

Faculty at UC Berkeley Votes for Ethnic Studies Department

Resolution Recommending Eventual Expansion Into College Partially Meets Striking Students' Demands

BY DARYL LEMBKE

Times Staff Writer

BERKELEY—The faculty at UC Berkeley voted overwhelmingly Tuesday in favor of establishing an ethnic studies department, a step which partially meets the demands of striking students.

Chancellor Roger W. Heyns told 500 faculty members preceding their vote at an Academic Senate meeting that he also is in agreement with forming a new department as "a valid way to approach the matter."

The Third World Liberation Front, an organization representing minority students, went on strike 42 days ago to obtain a Third World college which would consist of various departments devoted to ethnic studies.

The resolution approved by the Academic Senate supports formation of an ethnic studies department which would report directly to the chancellor. It also recommends early appointment of a department chairman and suggests that the structure of the new unit be sufficiently flexible to permit eventual expansion into a college.

Acceptance Indicated

TWLF leaders have indicated that they would accept formation of a department as an interim move toward obtaining a college.

Proposed placement of the department directly under the chancellor is aimed at meeting strikers' objections to making the new unit part of the existing college of letters and science. They contend that the college would not provide sufficient autonomy and flexibility for the new unit.

Heyns made clear in his talk to the senate that he would not agree at this time to TWLF demands for student participation in controlling personnel and curricular matters of the new department. He said this should wait until a faculty study is made of giving students a greater

role in all academic policies, a move which he generally favors.

Actual formation of the new department must await completion of organizational work by several faculty committees and the chancellor's office. Final approval by both Heyns and UC President Charles J. Hitch is required to establish the department.

Heyns told the senate that because of budgetary limitations, funds to initiate the new department next fall will have to come primarily from cuts in other departments.

He reported that vandalism during the strike has included 13 arson attempts and 20 bomb attempts. Tuesday's faculty meeting was

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moved to a different location after vandals Monday night smeared glue on all seats in the lecture hall where the senate was to have convened.

"I think this campus now understands that it has been the target of acts which are basic assaults on the idea of a university, and the values we all hold," said Heyns.

He added: "By now, it should be abundantly clear the strike is counterproductive; that it is doing serious and increasingly permanent harm to this campus and its future. Each of us must do what we can to end it."

The college had issued an ultimatum that teachers missing their first class session of the week would lose the class and eventually face dismissal.

Gary Hawkins, president of Local 1352 of the American Federation of Teachers, said the union would encourage all teachers to return to their classes and was hopeful the 22 classes would be rescheduled.

The union, now claiming 390 members, voted Sunday night to end a two-month strike.