

THE PROPER CHANNEL

RULES

Start the game with any problem likely to crop up in your life on campus and proceed through the proper channels recording the time spent at stops, until you reach finish and gain a solution.

To win you must reach the finish box within thirty-two weeks (the most time any student has on campus) without crossing any line in the game and without crossing or re-using any path you've already used. By proceeding carefully from one stop to the next, certain steps may be circumvented to reduce the time spent waiting.

Members of any radical student movement may jump a proper channel four times: once for a picket, once for a sit-in, once for occupying the computer center, and once for threatening to do any of the above. In each case a wall may be crossed, a previously used path re-used, or a stop just passed through. For extra excitement, moderates and radicals can compete.

JUNIOR ADMINISTRATOR

These men abound in the administration, but unfortunately nobody knows why. They may be seen any day at five o'clock streaming out of the library in medium grey suits. Usually they spend their time preparing reports that will be ignored and double-checking something someone else has already double-checked. Wanting to feel important and looking for any chance to convince others they are, they will take up days of your time though proving in the end unable even to tell you what the next step is, because they don't understand the system themselves. Spend three weeks here.

START

If your problem is of an academic nature, proceed through the channel below.

If you have a problem with a university rule, or would like to see a change made in the university's physical property (such as a residence room) or organization, proceed out the left-hand exit.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE

Department committee meetings are very important steps in the decision-making process as they can often reallocate funds from the paperclip account to the gestetner paper account. They spend hours talking about: the inadequacy of the library, who they should hire next year, what kind of research they are doing, and which committee or person is responsible for the kind of problems you are raising. Wait five days for someone to tell you what the next step is.

STUDENT REP TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

As your representative this poor fellow will do all he can to get your problem solved. Unfortunately he can't do anything because he is allowed only to exist to keep you happy and waiting. So wait here three weeks.

LECTURER

Totally irrelevant to the decision-making process—this should be quickly apparent so only a day is lost at this stage.

PROFESSOR

Just as irrelevant to the decision-making process—but that fact is not as clear as in the case of the lecturer, occasionally even the professor himself not realizing it. Stop here five days.

DEAN

The key to academic administration is the dean. It is his job to carry out the decisions made by the faculty committees and senior administration committees. He also presents the demands of his faculty to the administration. He will carry your case to a closed meeting of the appropriate administration committee. Spend three weeks talking and waiting.

UNDER GRAD (OR GRAD) DEPARTMENT OFFICER

This man is the first person who will give you some feeling that you are nearing a solution, because after meeting with you at least twice on the issue he will tell you what committee is in charge of handling such cases. Spend at least a week here.

DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN

An older and obviously very wise academic, he will tell you how glad he is that you've come to him with your problem and tell you many of his own. Eventually he will inform you that careful consideration will be given to a solution in the department committee. Spend three weeks talking and waiting.

CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

Undoubtedly you will have to see the chairman. Spend two weeks at this stage waiting for an appointment. He's continually out to lunch.

ASSISTANT TO THE DEAN

These men are key to the higher echelons. It is their job to put the dean's file folders on his desk in order of priority and to make apologetical speeches to you about why certain problems, which have of course long been known to the dean, can't be dealt with in too great a hurry. Wait two weeks for an appointment with the dean.