Supports move to ban germ warfare research

To the Editor,

On May 9 I was one of eight people—six area community members and two UMass students—who, after a discussion with UMass Chancellor Joseph Duffey about defense-related research at UMass, were arrested for trespassing. We refused to leave his office because, although we appreciated his willingness to meet with us, we felt that he had failed to confront our basic concern: the twopart issue of human rights.

Part One: The rights of UMass students, presently highlighted by the suspension without hearings of those demonstrating on a matter literally of life and death. (This issue has now been at least partially resolved.)

Part Two: Universal human rights, indeed the rights of all living things, threatened both by ecological disaster like global warming and pollution and by weapons of mass destruction in our age of high technology.

One can understand the awesome kind of spider web in which someone like Chancellor Duffey is caught! Tangled in this web are his financial responsibilities to an institution desperately in need of funds; his responsibility to a vast variety of faculty, students and alumni, and his responsibility to his own personal convictions—not to mention his obligations to the great spider itself who spins the web: our whole system of business-military-commercial-industrial that entangles universities, towns, select boards and citizens alike!

Actually, isn't modern technology—in medicine, communications, space—so "high" as to be out of sight and practically unbelievable to a lot of sensible but technically untrained people? And, unfortunately, aren't those who do have this kind of training likely to be so dependent on their work and/or fascinated by the "miracles" they perform as to be blind to its effects on real people and to the overall direction it's taking (us)?

The U.S. Army's Biological Warfare Defense Research Program, of which anthrax research at UMass is a part, demonstrates to perfection the ominous fascination of work in molecular biology where some of the deadliest known pathogens are being genetically manipulated—with the claim of the need for a worldwide vaccine. If this claim is valid, the project should be civilian, not military. Indeed, the only legal ground for any such experiments would be civilian since they violate both the letter and the spirit of the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention, signed by the U.S. and one hundred other countries.

Fortunately, there are hundreds of highly trained scientists with both long-term vision and functioning human feelings who are sponsoring a pledge against biological warfare research; 85 local physicians signed an ad opposing such research at UMass. If enough ordinary, sensible people are concerned enough about human universal rights to life and about human decency, we can establish Amherst as the first biological-weapons-free zone in our country. This will be an historic act toward changing its direction.

Margaret G. Holt

THURSDAY, MAY 25,
UNITE to TAKE BACK the NIGHT

STUDEN UNION STEPS

WED. 5/10 12 NOON

ACT NOW

SPONSORED BY UMASS N.O.W.
It is because of my intense dedication to education that I became involved with the P.S.R.U. I believe, very strongly, that education is the only way that people can realize their freedom. Why else would the elite so strongly desire to keep it out of the hands of the underclasses?

War is the destruction of all that is educated. In this sense education may be applied to all living creatures, for doesn't even a fish absorb something during its life. Life is the ultimate Good. There is nothing else to kill but life. I therefore hate war. I will do all that is in my power to prevent the outbreak of any war. Even just in writing this I hope to be able to in some way contribute to the destruction of war.

It therefore seems obvious that I would not want the D.O.M. on my campus.

Since I first became involved with this movement I have been arrested once and have been involved in three occupations. My arrest occurred because I did not feel that it was right that my fellow students were being carried out of a building and into a bus, which would take them to jail. It occurred to me that it was wrong that they were being arrested for participating in an exclamation of their democratic right to voice their opinion. So I proceeded to block the bus with my body. There were approximately twenty other people who felt the same way that I did and we were all sitting behind the bus to prevent its imminent departure. The police didn't appreciate our dedication, and decided that it would be necessary to cart us off to jail, along with our comrades who had been inside the building.

