

## Minutes of the Faculty Meeting

November 17, 1965

A meeting of the Faculty was held in Barn 1 on Wednesday, November 17, 1965 at 4:15 p.m.

Absent: Miss Fine, Miss Stickney and Messrs. DeGray, Feeley, Fredericks and Pearson.

The minutes of September 15, 1965 were approved as written and circulated.

### President's Remarks

Mr. Bloustein spoke about the building plans. He said another set of preliminary drawings of the three student houses had been received. These drawings would be reviewed by the Art and Architecture Committee. If approved they will be returned to the architect for working drawings, to be ready in the spring. Building is expected to begin in the summer of 1966. Three houses may make it possible to admit an additional 45 students in addition to relieving the present over-crowding.

Speaking about the academic buildings, Mr. Bloustein stated that the art and science buildings were the most advanced in planning and possibly could be started in late summer of 1966.

A new site plan has been offered and is presently being studied by the Art and Architecture Committee. Each division will be invited to offer suggestions.

Fund raising was reported by Mr. Bloustein as going fairly well with about a quarter-million raised since July.

Mr. Bloustein announced the gift of \$25,000. over a five year period from the Dollards, as part of the President's Fund. This is to be known as the Dollard Fund, and to be used for faculty study grants. Mr. Bloustein quoted from the letter concerning the grant, "The term 'study grant' is an awkward one and we choose it only to make clear that recipients should not have to fabricate a 'research project' in order to get help. The term is meant to cover writing, painting, composition, travel, or even just brooding-- anything which will enlarge the perspective or brighten the spirit of the recipient."

The faculty VOTED to go on record as thanking the Dollards for this generous act.

It was also announced that Huber Grant requests have been received and applications submitted to the Huber Foundation for approval.

Speaking about the possibility of Federal funds aiding the College financially, Mr. Bloustein said he had spent one day in Washington, D. C. at the Office of Education and the National Science Foundation. He briefly reviewed the following:

- The Federal Housing Authority;
- The Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963;

The Higher Education Facilities Act of 1965 and the extensions under titles 1-7;  
National Defense Education Act - 1958 and the extensions of 1965;  
Elementary and Secondary Education Act - 1965;  
Cooperative Research Act of 1954;  
The National Science Foundation  
The Foundation of the Arts and Humanities.

Mr. Bloustein closed by saying he would be available to provide information and help interpret legislation for any applications made under the above Acts.

The Nemerov suggestion to the Bennington College Faculty

Mr. Bloustein asked Mr. Nemerov to speak to his proposal which was circulated before the meeting (attached as Appendix 1). Mr. Nemerov stated that he was serious in making it. He would be willing to do the organizational work involved if the structure was kept simple.

It was VOTED to spend one week in the spring semester during which faculty members may exchange courses with other faculty members.

Though the faculty endorsed this proposal it was with the provision that it was not to be a requirement, but be done only on a voluntary basis.

Mr. Welter asked if the students had been consulted about the proposal?

The faculty VOTED on the following aspects of the proposal:

1. To approve the proposal without establishing an administrative structure.
2. To approve an individual's allowing his classes to be taught by some other faculty member.
3. To approve teaching a faculty member's course other than his own.
4. That the exchanges be organized informally through letters to Mr. Nemerov.
5. That the time be the week of Long Weekend--May 2, 1965 or the following.

It was VOTED that students be notified of the proposal.

Announcements

Mr. Bloustein announced the meeting of Art and Architecture Committee at 7 p.m. in Barn 82.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

June Bentley  
secretary