

National Student News

Columbia aid deadline may have excluded minority students

BYNSNS AFFILIATED STAFF
THE COLUMBIA SPECTATOR

Two schools of Columbia University may have lost many of their top student prospects for the class of 1999 because of a shakeup in the Undergraduate Office of Admissions, according to many admissions officers.

Last spring, an ad hoc committee that admissions officers said was formed to oversee the financial aid duties of the Undergraduate Office of Admissions quietly mandated the enforcement of a previously relaxed financial aid deadline for applicants to the Columbia College and School of Engineering and Applied Science Class of

1999. The officers said the committee was composed mainly of high-level university administrators.

Admissions officers and college counselors said the decision to enforce the deadline had widespread effects on the composition of the entering class and also may have affected the enrollment of under-represented minorities.

According to admissions officers at Columbia and several other schools, minority students have been affected substantially by the deadline enforcement.

One admissions officer said under-represented minorities, who frequently attend poor rural and inner-city schools, do not receive adequate college counseling from those schools, and therefore may be

unable to meet the deadline.

In an interview this summer, Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions Peter Johnson estimated that Latino and African American enrollment for the Class of 1999 might have declined by between 15 and 20 percent.

Associate Provost Marian Pagano denied in a July interview that minority students had been affected to such a degree.

She said in July that according to preliminary numbers, under-represented minorities were down "a percentage or two," but denied the deadline had especially impacted minorities.

Caravan for justice starts national journey

(NSNS)—Students and other activists rallied against California Gov. Pete Wilson's budget recently at the California state capitol in Sacramento.

The rally was the first action of the national Caravan for Justice, which is travelling to cities across the country to oppose the Congressional Contract With America.

"A lot of students are involved," said Kim Tercero, a University of California-Davis student and youth organizer for the National

People's Campaign. "The rally (was) held to expose what's going on with the Contract, and to oppose the systematic oppression being imposed on all kinds of people—students, poor women, minorities and laborers."

In related news, students will gather in New York later this month at a "Coalitions for Change" conference to organize constituencies now under attack from federal budget cuts.

Organizers of the national caravan said they are working to "expose the corporate

war against the people and the environment" created by the Contract With America.

Members of the Caravan plan on meeting hundreds of thousands of people as they make their way across the country. The group will gather direct testimony on film and video from people who are excluded from typical debates in the mainstream media.

For information about the route, or to join, call the National People's Campaign at (415) 821-6545.

Veto

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"I was pleased with the ruling, and God Bless America," said Smith.

Student Government Pres. John Pida defended his decision to veto the Senate's failure of the motion to compen-

sate Story for his position, saying, "I wanted to keep the motion alive and to bring attention to it."

Pida said he expected the Council's ruling but still does not agree with it.

"How am I supposed to keep good people in CSUN if they're not getting paid for the excellent work they do?" Pida asked.

"I'm in favor of Senators getting paid and of assistants getting paid."

"I'll bring it before the Senate again. Premature decisions were made by the Senate without the presence of Tod Story, David Turner, and myself. I took that as being cowardly (the Senate)," Pida added.

Ooze

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Juice Blenders, Mt. Valley Spring Water, 1-800-Collect, and the Shark Club, most of which were present throughout the day. A \$50 entry fee was paid by each team, making oozeball a profitable event.

Jennifer Bloomberg, Na-

jiyah Khan, and Rachel Labuda, Student Alumni Association members, were pleased with the event.

"We worked very hard to make this a successful oozeball tournament, and we are thrilled to see the turnout and amount of school spirit," said Bloomberg.

The oozeball tournament began five years ago with only

16 teams participating. This year more than 90 teams registered to play. Because of the limited amount of fields and time, a lottery was held to reduce the number of teams to 64.

Alpha Gamma Delta member Casey Perkins said of the event, "It's a great way to bring students together in friendly competition."

imum 2.75 grade point average, up from a 2.5.

"We would reduce our numbers and at the same time increase our quality of students," Ferrell said of the new requirement. "Unless we can make adjustments in the number of students that are convincing to CSWE, we are out of compliance. There is a reality here that the program may not be re-accredited."

Rosalie Clark, the executive director for the National Association of Social Workers is concerned about the effects that a possible loss of accreditation would have on both the students and the community.

"There's a demand for licensed social workers in Las Vegas," Clark said. Without

an accredited school, students cannot obtain a license.

Students who are currently enrolled in the graduate program will graduate with a license even if the school loses its accreditation, Ferrell said.

Ferrell says he's confident the school will keep its accreditation providing a new director is hired.

The School of Social Work is one of the most important programs in the university according to Ferrell.

"We address the problems of the disadvantaged in society," Ferrell said. "This population deserves and requires much more attention than they're receiving. We have an obligation as a university to provide this public service."

News Briefs

Relationship seminar set for tonight

"Romantic Illusions," a seminar focusing on common patterns that create problems in relationships, will be presented by Sandra Terneus, Ph.D., 6 p.m. tonight in Room 203 of the Moyer Student Union.

This seminar is the second in the "Flames of Desire" relationship series sponsored by Student Psychological Services.

Admission is free to all UNLV students. For more information, contact Steve Oster, outreach coordinator, at 895-3627.

Wright to give communication workshop

Motivational speaker Dr. Deborah D. Wicker Wright will conduct a workshop on "Communication and Speaking With Authority" Tuesday, October 3 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 218 in the Classroom Building Complex.

The workshop will focus on speaking effectively, clearly, and with confidence. Steps will be discussed to teach participants to express themselves.

For more information, contact the Women's Center at 895-4475.

Gutenberg lecture planned

A lecture on the Gutenberg printing press will be held at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 9, in the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History auditorium.

The "Reflections on the Gutenberg Revolution" lecture, presented by University of Houston professor John H. Lienhard, will explain how the invention of the printing press was a product of the technological advances of that time. The lecture will then focus on the modern day advances in communications technology.

The free lecture is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and is part of the University Forum Lecture Series. For more information, call 895-3401.

Financial independence for women

The Jean Nidetch Women's Center will sponsor a seminar on "Financial Independence for Today's Woman" at noon on Tuesday, Oct. 10.

The hour-long seminar is designed to help women set achievable financial goals, organize finances and monitor investments. It will be held in Room 202 of the Moyer Student Union.

For more information, call 895-4475.

Cholesterol screening available

The Student Health Center will offer cholesterol screening from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday for all students, faculty and staff.

Participants are required to fast for 12 hours and are advised to consult their physicians before screening.

The screening costs \$5. For more information, call 895-3370.

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Danger

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"There are a lot of students who are really upset about it," said Royce Kohler, membership coordinator for the University Association of Social Workers. "It's going to be a politicized and gruesome event for people to get into grad school."

Kohler, a UNLV senior majoring in Social Work, said he will not apply for graduate school here at UNLV.

"I don't want to take part in a blood thirsty cat fight to get into grad school," Kohler said.

Students applying to the graduate program will now also be required to have a min-