We were then taken to the stadium on campus where they planned to book us. For five hours we sat, handcuffed in small "school-boy" chairs while our oppressors decided our fate. Then off to the Hampshire County correctional facility. Rather than get into detail about the whole episode I will suffice it to say that the administration's plan of stifling the movement backfired. Rather than feeling repressed our group became even more militant and empowered. During my time in custody, I felt so in touch with myself and why I was there, and so in tune to everyone around me that there was no way that I couldn't feel empowered.
Demands from the second Memorial Hall Occupation

People for a Socially Responsible University has shown that it is a group of reasonable people. The administration, by not recognizing the validity of the right of student input concerning the issues of research and funding on this campus, has forced us to take the measures of building occupation just to be heard. During these occupations, the administration has continued to treat the students with disrespect and has ignored the legitimacy of their concerns. In addition, the actions taken by the administration are in violation of the students' rights. This has happened in spite of the fact that we have continually given the administration options to negotiate in good faith.

For instance, when we tried to view the public documents concerning DOD funded research on campus, our efforts were blocked. During the occupation of MIRSL our efforts towards dialogue were ignored. When we occupied Memorial Hall for the first time, the administration inexplicably refused to meet with our group. At the Graduate Research Center occupation, the administration finally offered to meet with our group provided we left the offices we occupied. Yet, the administration was still not willing to discuss the issues of DOD research and funding on this campus with students. The only things the administration offered to discuss with us were: (1) Making public documents available to the public and (2) Setting up a commission to secure civilian funding sources. These are two present obligations of the administration which they are not currently fulfilling. This is all we have been offered this evening. This shows that claims that the administration has been negotiating in good faith are by-and-large an illusion. If the administration is truly interested in negotiating in good faith, it would reinstate the suspended students and stop its use of the threat of suspensions as a form of political repression.
Chancellor Duffey has said that he believes that economic dependence on DOD funding is a problem of national scope. According to Bill Weitzer, the chancellor will issue a statement to that effect tomorrow before the Faculty Senate. We are encouraged by our common concern and wish to work together to turn UMass into part of a solution to this problem.

We want a written document from the administration that shows their commitment to working towards this solution. This must include: (1) the admission that students have a right to have decision making power on the formation of the commission on economic conversion; (2) that this commission is also going to be equally dedicated to phasing out all DOD funding for research over an acceptable and reasonable period of time; (3) that this commission have binding power concerning the elimination of DOD research.

If the administration is willing to accept our compromise to their original plan for a commission, we will immediately end our occupation of Memorial Hall.

P.S. We feel it is our obligation to return the building to its original condition. We will take part in any clean up and maintenance work that needs to be done.

S. Palmer, inside Memorial Hall, second occupation.
Statement from Chancellor Duffey
8 p.m., Wednesday, May 10, 1989

I call upon the students now occupying Memorial Hall to withdraw and to return to their studies. The propriety of Department of Defense funding has been and will continue to be actively discussed on this campus. Given the level of controversy, the issue is not likely to go away. Nothing further will be gained by illegal and improper actions on the part of students or others who are illegally occupying this building.

At tomorrow's Faculty Senate meeting I will ask for the creation of a Campus Commission on America's Economic Future to explore both those elements that threaten our society today and what can be done to build a stronger, more productive American economy.

The excessive growth of Department of Defense funding in recent years is beginning to be reversed. But over-dependence on such funding is only one aspect of a larger problem. It has been recognized by the Department of Defense, among others, that the principal threat to our nation's security today is neither weapons nor military strategy. The greatest threat to our nation's security is an economy which is failing to support the kind and quality of education which will prepare young people for a world in which America must compete and cooperate in international markets.

We are falling behind in our technological development. We have lost leadership in quality manufacturing in many areas to other nations. We are educating too few engineers and scientists and ignoring needs in the health and education of millions of poor children. We know and care too little about the rest of the world. There is widespread civic illiteracy and voter apathy.

