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UCLA POCKET DOCKET

UCLA Law Students' Association

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LSA NIXES COERCION ON CLOTHING

The Executive Committee of LSA finally took action Tuesday on an ordinance dealing with the "problem" of male students' attire by defeating it unanimously. Submitted over two months ago, and tabled since, the ordinance would have made it mandatory for all male students to wear shirts, ties and jackets anyplace on the first floor, i.e., in the library, lounge and class rooms. Provisions were included for certain flexibility on days that the LSA president would decree "Gosh but its hot!" Violators of said ordinance would have been subject to administrative disciplinary action and possible dismissal.

LSA is to be complimented on its stand that ordinances and coercive measures as that proposed have no place in a professional school such as UCLA Law School. Its position was consistent with that taken on the compulsory attendance rule which, thanks to LSA, has been withdrawn.

But defeat of the measure does not solve the problem evident to an increasing number of our student body, i.e., the need to create a more professional attitude and atmosphere within the student body. LSA should call a general meeting of all students to discuss these problems as well as that of overall general morale.

The answer to ordinances and compulsory measures is voluntary action and the building of tradition by the students themselves. If LSA is to be the real voice of all it should provide the opportunity for all to meet, discuss and express majority opinion on all matters of concern. Only then will LSA speak as "the voice of the people" and carry the proper weight in its pronouncements, rulings and proposals.

Most of us are against coercion and mandatory rulings as a matter of principle. But we must then be willing to accept the responsibilities of self-rule and voluntary discipline. We can be confident in the collective voice of the student body to so decide and act if given the proper opportunity.

THE DOCKET