



# New Amendment Passes

## New Amendment

Article X, Section 2, By-Laws of the Senate Constitution as Amended

It (the Student Senate) shall have the power to review and to veto any rule, law or provision of any other student organization. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the rules and regulations set forth by a national organization or the internal rules of sororities and fraternities except for discriminatory clauses, rules, or entrance requirements with respect to race or religion. Groups, other than bona fide religious groups, showing such discriminatory clauses, will submit an annual report to the Student Senate regarding progress towards elimination of rules, or clauses, in question. Such reports will be voted upon by the Senate body at any regular meeting except the one at which the reports are presented.

## Robert's Rules of Order Gets Extraordinary Use

Parliamentary Procedure was invoked to an extraordinary extent at the Tuesday night session of the Student Senate meeting this week. Several copies of Robert's Rules of Order were noticed at the meeting.

There were several motions for tabling the issue and for calling the question. These were all defeated. However, President Zoldan was successfully kept from occupying the Chair, and Vice-President Steve Gordon assumed this position. Zoldan was also prevented from speaking more than twice on the issue before the Senate. This same rule was later applied to John Gutierrez, one of the spokesmen for Lambda Chi.

It takes a 2/3 vote to table a motion; likewise a 2/3 vote is necessary to call the question. A 2/3 vote was also necessary to pass the amendment; however, only a majority vote was needed to revise the amendment that was originally introduced.

Robert's Rules of Order requires that the Chairman (Alex Zoldan) give up the gavel when he wishes to speak on an issue being debated. He is not specifically prohibited from resuming the chair after his opinion has been expressed, but usually ethics will prevent the chairman from doing so. Zoldan never resumed the chair on Tuesday night after he turned it over to Gordon.

However, he did resume the chair immediately following Gordon's resignation on Wednesday evening. He justified his action on the grounds that "the President of the Student Senate functions in a dual capacity." This consists of the Executive (head of the Senate Executive Committee), which position denies the right to speak at will from the chair, and Chairman of

the legislature or "speaker of the house," which position does give the President the right to speak from the chair.

Previous Senate meetings basically adhered to Parliamentary Procedure, though it had never been strictly followed. However, this meeting was marked with strict adherence to Robert's Rules of Order. This was brought about by vehement opposition to the way Zoldan had previously run the Senate meetings. Dave Martin and John Gutierrez, spokesmen for Lambda Chi, both had copies of Robert's Rules in front of them. So did Senate Parliamentarian Gordon. Likewise, Delta Sigma Phi delegate George Potter also was well versed in Parliamentary Procedure.

## Senate Cancels Tonight's Rally

The Student Senate reversed itself on Wednesday night by voting to cancel the rally scheduled for tonight. This action came after the adoption of the amendment to the By-Laws of the Senate Constitution.

The Senate had voted to sponsor the rally, which was to have been a student protest against discrimination on campus, at its meeting on Jan. 14.

While no specific reason was given for cancelling the rally, it as generally felt that after the adoption of the amendment, the rally would be anticlimactic.

## Campus Center Dance

There will be a juke box dance Friday night in the Saxon Room of the Campus Center because of the cancellation of the rally.

## Senate to Get Annual Report; Tonight's Rally Is Called Off

by Robert Johnson

Student Senate adopted a constitutional amendment at a meeting last Wednesday declaring that organizations having discriminatory race and religion clauses would "submit an annual report to the Senate regarding progress toward elimination" of such rules or clauses. A previous motion was unanimously adopted which declared opposition to discrimination on the Alfred campus. (The Senate also voted not to hold the rally scheduled for this evening.)

The session began Tuesday night, but because of extended debate was recessed until the following night. Two motions to end debate on the amendment and vote were defeated Tuesday. Crowds of about 300 people on both nights forced the Senate to hold the meeting in the Center Lounge, rather than in the usual Senate meeting place.

Adoption of the amendment ending controversy over methods to be employed by the Senate toward ending discrimination. Dispute arose because the original amendment "required" student organizations with discriminatory clauses to submit reports to the Senate and because it did not determine the frequency of such reports.

The new amendment cleared up two points under dispute. "Bona fide religious groups" are not included and the reports will be submitted annually by the organizations in question. The word "required" is not included. The Senate would vote to accept or reject the progress report. According to Alex Zoldan, Senate president, Senate rejection would mean possible loss of Senate representation for the involved group and a report to the Administration showing student disapproval with the report.

The original amendment was opposed because many felt it was "vague" and questioned whether or not any power now given the Senate would be missed in the future. Opponents also argued that fraternity discrimination was an internal problem and that fraternities with discriminatory clauses were working internally to remove them.