The American economy has been weakened by a rate of savings and investment that is among the lowest of the world's industrial nations. We have been crippled by an imbalance of trade and a continuing deficit in the Federal budget. We import too much, make too little, and as a nation we have been living beyond our means. Perhaps most of all, our national security is threatened by the lack of confidence many young people have in the future. As a nation we have the resources to restore that confidence and to build a healthy and strong economy. As an education institution we have a responsibility to consider these questions, not simply in rhetorical debate but with serious concentration and study.
All University Women
Join the fight against
D.O.D. War is a
Women's issue!! Thu
May 11~12noon rally at
Whitmore ~ 900 P.M.
Candlelight Vigil at Memoria Hall
STUDENTS:
The DoD presence on campus has grown in monetary terms by 2000% in the past decade. If you're against war, your academic options are becoming fewer. Help stop military-funded research.

(Police officer on a student at Memorial Hall)

Musicians: Bring your music to support the fight against DoD Research Thursday Rally 12 noon at Whitmore - May 11 9:00 P.M. Candlelight Vig at Memorial Hall Join Us
U.V.C. Workers:
Join us in the fight against D.O.D. Research and Student suspensions.
D.O.D. Research - Thursday May 11th 12 noon Rally at Whitmore.
Reinstate Student 9:00 Candlelight Vigil at Memorial Hall - Join Us!

Black and Third World Students Join us in the fight against D.O.D. Research and Student suspensions.
Thursday May 11th 12 noon Rally at Whitmore
9:00 P.M. Candlelight Vigil at Memorial Hall - Join Us!
Physical Plant Workers
Join us in the fight against D.O.D. Research
Thursday May 11:
12 noon Rally at Whitmore
4:00 P.M. Candlelight Vigil at Memorial Hall

The special flashlight is passed around, and the solidarity story is shared
Inside Memorial Hall

Connolly Ryan

Connolly Ryan is a longtime resident, student, and critical analyst of Butterfield. He wrote this piece during the coffee house inside the second Memorial Hall Occupation.

Growth reckons it has found some daylight in the hearts of these young people who spill themselves sweet and strong through movement and language while the norm-rats choose to conform up and down the tame ladder of tradition.

People gathered in an unusually lonely place exchanging yearns and solutions. The idea of a coffeehouse gets underway, a hoarse-voiced woman gets raunchy with a Bessie Smith song. She erupts into redness and buxom spasms which leave the crowd on a plank of joy. A man with a jig-saw haircut and a batman shirt sings about his jetblack hair.
The rumor of state-troopers begins to creep about.
Strength through empathy gives us a momentary, awkward zion to play with.

Hunger strikers walk in a beautiful daze that makes my appetite seem villainous to my potential as a sensory creature.

Outside, the cherry-picker has landed and begun to plant the proper lighting for the cops who have come to bust.

The gonzo-man hops up to front-stage and spices our sacred moods with his pungent funk.

No one will not give in to the acoustic thrush of this timely tempo-gangster.

He starts to bow wow wow like a rooster or a greaser and the collective response trickles down his shins.

A man named Owl lugs himself onto a steel grey chair and sings "Sunrise" in a mystical drawl that hills the womyn-folk to hum moonclear measures as the boys like me thump our wooly heals and watch out for insects, which afterall, shouldn't die as a result of our fervor.

The twentieth century oral traditionalist, Owl, charms our senses with funny brogues, and past-life gestures. He transforms into theater shapes and his tongue dunks our heads into the swamps that whistle lazy hymns beneath the carpet.

The carpet is grimy and fuzzy of course, but it tastes like apricot marmalade, so we all do jumping jacks and praise even the jackals who only find time to slander.

Jeff, a friend, (of anyone) jumps from his slumber to strum his twelve stringer and voices out "Me and Julio" which gives the rest of us the cue to exhale brassy lilac-tones and elm-tree anthems.

A woman cloaked in a numerical quilt sings with a short-winded depth. In my rapture, I imagine bumblebee-sized flowersuds rolling off her tongue.

