

UCSC - History 1965-69

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UCSC Students Seek Channels Of Communication

By Mel Baughman
Sentinel Staff Writer

UCSC students Wednesday afternoon began a search for methods to open communication with the community and the state.

Various ideas were discussed during the late afternoon session at Cowell College to continue their quest for ways to evolve a meaningful relationship between the campus and the community during the approaching summer and next fall.

Understanding and dialogue and fellowship obviously are needed to dispel the suspicion and fear that some students hold for the world that lies beyond the campus.

To those students of radical views, there is a clear, present and growing danger that a large and increasing segment of the general public is bent on herding students into "concentration camps."

Said one student, "Radicals all over the country are

being arrested. Offices of the SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) are being raided. It's going to happen here unless you convince people to stand up.

"We have to try to convince the people that students who are radicals and revolutionaries are not devils, but human beings. We must try to show them that radical political thought is in the American tradition."

Another student said, "We must stress that what we want is to improve our society and make it more humane."

A faculty member urged the students to "be compassionate" in their contacts with the public.

Todd Newberry, assistant professor of biology at Cowell, said, "Recognize the sense of threat and the insecurities and sensitivities of the people you're talking to. They're just as scared as you are. They think you're going to put them in concentration camps."

The Rev. Herbert Schmidt, Lutheran pastor at UCSC and Cabrillo College, told the students that both sides "must

be honest in their thinking and feelings" if real dialogue is to occur.

Schmidt also reported that churches of the city are trying to organize a series of programs to involve students during the remaining weeks of this quarter and next fall.

Students stressed that communication must be a two-way thing, but they warned that their efforts must be neither patronizing nor an effort to convert the community.

Among the positive suggestions for achieving accord were public service on a volunteer basis with community agencies, including hospitals and schools, and participation in church programs.

A student announced that a forum is scheduled on Sunday at 10:45 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church as part of a continuing series on social issues.

Schmidt noted, too, that Vice Mayor Ernest Wicklund on Sunday voiced the hope that students would invite members of the city council to come to the campus for discussions.