Student Life through the Century

When the decision was reached in 1881 for a number of faculty members to leave Oskaloosa College and to establish a new University in Des Moines, there was already a strong tradition of concern for students' welfare. The Oskaloosa College 1863-64 catalog gives ample testimony of that concern for students:

"The discipline of Oskaloosa College is designed to be strictly parental...Immoral conduct, habitual neglect of duty, insubordination, too frequent attendance of social parties or other places of amusement or unnecessary gallantry will always be a sufficient cause for reprimanding, dismissing for a limited time, or expelling the offender."

The statement went on to indicate what nowadays would be close to the student personnel viewpoint:

"The authorities will be vigilant in the promotion of the physical, intellectual and moral interests of each pupil entrusted to their care. As teachers and students meet in the institution with objects and interests that are so identical, they should regard themselves as co-workers and endeared friends."

When classes began for the first time at Drake, the first building to open was the "Students' Home," presided over by Mrs. L.S. Bottenfield, wife of Professor Bottenfield, who taught English, Literature and German. Records indicate that "good, plain meals will be provided at cost, or about $1.50 to $2.00 per week. Neat and commodious rooms, heated by steam, furnished with bed, mattress, table and chairs, two students to a room, will be furnished for $.40-$1.60 per week per student, depending on the location and convenience of the room." The Students' Home was a four-story frame building, containing 43 rooms, and housed about 70 students and the Bottenfields. For nearly two years this building served the University well as the chapel, school rooms and a boardinghouse.

Other housing accommodations soon were under construction in the neighborhood by the University Land Company. Approximately 50 homes were built. These residences were available to faculty and to those who wished to rent rooms to students. Since public transportation--the street car line (horse-car or mule-car)--was available at that time only as far as West Ninth and Locust (now downtown Des Moines), the neighborhood housing was most convenient to students.

During Drake's early years, student life was characterized by numerous regulations--listed as the "Laws of Drake University" in the University catalog:

1. Students are required to be diligent in study, punctual in attendance upon recitations, examinations, chapel services, literary performances, and all other University exercises.
2. No student shall leave any class to which he has been assigned without the permission of the faculty. Nor shall any student take any study or assume any obligation inconsistent with his University duties without permission.
3. Students are required to abstain from profanity, the desecration of the Lord's Day, gambling, all intoxicating drinks, from visiting any saloon, billiard room, or any other place of improper resort, and from whatever else is inconsistent with good order, good taste, and good morals.
4. Students are required to attend public worship and also Sunday School at least once each Lord's Day. (This regulation does not appear after the University's first catalog).
5. No student will be permitted to leave the vicinity of Des Moines without permission from the faculty.
6. The frequent visiting of each other's rooms on the part of students, lounging about town or elsewhere during study hours and all excessive gallantry are strictly prohibited.
7. Any student defacing or otherwise injuring University property will be required to make such damage good and may be subject to discipline besides.

A final paragraph concluded: "All students are required to conform to the forgiving laws and all other general or specific announcements that may be made by the Board or by the faculty."

Extra curricular activities during those years included six literary societies, two for men and two for women. One was for young men who desired to study the Holy Scriptures, another for post-graduates, seniors and juniors interested in the cultivation of the art and science of oratory. The beginnings of traditions and present-day student activities also were evident at that time. In 1882 the first publication, The Drake Index, was issued under faculty guidance, but it lasted only two years. In 1885 the first skip day, called "Flunk Day," was an instant success.

In 1889 when Callanan College was given to the University, the student living environment changed with the addition of Callanan's "ladies board hall." At this point there were also six literary societies organized for students.

In 1890 The Delphic is mentioned as the college journal. Its purpose was to "represent each department of the school and encourage literary work among the students."

Within 10 years, University Place was a reality and students living in private homes found "a happy circle of Christian homes where nearly all the homes are new and many have all modern conveniences." As a result such surrounding and concern by the residents, the University did not feel it necessary to provide dormitories, believing them "to be breeding places of the germ of physical and moral disease."