A woman next to me must see what I imagine and she takes my hand.
Thoughts of a Soldier

David Glovner

I am a student at the University of Massachusetts. Besides being a student I am a human being. As a human I have a certain amount of power which I may exercise to change things that are bad. People and institutions may attempt to rob me of this power, but as long as I fully realize that it is there, I will always have it. There exists at my school a situation which, after careful consideration, I have deemed to be bad. I am therefore striving to change this situation.

UMass is not so slowly becoming an institution which is more devoted to the continued supply of more sophisticated and deadly forms of killing, to the Department of Defense; which I shall henceforth denote as the Department of Defense(DOD), than it is to the education of its students. While our budget is being slashed by the bureaucrats in the statehouse, as well as in Washington, and it is becoming increasingly more difficult to assure myself that I can and will get a good and well rounded education here, our government is seeing it quite necessary to pump millions of dollars into this school for the sole purpose of creating new weapons. This research is being conducted at both the student level and the faculty level.

I once witnessed an attack on one of the P.S.R.U.'s original demands, which called for the freshman class to be restored to its level of 4300. I believe that is the correct number. (The freshman class has been slashed because of the budget cuts.) The graduate student who disagreed with this said that if the freshmen class was restored to its previous levels, then, because of the budget cuts, more money would have to be pulled out of the liberal arts so that students like him could conduct their research. I find it hard to understand how one person's research could be more important than the chance for someone else to go to school. Why should someone like him get maybe fifty thousand dollars to conduct research when someone else can't get five thousand to just attend school?
That sense of empowerment hasn't left me. Before getting involved with this movement I had my convictions, but it was difficult to act on them. One person single-handedly trying to stop the war is ridiculous. But when you realize, and see, that there are lots of people who want the same thing, it is much easier. And when you can touch them it becomes even easier. When enough people reach out and touch each other this thing has got to happen. That is something that I have been able to realize because of this. The power of the people is not something to balk at. It is a force that must be reckoned with, or it will shatter the foundations of society. For it is people that comprise society, not numbers or bureaucracies; just plain people.

It is coldly ironic that Chancellor Joe Duffey and his council felt that it was necessary to call in a military force to suppress our anti D.O.D. protest. They were out in full force. Over a hundred police from all levels; University, Amherst town police, and state police, were all represented. With them came police dogs, a helicopter equipped with tear gas, and of course the bus which would take us away. All this is really kind of excessive when one considers that they were only arresting 60 nonviolent protesters. We did not throw one stone or in any way maliciously attack any of the officers. They still felt it reasonable to outnumber us 2 to 1.

The movement is evolving now. We did not start this, we have merely evolved into it. Although the semester may be over at this point, the summer is going to be a time of organization and solidification. I think people are realizing the immensity of our goal. To say that we want the D.O.D. off our campus is almost equivalent to saying that we want it off our planet. What is a university but a microcosm of the society. If the D.O.D. should not be on our campuses why should it be anywhere? No one should ever have to die in a war when there are much more important issues to put our energies into. However that is a much larger view of this issue, for now let's concentrate on cleaning up our universities.

I think the administration must be scarred at what might happen next semester. So far, in the last few weeks of this semester we have conducted five occupations. Which have involved students, faculty, and community members; eight students have gone on a hunger strike, there have been 152 arrests, we conducted a candle light vigil and planted a tree, we have held press conferences, rallies, open mikes, compiled leaflets and fact sheets, and have been holding regular meetings. With a whole semester to start with the possibilities of what might happen are very interesting.

I have said that this is a people's movement. It is made up of people, real people not t.v. personalities. In the short time that I have been involved with this thing I have met many people. I feel that I have learned a lot from them. I have grown emotionally and intellectually from my experiences with them. From blockading the doors at Memorial Hall during the second time there, to listening to a protester who is an ex-air force soldier broadcast his memories of his service time, and his experiences with his lover, I have become more in touch with myself, and my aspirations. Blocking a bunch of doors may seem like a pretty childish thing to do. But when that is put into the context of a siege, the reasoning becomes more apparent. At previous occupations the doors had been left open. The police strategically stationed themselves in our midst. It was impossible to sleep, as certain individuals would make sure to threaten arrest, baseball bat in hand, at rather odd hours in the night. Even mere access to the bathrooms had been used as an immature method to weaken the protesters. Food was also routinely withheld to further weaken us. We were the ones under siege. At the last occupation, the second at Memorial Hall, we blocked all entrances into the buildings except the windows. We maintained "our space".

