



## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, S. C. 29208

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

MEMORANDUM

October 12, 1982

TO: Faculty of the University

FROM: Prof. Kevin Lewis  
Student Affairs Committee (Interim Chairman, Spring 1982)

RE: Proposal of a new student social discipline system to be considered by the Faculty Senate on November 3

This is to summarize actions taken to meet objections to the original proposal raised in the Faculty Senate in December, 1981, and subsequently during the extended review given it by this committee.

The Student Affairs Division and the entire community of the Columbia Campus stand in dire need of a revised system of student discipline to cover violations of a social as distinct from an academic nature. This need was identified during the Self-Study and re-accreditation investigations of 1980. A Presidential Task Force was immediately appointed to submit a proposal of a new system to meet the need. The Task Force, chaired by Prof. H.E. Barrineau (Criminal Justice), included representatives from the Law School Faculty, the University Legal Office, Student Affairs, Residential Life, the undergraduate and the Law School student bodies respectively, and the Faculty Senate. After several months of work, the Task Force submitted its proposal.

It was then reviewed carefully and approved by the University's Legal Counsel. In the fall of 1981, a Student Senate resolution approved the proposal with recommendation of three changes all of which were then incorporated.

Upon subsequent review and approval by the Student Affairs Committee (with recommendation of several small changes of form not of substance), the proposal was forwarded to the Faculty Senate for action during the December meeting, 1981. There the proposal had the misfortune to be placed at the end of a long agenda, and then to be hastily tabled, with virtually no discussion, when new objections were raised on several points of legal procedure.

In the spring of 1982, the Student Affairs Committee went back to work on the proposal, with a view to negotiating further revisions of merit with any and all interested parties. This lengthy and exhaustive review included an open hearing announced by memorandum to the General Faculty, solicitation of written comments, and direct invitations to individuals with known concerns to meet with the committee. The resulting negotiated changes of substance in the proposal appear to have satisfied all concerned.

The authority to erect a student discipline system at USC resides ultimately in the Faculty. However, the opinion of student leadership has been consulted at every stage in the preparation and revisions of the proposed new system. Appropriately, the views of Student Government continue to be sought. The President of this year's Student Government, Mr. Ashley Abel, has been invited to report at this meeting of the Faculty Senate the latest results of student review of this revision of the proposed system.

The text of the proposed system to come before the Faculty Senate is fifteen pages in length. This committee will present it together with a three-page Summary of the final changes negotiated during the latter stages of the extensive review process. But the cost of sending eighteen pages to the General Faculty is high. In a time when we are being urged to trim costs, we have chosen to send this document directly only to all current Senators. We would like to make it available by request to all other interested colleagues. Please call the Faculty Senate Office (7-6073, 7-6078) if you would like a copy. When approved, the full text setting forth the new system will be published in Carolina Community: Student Information Manual.