

seriousness of the situation has been called to the attention of the President of the United States by many national organizations including The Council of Graduate Schools in the United States, the American Council on Education, The National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges and others. As of this date, there has been no indication that the President or the Department of Defense will seek changes either by legislation or by regulation in the current Selective Service Act.

I am, therefore, asking for your consideration of the problem. I urge that you reconsider the existing Selective Service Act. Hopefully, you may conclude that certain modifications of this legislation are required; otherwise, our graduate student enrollment will be cut by drastic proportions.

Please allow me to briefly summarize how the current legislation is likely to affect enrollment of graduate students at the University of Maryland.

Current graduate student enrollment (males, 4,942; females, 2,487) -----	7, 429
Projected 1968-69 graduate enrollment based upon a normal growth pattern -----	8, 320
Anticipated 1968-69 graduate enrollment under present draft law -----	6, 202

The number 6,202 was arrived at as follows:

Returning male graduate students composed of the physically disqualified -----	1, 260
Veterans -----	600
Those over 26 years of age -----	1, 300
Graduating male seniors (using University of Maryland figures) who may go on to graduate school by virtue of being physically disqualified for the draft or being a veteran -----	442
Female students -----	2, 600
Anticipated 1968-69 graduate enrollment deficit if present draft law remains unchanged -----	2, 118

The current draft legislation will, as can be seen by the foregoing figures:

- (1) Reduce our projected male graduate enrollment by about 40 percent.
- (2) Alter the graduate student population so that 63 percent will be women, men over 26 years of age, and persons physically disqualified for service.

Although I am presenting data reflecting the situation at the University of Maryland, this is, of course, a national phenomenon. A disruption of graduate education of the order inherent in the new draft legislation will seriously curtail the national movement and the growing need for more advanced education. In addition, it will result in a depletion in the ranks of graduate research assistants and graduate teaching assistants. Both of these categories of graduate students are central to the achievement of the objectives of graduate education.

It is my firm belief that it is essential to the welfare, not only of the universities, but of the nation as well, that every effort be made to persuade the Congress to reconsider the existing Selective Service Act. We shall appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this important matter and it would be helpful if we could have your reaction to the current outlook.

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

WILSON H. ELKINS,
President.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY,
St. Louis, Mo., February 26, 1968.

HON. EDITH GREEN,
Chairman, Special Subcommittee on Education,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE GREEN: I would like to share with you my deep concern over the affect of the recent administrative rulings on the Selective Service Act of 1967 on military manpower needs, on the national pool of skilled manpower, and on the nation's colleges and Universities.

The Selective Service legislation, as it is now administered, leads to the drafting of older men to a degree that is surely greater than the armed forces desire. It creates an unrealistic unnecessarily drastic reduction in the number of well trained men entering the non-medical professions—law, engineering, business, teaching—for years to come.