

## SUNO Calendar Revised

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# Returns Promised Protection

### By ANGUS LIND

Students who return to classes at troubled Southern University in New Orleans "will be protected from harassment," the school's dean of academic affairs said today.

Asa Sims said he was awaiting approval from Southern University President Dr. Leon Netterville of a letter he plans to send to SUNO students to announce revised exam dates and the closing date of this semester.

Approval could come sometime today, he said.

**SIMS SAID** he expected more students — which he described as "the silent majority, especially seniors" — would begin to return to class after receiving this letter.

Sims said the security forces around the campus had been backed up and students who desire to return to class would be protected from dissident students or any others who would attempt to halt them.

This morning, teachers were present to conduct classes, but only about 200 students turned out. Sims said he felt some classes were being held where there were enough students to instruct. He said he had not made a thorough classroom check.

**YESTERDAY**, SIMS, the administrator and some faculty met with dissident students who asked him to close

mental council and the university council.

**HE SAID** he asked students if they would return to classes if the board approved these two issues.

He said the students he talked with expressed the feeling that they didn't want to return to classes as long as Baton Rouge remained closed. "They want to be in step with the Baton Rouge campus," he said.

Sims said Dr. Emmett W. Bashful, SUNO administrator who resigned under student pressure but whose resignation was subsequently rejected by the state Board of Education, is on a 10-day leave away from New Orleans. He said that he feels Bashful's status is uncertain but did not elaborate.

**STUDENTS HAVE** also said they

will not return to school until Bashful's resignation is accepted.

Yesterday, about 400 blacks decided to continue the boycott after a rally in front of a SUNO classroom building at which several black civil-rights leaders spoke to what was originally billed as a memorial service for two slain black students.

Speakers, including Joe Hammond of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and Earl Picard, president of SUNO's Student Government Association, called for students to boycott as long as necessary to get their demands met.

Hammond criticized the news media, the flag, Gov. Edwin Edwards and whites.

Picard told students former Gov. John J. McKeithen made the same promises in 1969 that Edwards is mak-

ing now during similar campus disturbances, and none of the promises were realized.

"We can't consider going back to class until our problems are solved both in Baton Rouge and here."

**PICARD TOLD** students there is a nationwide effort to eliminate colleges like SUNO and urged them to "quit worrying about graduating and worry about the university's surviving."

The rally broke up before noon, but many students returned to see a film and also for more departmental meetings, which lasted late into the day.

Early in the day, there was a pushing-and-shoving incident between students and newsmen.

Picard and other speakers emphasized that students on the SUNO

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the school.

He said he told them, "I can't close the school or open it." Both Southern in Baton Rouge and SUNO have been closed since Nov. 16. Classes were scheduled to resume today at SUNO, but the Baton Rouge campus has been ordered closed until Jan. 3.

Closing the school is up to the state Board of Education, Sims said.

He said he is attempting to set up a meeting with the state Board of Educational's education committee to discuss two of the students' grievances — the proposed structures of the depart-

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and Baton Rouge campus are acting together.

HE SAID SUNO students came out of the administration building they had held because of "minor concessions," all of which, he said, had only been realized verbally.

Speakers urged the preservation of the campuses' black integrity, with Hammond citing that the Southern system, with some 13,000 students, is the largest such system in the country.

Picard said he opposes any merger

with Louisiana State University in New Orleans because "it would be very easy for us to turn into the technical and trade part of LSUNO."

Students are demanding improved bus service to the college from Chef Menteur Highway down Press Drive to the school, better medical facilities and Bashful's resignation, among other things.

Bashful resigned under student pressure but the state Board of Education refused to accept his resignation on Edwards' advice.