

CHRONOLOGY OF CAMPUS
PROTESTS, UNIVERSITY
OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA
1948-1972

RS 41/66/700

- 1948 Beginning of "McCarthy Era".
Clabaugh Act - banning Communist speakers from U. of I. Red Grange elected Trustee on strength of his promise to rid Urbana campus of Communist sympathizers.
- 1950 Controversy over recognition of ~~American Youth for Democracy (AYD)~~ ^(AYD), a youth affiliate of the Communist Party. Dean of Students refused to take action. President Stoddard instructed him not to delay and to immediately grant recognition.
- 1953 Red Grange calls meeting of Trustees - Stoddard is fired. 1000 students marched from south steps of Auditorium to President's mansion in support.
- 1960 Leo Koch, biology instructor, fired over letter to the D.I. favoring pre-marital sex. National AAUP responded by placing the University on censure for five years.
- 1964 Richard McMullin arrested for handing out bibles in front of library without a permit.
Professor Revlo P. Oliver wrote an article declaring that the late President Ke-nedy was a Communist.
The Alumni Association asked President Henry to demand Oliver's resignation.
Berkeley Free Speech Movement begins.
As a result of the above three, "Free Speech" becomes the issue. CSA (Committee on Student Affairs) recommends that an official "Free Speech" area be constructed in order to defuse the issue.
First campus S.D.S. (Students for a Democratic Society)
- 1965 SCOPE (Student Committee on Political Expression) patterned after Berkeley's SLATE umbrella organization encompassing the liberal left.
Issues: IMPE Building, Civil Rights, Free Speech.
SCOPE Leaders: Joe Allen, John Quirk, Vicki Packer, Roger Ebert.

Sept. 25, opening of official Free Speech area at southeast corner outside the Illini Union.

Administration sets forth rules concerning use of the space-it has never been used.

November - local S.D.S. chapter asks for University space to hold a national S.D.S. conference on 11/27 through 1/2/

December - Dean Hampton raises question as to the status of S.D.S. as a recognized student organization. Administration wants the national S.D.S. conference to be held elsewhere. Hampton demands list of S.D.S. members and asked S.D.S. that they elect an official president in order to comply with University regulations. This is in order for the Administration to have a name they can bring charges against if anything "goes wrong" during the national S.D.S. conference.

S.D.S. conference held as scheduled. Great impetus to local leftists. It gave them a feeling of solidarity with national organizations.

SCOPE rally on the steps of the Auditorium, over Selma, Alabama. 300 attend. Roger Ebert writes good article in the DI about it.

Rennie Davis, former U. of I. student and current director of S.D.S.'s ERAP speaks on campus.

Teach-in against the Vietnam war.

University sets up regulation concerning use of official "Free Speech" area. Student Senate and SCOPE leaders approve.

Oblique literary-leftist magazine published by leaders of SCOPE. S.D.S. conference Sept. 3.

1966 Ralph Bennet-flight instructor-forms local chapter of W.E. DuBois Club and applies for official recognition. Dubois Club considered a youth affiliate of the Communist Party. Dean of Students Stanton Millet refused to take action. Dubois club rapidly becomes a political "hot potato" reminiscent of the case of recognition of Youth for Peace and Freedom during the fifties. At that time the dean refused action, and he was ordered to recognize the club by Pres. Stoddard, which contributed to his dismissal by the Trustees.

December 8 - Millet took the issue for discussion to the Board of Trustees. Reason for Trustee decision to defer action on issue:

1. To seek further information on relationships of local organization to national Dubois Club.

2. To seek an opinion for the U.S. Attorney General concerning whether the organization was subversive.

Actually, they knew that to deny recognition would turn the faculty against the Trustees and Administration. To formally give University recognition would offend the conservative sentiment of the people of Illinois.

The State Legislature voted to condemn the Trustees for not denying recognition. New elections for Trustees - the number of Republicans increases by four. The new Board of Trustees votes to deny recognition of DuBois Club.

Faculty in almost every college and department vote to condemn the Trustees action.

Dean of Students Millet stated that the DuBois Club membership is one in which 99% of the students and faculty are on one side and the majority of the people of Illinois are on the other.