Drake had an early concern for women students, and the first mention of a woman responsible for young ladies comes from the 1894-95 catalog when Mrs. A.Z. Williams, listed as "matron," followed a few years later by Mrs. Hattie Moore-Mitchell as "principal for women." Mrs. Mitchell's responsibilities were described as having "kindly oversight of the girl students; her great interest in their welfare makes the arduous task a labor of love." She was to meet with the young ladies to offer counsel and advice on the first Monday of every school month at 1:30 p.m. in the chapel. She was described as near enough their own age to be in full sympathy. "The girls will also understand that it is Mrs. Mitchell's duty to see that they conform to the laws of hearth and propriety." In addition, homeowners with whom the young women found housing were expected to cooperate with Mrs. Mitchell in maintaining the proprieties. These people endeavored to give the students the same advantages and protection they would have received in their own homes.

In 1897 changes in the "Laws" were put into effect. These included Mrs. Mitchell's "duty to note and report or correct any violation of good taste or good morals" that women students were "advised not to room where there is no reception parlor for the use of young gentlemen callers," and "students who do poor work or do not comply with requirement would not be allowed to hold office or be on an athletic team." Later an additional rule was added: "Smoking is forbidden on the grounds or in the buildings."

In 1902 Mary Adelaide Carpenter was appointed dean of women. She had been employed as librarian and continued to hold both positions for some years.

"Miss Mary Carpenter is dean of women and has kindly oversight of the women students. For this task she is eminently fitted by her gifts and training. She consented to accept this place only upon the earnest solicitation of the University. Her work is a labor of love. The students find her a wise and faithful friend and adviser. It is Miss Carpenter's duty to see that the women students conform to the laws of propriety and wholesome restraint."
Literary societies continued to flourish and three of them maintained attractive, well decorated halls in the main building. That same year the first queen was chosen and a campus annual was published.

Still the regulations continued to change. Young women were not permitted to room in homes where young men were rooming on the same floor. Also, young women receiving gentlemen callers in their rooms were subject to severe discipline. Young women were not permitted to room at a place which did not have the full approval of the dean of women. The next year, a specific regulation dictated another change that required women students to live only where there was a reception room for callers, this room not being a private parlor over which the young women had control, but rather the receiving room of the home. There was also a specific statement that young women receiving gentlemen callers in their private rooms were subject to expulsion. And, likewise, young men who called on young women in their private rooms were subject to the same discipline.

Also in 1902-03 the YMCA and the YWCA established employment bureaus to enable students to find work to assist with expenses. The president commented that, "No young person who desired work in order to pay school expenses was unable to secure it."

In 1903-04 the dean of women was listed with the administrative officers for the first time. Previously she had been listed with "Other Officers."

In several issues of the catalog in this period two statements were printed pertaining to the regulations. The first that appeared just prior to the listing of the rules was:

"To secure good order and conduct, the University relies chiefly on the unwritten code that governs the lady and gentleman anywhere."

The other which appeared following the listing of the rules was as follows:

"The chief reliance in the government of the institution is on high ideals and fine sense of propriety of the students themselves. The rules are seldom invoked; they are needed only in the case of student who fail to justify our confidence in them, and they are few."

From time to time over the years a statement appeared in the catalog regarding dormitories. This was that, "The dormitory system was now generally discarded as inimical to the health and morals of student thus herded together."

By 1906, the Quarter Centennial Year, this University policy toward dormitories began to change. It is noteworthy that Mary Carpenter is quoted as expressing the hope that "we may someday have dormitories."

The 25 year observance was a success that year with Professor Charles Denny recognized as the prime mover on the project. To celebrate the 25th year of its founding, the Drake sponsored more than a week of activities including senior class programs for the various colleges, baccalaureate, a band concert, the dedication of Memorial Hall, class reunions and the twenty-fifth annual commencement. Of special interest was a free trolley ride that was a tour of the city including the "army post, city, state and government buildings, the business section and some of the parks." A special anniversary program was published and included three addresses: "Drake University, Her Struggles and Triumphs", "Drake University, Her Contribution of church and State", and "Drake University, Twenty-Five Years of History."

