

# U.H. LAW LETTER

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## AN OPINION

A serious lack of accountability has been evidenced by the law school administration over the past two years. Specifically, an organization called the "Dean's Advisory Council" has been making an ever increasing number of policy-related decisions concerning law school matters, without notice to, or the consent of, the student body and faculty.

The membership of the Council is limited to fully tenured faculty, and is confined to those who are in town during the winter and summer breaks. And, at present, membership to this select group is further restricted to those professors who have the Dean's "personal" blessing to sit on the Council.

The Council has not deemed it necessary to comply with state or university regulations regarding public notice of its meetings, and has failed to post an agenda or minutes of its meetings for public inspection.

In the past, all policy-related decisions were made by the assembled faculty (those fully tenured and those on the tenure track). The Dean would implement these decisions. This was true of many areas of discussion, i.e., student-faculty committees for Curriculum, Library, Faculty Appointments, and Admissions.

However, the Council has usurped the power normally delegated to other proper bodies. In the name of expediency, the Council has been used to make eleventh hour changes, and to fill gaps, in the faculty line-up for courses in coming semesters. The Council has been used to override the Admissions procedures developed by the Admissions Committee. The Council has authorized an investigation of students allegedly involved in the voter registration problem.

While the power of the Dean's Advisory Council is becoming increasingly pervasive, the reason for its existence must be seriously questioned. Neither its procedures nor the scope of authority have been defined. Its membership is indeterminate. Power exercised by the Council has infringed upon the rights of students and potential students. And students have no avenue of access, or redress, to this policy-making group. And most importantly, this organization and its members are not being held accountable for their gross errors in judgment.

The issue of accountability must be addressed. Until this issue is resolved, all decisions emanating from the Council should be suspect. I personally feel that there is no place in this institution for such a nebulous policy-making group. To allow such a group to wield so much power without being accountable for its exercise is tantamount to committing institutional suicide.

If the Council is allowed to continue the Law School's integrity and well-being will become forfeit.

by TED H.S. HONG

## LAW REVIEW THANKS FIRM

"Due to a generous donation from the law firm of Cades, Schutte, Fleming and Wright, the UH Law Review is the proud parent of a Vydek 1400 word processor. This unit will both ease the mechanics of editing manuscripts and streamline the printing process — enabling the Review to publish a timely, high-caliber journal. Mahalo nui loa to Cades, Schutte!"

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*Law Letters*

The donation is worth about \$4000 and comes at a time when our meager finances would put such a machine beyond our reach. Therefore, we'd like to see the firm gets credit when it's due.

Kerry Chan

Women Together Elects New Officers

At its January 1983 meeting the members of Women Together — the Law School's academic, social and professional women's support organization — elected its officers for 1983.

Outgoing Co-Chair Loralyn Cramer was replaced by Carmen Carrillo of the Class of 1985. Carmen and Mary Ann Barnard, elected last January, will serve as Co-Chairs. Mary Cochran was elected as the new Secretary of Women Together, and Elsbeth Berthoud as Treasurer.

Women Together was first organized in 1980 by the current 3L class who were then 1L's. The new class of 1L's has shown enthusiastic support for Women Together, and more activity can be expected by the organization not only in the law school but in the community. Loralyn Cramer and a delegation of 1L's, including Co-Chair C. Carrillo, recently attended the luncheon at which new officers were installed in the Hawaii Women Lawyers. Former Con Con delegate Dona Hanaike was elected President of that organization.

All interested women law students are urged to join Women Together. Dues are a mere \$3.00 per semester.

14th National Conference on Women and the Law

The 14th National Conference on Women and the Law will be held in Washington, D.C., on April 7-10, 1983. The conference seeks to educate participants about women's issues, and has scheduled

workshops on subjects not included in traditional law school curricula. Typical workshops in past years have included: comparable worth litigation strategies, domestic violence, unionizing in traditionally female workplaces, sexual harrassment, discrimination against lesbians, and problems of women in jails and prisons. At last year's conference in Detroit, more than 3000 attendees participated in over 170 workshops.

The theme of this year's conference is "Unity and Empowerment." Preliminary information regarding content indicates special focus on "Women of Color" and "Empowerment" issues. For further information regarding the conference, please contact Mary Ann Barnard or Carmen Carrillo.

C. Carrillo

...THAT'S LAW SCHOOL...

Yes Bunnies, there is a Law School!... In a hard fought intramural volleyball match the Law School Wahines, led by Capitan Judy "Cynthia" Foster, upsetted 4-Time intramural champions the Banzai Bunnies before a capacity crowd (of law students) in Gym 2, congrats to the girls... In more sports news, the 3Ls defeated the 1Ls to win the Annual Law School Softball Tournament... Ted "Rogue" Hong was named by the Lawletter as MVP ...The 3rd Annual Law School Basketball Tournament will be held this Saturday, notices to be posted...Students can now subscribe to the U.H. Law Review for only \$10 per year...Looks like there's a lot of "new" law students using the library nowadays...How come the plaque for outstanding law prof doesn't have any names on it?... The Gordon Lee OverAchievers award goes to the 1Ls for wanting to extend Torts class for an extra 25 minutes... Don't forget the 3L's fundraiser on March 19th at SotoMission (\$10 donation...AND THAT'S LAW SCHOOL...

NOTE

Opinions and ideas expressed here are those of the individual writers, and not necessarily those of the editors.

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