1967 Peaceful, symbolic protest against recruitment by Dow Chemical. Slush Fund Scandal. Big 10 conference suspends participation of U. of I. football team. This contributed to the general decline of sports and football mentality from the campus scene. Important because later there was no football/fraternity/jock alliance against the left.

Feb. March - SACA (Students Against the Clabaugh Act) had formed Various groups at Chicago Circle Campus sponsored speech by Louis Dirken of Communist Party. Circle Administration said the speech would violate the Clabaugh Act and that they would not allow it. Sent in police.

S.D.S. circulated leaflets. "Police Invade Circle Campus", the following day. 500 students show up at noon rally.

Original leadership of SACA were leaders of SCOPE and Bob Outis, president of Student Senate.

Demands: 1). for President Henry to publicly denounce Clabaugh act. 2). the abolition of the Committee on Visiting Speakers. 3). Repeal of Clabaugh Act in the State Legislature. 4). Support for the Scariano Bill.

SACA changes to SFS (Students for Free Speech).

Program: bring Communist speaker on campus to violate the law.

Leaders of SFS: Vic Berkey, Phil Durret, Vern Fein, Fred Landis,

1967 continued

SFS Steering Committee: 30. General meetings: about 200.
Weekly noon rallies: about 700. Size of Diskin rally: 2000.
About 1000 people considered themselves members of SFS. There's
been nothing of this magnitude before or after.
Student Senate, Graduate Student Association, D.I. all support SFS

- March 22 General faculty meeting revolts against Henry. W.K. Williams, special ombudsman to President Henry warns SFS leaders that if a Communist speaker appears the next day there will be many arrests, expulsions and heads cracked by the police.
- March 23 Louis Diskin spoke to 2000 students. Representative Clabaugh said it was in violation of his Act.
- April 6 SFS asks DuBois Club to ask University for space on April 19, the day the Trustees meet.
Faculty Senate voted to protest Trustees' denial of recognition of DuBois Club.
- April 6 Henry sends letter to trustees about Clabaugh Act. Says it is "unworkable."
- April 10 Senate meeting demands of President Henry an explanation and investigation of the nature of the Security office files.
- April 12 Student Senate offers use of its office to DuBois Club.
- April 19 Trustees meet at 3:00 on 3rd floor of Union. DuBois Club meets in Student Senate office on 2nd floor.
- May 4 SFS holds unauthorized meeting in South Lounge of the Union. Decide to make this a "Free Speech" area. Police, security are in attendance.
- May 5 President Henry and Dean Millet again deny the existence of a Security office file.
- May 11 Second SFS group is in the Union. Sit-in at Security office.
- May 12 Millet admit existence of security office files. Describes nature at CSA meeting. Announces investigation of files by faculty/student committee.
- May 13-14 Student Rights/Power conference attended by national leaders of Student Gov. (NSA) and SDS.
- October 6 SDS calls for a demonstration against Dow Chemical.
- Oct. 7 Steve Schmidt and Dennis Weeks burn their draft cards.
- Oct. 17 National draft card burning. DRU sponsors draft card burning at Union and draft board. 10 people arrested at sit-in.
- Oct. 20 SDS, DRU, and CEVW provide impetus for Dow Sit-in.
- Oct. 21 Free University proposed
- November 2 DRU halted by Illicops trying to bring flag draped coffin to speech by John Hallmack, Illinois draft head.

1967 continued

Nov. 3 200 students seek complicity in Dow sit-in.

Nov. 14-21 Dow sit-in disciplinary hearings.

Nov. 25 Seven Dow sit-in students expelled.

1968

February 2 Walrus begins.

Feb. Start of McCarthy Campaign. Peace and Freedom Party.

March 1-30 Educational Reform Movement. Leaders: Paul Schroeder, David Eisenman. Issues: Student power in university.

March 1 - April 14 Student Senate falling apart. Plans being made for August in Chicago.

April 5 Martin Luther King shot.

April 6 CRJ (Citizens for Racial Justice) sponsor memorial march at Red Herring. Attended by several hundred.
CRJ leaders: instructors in political science and sociology--previous organization led by students).

