

GALLEY

The Student Committee on the Future of Bennington College arises out of a critical need to develop some apparatus with which interested students can supply and demand specific information about the present and future operations and objectives of the College. What, for example, is the nature of the program to be housed in the new science building? How does it reflect Bennington's objectives for science as a liberal art, objectives at best broadly understood through the exchange between President Bloustein and Jacob Bronowski last October? The other primary motivation for the creation of such a group is the fundamental concern that in spite of the virtually unchanged student-teacher ratio, the traditionally close student-teacher relationship is becoming more and more difficult to maintain.

The Committee is voluntary, composed currently of approximately twenty-five members, open to any interested student, and meets weekly. The minutes of these weekly meetings are posted. Ad hoc subcommittees are formed as specific problems are sufficiently developed to warrant close examination. To date, the Committee has sponsored one, heavily attended student meeting at which the President, Dean Pearson, and Lionel Nowak discussed next year's tuition raise; more meetings of this nature are anticipated. The efforts of The Student Educational Policies Committee and those of the Future Committee are expected to dovetail into a thorough exploration of the curriculum and its development. A working relationship between the Development Office and a student group primarily concerned with physical development is planned.

Most important to the initial success of this Committee is the understanding by faculty, students, administration, and trustees alike that it begins with no preconceived notions of even where ~~the~~ lie the problems, much less the answers. It seeks to make, finally on the part of the students, a rational, reasonable, and imaginative inquiry into the Bennington of today and the possibilities available to the Bennington of tomorrow.

--From students is asked active, critical participation.

--From faculty, administration, and trustees is asked active, critical support.

SCFBC

[ca. FALL 1966]