

## *Needed: More Co-operation*

In past years, the administration of Rice University and the undergraduate newspaper of Rice University have operated completely independent of each other.

In the past, each has carried out actions and maintained policies while either intentionally or unintentionally keeping the other side of the campus in the dark. As a result, tension between the two has mounted, and each now seems to regard the other somewhat distrustfully from the confines of their respective air-conditioned offices.

Misunderstandings arise again and again; criticism and even sharp words fly on occasion between the two—primarily, The Thresher feels, because of a regrettable lack of communication between Lovett Hall and The Thresher offices in the Memorial Center.

In order to prevent such misunderstandings, The Thresher would like to give the administration of the University opportunities to explain the reasons behind their actions and policies before the newspaper draws conclusions from the only information it can get—information which has been carefully worded into an official statement.

Unfortunately—and we suspect because of the distrust mentioned above—University officials have been either reluctant, non-committal, or just plain un-cooperative.

The Thresher should be informed of the reasons behind official statements before these are issued so that the newspaper may better serve the student body and the administration with an explanation and perhaps clarification of the matter at hand. Needless confusion and resentment such as that which was present over the Religious Council issue last spring and the suspension of three students this fall (to mention only two) could thus be avoided.

The Thresher definitely wants to publish the opinions and ideas of the administration, even though it does not necessarily agree with these. The Thresher wants the students to whom it is responsible to know both side of controversy, not just their own, and we feel that it can perform a greater service in this respect with more cooperation from the University.

Yet, we also make our position clear: although it advocates better cooperation and more communication with Lovett Hall, The Thresher is still an all-student newspaper; it does not reflect the views of the administration in its editorial policy, but strives to bring accurate, honest, and fair treatment to campus news.