April 7 CRJ marches to Henry's house. Henry's wife says to demonstrators "What do you want from my Husband? He can't end the war in Vietnam!"

April 25 CRJ maintains picket lines in front of chancellor's office for fair employment practice.

April 26 CRJ plan endorsed at open faculty meeting.

May 1 BSA prepared plan to bring 600 blacks (students) to U. of I. in fall of 1968.

May 3-22 Project 500 announced. 500 blacks to be admitted. Committee on Student Affairs passes proposal to extend freshman hours and permit limited visitation. Chancellor Norman Parker of the Circle Campus suspended seven student organizations for sponsoring an unauthorized speech by Louis Disken of American Communist Party, the test case for the Clabaugh Act.

Educational Reform Movement presents Chancellor with demands, one of which is implementation of 199 courses. Ed. reform leader Paul Schroeder speaks at centennial convocation, leads walkout.

May 23 DRU called in Dean Millet's office to explain "obscene" leaflet advertising a Vietnam Commencement sponsored by CUDRU.

May 24 Vietnam Commencement held to honor those who will not cooperate with the draft.

June 5 Robert Kennedy assassinated.

August 7 Co-op food store is opened at 904 N. 4th St., Champaign.

Aug. 9 Vic Verkey, leader of U. of I. SDS and Peace and Freedom Party arrested after "..."

1968 continued

September 10 252 people arrested at sit-in in Union concerning the inadequacies in Project 500, for "mob action."

Sept. 11 Student Discipline Committee is set up to deal with the case.

Sept. 19 12 are charged with mob action in connection with Union incident.

Sept. 26 Student Senate sets up a Defense Committee

Sept. 27 March to Westside Park.

October 239 go to Subcommittee A. Free University started. 204 of 239 are reprimanded. Julian Bond speaks.

November 9 Steve Schmidt, a member of the draft resistance movement, is arrested. Rally in his support held.

Nov. 16 A Socialist convention held.

December 3 Dean of Students Stanton Millet, testified in Sub-committee A hearings that Union sit-in was a "riot".

Dec. 5 Representatives for BSA, Black fraternities and sororities meet with Millet to discuss use of University facilities to benefit the community. David Addison, BSA representative, walks out of meeting due to Millet's testimony before Subcommittee A.

Dec. 6 Marine recruitment at Union. Students led by Jim Starkey. Set up table on "Draft Counseling and Information". Table removed 2:20 pm to avoid a confrontation.

Dec. 10 Legal counsel for two students involved in Sept. 9 sit-in at Union move that charges be dropped due to lack of evidence.

1969

January 14 SDS disappears as a public organization--splits into affinity groups. Plans announced to form local group with purpose of getting grapes out of local supermarkets.

February 6 More than 100 people disrupt Marine recruiting in Union.

Feb. 7 Two members of Illinois Black Panther Party were arrested at Union on charges of disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Feb. 12 White students approve a plan of action to be taken against the University's racist actions. Vern Fein called for eight educational groups of 20 students each who will attempt to keep University phones tied up. Plans also include weekly meetings and self-study programs, along with attempts to educate the student body.

Feb. 14 About 150 Black students milled inside the Chancellor's office with demands for ending racism at the University.

Feb. 17 The CU Faculty Senate Council voted to not meet the demands of the Blacks regarding racism.

1969 continued.

March 4 Mob action charges dropped.

March 18 Student Congress backs strike for Black demands with 500-700 students at noon rally.

March 25 University files new charges in Black sit in.

April 10 Trustee's approve student membership in C-U Senate.

July 9 Steve Smidt (UGSA radical) jailed for draft resistance.

September 30 U-C Senate votes to suspend classes; 1/2 hour on Oct. 15.

October 1 Committee for Moratorium founded.

Oct. 2 Peltason gives permission for individual faculty members to suspend class on Oct. 15.

Oct. 14 LAS passes resolution for the cancellation of classes.

