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17 Recommendations on Housing and Residence Life

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DAYTON, Ohio, February 4, 1973 -- The President’s Task Force on Housing and Residence Life at the University of Dayton has completed its report and will make 16 recommendations, through its chairperson, Miss Nora Duffy, Director of UD’s Special Sessions, to the President’s Advisory Council and the Student Life Committee of the Board of Trustees. Both groups will take the recommendations under consideration and report their findings to Reverend Raymond A. Roesch, S.M., President, and the Board of Trustees respectively.

Commissioned last November to “re-assess its policies toward all aspects of student housing and residence life,” the Task Force included representation from parents, alumni, students, business, faculty, and administrators. In all, 20 men and women, including 13 who are parents of children ranging from elementary school to college age, participated in the 32 general and sub-committee meetings.

Father Roesch commissioned the Task Force to “study and recommend policies encompassing all aspects of the question.” The commission specified that the group should define the role of the residence hall system in the educational mission of UD, clarify the University’s commitment to residence halls, establish guidelines and direction for housing and residence life, recommend a policy for the future of University Hall (West Campus), consider maximum utilization of present residence hall space, research intervisitation and residence hall options consistent with goals and objectives and consider the institutional tradition of off-campus housing and, finally, the impact that change might have on recruitment, admissions, retention, etc.

Among the 17 recommendations are:

- All freshmen and sophomores should be required to live in the University residence halls;
- The policy of providing the opportunity for junior and senior students to live in residence halls should be continued;
- Reopen University Hall (West Campus), if needed;
- The Campus South Apartments should continue to be available to both men and women;
- Dean of Students should work toward providing options, e.g., quiet halls, visitation, living-learning centers, halls oriented to specific academic disciplines, etc.;
- Maintain the present procedure of informing parents concerning available residence life options;
- Continue policy that discrimination in housing against any person because of race, color, creed, sex, national origin or ancestry is intolerable;
- Maintain the present guidelines for visitation - 24 hour visitation is not recommended;
- Coordinate housing made available to upperclass students;
- Coordinate housing means the assignment of men and women to separate wings of a building. All residents share lounge facilities, study areas, etc. Visiting in rooms assigned to members of the opposite sex is allowed only during the regularly scheduled visiting hours. Coeducational housing which permits visiting around the clock is not recommended;
- Continue policy of professional staffing;
- Maintain constant attention to safety and security;
- Promote education, social, and recreational programming in residence halls to enrich the quality of student life.

And finally, the Task Force urged that the University reaffirm its total commitment to the residence hall system primarily from the educational aspect. The report stated that "the system provides a method of extending the students learning from the classroom to the development of the whole person in a residential setting. The staff should attempt to facilitate the highest personal development of each student in the residence hall system. This effort promotes individual fulfillment through encouragement of the practice of Christian values in every aspect of living."