

Committee rejects motion to bar CIA recruitment

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BOSTON — The University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees Executive Committee voted yesterday to reject a motion to bar the CIA from recruiting on campus.

The meeting was not disrupted by the protestors that demonstrated their anti-CIA stance and demanded the trustee's deal with the issue at the Feb. 4 meeting. Both sides of the issue were presented without confrontation, and the motion was defeated by the trustees without debate.

The motion was drafted and introduced by Student Trustee Dani Burgess, who was the only trustee to vote in favor of it. Burgess made reference to a 1971 trustee decision that declared the campuses of the University open to "law abiding citizens" conducting "legitimate public business."

The motion maintained that the CIA should not be allowed to recruit on campus because of alleged illegal activities in Nicaragua and violations of international law.

Chancellor Joseph D. Duffey stated his position, and 15 minutes were allowed for each side to present their arguments before the trustees voted on the motion.

Said Duffey: "University campuses must remain places where the individual is free to pursue knowledge and understanding in an atmosphere that is not marked by officially sanctioned views of truth and morality."

"It cannot of course be argued that universities do not get involved in politics," Duffey said. "There are values in our curricula, in policies we use governing admissions, research and public service that have implicit political implications."

"Universities are places where the right to ask questions and express views, however controversial, is protected, subject only to rigorous intellectual debate and the freedom of all to dissent," he said. "Precisely because I value this freedom of expression I argue that the University should refrain from taking institutional position on political issues."

Students and faculty who are opposed to

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CIA recruitment on campus urged the trustees to pass the motion, pointing to the controversial activities of the agency.

Marc Kenen, an organizer of the "CIA On Trial" project said the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Picketing and Recruitment voted seven to one "in general sympathy for this motion."

But Faculty Senate Secretary Roland Chilton said, "It is inaccurate to say the committee voted to support the student resolution. The committee passed a motion in general sympathy with the student motion."

Kenen said the CIA is "denying political

expression of people around the world" and is recruiting new people to continue policies that are "breaking international law."

David Abram, a student who was scheduled to attend a CIA information session at the University Career Center on Nov. 19 that was prevented from taking place by protestors, said students lost an opportunity to get career information.

"It is not the freedom of the CIA to speak that is at stake here, It is my freedom to listen," he said. "I have a right to make my own career decisions without interference from would-be book burners."