Oct. 15 Moratorium. 1) 9,000 march peacefully to Westside Park.
2) 1,000 hear Lee Weiner speak. 3) William G. Clark and Eartha Kitt speak to 5,000 at Union.

Oct. 23 UGSA opens mail order record discount store.

November 4 Black coalition pickets and stops work on IMPE building due to firing of black worker.

Nov. 11 BSA granted funds by UGSA. 20% of vending funds and traffic fines.

December 10 100 students demonstrate against Navy recruiters.

Dec. 8 300 Blacks march in protest because of the Hampton-Clark shootings.

Dec. 12 300 people rally in Westside Park.

Dec. 15 Weatherman faction splits from RU.

1970

January 1-15 1) Print Co-op formed 2) Boneyard cleanup begun by CERB 3) Champaign police station is bombed, Larry Voss and an unidentified minor.

February 1-14 March 1 ROTC lounge firebombed. Law Students slate Kunstler speech on March 3.

March 1 Two firebombs found in Altgeld Hall. Noon rally called by Radical Union against G.E. 150 people marching to EE building. People break through Illicops or were let in through fire escapes. Windows broken and more police called in. Five were arrested and crowds blocked Wright and Green streets. The Board of Trustees decided that William Kunstler would not be allowed to speak on campus the following night. A rally for 7 p.m. was called by RU to protest arrests. That evening 700

1970 continued

- March 3 Two demonstrations in Union were broken up by slate police resulting in some injuries. The 10:30 curfew called for Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Near 2000 march to Pres. Henry's mansion and back to campus and were dispersed by State Police by 11:30. 300 National Guard are used to enforce curfew which results in 10 arrests and two injuries.
- March 4 Peltason suspends 9 students for participation in Monday's disturbances. 1800 people march through C-U with Bell telephone, the Armory, and Green St. windows broken. 147 arrested for curfew and other violations.
- March 5 Faculty for University Reform (leader: Tom Krueger) condemn Board of Trustees for Kunstler decision. 700 National Guard surround campus. Eight arrested for curfew.
- March 6-8 Concern on campus switched to Illiac IV.
- March 9 Jenner appointed as officer for hearings. A Fire-bombing of draft-board attempted. C-U Senate defeats motion to oppose housing of Illiac IV Night demonstration over Illiac IV with nine people arrested. Air force Recruiting office bombed.
- March 10 Suspended students returned to class with disciplinary hearings to start March 16.
- March 12 Policy Committee on Student Affairs (PCSA) to study open recruiting on campus. Jenner gets complete control of disciplinary hearings.
- March 16 University Attorney Franklin's office bombed.
- March 19 Henry announces his retirement. The ban on Kunstler removed.
- March 23 6, 519 go to Assembly Hall to Hear Kunstler.
- March 24 Slotnick defends Illiac IV before 250 students.
- March 25 Doebel claims names of students arrested to be withheld from FBI. PCSA calls for referendum for students questioning recruiting and student formulation of policy.
- April 8 Rally on Quad organize by Peoples Boycott Committee to commence boycott of different stores in the area.
- April 10 Henry Blackledge, a philosophy teaching assistant, who is one of 29 demonstration participants, resigns under pressure from the Administration.
- Eisners halts sale of grapes.
- April 14 UGSA record service opens.
- April 16 Environmental Crisis Week.
- April 21 Yippie Festival of Life at Armory. 15 arrested.
- May 2 Lincoln square firebombed previous night.