The adopted amendment was prepared by Sigma Chi Nu, Delta Sigma Chi and Kappa Psi Upsilon, in conjunction with Zoldan. Zoldan said he hoped undergraduates would use the amendment properly in the future and thanked the students and Senate members who supported the amendment.

Lambda Chi Alpha supported the second amendment, saying it would further mutual trust between the fraternities involved and the student body. Previously, John Gutierrez had criticized the lack of such trust which he felt was evident by the "ghoulish glee" shown by "a room of jeering people" Tuesday night. He said that since the students were asking Lambda Chi to trust the Senate by supporting the amendment, the students should trust Lambda Chi as to the validity of its efforts to remove discriminatory clauses.

were never recognized to explain it. Putting faith once more in the sanity I believe this group can show, if so inclined, I would like to yield the floor to our President Richard Moore who I feel is best qualified to submit such a proposal.

## Moore

Lambda Chi, being founded on Christian principles, perhaps first of all has an obligation to strive for a more perfect Christian society. This is in no way to suggest prejudice. Bigotry is not Christian. (Continued on Page 2)



Senate President Alex Zoldan addressing the Student Senate at Tuesday's meeting. At this time, Zoldan was not occupying the Chair, having vacated it in order to speak on the proposed amendment.

## Text of Lambda Chi Statements

The following are statements submitted to the FIAT LUX by John Gutierrez and Richard Moore. With minor changes, these statements are the same as the ones they read at Wednesday's Senate session, explaining Lambda Chi's position on the disputed amendment.

### Gutierrez

I have been asked by my fraternity to introduce a final statement concerning the present problem of the proposed amendment.

I would like to preface this by making a few wry observations.

Throughout the course of this meeting we have been chastized by friends and brothers heavily for our apparent fear of doubting the integrity of a student governing group. Following last night's meeting, although there were many noble statements of cause from supporters of this amendment, and Lambda Chi Alpha has no choice but to believe that most of the people who spoke are not interested in ridding the campus of prejudice, but only in gaining a right through a forceful explosion of this very issue. I have been disheartened by the ghoulish glee that so many individuals have displayed, not in the interest of abetting the problem at hand, but in the simple opportunity of expressing their

rampant resentment against my organization before a room of jeering people.

These people have implored us to put our trust in our elected representatives—our governing body—they insist that they are only trying to aid us. Yet they refuse to trust Lambda Chi Alpha in its stated intentions. Is this an unreasonable fear of ours, then I ask you—Can faith be only one sided?

I, and my fellow representatives, have been subjected to low level argumentation employing sarcasm and hearsay accusations. We are bigots, we are hypocrites, we are cross burners, and above all we are prejudiced.

Prejudiced? Webster says that prejudice is a pre-conceived judgment or opinion, made before acquiring sufficient information. Think then, are we the only prejudiced body here?

Perhaps worst of all it has been said that we aren't sincere in our efforts to procure a change. Not sincere? Why would I submit myself—and my three colleagues to two and a half hours of insult if we did not sincerely feel that this amendment is not the best possible answer.

Immediately we were asked—What is your suggestion—we



## Editorial . . .

Student Government at Alfred University was given a tremendous boost two nights ago when the Student Senate adopted a revised version of the much disputed amendment to the Senate By-Laws. The large student turnout at the Senate sessions, coupled with the positive action that body took, have resulted in a new awareness, a new respect, for student government on campus.

It would be false to claim that the amendment as originally proposed was well-worded. Its basic idea was good; however, its wording left too much doubt and confusion in the minds of many people. Those who otherwise would have supported the amendment opposed it for that reason. Unfortunately, many others opposed it because they felt the Senate had no right to extend its jurisdiction into such a matter. The opposition to the amendment was, therefore, too great for a two-thirds majority necessary for passage of the amendment.

The future of student government here at Alfred, therefore, was placed in jeopardy. A great deal of emphasis had been put on the fact that student government does have and should have the right to determine whether real progress was being made towards the elimination of fraternity discrimination on campus. The threatened failure of the amendment was also a threat to future Student Senate authority. Denial of the amendment meant denial of Senate jurisdiction.

What made the Senate's position even more critical was the petition that one student had planned to circulate among the student body. According to her plans, several hundred students would sign the petition, which called for positive Administration action (including the setting of a deadline for the removal of clauses), and after these signatures were presented to University officials, appropriate action would be taken. If this had ever happened, the Senate would have become totally ineffective. For the Student Senate to fail to take action, and for a privately circulated petition to secure the desired end, would have spelt the end for any effective student government. After all, how could anyone put faith in a body, supposedly representative of student opinion, that couldn't accomplish what was secured by petition?

There is very strong evidence, it is true, which indicates that there was a political compromise reached before the second session Wednesday evening. However, while words were changed, added, or deleted, the basic meaning of the amendment went unchanged. Its unanimous adoption (there were a few abstentions, no negative votes,) after facing almost certain death the night before, was a victory for the Student Government.

