

23,
Bennington College
October 17, 1941

The Educational Policies Committee met on Wednesday, October 15, 1941, at 5:30 p.m. in the Committee Dining-room. Present were Helen Levine, Margaret Klaw, Hilda Wheelwright, Cynthia Jenkinson, Joan Strong, Ann Mills, and Nika Pleshkoff.

Divisional Meetings

During a house meeting at Booth House, there was discussion about what was wrong with the College, E.P.C., etc. Helen Levine spoke to Mr. Jones about this, and he suggested that divisional meetings be held to find out what was bothering the students.

We discussed this, and it was brought out that most of the Freshmen and Sophomores had only the usual minor grievances. If divisional meetings were called before there was even a tentative plan for college reorganization, it would turn into a pet hate session, doing no real good.

There seems to be a definite need for more divisional meetings. The question is what to have them about.

Fall Survey of Classes

The survey should be held the first week in November, if possible. Questions on over-all policy should be included.

It was suggested that after the survey the E.P.C. representative meet with her division to discuss general problems uncovered by the questionnaire. The E.P.C. representative will still meet separately with each faculty member in her division to discuss personal criticism. This was considered to be an excellent suggestion.

General Policy

There seems to be a feeling among the students and faculty that because of the college reorganization going on, it is not possible to do any worthwhile work. Also, the students feel that they will have no say and will not participate in the college reorganization. The E.P.C. should explain the falseness of these ideas, and to track them down.

Winter Period Meetings

The meetings will be divisional and will be held mostly for the benefit of the Freshmen. It is important to stress the fact that it is possible to do work in other fields, too. Students who have had interesting winter periods should be invited to talk about them. Wednesday, November fifth, is a free night that might be used.

Guest Speakers

Helen Levine spoke to Miss Shelley about rotating the students invited to parties for guest speakers, so that all the students would have a chance to talk to at least one of the speakers.

Revision of Student Government

It was decided that the best plan would be to have a program planning committee which would regulate duties and functions to their proper places. This committee would consist of two members from each of the committees.

The Community Council should remain as it is and not be made larger. One suggestion was that the entire Community Council and E.P.C. meet together once a month or whenever necessary.

Election of E.P.C. members should be left to the community so that they would feel closer to their representatives. The Community Council and E.P.C. should have more of a hand in choosing the slate. The E.P.C. and faculty could discuss and choose a slate, with the Community Council passing their approval on it.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nika Pleshkoff

Nika Pleshkoff, Secretary