

Annual Report

ILLINI UNION STUDENT ACTIVITIES DIVISION 1946-47

I. INTRODUCTION

The objective of the Illini Union is to develop the social phase of the student's life, by sponsoring programs of a social, cultural, and educational nature. The Illini Union considers the social phase one of the essential educational phases of our present society. The programs are planned for the students' leisure time. These goals were taken into consideration in all plans formulated for the year.

During the sixteen-week summer session, there was an enrollment of 7,917, 6,439 being men, 1,478 women and of the men 5,340 were veterans.

There were 13,938 men and 4,440 women the first semester and 13,425 men and 4,169 women second semester. The ratio of men to women had changed from 2 to 1 to 3 to 1.

More work was done by Student Activities for summer programs than in any other summer session. The most outstanding work was done on the First Big Post-War Homecoming. An almost full program was maintained in Activities with a full attendance -- especially Classical Music Hours.

II. ILLINI UNION BOARD

All the activities in the Illini Union Building are under the supervision of the Illini Union Board which determines general policies for the student activities in the Illini Union. The Board which meets once a week is composed of 16 voting members -- 10 students and 6 faculty members. A representative from the Daily Illini, the publicity chairman of the Union, and chairman of the Office Management committee, and the secretary-treasurer of IUSA attend all Board meetings as non-voting members.

Six seniors are selected upon petition and interview as directors and four students -- the presidents of Panhellenic, Interfraternity, MIA, and WGS serve as ex-officio members to coordinate the work of the Union and the work of their activity. The directors are selected by the Board on the basis of their experience and ability to present ideas during the interview. They are voted upon and interviewed by the entire Board and compose the executive Board. Each director reports weekly to the board on the work of his department and secures approval of new projects. Student directors compile the budget for their own department subject to approval by the Board. Any additional expenditures are approved by the Board.

One person from the faculty membership of the Board is selected as chairman of the Board and one student director is selected as president of the Union and vice-chairman of the Board.