We do not enjoy having to take over buildings to make a point. But when the administration tells you that certain crucial issues are non-negotiable with you, you have to find more direct and forceful ways to voice your opinion. When the Administration tries to psychologically cripple you, it is necessary to defend yourself.
It is the idea of "our space" that we are fighting for. We believe that the university is "our space", as we believe that the bathrooms are "our space". My mind is my space and I don't believe that anyone has the right to force feed me propaganda or dysinformation of any kind. I want to be free. I know that I must fight for that freedom. That is what I am doing and will keep on doing until I die.

END THE WAR END THE WAR END THE WAR END THE WAR END THE WAR

TO: MARCUS & MEM-HALL PEOPLE, ARRESTED BOTH INSIDE & OUTSIDE

SUGGESTIONS:
1) Wait for the formalities to be completed
2) Do not answer ANY questions regarding alleged violation(s)
3) When given the opportunity to speak to the disciplinary charges, read the UNIFIED STATEMENT, below
4) Once the statement has been read to the board, stand up and leave the hearing.

NOTE: the following statement has been prepared under the guidance of our attorney.

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UNIFIED STATEMENT

"My attorney has advised me that if I were to defend myself in any way, or otherwise discuss the charges against me at this hearing, I would be jeopardizing my Fifth Amendment right not to incriminate myself, which could in turn jeopardize my criminal defense. I therefore request that my hearing be continued until after my trial is completed. Thank you very much."

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END THE WAR END THE WAR END THE WAR END THE WAR END THE WAR

Next step: wait 5 days and get letter as to whether or not I am suspended,
Interim suspensions: a cautionary approach

Charles J. DiMare

This article was first published in the first issue of The Student Rights Advocate, [volume I, number I, May 1989, 413-545-1995], released May 17, 1989. The newsletter is produced by the University of Massachusetts Student Legal Services Center.

An interim suspension occurs when a student is temporarily suspended, before a hearing can be held.

Courts generally have limited the use of interim suspensions at publicly funded educational institutions to emergency situations in which university authorities have reasonable cause to believe that danger will be present if a student is permitted to remain on campus pending a decision following a full hearing. In addition, courts have also held that "an interim suspension may not be imposed without a prior preliminary hearing, unless it can be shown that it is impossible or unreasonably difficult to accord it prior to an interim suspension." In such cases, "procedural due process requires that the student be provided such a preliminary hearing, at the earliest practical time. Essentially, the law requires public universities to avoid suspensions based on student behavior unless the student has had the opportunity, however brief, to persuade the suspending authority that there is a case of mistaken identity, mitigating circumstances or other justification for withholding the interim suspension.

The U.S. Supreme Court has further limited interim suspensions as follows:

As a general rule notice and hearing should precede removal of the student from school. We agree... however, that there are recurring situations in which prior notice and hearing cannot be insisted upon. Students whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process may be immediately removed from school...[and notice and hearing] should follow as soon as practical [419 U.S. at 583 (1975)].

The regulations and policies in effect at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in the academic year 1988-1989 state in part:

Either the Chancellor or the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs or their designee may impose restrictions upon a student pending disciplinary proceedings or health withdrawal, such interim restrictions to become effective immediately without prior notice whenever there is ground to believe that the student poses an imminent threat to himself or herself, to others, or to property.

Appropriate University authorities must grapple with the terms continuing danger, on-going threat, and imminent threat. Indeed without such threats or danger interim suspensions are justifiably subject to constitutional attack. Consequently, an interim suspension based on a single act of student misconduct, even to the extent of violent or threatening behavior, without significant evidence that such behavior will continue and pose an imminent threat would violate the U.S. Constitution.

