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Trustees Dubious on Undercover Bill

Special to The Examiner

LOS ANGELES — A state college faculty leader has persuaded the trustees to seek changes rather than to oppose a bill which would ban undercover agents from the college classroom.

The trustees yesterday were about to go on record flatly opposing legislation proposed by Assemblyman John J. Miller (D-Berkeley). Miller's bill would make it a misdemeanor to pose as a student at a state college or university campus while doing "secret or undercover law enforcement duties. . ."

Dr. H. Provost of Fresno State College, who is head of

the State College academic senate, said such undercover work should be banned. He said it brought to mind Nazi Germany, where agents sat in class to report on what professors and students were saying.

But Provost admitted that law enforcement did require some such work outside the classroom and therefore urged the trustees to seek an amendments to Miller's bill, rather than its defeat.

Trustee Dudley Swim responded this was "just another roadblock to law enforcement." John Edwards, executive vice president at San

Francisco State, noted that crime problems involving such matters as drugs and thefts on his campus required undercover work, which often served as a deterrent to crime.

The trustees, led by W. O. Weissich of San Rafael, then changed the motion from opposition to "amendment."

Earlier, the trustees resisted efforts not to require information on student sponsored speakers, how much they paid them, and "biographical" backgrounds about them.

Trustee Karl Wente of Livermore noted that the educa-

tion code requires the trustees to "look over the shoulders of student officers" regarding use of student funds.

Several student leaders said they would defy the trustees' action, although the records of which speakers were invited and how much they were paid would be available for public inspection.