As the new century neared the completion of its first 10 years student activities included four literary societies, two debating clubs, class organizations, an oratorical association, the Prohibition Oratorical League, the Chemical Society, the English Club, the YWCA and YMCA and The
Delphic (a semi-weekly). Also, a yearbook, The Quax, was published. Special attention was
given to athletics, including football, women's tennis and basketball. The 1907 catalog stated,
"Women had exclusive use of the tennis courts and basketball had no outside competition."

Other organizations included a women's advisory board which was composed of the dean of
women, who served as chairman, and eight other women appointed by the president from the
University faculties. Its duty was to pass upon all matters affecting women students and an
administrative board of student organizations. Its duties, through its committees, was to control all
student organizations and student publications and have supervision of all public programs and
exhibitions under the auspices of student organizations.

In the 1907-08 Annual Report of the president, mention was made of three students who were
disciplined for hazing freshmen. Apparently the social organizations were organizing to bring
fraternities to the campus. Its duty was to pass upon all matters affecting women students and an
administrative board of student organizations. Its duties, through its committees, was to control all
student organizations and student publications and have supervision of all public programs and
exhibitions under the auspices of student organizations.

In 1909 social clubs were organized for the purpose of promoting good fellowship and mental
improvement among both men's and women's groups. The University stated that there could be
no pledging or initiations. The members could not wear pins with initials but must have the full
name of the club. Moreover, these groups could not own or lease houses.

Also this year, three days before the opening of the fall quarter, Miss Mary Adelaide Carpenter
resigned as dean of women because of her approaching marriage to the former chancellor, William
Bayard Craig.

The Women's League was organized in March 1909. All women of the University were
considered members. Its purpose was "to further the spirit among women, to increase their sense
of responsibility toward one another, and to be a medium by which the social standards of the
University can be kept high."

Following Miss Mary Adelaide Carpenter's resignation in 1909, Mrs. Ethel McDougall Morris
became dean of women. She had received a B.S. at Drake in 1907. Another rule regarding young
women was added to the list. Young ladies should not entertain gentlemen later than 10 o'clock in
the evening, no more than twice a week, and when away in the evening their whereabouts and time
of expected return should be known to the householder. Rules seemed to be changed or added to
as times changed or as necessity demanded.

In 1910 the board of trustees gave its approval for the establishment of fraternities and sororities as
long as they were called social clubs.

In 1911 Elizabeth Walker Jordan was named dean of women. William Francis Barr, who was
director of the School of Education and professor of education became the University's first dean
of men. This position became official on January 19, 1911. He was assisted by Robert Lincoln
Thompson as assistant dean of men. It was noted that very few universities had such a position.

Dr. Barr's chief duties were to advise men in such matters as came up from time to time in which
the counsel of a faculty member might be of value, to cooperate with the YMCA secretary in
looking after the sick, and to encourage discouraged men who were falling behind in their work
but who might be kept in line if aided in time, and to have charge of men's fraternal clubs.

Regulations for men soon appeared in the catalog. Men were allowed to live only in households
approved by the University and could not live where young women students were received as
roomers. The householders must sign a pledge to supervise these regulations.
There was discussion of dancing parties given by alums and chaperoned by faculty who attended. Dean Barr commented that he did not feel the tendency to dance was growing among the students to an alarming rate.

Two honor societies formed in the Liberal Arts College were the Order of the Helmet and Spurs for men and Sieve and Shears for women. The object of these groups was to promote the intellectual, moral, and social welfare of the members and to serves as a recognition of honors attained by men and women of the senior class of the college. Membership in each was limited to 20.

Dean Jordan commented in her Annual Report, "Next to the academic, I hold that student organizations are a most important asset in the college life, and it is my belief that the college authorities do not always see its educational significance. College life is beset with all kinds of inherent difficulties which offer ample opportunities for students to work out problems, situations and overcome difficulties. They get some of their most useful experience from managing teams, festivals, college associations, editing college papers and managing social functions." Dean Jordan also spoke in favor of dormitories. "There is an urgent need for a home for the young women of the University. Not necessarily a housing place for them, but a home that may become a center for the social life of the University, a place where college life may be provided with a home setting. Young women's dormitories with large parlors, receptions halls, and dining rooms, would adequately meet a demand so urgent that students are more and more seeking places where this life may be found."