The courts have been reasonably clear that interim suspensions should be reserved to only very particular and narrowly defined situations. A university's attempt to broaden the use of interim suspension to situations where there is not clear and present evidence of imminent danger, may unnecessarily risk civil litigation and significant liability.
At the request of Chancellor Dufley, the Research Council has reviewed current University policy concerning the acceptance of funds supporting faculty research. In undertaking this review, we kept foremost in our minds that a main mission of the University is to advance understanding and knowledge and to disseminate such advances as widely as possible. We are also of the conviction that this mission can only be achieved when there are no restrictions on the subject matters of faculty research and on the freedom to make available widely the findings of such research. Under this principle, it is the prerogative of researchers freely to choose their research topics and to bear the duty to make resulting knowledge freely available, to exercise due regard and care in the conduct of research for the health and safety of researchers, the University community, the surrounding community, and for human subjects if any are used in the research, and to observe applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

Upon review, we found that no changes are needed or warranted in current University policy which prohibits the acceptance of support for research under conditions which restrict the dissemination of findings. We therefore reaffirm current policies as expressed in the Board of Trustees resolution of May 10th, 1972 and of the Faculty Senate resolution of April 1972, both actions prohibiting the acceptance of research funds under conditions restricting disclosure of findings. Except for those noted above, the University does not and should not impose any restrictions on legal sources of research funding.

To insure that the provisions of this policy are rigorously adhered to, we propose that principal investigators submitting research proposals for processing certify that the proposals are in compliance with current policies. In addition, we urge that the Vice Chancellor for Research and the Director of the Office of Grants and Contracts consistently and faithfully implement these current policies. In case of conflict over the interpretation of these policies, the Research Council should serve as the final arbiter.


MOVED: That the Faculty Senate endorse the Policy on Acceptance of Funds Supporting Faculty Research as presented in the Research Council's Special Report dated April 27, 1989, Sen. Doc. No. 89-046.
AGENDA: The 437th Meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held on
Thursday, May 11, 1989 at 3:10 p.m. in Room 120, School of Management. (This Special Meeting is called by the Faculty Senate Rules Committee).

A. NEW BUSINESS:
Acceptance of Funds Supporting Faculty Research as presented in Sen.
Doc. No. 09-046 with Motion No. 42-09.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate endorse the Policy on Acceptance of Funds
42-09 Supporting Faculty Research as presented in the Research Council's

2. Motion to Endorse the Provost's Statement to the Administration a
Response to Student Protests:

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate endorse the position taken by the Provost,
at the 436th Meeting of the Faculty Senate, on the administration's
response to student protests. (The Provost's remarks will be
distributed at the meeting.)

3. Special Report of the University Computer Committee concerning
Priorities for Academic Computing and Planning for the
Administration of Computer Resources as presented in Sen. Doc.
No. 09-036 with Motion No. 26-09. (Tabbed at the 436th Meeting)

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate endorse the recommendations 1 through 8
of the Special Report of the University Computer Committee
concerning Priorities for Academic Computing and Planning for the
Administration of Computer Resources as contained in Sen. Doc.
No. 09-036.

4. Special Report of the Academic Matters Council concerning Recommended
Approval of Eight Departmental Honors Tracks in the Revised Honors
Program as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 09-047 with Motion No. 43-09.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the eight new Departmental Honors
Tracks as recommended by the Academic Matters Council in Sen. Doc.
No. 09-047.

5. Special Report of the Space and Calendar Committee concerning
Academic Calendar Associated Dates as presented in Sen. Doc.
No. 09-048 with Motion No. 44-09 and Motion No. 45-09.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate recommend that the Academic Calendar no
longer list associated dates.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate recommend that the Commission on Civility
compile and print a list of religious holidays to be published as
appropriate in University publications. As appropriate will be
determined by the Commission.