The Senate has been struggling along for many years, with most of the student body totally disinterested in what it did. As a result, it did very little. However, the last two years have seen increased Senate activity, and it has only recently tried to come into its own and reach the stature held by student government organizations on other campuses. Wednesday night's action was certainly a big step in the right direction.

## Text of Zoldan's Statement

The following is the text of a statement by Alex Zoldan, President of the Student Senate. The statement was requested by the FIAT LUX, after the passage of the amendment to the By-Laws of the Senate Constitution.

After all the words I have uttered these past weeks the success of the amendment has rendered me speechless.

In seeking support for this amendment, Senate personnel were confronted with many obstacles. We've knocked on many doors, debated with many persons; we've also had doors slammed in our faces. It was a struggle-however, upon passage of the amendment the applause of the students and the prevailing sigh of relief made all our efforts seem worth it.

It is unnecessary for me to comment on what this amendment does for the Senate. I think the student representation at our meeting is a sufficient indicator of the position of Student Government at Alfred University.

I would like to thank the faculty and students who devoted freely of their time throughout this entire issue.

It is my hope that future Senate issues will bring about the same student enthusiasm.

## Fiat Lux

Published every Tuesday of the school year by a student staff. Entered as second class matter Oct. 9, 1912, at the Post Office in Alfred, New York, under Act of March 3, 1879.



Represented for national advertising by National Advertising Service, Inc., 420 Madison Avenue, New York City, New York. Subscription \$4 yearly.

Alfred University's Student Newspaper

Alfred, New York, February 16, 1962

## nestlean notions

by Joe Rosenberg

Random notes on campus life:

Is Alex Zoldan taking over the title of "The Great Compromiser?"

Robert's Rules of Order is at the top of the best seller list.

These house and dorm meetings really were important.

Frank Romeo, Keith Tombs, and Murray Lindsley really do have spirit.

Next year for entertainment we will get Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith.

What are we going to do with all those SNCC buttons?

Will Ron Berger ever carry the mantle of William Randolph Hurst?

The "Duck" has flown south for the winter.

What ever happened to the Student Apathy Committee?

What's going to happen to those nice petitions?

Will Dr. Pulos write the next letter for the Parents Association.

Wouldn't everybody like to have some exams just to liven things up?

Will Zoldan become another Jack Paar?

The Green House on State Street is now safe for another few years.

Will they continue to play musical chairs at Senate meetings?

What ever happened to the IFC?

Are the poly sci majors getting credit for work in practical politics?

When was the last time you got eight hours sleep?

Did you know last Monday was Lincoln's Birthday? How about an emanipation proclamation at the next Senate meeting?

Maybe the FIAT should publish an extra on international and national news just so everybody can catch up.

Now let's go and watch "Mein Kampf" and the "Merchant of Venice."

Once upon a time a man from Yale came to this university and spoke to executive committee of the Student Senate. What will happen if someone from Harvard came here?

Recording tape is a rare commodity in Alfred these days.

What would have happened if we had a power failure last Tuesday or Wednesday?

Don't classes interfere with our college life?

Meanwhile back at Harvey's . . .

Will Bob Dingman ever completely agree with something?

When will the FIAT become a daily paper.

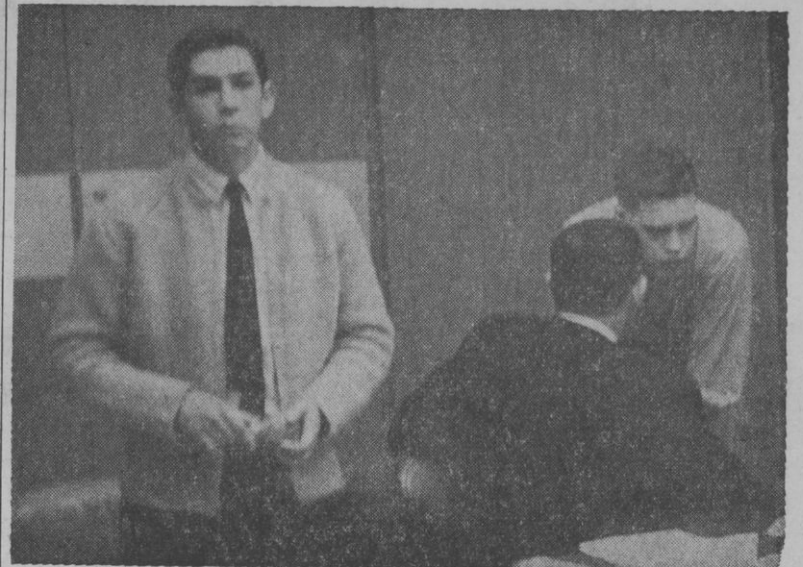
John Brown's body is a moulder in the grave . . .

