

the influence that I can wield would be considerable, and I think that's as it should be. The days of allowing people to get used to the idea of students participating in governmental processes is past. Now we have to make that participation substantive. The way to do that is to allow the person who is there as a representative of a constituency to do that act which is most crucial and important and essential to meaningful participation, and with a board of trustees or any governing body which votes on issues in order to decide them the power, the right, the authority to vote is the most significant thing that can be done. There are times that some people will want others to speak on their issue, but they don't want them to speak on the issue if they're going to turn around and vote against it. So the vote is what all of the speaking is designed to achieve, a number of votes going in a certain direction. It is very easy to brush aside and consider inconsequential any person who does not really have the right to participate. Sometimes if we're on an issue that involves a lot of people in the balconies and we can't look up there now, you all can't, with your carnal eyes and see the ghosts of those down through the generations who have passed through this state and now reside, sometimes very uncomfortably, I understand, up there on those balconies on both sides of us right now. Nobody on this floor, other than myself, is even cognizant of them and certainly their presence has no influence on anybody. But if they were to be embodied in flesh and run for this office and win and sit at these desks with the power to press a red button or a green button, they would be paid attention to. Many times, younger people get on our nerves. They irritate us. Their view of life seems to be half-baked. Their courses of action seem to be fraught with errors and lack of complete thought and consideration, which are descriptive terms that can apply to every human being regardless of age or status in life. However, those students should not be in a position or placed in a position where they can just be given the back of the hand and brushed aside because nobody has a reason to listen to them because there is no price to pay if they're not listened to. The board of trustees during this reconstruction that we're taking these boards through should contain, each one of them, a voting student member. That's my opinion. Whether or not there will be a voting student member will be determined by what happens to LR 239 at the polls should it get enough votes to be placed on the ballot. Assuming that it gets on the ballot, the question of whether or not the students should vote should be intertwined with every other question being dealt with by