From the very beginning of the University, chapel or assembly usually was held twice a week and attendance was required. The schedule began with devotions followed by a program presented by the Institute of Fine Arts on Tuesdays and on Thursday the chaplain of the University conducted devotional exercises. Chapel was described in another catalog as the center of University life, and the sentiment of comradship, loyalty and community of interest there fostered is one of the chief agencies in maintaining the "Drake Spirit" which has always been so characteristic of the University. Regular weekly convocations were discontinued in 1940.

The 1913 Annual Report of W.J. Barr, dean of men, included the following statement: "It seems to me that the chief function of the dean of men or women is to assist students when possible, to counsel and direct them individually and as groups or organizations and to endeavor to influence them to do those things which are expected of young men and women in and out of school. What one is able to accomplish in these lives and even what one endeavor to do is difficult to put into words."

In 1913 John L. Griffith, professor of physical education and assistant professor of history, became dean of men. He reflected a need for dormitories or club houses for young men who did not belong to fraternities.

Dean Griffith commented in 1914 that fraternities were keeping social life at a minimum. However, they did entertain high school boys when they were attending basketball tournaments, the Relays and the state track meet. He further stated, "One of the most urgent needs of the University is a social center or commons, where the men who do not belong to fraternities, together with the fraternity men, may enjoy the advantages of community life."

That year, the Annual Report of Dean Jordan used the terms "sorority" and "Panhellenic" for the first time. She reported that these groups voted unanimously to suspend all social affairs during the campaign of Rev. W.A. (Billy) Sunday.

The year 1915-16 which brought the beginning of World War I, saw about 25 young men enlisting while others left school to work on farms or to render governmental service in munitions factories. Young women participated in raising money for the Red Cross or took Red Cross training.
Daniel Morehouse was appointed dean of men in 1917 and Mary Carpenter Craig was appointed dean of women and Bible College librarian. Following her departure from Drake in 1909 Mrs. Craig had assisted her husband, the former Chancellor Craig, in his pastoral duties in Denver, New York City and Redlands, California. John Griffith was on leave of absence during the war while he served in the armed services. In 1918 Dr. David Morehouse, professor of physics and astronomy became dean of men.

The annual "Campus Day' which served the double purpose of "tidying up" campus after the winter and preparing it for Drake Relays visitors in April.

John Griffith was on leave of absence during the war while he served in the armed services. In 1918, Dr. David Morehouse became dean of men. Dr. Morehouse had taught physics and astronomy at Drake.

As the University entered the 1920s and neared its 40th birthday, national sororities and fraternities became a part of the Drake scene. Six local sororities were granted charters to become national groups in 1921, and two local fraternities received national charters that same year. Legend has it that the women's groups were to become national on April 21. One group, in order to be the first national on campus, had its rituals and ceremony just after midnight.

In 1921-22 the Student Association was founded as the outgrowth and successor of the two earlier organizations known as the Women's League and the men's Union. The object of this organization was to "further the spirit of unity among the students of the University, to increase their sense of responsibility one to another, to keep alive University traditions, and to be a medium through which the student activities of the University can be managed, subject to University approval."

That same year an employment bureau was established under the direction of the dean of men.

In 1923 the catalog carried the following job descriptions. "The deans of the colleges are the authorized advisers of the young men enrolled in the University. They counsel the men in matters of college life and conduct and seek in every way to help them in their personal problems."

"The dean of women is the official counselor for the young women students of the University. She is one of them in their college life, directing and encouraging them in their plans and sympathizing with them in their problems and perplexities."

Off-campus House, a rooming house in the immediate area with lodging $.50 a week, was provided for men of the College of the Bible.

In 1924 Otis Clair McCary joined the staff as adviser to men, later becoming dean of men. He continued in that position until 1928 when Raymond O. Davies was appointed.

Upon Mary Carpenter Craig's retirement in 1930 a former student is quoted as saying, "Drake without Dean Craig is not real. There is something not quite in the picture."

That same year, Carrie Taylor Cubbage became dean of women and in 1934 Willard L. Johnsen became dean of men.

The following year, 1935, the long-awaited dormitory for women was constructed. This building, now known as Morehouse hall, was described as "being three stories high with a basement with the dining room in a separate wing to the westward. Discipline in the dormitory was under the jurisdiction of the dean of women. "The rules governing the social life were formulated by the dormitory council, chosen by the girls from among their own number, with the advice and approval of the housemother."

