RICE'S INNER WORKINGS EXPLAINED

SIMS, McENANY CLEAR UP CONFUSION AT FORUM

By GINGER PURINGTON

"Why are parking rules enforced during holidays?"
"Is academic learning the sole aim of a college education?"
"Do Rice professors approach their courses with the idea that a certain number of students must fail?"
"What hours will the new Chapel be open?"

These and a great many other questions were answered at Monday night's Forum. A capacity crowd of students filled the Fondren lecture-lounge to air their "gripes" and express their opinions before a panel composed of Mr. McEnany, the Registrar; Mr. Sims, Adviser to Men; Mr. Kennedy, Manager of the Rice Memorial Center, and Les Greenberg, student chairman of the Center.

To Clear Things Up

Gerald Dansby, chairman of the Forum Committee, opened the discussion by saying that misunderstandings often arise because of lack of communication between the administration and the students, and that the purpose of this Forum was to give both groups a chance to find out each other's views and clear up such misunderstandings.

$1928.38 Per Year

Mr. Sims, speaking for the other panel members, began by explaining some of the financial workings of the Institute, which spent $1928.38 on each student last year. Drawing an involved chart on the blackboard, he explained the organization of the administration of the Rice Institute and pointed out that there is no direct line of authority. At the top of the administration is the Board of Governors, which is concerned only with endowment and financial management. Then comes the president, the assistant to the president, the provost, the dean, the adviser to men and the adviser to women, the registrar, the bursar, and the director of admissions. Beside this group is the executive committee, composed of the president, the provost, the dean, and three elected faculty members. There are also the faculty and various faculty committees who report to the executive committee. At the bottom of this structure are the students.

Where To Park?

As the discussion got under way, the parking problem seemed to be on everybody's mind.

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as a comparatively good percentage age according to the records of other schools.

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Left

As to the number of students running on probation, he said that out of 1066 undergraduates this past semester, only 29 were asked to leave because of academic failures. To improve this rate, he said there would have to be some way to predict what will happen to the individual student.

As to the curve system of grading, Mr. Emery said that he did not think any senior faculty member ever approached a course with the idea that so many more would fail.

Grades Are Private

Someone else wanted to know why it takes so long for grades to come out after finals, and why grades are not posted. Mr. Simms explained the procedure of recording grades and said that it all depends on the professor’s permissions in turning them in to the Registrar’s office. As for posting grades, he said that Rice considers a student’s grades just as private as his bank balance, and that a student’s grades are never released to anyone except his parents without his permission.

Academic Learning Only?

Mr. Emery also joined Mr. Simms in a discussion of the purpose of a college education should be. A student asked if academic learning was the sole purpose of college, and was answered by Mr. Simms, who said that the Institute spends $112,285.88 per year on each student—to give him an education. He quoted a Saturday Review article by Virginia Gildersleeve of Barnard College, which said that “The student has a right as a student except the right to the best education his school can give him.” The student does, however, retain his political rights as a citizen.

Mr. Emery added that the purpose of Rice is to find the most capable students and give them the opportunity for a good education. He said that it is his personal opinion that Rice has no excuse for existence if it is not providing an opportunity for those students who are capable and who cannot learn elsewhere.

Liquor In The RMC?

A student asked Mr. Simms if he has heard that faculty members got a drink now and then at the faculty club, and what was done if anyone was caught. Mr. Simms said that Rice would not bring the state laws, but that if any student who are under age would care to bring their parents with them, there would be no liquor in the Student Center.

Sims...

(Continued from Page 1) Questions were raised about whether the administration plans to do with existing lots, why stu-

dents do not park on the campus, and what the university will do with so many empty spaces.

In answer to the usual student complaints, that business departments are unable to park their cars just as far from their offices as the stadium lot, and he suggested that facilities for parking rain water out.

SLIM PARKING

Mr. Simms began by saying that Rice University does not have any parking anywhere which has room to park all its cars on campus. (The student parking area of the campus.) There are, he said, 7000 parking spaces on the campus. He suggested that students answer to the usual student complaints, that business departments are unable to park their cars just as far from their offices as the stadium lot, and he suggested that facilities for parking rain water out.

No Exceptions

With respect to the parking rules and exceptions, Mr. Simms said that we are to have rules they must be enforced, and not just enforced other than mechanical failure. Someone pointed out that the Houston parking ordinance makes exceptions with regard to school zones etc. during off hours and Mr. Simms said that people of Houston can be trusted to observe them, he didn’t see why Rice students could not be trusted.

No Selectivity

Mr. Simms said that Rice Institute is not selective in its admission, and that if we have to have them, they must be con-

stantly in effect. Those discussed about the parking situations were slightly very confusing, that is, that a sidewalk will be constructed heading directly to the men’s common rooms on the north side of the student center. This was from the students point of view, and it is a constructive statement made concerning the problem. Mr. Simms also said that the decision of what parking fines go to the Rice Institute account.

The City

Discussion about the connection between the ruling on social events on week-ends and academic failure. The answer was that since 1/4 of the student body went on probation last year, the executive committee decided at that time that it could not approve a social calendar with so many social events scheduled.

Didn’t They Know?

A student asked that he heard that every week the Committee on Mortality met, and why the committee didn’t know or were not aware what they were voting for. It was pointed out that the Committee will consider the ruling of the Student Council, and the All Don’t Flunk Out

Mr. Simms also said that why “mortality” rate is so high within a class so that 1/3 to 1/4 or more of the students are seniors. He replied that this is misinformation, and that there are, between 65 to 60 percent of the students in a given class and this