

COLUMBIA SPECTATOR ARCHIVE

Columbia Daily Spectator, Volume CXV, Number 146, 19 September 1991 — CCSC recognizes union support group
[ARTICLE+ILLUSTRATION]

CCSC recognizes union support group

By Niraj Warikoo

Spectator Staff Writer

The Columbia College Student Council (CCSC) passed a resolution in its meeting last night to recognize temporarily Students in Support of District 65 of the United Auto Workers Union so that the student group will be eligible for space in Ferris Booth Hall.

Currently, District 65 and the University are in contract negotiations. The union has not yet set a strike deadline.

The resolution will be in effect until the student group is permanently recognized or until the University and the union sign a contract.

Several CCSC members raised concerns over part of a resolution passed at the council's meeting last week. The resolution stated that the council supports District 65 in their

“negotiations with Columbia University for a just contract.”

CCSC secretary Imara Jones, CC '94, moved to remove a clause which called upon the CCSC to help organize classes off-campus in the event of a strike.

“I have great concern on the ability of this group to deliver this resolution. It would suck up a lot of resources,” Jones said.

Jones asked that the clause be replaced with another saying that the CCSC will instead distribute information on off-campus classes.

Union representatives at the meeting said they were pleased at the council's previous resolution and asked students to support them by asking their professors to move classes off-campus in the event of a strike.

"Student involvement helps our movement a great deal," said Ivan Satz, an administrative assistant in the department and a member of the labor negotiating team for the union.

"We're fighting for our livelihood."

Members of the council expressed support for the union and urged action.

"I have faith everybody will support them. We have an obligation to do whatever is necessary," said Community Representative Ben Jealous, CC '94.

CCSC Chair Randa Zakhary, CC '92, said students may not be able to locate off-campus classes.

"In previous strikes, the problem was not off-campus classes but how students could find them," Zakhary said.

The council also discussed a possible resolution that would restore the Joint Budgetary

Calendar Committee's (JBCC) powers to allocate funds directly to student groups.

Currently, the JBCC recommends allocations to the CCSC, Barnard Student Government Association (SGA), and Engineering Student Council. The councils then vote on whether or not to follow the recommendation.

Some members expressed concern that the JBCC may become too powerful.

"The JBCC will turn from a recommending board to an allocating board," according to Representative-at-Large Ben Lawskey, CC '92.

In other council news, Men Against Sexism, a new student group, asked for recognition. Council members tabled the discussion so that the group could provide information about their aims and objectives.

The group loosely included in its agenda small discussions and presentations regarding sexism.

Representatives from a new Barnard group calling itself Students Tackling Issues of a New Generation asked members of the council to work with them to address issues of drug abuse, the environment, homelessness, and AIDS.



SPECTATOR/CLARE FLYNN

Members of District 65 discussed their negotiations with the University at last night's Columbia College Student Council meeting. The council voted to recognize a student group which supports the union.