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A reflection of the times (the Depression years) the 1936 catalog carried an announcement of the establishment of a cooperative house which "provided a plan for more economical living." Each women resident was to put in one hour of work each day to reduce the general expenses.

During these years, the student directory included information about the University and its activities and traditions. Some of those are:

"More than tradition keeps the freshmen wearing the freshmen cap, from the opening day of school until Thanksgiving or until the "D" Club forgets to enforce the rule after Drake beats Iowa State.

At homecoming all students do homage to the old grads.

Members of the faculty are paid the utmost courtesy at all times.

Corsages are not customary at Drake social functions.

The Victory Bell is rung after every Drake athletic victory."

In 1938 the Women's League was re-established to coordinate the activities of the various women's organizations into a uniform program. John H. Gabrielson became dean of men and director of personnel. At that time there were four fraternities and five sororities. Several independent groups of those students who were not members of the sororities and fraternities were also organized. The purpose was to "provide opportunities for social activities for all enrolled students."

In 1940-41, a three-story student residence, now known as Jewett Hall, was opened as a men's residence hall. Approximate 60 men could be accommodated and was to be under the jurisdiction of the dean of men. The rules governing the men were "to be formulated by the dormitory council with the advice and approval of the house mother." The first floor and ground floors of the dormitory were occupied by the Student Union. Included were a spacious lounge, office room, a small club room and a library. Dining service was provided for the residents as well as a place for fountain service for all students. Additional student life personnel appeared on the scene at this time, including the assistant to the dean of women three resident counselors, a physician for men and a physician for women.

World War II imposed a special student concern in 1943. The Iowa Legislature passed a resolution asking the federal government not to award a college education to Japanese-American students in relocation centers. Furthermore, it asked that those students already in colleges and universities be returned to the relocation camp.

An editorial in the March 4 issue of the *Times-Delphic* protested. The editor reviewed the accomplishments of the 26 Drake students who would be affected, citing their contributions to the University, both academically and in other areas. The editor wrote: "We submit that ordinary individuals who have had either no contact or only isolated contact with one Japanese-American citizen have no basis for judgment in passing such a resolution."

In 1943, the Student Faculty Council was established to act as a coordinator between the administration, colleges and departments, and the student body. It was to be the governing body for the students of the University and to sponsor and direct major all-University activities of the school year. There were seven student members and seven faculty members. The first president was a male student but the next three presidents were women, reflecting the wartime impact on the campus.

In 1944, Mary Ellen Jacob became the dean of women and two years later George Berry became the first dean of students. The new positions of women's counselor and director of women's
residences (position filled by Leona McAnderson) Men's counselor and director of men's residences were added to the growing staff. Stuart Tiedeman, now professor emeritus of education, held that position.

In 1947, the first production of "Bulldog Tales" was staged, beginning a new Drake tradition. The student variety show is still popular among the student organizations.

In 1948, during a period of rapidly increasing enrollment, Norman Johnson succeeded Stuart Tiedeman as men's counselor. With veterans returning to college and needing housing, it became necessary to have special staff assigned to the Veteran's Affairs Office. Veterans' student housing was provided at Fort Des Moines and part of University Christian Church was used for housing men.

Drake Independent Men's Association was established at this time, and soon became an active social organization sponsoring dances, other social events, athletic and Relays floats.

In 1948 Dr. Robert Kamm, later to become president of Oklahoma State University, became dean of students. In 1949 the catalog had three and one-half pages detailing student personnel services. Other student personnel positions included: director of student affairs--men; director of student affairs--women; director of counseling and testing, director of student counseling and testing; director of student health services; Office of Placement Services; coordinator of veteran's affairs and director of reading and study skills. The Student Health Center was "tucked away" in the northwest corner of the Student Union Lounge in Jewett Hall. The same year Margaret Westerhoff became director student affairs for women and also in 1948 offices were moved to Illinois Hall. Margaret Westerhoff was succeeded in 1949 by Gladys Keopke, and Edward Voldseth became director of student affairs for men.

