerns. Instead, the administration has been more focused on other matters.

Despite the administration's lack of concern, the students continue to struggle with their grievances. However, it remains to be seen if the administration will take any steps to address these problems.

Chairman Of The Board Speaks

Att. James Curtis, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Lowell Tech, told the "Times", "You cannot run a university by an arbitrary rule." He went on to say that no formal petition had ever been brought before the Board of Trustees regarding parietals.

He said that he's not against protests or parietals, but in any way he will let mob action influence his decisions. The Board of Trustees will study the matter when all the facts are presented in an orderly manner. He wants to hear from faculty, students, administration, and parents before any decision will be made.

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SLOWER THAN LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION!
MORE POWERFUL THAN OUR NUCLEUR REACTOR!
ABLE TO SWAY THE TRUSTEES WITH A SINGLE SOUND!
LOOK UP IN THE SKY!
IT'S A BIRD! IT'S A PLANE!
NO, IT'S MY PRESIDENT, MARTIN J.!
LYDON! WHO CAN BEND STEEL IN HIS BARE HANDS!
IGNORE THE COURSE OF STUDENT OPINION!
AND WHO, DISGUISED AS ORANGE KING,
MILD MANNEQUE TYRANT OF A Miserable METROPOLITAN INSTITUTE;
FIGHTS A NEVER ENDING BATTLE AGAINST TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND THE AMERICAN WAY!