

November 20, 1968

## TO THE COMMUNITY FROM JUDICIAL

For some time, the sign-out system at the College has called for modernization and reconsideration in light of changing times and the question of the student's right to privacy. In this spirit, Judicial has worked out a new system which has received the Administration's acceptance and which is to go into effect the week of November 25.

It is important to understand the questions we considered as we evaluated the problem, for this will shed light on the conclusions we reached and constitute some justification for these changes. Why a sign-out system at all? We could discover only two reasonable answers to this question: 1) In case of emergency, it is obvious that there be some way of getting in touch with a student, if she is either directly or indirectly involved; 2) In the case of a missing person the College must have the information with which to take appropriate action. Beyond this, the sign-out procedure can seem to be or become a mechanism that invades a student's privacy. To eliminate this possibility, we are abolishing the present sign-out system and instituting in its stead a more private "ghost sign-out" system. In detail, the changes are as follows:

- 1) All students who leave the campus planning to return before 4:30 a.m. do not have to sign out at all. There will be no more Green Sheet.
- 2) All students who plan to stay out beyond 4:30 a.m. must complete the new form diagrammed below. The inside card will be placed and sealed in the envelope by the student at Switchboard upon her departure and will not be opened unless there is an emergency or unless she fails to return by the time indicated on the front of the envelope. If it has been opened, the name of the person who opened it will be on the back of the envelope and the student can take this matter up with him or her.
- 3) Sign-in in this system means that the student comes to Switchboard immediately upon her return, reclaims her envelope, and disposes of it as she wishes.
- 4) If a student who had not planned to decides to stay off campus beyond 4:30 a.m., she should call the night watchman and he, with his ghost powers, will slip the information into an envelope and seal it.
- 5) In signing out, the arbitrary times of return (8:30 a.m. and 10 p.m.) are eliminated. Instead, the student should try to indicate the time she plans to return, though allowing herself slightly more time than she will actually need. **BUT BE SURE TO SIGN IN IMMEDIATELY UPON HER RETURN.**
- 6) There will be no pink slips any more in this system. If a student plans to miss more than 5 class days, she must make this known to her teachers and counselor, or to the SPO or to the Health Service. This information should be checked on the back of the envelope.

Judicial hopes that these changes will clear up the paranoia and confusion which have come to surround the present system. We hope that students will take this responsibility very seriously and conscientiously, and that the information inside the envelope will be complete and accurate. In order to make the transition from old system to new, Judicial members will come around to each house to orient students to these changes. We will continue to act on delinquent cases that may arise.