

24-hour open house policy [n.d.] receives Dickerson's approval

By BARBARA PARNESS
State News Staff Writer

A policy allowing 24-hour open houses in women's residence halls was approved today by Milton B. Dickerson, vice president for student affairs.

Dickerson also approved a policy outlining the use of alcoholic beverages in residence halls.

The new open house policy requires the governing council of each women's residence hall to establish a guest policy between the official closing and opening

hours. The policy must be approved by the head advisor and manager of the hall.

Closing hours for women's residences are midnight Sunday through Thursday and 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Opening is 6 a.m.

"Allowing guests in women's residence halls between the closing hour and official opening provides an opportunity for coeds to experience a more equitable living situation without jeopardizing hall security," the policy states.

The policy also states that "the responsibilities of maintaining the element of academic privacy in the living areas and maintaining personal conduct in a manner which is in accordance with the policies and ordinances of MSU falls to the individual residents of the hall."

Violations of the "responsibilities" will be subject to judicial action and may lead to review and possible amendment of the new policy.

The individual residence hall policies must designate the areas agreed upon by the hall government, management and head advisor which are open to both sexes at any time. Guests are required to have specific escorts between official closing and opening hours.

"The residence hall student government shall assume reasonable responsibility for behavior of students in these areas," the policy states.

The alcohol policy approved by Dickerson and effective today requires any residence hall electing to permit alcoholic beverages within the hall to submit guidelines on usage to the Dean of Students office.

Each hall must submit a "policy which will show the process used to control the use of alcohol and the process of referral and judicial action taken in event of violation of the policy."

The board of trustees amended University Ordinance 22 at their April meeting to allow alcoholic beverages on campus.

Each residence hall policy must include the following provisions:

- The possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in the hall is restricted to persons 21 or older.
- The primary responsibility for the proper use of alcoholic beverages shall not

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Open house

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rest with the resident assistant but shall be the responsibility of all those living in the hall.

— Each hall shall include within its policy a roommate bill of rights.

The policy for each hall must be approved by the head advisor and manager.

Dickerson said the alcohol policy can be effective after the individual hall submits its guidelines. Earlier it was announced that the amendment to Ordinance 22 would not be effective until May 15.

"The campus police are following the new regulation so we might as well make it effective," he said.

Both the open house policy and the alcohol policy were approved by the University Student Affairs Committee Friday.

MSU Student Leaders Fight Back at Board

Academic Freedom carries responsibilities for those who govern—as well as the governed, Michigan State University student leaders said today.

"MSU Trustees cannot expect students to follow a freedom report if they themselves do not."

Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) board members discussed current Trustees-student conflicts in a position paper approved Tuesday night.

ASMSU is the school's student government organization.

In the six-page review of recent unrest surrounding Trustee passage of a student suspension resolution, ASMSU spokesmen charged the governing board with obscuring the real issues.

The position paper takes particular issue with Trustee criticism of certain student activist groups.

A Republican member of the board, Kenneth W. Thompson of Lansing, called last week for an Attorney General's investigation of such groups as Students for a Democratic Society and the Student Liberation Alliance.

SEEK TO DISRUPT

Such groups, Thompson said, have as their basic objective a maximum disruption of the university's administration and educational process.

"This is a secondary issue," the students replied.

"The real problem is the legality of the substance and method of passage of the Sept. 20 resolution."

Board of Trustees members approved the controversial suspension document during what was termed a closed "Finance Committee" session.

Since word of the action spread to students through the news media, certain Trustees have called for reconsideration.

President John A. Hannah has said he will recommend rescinding the motion.

The resolution lists grounds for expulsion of students pending disciplinary action as outlined in the Academic Freedom report.

"The Board of Trustees, by secretly passing this resolution, has circumvented the amendment procedures established in the Academic Freedom report," the students said.

"Trustees have, in fact, placed themselves in a position superior to the report . . . and have reduced it to a hollow testimony to the myth of Academic Freedom."

"And," the students said, "they have consciously established the doctrine that students are guilty until proven innocent."

Student described the Trustees action as coupling injustice with absurdity.

"There could be nothing more ludicrous than a university official informing a torch-carrying student that he cannot burn a building because he has been officially suspended."

STEVENS PRAISED

The students praised Board Chairman Don Stevens, D-Okemos, for participating in a student gathering to discuss the suspension resolution at Beaumont Tower on Sept. 30.

"Agreeing to speak to a peaceful assembly was a laudable action for a responsive

and responsible public official to take," the student said.

ASMSU Board members said they had invited Stevens after the Trustee chairman met with a group of students Sept. 29 in Okemos.

"Too often, public officials imbued by electoral success see themselves in a position above those they serve . . . shunning and avoiding contact with their employers—the constituents—until the next election," the students said.

"Cooperation should be encouraged," they continued.

"Many of the problems of this University and society would be solved if Trustees and other public officials were more willing to mingle with and seek the opinion of those they serve."

The students issued an invitation to other Trustees to meet with them to discuss issues they called "fundamental to the future of Michigan State University and the people of the State of Michigan."

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