

Reactions occur over SDS denial

Varied reactions have arisen from the decision made last month by President Roger B. Corbett to deny recognition to Students for a Democratic Society on the NMSU campus.

Corbett stated that his main objection to the decision made by the Appeals Board to grant recognition to SDS was that they took the "legalistic route" by their decision that bias was included in the Recognition Committee denial of SDS.

"The possibility of bias exists everywhere. You cannot stand on the possibility but must be shown beyond reasonable doubt the proof of bias. I could not see where this bias existed," he said.

In a letter sent to the Appeals Board Corbett said, "It is difficult to understand why a person or group of persons desire to use a name that is in the public mind synonymous with violence while at the same time strongly denying that they believe in or desire violence."

When asked if his decision was influenced by other sources, Corbett explained that the University does not live "unto ourselves alone."

He said that all factions of University life were taken into consideration. Students, taxpayers, alumni and citizens of the area were consulted.

Corbett said that he believed that SDS nationally has influenced the discord on college campuses today.

"When liberty drives out order, the hunger for order will drive out liberty," he commented on whether freedom of speech was being taken advantage of by SDS.

"I believe that when someone takes freedom from someone else, then freedom is being abused and this must be stopped," he said.

Art Santa Cruz, SDS spokesman, said that he felt "the decision was made in ignorance."

"Corbett doesn't know what SDS is and therefore could not possibly make an intelligent decision," he added.

Santa Cruz also said that he hoped the arguments over the issue had made students wake up enough to see that the campus was "not being run by student government in any form but by the administration."