SENATE MEETS

Forum, Parking Head Agenda

By JOHN HAMILTON
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Relaxed and refreshed from its long rest, the Student Senate met last Tuesday night to consider the events which have transpired during its hiatus.

Chuck King, Forum Committee chairman, reviewed the Forum's connections with Gus Hall and the Rice Administration. The Senate approved Dean Higginbotham's proposal for a student financed parking lot. Tom Sudberry's trip to Washington and other junkets were discussed.

King's report reviewed the Freedom of Speech controversy and dealt with finances and extension of the Forum's duties. He recalled that he had independently contacted Gus Hall, Secretary of the American Communist Party on behalf of the Forum last summer, but had had to withdraw his invitation upon Administration disapproval.

Equal Time Proposed

King described President K. S. Pitzer's position saying that the University provides financial support for the Forum for educational purposes. The University does not expect its money to be used for non-educational, i.e. "conspiratorial or subversive" speakers.

Dr. Pitzer was also quoted as having advised the Forum that controversial speakers, even if privately financed, will be approved only if they are balanced by speakers of opposing views. King termed these policies unacceptable and will send a letter to Pitzer next week voicing the committee's opinions.

Seeks Independence

King asked that the Senate include a $1.25 increase in the next Blanket Tax proposal for the support of the Forum. Blanket Tax funds would make the Committee independent of the Administration's $1000 a semester stipend.

Upon learning that the Blanket Tax election is scheduled for February 12, King withdrew his proposal pending President Pitzer's action on the list of second semester speakers. He expressed unwillingness to offend Dr. Pitzer by attempting to circumvent his financial control at this time.

King also requested that the Senate delegate to the Forum its authority to send representatives to approved inter-collegiate conventions. This proposal was not acted upon because it hinged upon increasing King's budget through the Blanket Tax.

(Continued on Page 5)
SENATE—

(Continued from Page 1)

Dean Higginbotham’s proposal for a paved parking lot to be built next to the shell lot was presented to the Senate by Peyton Barnes, Parking Committee chairman. Access to the lot would be gained by buying a five or ten dollar parking sticker.

The Dean’s plan calls for abolition of graduate and special privilege parking stickers. Use of Hamman Hall lot and the proposed lot would be limited to off-campus graduate and undergraduate students owning stickers, and staff. All others will use the College or stadium lot.

The new 350 space lot would be paid for over a ten year period by sale of parking stickers and by traffic fines. Parking privileges would be sold to individuals instead of charging for each vehicle. Regular parking stickers would be free.

Co-op Store Investigated

Dean Higginbotham requested the Senate’s endorsement of the proposal before sending it on to the Administration. The Senate, considering the inevitable expansion of space required by staff parking in the next few years, empowered Jim Scurlock to draft a letter of endorsement for the plan.

The Senate also heard Ken Kennedy’s initial report on the possibility of a co-operative store to replace the University owned Campus Store. Action was delayed pending a more extensive report. However, consider-