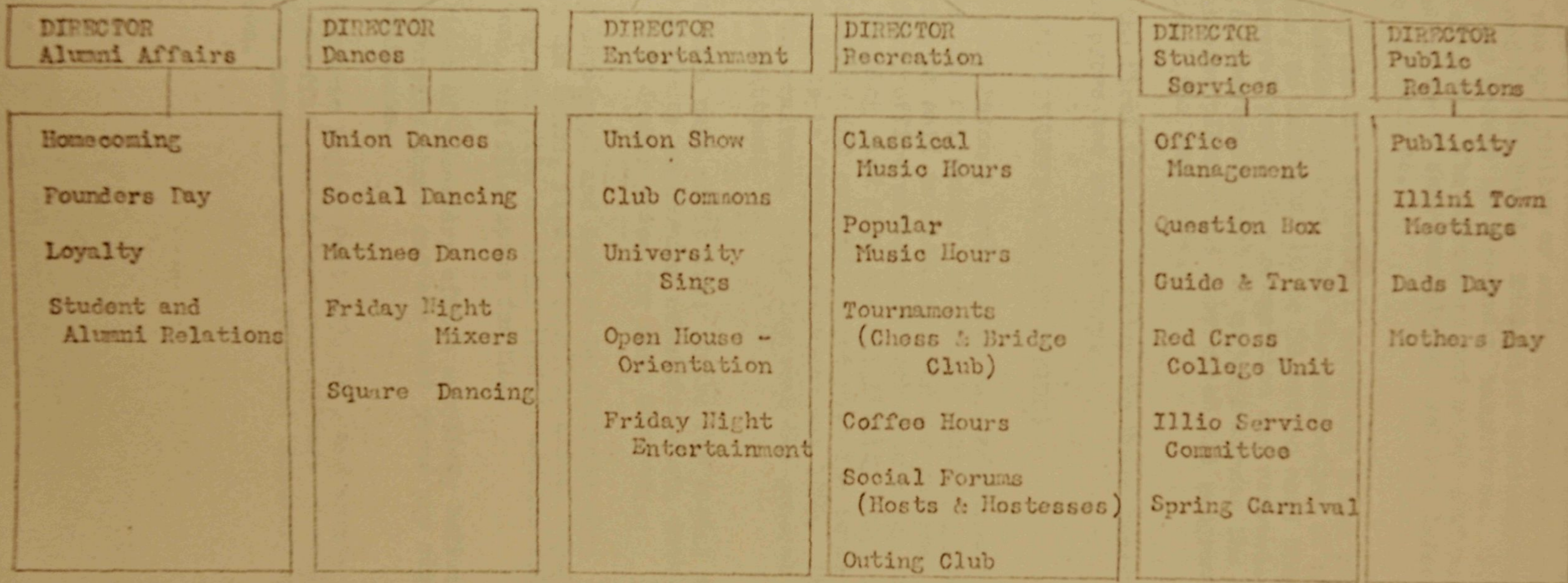
Six faculty members

ILLINI UNION BOARD

Four student representatives
IF, MIA, WGS, Panhellenic

Daily Illini representative
Sec. - Treas. I. U. Board

Office Mgt. Chr.
Publicity Chr.



NOTE - Six student directors (senior positions) constitute Executive Board

Six student directors and chairman of 30 committees (junior positions) constitute
Illini Union Council

Each student director assigns the functions of his department to major chairmen who are juniors or seniors. They are selected by student directors and approved by the Board. Each major chairman and director of the department determine and select the necessary committees. Such members may be students from all classes. The directors and major chairmen make up the Illini Union Council which meets semi-monthly to exchange information and to avoid overlapping of activities.

During the fall semester 4 women and 2 men served as student directors. The constitution requires that the proportion of men to women should be, when practicable, no less than 40 to 60 and no more than 60 to 40. For the first time in several years this proportion was renewed. During the regular term a total of 6 departments with 29 major chairmen the first semester and 30 the second semester planned and supervised all programs. A total of 820 students worked on all the committees.

For the first time in history the Union Board meetings were held at night. It did not prove too satisfactory.

III. ROOM 209 (STUDENT ACTIVITY OFFICE)

This room belongs exclusively to students and during the year they have used it for the following: committee meetings, poster work room, center for distribution of mail to each director and chairman and heads of other student organizations, office management work room which consists of typing, mimeographing, keeping card file and eligibility lists up to date, supplies, students taking dictation and council secretary. The total number of hours of work done by students in Office Management was 1840. This excluded the hours worked by the chairman. This improved the general smoothness of operation of all Union committees.

Other uses made of it are: desks for social director's assistants who interview students concerning committee work, desk for office manager and committee, and drawer space for each director.

Files developed and kept up by students are: the file of all students working in the Union, file of complete annual reports of each committee chairman for each program, file of DAILY ILLINI, address file of officers of all student organizations, and file space for MIA.

A cabinet of necessary office supplies, bulletin board for student use, and one University phone and one Bell phone are also in 209 for the use of all student committees.

The American Legion Post 909, AVC, and Amvets have mailboxes in 209 and use it as an office and information center. A mail box was given to the Food Conservation Committee and the MVSU had temporary quarters for their director in this room.

IV. SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR VETERANS

The Social Director and the Student Director visited the Veterans Hospital in Danville, Illinois, to study the possibility of student groups giving programs. This request came from the Veterans Organization and it was decided that it would not be practical due to the distance, the problem of transportation and staff supervision for the entire project. This close supervision by the staff was not available for this program.

University of Illinois established a Division of Special Services for World War Veterans called M.V.S.O. The purpose was to help coordinate problems, refer to agencies set up for services such as health, employment, housing, recreation, etc. Educational and Recreational groups took over programs previously sponsored by the Illini Union organized for this purpose. The Social Director was a member of the steering committee which planned recreational activities, assisted with the organization of the "Teddy Bear Tromp", a dance for raising money for cooperative playschools for veterans children.

The Illini Union formerly helped finance American Legion, AVC, AmVets but financial assistance was not necessary this year.

V. ILLINI UNION ORGANIZATION

It is a policy of the Illini Union to discontinue a committee when there is no longer a need for its function.

A. COMMITTEES DISCONTINUED

1. The major committee of Outing Club was discontinued 5/1/47 because a fee was collected for each event and according to the constitution such an activity is not permitted.
2. Illio Service was discontinued. It isn't sufficient work to be done by major committee. The work will be done under major committee publicity as a sub-committee.
3. Union Show was cancelled because of conflict of dates and loss on Variety Show.

B. COMMITTEE NAMES CHANGED

1. Coke dances to Matinee dances as the name was misleading. Food service unable to take care of serving cokes.
2. Membership and orientation made one committee out of Student and Alumni relations plus Founders day.
3. Friday Night Entertainment changed to Union Varieties because a show was given on a larger scale which was a musical with dancing instead of a small weekly performance. Movies were to be shown under this committee but the plan did not materialize.

C. CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

In Article I, Section 1, under (7) it has been changed to read: Seven students, not fewer than three of whom shall be women, unless impracticable, and not fewer than three of whom shall be men, unless impracticable, selected by the Illini Union Board from among the membership of the Major Committees. One of these students must have been the chairman of the Major Committee on Office Management for the previous year, if his services have been satisfactory and he is available.

Article I, Section 1, (8), reads A secretary treasurer selected by the Board upon the nomination of the Manager of the Illini Union Building.

Article I, Section 1, (9), reads: In addition to the above, there shall be two non-voting members of the Board consisting of the chairman of the Major Committee on Office Management, and the Chairman of the Major Committee on Publicity.

Article II, Section 1 reads: To facilitate the administration of the activity program of the Illini Union Board there shall be created seven departments each responsible to and under the direction of the Board, one to be known as the Department of Faculty Affairs, and six student departments to be known as the Department of Dances, the Department of Recreation, the Department of Public Relations, the Department of Student Services, the Department of Student & Alumni Relations and the Department of Entertainment.

A vote was taken to approve the vote for the secretary-treasurer for the coming year.

VI. NEW FUNCTIONS INITIATED BY ILLINI UNION

1. Waltz Night-Initiated on Friday nights at the Record Mixers as a result of requests from students. At first Waltzes predominated, but later in the summer the ratio of waltzes to other pieces was 50-50. Foxtrots, rhumbas, tangos, etc. were played. No fast jitterbug music! The evening was characterized by dignified dancing and it attracted just that type of student. Waltz night was a success.

2. Outing Club - This is not new, but the Illini Union helped to reactivate this group with Mr. N. Law, PEM. They had one outing and got organized for fall.

3. Bridge Club organized. Elected officers, adopted constitution, had instructional lessons and then took charge of going to different houses to give lessons.

4. Special Coffee Hours - Turkish, Indian, Egyptian, South American, colored students held one Coffee Hour under our sponsorship.

5. Red Cross - The Arts and Crafts committee help at Chanute Field with the able-body veterans in organizing and producing work in these activities.

6. Athlete of the Year Banquet - A banquet held for all athletes and directors of Union Activities sponsored by the War Shoops.

7. Tournaments - Representatives entered the National Billard Tournament for Straight Rail and Three Cushions. Also two students were sent to National Bridge Tournament held in Chicago. Inter-college bowling with Purdue.

8. University Sing held in Huff Gym for the first time since the war.

Also on special occasions--Mothers Day, Dads Day, Union Convention.

9. Conferences - Student groups which attended tournaments and meetings sponsored by the Illini Union. Valuable for its experience and personal contacts. Bridge team to Chicago, Bowling team to Purdue, Red Cross District Convention to Chicago, Midwest Outing Conference at Purdue, Spring Conference McCormick Creek, and National Union Convention at University of Illinois. All directors attended and major chairman were invited.

VII. SPECIAL PROJECTS

1. Completed Gold Star Illini manuscript book. Recorded facts and photographs about each Gold Star Illini.

2. Organization of ticket sales for Huff Gym dances in auditorium to avoid lines.

3. Questionnaire - Study of source of interest in Union activity. Source of interest varied as follows:

(1) House members encouraged	26
(2) Attracted by notices on Bulletin Boards & Daily Illini	15
(3) Friend outside of house encouraged	12
(4) Faculty member recommended	5
(5) Got information at Open House	4
(6) Started on own initiative	1

4. First attempt to formulate a definite activities calendar for all campus events.

5. Approval of plan to cooperate with Campus Chest.

6. Objective interview form used by Music Hours to be developed for other committees.

7. Office Management prepared information for publicity for all students' home town papers for office of Public Information.

VIII. INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

1. Chess was taught to members of the Chess Club by Oscar Zariski.

2. Bridge was taught to members of the Bridge Club by Harry Levey.

3. Social Forums were given by Social Director on campus customs and etiquette in general at the various houses on campus. They started the plan of taking men students to womens houses and women students to mens houses to act as a committee to help answer questions and conduct discussions of social customs.

4. Square Dancing instruction was given by the Physical Education staff member.

5. Social Dancing lessons were arranged by Melvin Jackson and Marvin Meyer. A second class started in Devier Hall to take care of demand.