1970 continued

- May 4 Nationwide call for student strike.
- May 5 Kent State (May 4) makes headlines. Ohio National Guard kills four students. 60 colleges demonstrations take place under NSA call (National Student Association). 9:00 pm meeting in Auditorium to plan Friday Strike. 2,000 in streets; trashed university. Strike called for May 6,7,8.
- May 6 Student Strike begins. 90% effective boycott of classes. Protest at service drive of Union. Meranto and Parenti arrested. Charged with assault, mob action, obstruction of justice. Parenti severely beaten. Consensus is that police had certain personal targets. National Guard mobilized that afternoon. Curfew imposed 8:30 to 6:30. 50 people arrested.
- May 7 2500 people went to U. of I. fire station and called for the flag to be lowered to half mast. 500 National Guard moved in.
- May 8 Announcement of House Investigation of Internal Security to determine if Peace Movement is run by Communists. 2000 at rally Friday p.m.
- May 9 437 of 1500 state college in US closed or on strike. D.D. Henry: "Guard here to protect students." 9100 reserve guard called out in state. 10 schools in state shut down. Quad Bust- 105 arrested. 100 state police, 20 U of I. police, 200 National Guard. Students charged with unlawful assembly. Administration again refuses to close school. 100,000 march in Washington.
- May 10 National Guard leaves campus.
- May 11 State police leave campus. U-C sponsors Peltason's approval of liberation classes throughout the week. Shirley went to Union to answer questions about Hoults and Quad bust. 75% return to class.
- May 12 SIU closed indefinitely.
- May 13 Troops pull out of Cambodia.
- May 14 Howard Mitchell says Hoults investigation is whitewash.
- May 15 The new UGSA steering Committee: Ed Pinto and Jensen Slate Radical Union members sponsoring of Bail fund undertaken, also the new UGSA unleashed its plans for the future, including a radical book store, an art supply coop and a film library.
- May 19 BSA and North campus Coalition made a statement concerning the deaths at Jackson State University. ASCUR forms and stresses 50-50 representation of student on the CU senate.
- May 20 LASfaculty votes to cancel credit for ROTC. Strike Committee statement lists grievances. Three U. of I. buildings firebombed previous night, no substantial damage done. Legal defense of the 102 arrested in the Quad bust organized.
- June 8 Charges dropped against 241 of the 260 blacks involved in the September 1969 riot in Jackson State.

1970 continued

June 22 The University seeks to move Illiac off campus. The action comes in wake of protests throughout the state on May 9.

June 30 Parenti, visiting Political Science professor, is indicted on charges of disorderly conduct, resisting and obstructing a peace officer, and aggravated battery.

July 23 U. of I. Board of Trustees condemns the circular signed by thirteen professors of the Poli. Sci. department during the May strike about "a criminal regime" responsible for "slaughter" and such phrases.

July 30 64% of the student surveyed supported the May strike.

September Horsley commission initiated.

October U-C Senate Committee on Student Discipline expels two students for participation in May 1970 disturbance.

Gemini House opening announced.

Oct. 10 Peltason revoked aid of the eight students found by hearing officer of involvement in the Spring disorders.

October New organization - Center for Non Violent Social Change. Working with ASCUR.

Local lettuce boycotts organized.

Gri recruiters picketed.

Earthworks organizes food conspiracy.

December United Slate files for February's Champaign City Council elections.

Horsley hearings begin.

Tenants Union begins to take shape.

Paperback and Art coops begin in 2nd semester.

Meranto's trial begins (Jan. 18).

1971

February - April 1200 attend peaceful rally in protest of Lactian invasion. Jenner's report finally comes, though incomplete. Recommends eleven expulsions). Dragons Eye opens.

March 1971 Black Law Student Association boycotts classes to get scholarships for 20 freshmen.

Union Food Service boycott begins.

April Mass Washington Protest

May 1 Moratorium Events, boycott of classes, liberation classes, noon rally and march from Union.

39 people arrested in sit-in protesting Marine Recruitment.

Liberation classes and strike weakly supported.

1971 continued

June Parenti put on probation and Meranto goes to Washington University.

August 10 Jim Young beings organization to get students registered to vote.

Aug. 20 Rudasill recommends dismissal of all 33 students involved in the May 6 sit-in.

September 13 CVR is founded.

September 18 Boneyard Examiner begins publication.

September 25 CVR wants Bing to send movile units; he refuses.

Consumer Handbook, Earthworks, Garage.

November 1 89 people march to Bing's office.

Sharon Sindelar and John Lombardo begin serving sentances resulting from Ogilvie demonstration.

Bing charged in CVR lawsuit.

UGSA legal service begins handling cases.

1972

January 5 Food workers in University dorms strike and are aided by residents in bringing a quick settlement in favor of workers. CVR wins court case in Danville. Students are not able to vote in Champaign County.