

COMPAS hopes to extend the study with a followup questionnaire, perhaps in June, and would include specific questions about the influence of draft regulations at that time.

Because the survey was limited to PhD-conferring departments, a large area of opinion and probable impact was not covered, said Slack. "We have not surveyed the non-PhD schools. We plan to do so because although they receive a smaller fraction of federal money, they do turn out a sizeable percentage of the physics majors."

Slack said copies of the completed survey would be sent to all physics department heads, to society officials and to some government agencies. He noted that the financial support survey was the first of its kind to be undertaken by the AIP. It was conducted by the Education and Manpower Division.

New Draft Rules May Take Half of Graduate Students

While the uncertainties facing graduate students and departments about the draft have ended with the National Security Council's new no-deferment regulations, the certainties are no less worrisome.

Instead of being up in the air about what the new rules might be and so putting off hard decisions about the fall, both students and administrators can now face the coming year with the expectation that 50% to 70% fewer first-year graduate places will be filled in September than were occupied in June.

The new regulations started a wave of protests on campuses across the country and even in Washington, but the chances of any immediate changes are not bright. Just last year Congress passed legislation ending deferments for beginning graduate students, but left it up to the National Security Council to determine whether some deferments should be granted in disciplines essential to the national welfare. Now the council has decided that no graduate field, except medicine and its related specialties, is to be considered that essential.

Basically the National Security Council decided that:

1. Graduate deferments would end. Exceptions are medical, dental and related studies as well as graduate stu-

dents completing at least their second year of studies this year.

2. Callup on the basis of the oldest first would continue. This means that the newly vulnerable graduate student being older than the fresh crop of high school or college graduates would be drafted first.

3. Lists of essential activities and critical occupations would be abandoned. This leaves it up to local boards to base occupational deferments, such as those for teachers, entirely on local conditions.

The council based its decision on a number of considerations including "the unfairness that would result from exempting men in some fields of graduate study and not in others, as well as the accompanying distortions that would result from the tendency to select draft-deferred fields of study." It also reasoned that graduate-student deferments were "unfair—particularly in time of armed conflict—to all young men who do not have the opportunity or the finances to attend graduate school."

Reaction. Educators and university administrators have attacked the new rules. Logan Wilson, president of the American Council on Education, summing up the majority opinion, said,

RESONANCES

Secrecy and classified research will be the topics for discussion at a special evening session added to the program of the American Physical Society meeting in Washington this month. The title of the session scheduled for Monday, 22 April, is "University Research and the National Defense." John Wheeler of Princeton University and John Rasmussen of the University of California will speak about whether a university should engage in classified research. Richard Garwin of Columbia University and IBM and William Davidon of Haverford College will put the case for and against Department of Defense support of research. The chairman for the meeting will be Dale Corson, provost of Cornell University.

The Society of Physics Students has been born with the completion of the merger of Sigma Pi Sigma and the Student Sections of the American Institute of Physics, the two undergraduate physics organizations. Mail ballots returned by Sigma Pi Sigma chapters early in March approved some last-minute changes in the articles of agreement. The AIP governing board added its final approval at the end of March. The new society will begin its activities by the start of the new academic year in September. Sigma Pi Sigma, with its 50th anniversary not many years off, continues as an honor component within the framework of the Society of Physics Students.

"This is a short-sighted decision. If it remains unchanged it inevitably will cause serious shortages in the trained manpower on which the future of the United States vitally depends."

Among the most outspoken critics of the new regulations was Betty Vetter, executive director of the Scientific Manpower Commission, who said the decision gives the United States "the best educated army in history." She noted that the shift in deferments results in "a policy that will draft nobody except college graduates."

The Scientific Manpower Commission estimates that 433 000 students will be added to the draft pool. Of these 187 000 are now seniors, 144 000 are first-year graduate students, 74 000 have not yet begun their second year of study and 28 000 are graduate students due to receive their master's this spring and summer. The draft call for the next fiscal year, for comparison, is currently estimated at about 240 000.

The dropping of occupational deferment lists may hit some physicists in industry, especially in the aerospace field. However, the shifting of the burden of deferment justification from the nationally distributed Selective Service lists to the local boards is not expected to make a great deal of