Anybody for a Zoldanberger with some Gutierrez sauce?

## ISC Correction

On Feb. 13 I stated, within the context of a Student Senate meeting, that the abolishment of discriminatory clauses in all sororities has occurred only within the past fifteen years. This statement was made in accordance with my understanding of the facts at that time. However, since Tuesday night, it has been brought to my attention that there is no record of such a clause within the constitution of one of the three sororities to which my statement applied. I sincerely regret this inaccuracy and hope that the issuance of this statement will rectify my error.

Jane Henckel  
President,  
Intersorority Council



Delta Sig's George Potter confers with President Zoldan (seated) as Vice-President Gordon (left) makes parliamentary ruling.

## Political Maneuvering Hits Alfred Campus

Alfred's campus this week was the scene of full-scale backroom politics. Right after last Thursday's stormy Senate meeting, when Alex Zoldan introduced the amendment, immediate plans were made by him to secure sufficient votes for its passage.

Appearances at house meetings, frantic telephone calls, post-midnight conferences, last-ditch efforts, preparations to challenge votes, and many other political machinations that are used on a national scale were evident here in Alfred last week.

Everything began when the senate, on Jan. 9, called for a student rally. Lambda Chi Alpha had led the main opposition to the rally. Zoldan, along with Lambda Chi's John Gutierrez and Dave Martin, agreed to work out some kind of a solution, and the amendment that was originally proposed last Thursday was the result. However, Lambda Chi elected to vote against the amendment anyway.

Lambda Chi's opposition to the amendment plus the opposition to the amendment encountered for varied other reasons, caused Zoldan a great deal of concern. He immediately made plans to work on securing a 2/3 majority in favor of the amendment. (At the same time, FIAT LUX Editor-in-Chief Ronald Berger, who had gone to New York to attend a student editors' conference at the Overseas Press Club, returned to handle news coverage and editorial com-

ment of the situation).

After all the political maneuvers, Zoldan still went into Tuesday's meeting short of the necessary two-thirds in favor. However, extended debates and women's curfews caused the meeting to be recessed before a vote was taken on the amendment and only then did the great game of politics, synonymous with the art of compromise, really come into its own. It became apparent from the debate that only a compromise could settle the issue.

After the meeting, Zoldan met with delegates from Delta Sigma Phi and Kappa Psi. They finally worked out a compromise amendment, which was taken back to the respective houses for voting. On Wednesday, Sigma Chi Nu came up with its own compromise amendment, and together with the earlier compromise, a revised amendment as written. This received favorable votes at all the houses which had time to consider it. The revised amendment was so overwhelmingly supported that Lambda Chi, voted in favor of it.

## Text of LXA

(Continued from Page 1)

However this certainly means a society of believers in Jesus Christ.

But for this, many would call us hypocrites, and recognizing ourselves as faltering in this obligations as Christian men, we should like to strive for a society or fellowship of all men. We maintain, however, that this change, being directly concerned with basic beliefs which we hold, should come from within and should not be a forced change.

Therefore, Lambda Chi, wishing to avoid such a catastrophe of bitter resentment, offers the following resolution: that the wording of the proposed amendment be changed to read: except for discriminatory clauses, rules, or entrance requirements with respect to race or religion. Groups showing such discriminatory clauses shall upon annual request of the Student Senate, submit a report to the Student Senate regarding progress towards elimination of rules or clauses in question.

While not essentially changing the amendment, in this wording Lambda Chi feels that a great deal more mutual trust is inherent in its interpretation, which is what Lambda Chi has been trying to achieve from the start of its opposition to the amendment as stated. This wording also sets a definite regularity of progress reports, thereby protecting all parties concerned.

We feel that if this resolution is adopted, from here we can strive for progress from within, while you have the assurance of our striving.

## Nevins New VP As Gordon Quits Senate Position

Bill Nevins was elected vice-president of the Student Senate by a unanimous vote at the Senate meeting Wednesday evening. Nevins was elected after Stephen Gordon, former Senate vice-president, resigned his position because of his academic standing.

Nevins will stay in office for the remainder of Gordon's term, which will expire in April.

Nevins, a junior from Alfred, is a brother of Kappa Psi Upsilon. He is a history and political science major and plans to do graduate work in this field.

Nevins said he is pleased with the new amendment to the By-Laws of the Senate Constitution. He feels that the amendment will "give the fraternities in question an opportunity to cooperate with, rather than be coerced by, the Senate."

The new vice-President is "hopeful that the Senate will be able to work with the student body more effectively and make the Senate more representative now that the issue has been resolved."