In May 1949 the first Oreon E. Scott Award was presented to Ardell Stelk by the donor of the award, Oreon E. Scott, a St. Louis, Missouri, real estate man, and a life member of the Board of Trustees. The coveted award is presented each year to the graduating senior who has done the greatest service to the University.

The Drake Trailer Court, a veritable University institution during the immediate post-war years also added impact to student life. The trailer court was located on compass between the current Meredith Hall and Harvey Ingham Hall. Over 170 adults and children plus numerous dogs lived in this University community.

The year 1950 will remembered for many things, to be sure, but students of the day recall the two "skip days" as highlights. The first occurred on October 9 after the Bulldogs had tied the Oklahoma Aggies 14-14 in a thrilling game. However, when Drake defeated Iowa State 35-21, all morning classes were canceled on Monday, November 15 and a victory convocation was held in the packed auditorium. For the 22 seniors who had played their last game it was a fitting climax to a successful year.

In the 1950 Bulldog Tales, Roger Williams played his own arrangement of "I've Got Rhythm" and was a winner. He was described a "real showman."

"Climax Carnival," started in 1951 to help support the Des Moines Community Chest Drive. Campus organizations had booths and competed for trophies based on the income from their carnival-type activity.

In 1952, Mrs. Marjorie Cunningham succeeded Gladys Keopke as director student affairs for women, and later became the assistant to the vice president for student life.

In 1951, with loans secured through Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency, construction was started on three new residence halls and a dining hall. These buildings, designed by the
renowned Eero Saarinen, more than doubled the housing available to Drake students. They were to be opened in the fall of 1953, but a 10-week construction strike delayed the completion. This necessitated housing women in the old men's dormitory and also using what had been the women's dormitory as a co-ed hall (a somewhat daring arrangement in those days). These temporary measures were expected to last only a few weeks but in fact, the move of the women from these halls to Stalnaker took place after Thanksgiving.

Problems in the new buildings were common. The heating system was not adequate to heat all rooms uniformly or sufficiently. Students complained about cold rooms, and two women in Crawford Hall contacted a Des Moines Register reporter to say that their room was so cold that their gold fish froze in the bowl. The reporter, a Drake alumnus, notified the University and did not follow through for a story. Many years later these students shared with this writer the fact, which had long been suspected, that they had taken the gold fish outside to freeze to emphasize just how cold their room was.

Early on a Sunday morning in January 1954, when the temperature was near zero, 18 radiators broke in Carpenter and Crawford halls, sending water cascading down from the fourth floor to the ground floor. Soon thereafter special heating engineers were called in and changes were made in the system as well as changes in the radiators, and insulation was placed between the lower parts of the windows and the radiators.

In spite of these problems, the new halls provided much needed residence space for an increasing student population. Although they were not immediately filled to capacity, the extra space provided an emergency infirmary when the Asian Flu struck in the fall of 1957. The first students to become ill were members of the football team. Third floor of Stalnaker Hall was turned into an infirmary. By renting bedding, using paper dishes and food brought in from Hubbell, and drafting faculty, spouses and staff for attendants, a fairly efficient operation was achieved. Fifty-six beds were available and only the students with temperatures over 101 degrees were admitted. Others were cared for by staff in their own halls. Because of the epidemic, Parents Weekend was canceled.

In 1955, Dr. Robert Kamm became dean of students at Texas A&M and Dr. Robert Kibbee, later to become chancellor of City University of New York, became dean of students. In 1956 the titles for the two positions under the dean of students were changed from director to assistant dean of students-men, and assistant dean of students-women. That same year Howard Johnson replaced Edward Voldseth as assistant dean, and the following year Fred Kramer became assistant dean.

It was during the 1956-57 school year that Drake participated in the first college basketball game at Veterans Auditorium in a defeat to the Iowa State Cyclones, 97-71. In was not until 1962-63 that all Bulldog games were played there.

Panty raids, usually on women's residence halls, but at least once on sorority houses, became a minor but exciting activity for both male and female students in the fifties. During the winter, skating on the reflecting pond provided much fresh air and exercise, as well as pleasure.

