



First and foremost, congratulations and welcome to Bennington.

I am writing to explain what I believe to be one of the most unique and important aspects of Bennington, the Student Educational Policies Committee, or SEPC.

The Committee is comprised of seventeen students, two from each division (except for Literature and Languages which has three), a secretary, and a chairperson. The Committee meets once a week to discuss academic issues and problems as they arise in various areas of the College. The chair of the Committee sits on the Academic Council of the College and regularly meets with the Deans of the College and the President. The division representatives are elected by students studying in each division and act as liaison between the faculty and students. The representatives attend division meetings, voicing student concerns and opinions on issues ranging from facilities to the scheduling of classes.

In each course at Bennington, students elect a class representative who acts as an intermediary for the faculty and the class. At the middle and end of the term calls a meeting, without the faculty member present, to discuss how the class has been going and how it could be improved. The class representative then provides an outline of the discussion for the faculty member, who then responds directly to the issues raised by the class. When the process is repeated at the end of the term, students are asked to write a brief, confidential statement evaluating the teacher and the class and have the option of permitting the teacher to review this statement. At the time of faculty contract renewal, students who have taken a course with the faculty member may also write a confidential letter of recommendation. Student evaluations are considered in the contract renewal process.

I realize that this is quite a bit of information to be taking in, but the point that I want to get across is that, at Bennington, students have a voice, and that voice is SEPC. Should you choose to attend Bennington, you will find that you are not attending a static institution. Through SEPC you have the opportunity to not only shape your own education, but also the College.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Jonathan Schwartz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Jonathan Schwartz '92
SEPC Chair

SELECTIVE COMMITTEES**Academic Council 13**

Elizabeth Coleman, ex. of., Chair
 Daniel Michaelson, ex officio
 Susan Sgorbati, ex officio
 Phebe Chao 6/96
 Avraam Koen 6/94
 Marc Lendler* (Mishkind*12/95) 12/93
 Reinhard Mayer* 6/96
 Neil Rappaport* 6/96
 Sue Rees 6/96
 Kerry Woods 6/96
 Rosie Schaap, SEPC
 Duncan Dunscombe, Student Council
 Omri Elisha, Elected Student
 (*Budget Committee)

Faculty Personnel Committee

Susan Sgorbati, ex. of., Chair
 Jonathan Haynes 6/96
 Barbara Roan 12/94
 Allen Shawn 6/94
 Mansour Farhang 6/95

Personnel Review Committee

Neil Rappaport 6/96
 Ranil Guneratne 12/95
 Marc Lendler 12/95

APPOINTIVE COMMITTEES**Admissions & Financial Aid**

Karen Kristof, ex. of., Chair
 Meg Woolmington, ex. officio
 Daniel Michaelson, ex. officio
 Henrietta Marshall, ex. officio
 Gladden Schrock 6/93
 Barbara Roan 6/93
 Derek Campbell 6/94
 Ranil Guneratne 6/94

**Educational Counseling
Committee**

Daniel Michaelson, ex. of.
 Chair

Tentative Plan Panels

William Dixon
 Norman Derby
 Sandra Dunn

John Smyth
 Lee Supowit
 Sue Ann Kahn

**Confirmation of Plan
Panels**

Martha Wittman
 Sue Rees
 Marc Lendler

Di Di Heller
 Barry Bartlett
 Gladden Schrock

Interdivisional Panels

Ricky Blake
 Maxine Neuman
 Phebe Chao

Master Panel

Dean Snyder
 Terry Creach
 Elizabeth Wright

Alternates

Jonathan Haynes
 David Groupé

Library Committee

John Swan, Chair
 Charolotte Welch, ex. of.
 Sandra Dunn 6/94
 Aris Noah 6/94
 Stephen Sandy 6/94
 Ranil Guneratne 6/94
 Reinhard Mayer 6/94
 Selina Basey, student
 Firuza Pastakia, student