6. Classical Music Hours chairman gave instruction in pronunciation of composition and composer; in planning balanced programs and in the art of correct handling of records. Advised by Mrs. Velma Kitchell Wilson and Prof. Duane Branigan.

7. The Illini Town Meetings were revived. During the war it was sponsored by the ASTP group. It helped the students who had a desire to learn more about world affairs. It is a forum discussion on National and International programs or group interests. Students have the opportunity of having close contact with a group of faculty who are the outstanding speakers.

IX. PUBLICITY

The publicity committee made an attempt to improve its publicity by studying to ascertain what was needed by the committee. The following is the summary of a questionnaire distributed among the students.

Students using Union facilities:

	<u>Greeks</u>	<u>Indees</u>	<u>Freshman</u>	<u>Upper Classes</u>
Coffee Hours	37	38	32	43
Outing Club	14	6	7	13
Tournaments	39	26	32	33
Square Dances	17	27	14	20
Club Commons	133	130	134	129
Music Hours	28	83	59	75
Town Meetings	7	14	8	18
Mixers	36	135	116	103
Couple Dances	46	136	99	116

If you don't participate in Union activities, is it because:

	<u>Greeks</u>	<u>Indees</u>
None interest you.	17	31
You get your entertainment from other sources	126	142
Entertainment hours conflict with your free hours	86	97
You don't know about activities taking place	32	55
Other reasons.	25	36

(Principal reason given was "not enough time")

Suggested new activities:

Bridge for beginners
 Horse-back riding
 University bar
 Variety shows
 Ice skating
 Book Club
 Arts and Crafts
 Sunday afternoon dances
 Date bureau

Criticisms

Too hard to get on Union activities
 Ticket sales handled poorly
 Receiving more student money than
 "necessary"
 Too many activities now
 More small group activities
 Not enough activities (you just
 can't win)
 Eliminate "cutting at dances"
 Too many lines

Questions were divided between single and married; men and women, indeed and Greeks, freshman and upper classmen. It was learned that approximately three-fifths of the students were informed as to the use of their \$5 Union fee which they pay each semester at registration. The other two-fifths did not know where the money went or what it was used for, but seemed to be laboring under the illusion that "the Union pocketed the money".

Best means of publicity was found to be posters with the campus daily running a close second. Third was the Union calendar and fourth the weekly house bulletins. Other sources were "friends" and the Question Box.

X. COOPERATION WITH ORGANIZATIONS

A. UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS

1. Physical Education for Women department provided instructor for Social Dancing.
2. Cooperated with Physical Education for Men department in reviving Outing Club.
3. Visual Aid - provided 5 ushers for all of their movies on Monday nights during Summer Session.
4. Cooperate with Dean of Men's office by providing tour for visiting high school students.
5. Sponsor Activity Night for Freshman Week Committee.
6. Alumni Association - C. E. Bowen - Department of Alumni Affairs
7. Athletic Association - D. R. Mills - Block I and Pep Rallies
8. Bands - A. A. Harding - Pop Rallies - Send offs - Mother's Day
9. Browsing Room - Betty Patterson - Book collections for special programs
10. Dean of Men - E. E. Stafford - General Information
11. Dean of Students - F. H. Turner - General Information
12. Dean of Women - Mrs. L. F. Trelease - General Information
13. Journalism - F. S. Siebert - Publicity Committee
14. Military - Colonel H. A. Buckley - Spring Carnival
15. Personnel Bureau - William Gilbert - Reference of Students
16. Physical Plant Department - C. S. Havens - Building reservations
17. Speech Clinic - Miss Severina Nelson - Open Houses
18. Star Course - F. B. Stiven - Music Hours
19. Summer Semester Director - Robert B. Browne - Faculty Party
20. University Press - H. E. Cunningham - Address and weekly calendar lists
21. Visual Aids Service - F. B. Haworth - Special movies
22. Art Department - Professor J. G. Van Derpool - Art Exhibits
23. Photographic Lab. - Roy Hamm - Photography
24. Public Information - J. F. Wright - Booklets
25. Radio Station WILL - Special programs

B. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

1. All campus student activity organizations cooperated to give Illini *Pow Wow*, Profits given to the Red Cross as an all-student contribution to substitute for an all-campus solicitation.
2. All campus student activity organizations list their social events on weekly Illini Union calendar. Copies provided by Union and distributed to all student organized houses.

C. I16uRiunIs
1942/43-
1954/55