At Christmas time residents in the residence halls decorated the windows of the floor parlors preparing a scene painted on the windows with themes ranging from religious to comic strip characters. The festive atmosphere not only added to the campus holiday mood, but a monetary prize was awarded by the Residence Hall Association to the winning floor.

As might be expected, rules (primarily for women students) had changed considerably over the years. Every year or so brought some requests from students for changes. Often the request for changes affecting women students came first from the men who failed to understand why only requests originating with the women students would be considered.
The sixties started off with a major water fight on Sunday, April 24, 1960. It started as a friendly dunking in the reflecting pool of a floor counselor from one of the men's halls. As things sometimes do, especially on the first nice warm day after an especially difficult winter, one thing led to another. First, wastebaskets of water were thrown at open windows in Herriott hall. Then fire hoses in the hall were used. Soon the police, the fire department and state police were involved. A local radio station carried a broadcast and more students were encouraged to join the fun. The situation was eventually brought under control through the quick action of the acting dean of students, Fred Kramer, who went through the halls calling students by name and getting them to go to their rooms. This kept large groups from forming. The police used tear gas and this contributed to a cessation of activity by many students. Nine students were taken to jail in the paddy wagon and three others were taken in a police car. One student, when interviewed the next day, described the police car ride as most embarrassing since there were several officers in the car and he had to sit on the lap of one of them on his way to jail. The University suspended 10 students and placed six others on informal probation. Student leaders, however, met with administrators and proposed assuming financial responsibility for the damage and assured the University that no further incidents would occur. Suspensions were deferred until the end of the school year with permission to apply for re-admission for the fall.

The following semester a new dean of students, Paul Bloland, arrived on campus. An early order of business was to work out a policy and procedure in the event of mass demonstrations. The policy was to deal with preventative measures to be undertaken to lessen the likelihood of such an event.

Staff changes continued in 1962 with the arrival of Dr. Donald Burnett as assistant dean of students, men. That year a Carnival Continental was initiated by Circle K and the People to People Committee of the Student Faculty Council. It was a fun evening with booths of skill and chance. Funds raised were used for a scholarship for a foreign student.

Also in 1962 the passage of a new regulation required that all student groups verify in writing that they do not discriminate or deny membership to individuals on the basis of race, creed or nationality. This legislation was passed by the Student-Faculty Council and sent to the Faculty Senate for ratification.

In 1963 the assassination of President Kennedy stunned the entire campus as it did the nation. A quickly planned memorial service was scheduled that same day in University Church.

Arthur Casebeer became assistant dean of student in 1964, and with the departure Dean Bloland, Dr. Casebeer was appointed dean of students. In 1965, Stephen Schodde was appointed assistant dean of students.

The latter part of the sixties was a period of student unrest across the country and Drake was no exception. There were anti-draft meetings as well as a S.F.C. national Affairs Committee program on "Riots--Analysis and Alternatives." Speakers included Dr. Nathan Wright, a leading interpreter of the black power movement, Andrew Hatcher, Illinois Governor Otto Kerner; and comedian Dick Gregory. It was a serious approach to a major concern.

With the arrival on campus in 1967 of a new president, Dr. Paul F. Sharp, a new student group, the President's Club, was formed and consisted of 10 campus leaders who met at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Sharp to discuss the University and the student concerns. Also in 1967 the Student-Faculty Council presented a series of speakers under the title "Dissent '67." They were George Lincoln Rockwell, leader of the National Socialist Movement, John H. Rousselot, who discussed the John Birch Society; and Dr. Hyman Lumer, editor of Political Affairs, the magazine of the Communist Party, USA. These speakers attracted large groups of students and townspeople alike. There were lots of critical comments from the local community.
In 1969, a long-standing landmark disappeared as Chancellor’s Elm succumbed to Dutch Elm disease. Later a student group replaced it with a hard maple tree, know as “People’s Tree.”

Following a year of discussion by a special committee, a new key administrator in student personnel, vice president, student life, was approved by the Board of Trustees. Named to fill that position was Dr. Donald Adams who arrived on campus in July 1969. Dr. Adams had been responsible for the residence hall program at Michigan State University.

Because of the Vietnam War, 1969 was a year of great unrest across the country particularly on college campuses. Drake students reflected this unrest and held many meetings to discuss the situation. On the whole, they behaved in a most responsible manner. There was no violence and no property damage although some protesters established a “tent city” on the campus lawn in front of Old Main and there were nightly gatherings to discuss the war and the current national situation. One soggy, rainy night the “town meeting” had to be moved indoors to Harvey Ingham auditorium. A lengthy meeting was held and around midnight after many students had left, those remaining voted to “take over” Old Main. Armed with a coffee urn and a supply of food, they forced their way into Old Main. However, after an injunction was issued by Dr. Adams and legal counsel, they were persuaded to leave the building.

Co-ed living became a planned reality at Drake in 1969 with Herriott hall switching because of the need for additional space for women students. Men and women lived on separate floors. Stallnaker became the second residence to “go co-ed.”

In 1971, Homecoming and Parents Weekend were separated and again celebrated on different weekends. The Special Events Committee eliminated all house decorations at homecoming and asked the students to donate the money to charity.

Participation in student involvement in University governance became an issue across the country in the seventies and Drake was a leader in this effort. In 1973, 19 student senators became voting members of the University senate and represented each of the colleges and schools. Students had served on the newly created University Senate since 1969-70. Also, beer was served legally for the first time on campus in 1973. It was served in the Rathskeller of the new Olmsted Center.

The Air Force ROTC had its first woman commander in Kathy Brittin, who organized the staff and led the cadet’s. However, because of the declining enrollment in the program, the AFROTC was ultimately terminated.

The Hill M. Bell Physical and Recreation Center, a much needed University facility was opened in the fall of 1977. This brought to Drake students the long-awaited swimming pool, three basketball courts, a weight lifting room, training room, men’s and women’s locker room, a multi-purpose room, a classroom and faculty offices. It is named in honor of the memory of Drake’s third president, Hill McClelland Bell. This building was needed after Alumni Hall developed structural problems that necessitated its removal.

Yes, Drake has changed. There are many new buildings--Olmsted Center (a University center and student union); The Harmon Fine Arts Center; Cartwright Hall, which houses the law School; the American Republic Student Health Center; and the Dial Computer Center. Farley’s Supermarket a veritable Drake tradition through the years, has been transformed into the Studio Arts Hall, and the old Blue Willow Restaurant is the newly remodeled Graphic Design Center and, yes, Peggy’s is still going strong at its Forest Avenue location.

Student Life has changed to meet more adequately the needs of students—from dean of women in 1901 to a vice president, student life and a staff of more than 20 professionally trained people. The student life division are: Student Development Services (counseling, testing, reading and study skills and health services); Financial Aid; the Career Development Center; and Student Living Environments (housing, student activities and intramurals). After being officed in one room until
1901, the staff consolidated and moved to Illinois Hall in 1948. Now the only staff located there are Financial Aid and Career Development Center. Others are located in Morehouse Hall, Olmsted Center, Health Center, Bell Center and Old Main.

We have gone from the listing of the responsibilities of Hattie Moore Mitchell, principal for women, who was to oversee kindly the women students, and whom the women were to understand had the duty to see that they conformed to the laws of health and propriety, to a more encompassing delineation of responsibilities and services.

Today a full program of student services exists to assist the transition of Drake students from high school, career change, homemaker or any other setting to the classroom. Faculty instruction is supported by the out-of-classroom experience of students. The scholarly environment of the classroom is reinforced by a sensitive and caring student life staff working with students and furthering goals of Drake University beyond the classroom walls. Full cooperation from instructional faculty, academic administration and business and development staff is the experience for students, and student life staff at Drake University as we celebrate our Centennial year.

The following quotation by a long-time Drake faculty member sums up the student life at Drake.

"I have been a college teacher for 26 years, and in many ways students haven't changed. Changes are not so great as similarities. Today's collegians have better backgrounds, but every decade has its 'stars'. No matter what the era, students from a comparative stand-point are rather wonderful to be around."

James Duncan, Professor of Radio and Television
Quax, 1973

Original manuscript prepared by Mrs. Marjorie Cunningham, Assistant to the Vice President for Student Life. She represented the Office of Student Life on the Centennial Committee, 1980-81, and prepared this paper as part of that responsibility.