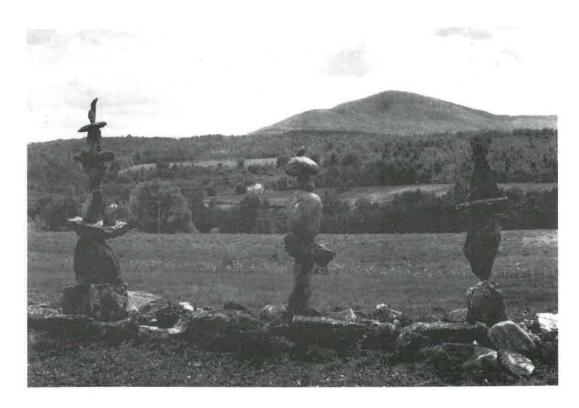
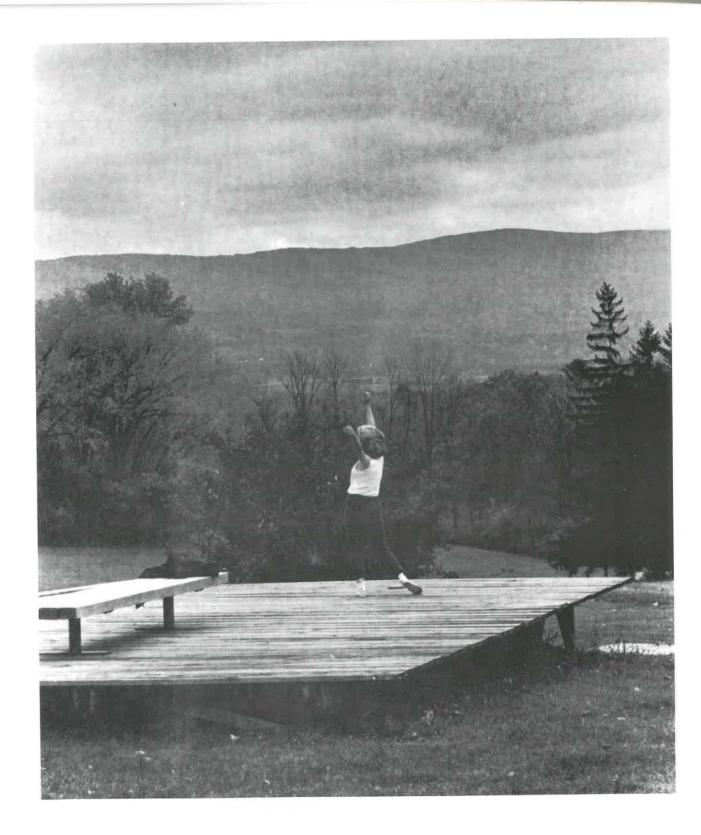


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Bennington regards education as a sensual and ethical, no less than an intellectual, process. It seeks to liberate and nurture the individual, the creative intelligence, and the ethical and aesthetic sensibility of its students, to the end that their richly varied natural endowments will be directed toward self-fulfillment and towards constructive social purposes. We believe that these educational goals are best served by demanding of our students active participation in the planning of their own programs, and in the regulation of their own lives on campus. Student freedom is not the

absence of restraint, however; it is rather the fullest possible substitution of habits of self-restraint for restraint imposed by others. The exercise of student freedom is the very condition of a meaningful education, and an essential aspect of the nature of free citizens, dedicated to civilized values and capable of creative and constructive membership in modern society.

- Bennington's traditional Commencement statement -

THE AIMS OF BENNINGTON COLLEGE - 1932

- 1. That education is a process continuing through life and persists most effectively throughout the important years of adult-hood when one has acquired the habit of educating oneself;
- 2. That a principal aim of the College should be to accustom its students to the habit of engaging voluntarily in learning rather than of submitting involuntarily at certain periods to formal instruction;
- 3. That such educational self-dependence can be developed most effectively if the student works at tasks which have meaning, significance, or interest to him/her;
- 4. That continuing education, self-initiated, is likely to take place most surely where the student has attained expertness, or a sense of mastery, in some few fields of enduring interest or use rather than acquiring smatterings in a great many fields;
- 5. The external disciplines such as compulsory class attendance, competitive and publicly awarded grades and prizes, periodic written examinations on formalized blocks of knowledge, and numerical accumulation of credits to earn degrees interfere seriously with real incentives and internal disciplines related to the student's own developing purposes and interests;
- 6. That direct experiences planning, organizing, manipulating, constructing, and investigating in cooperation with book learning and the acquisition of knowledge are valuable means for developing permanent interests pursued without the necessity of external compulsion;
- 7. That tools of learning, such as statistics and the use of English, to have meaning as well as to be most economically mastered, should as far as possible be connected immediately or in the process of learning with the ends or uses for which they are instruments rather than acquired wholesale as separate disciplines related but vaguely to a possible distant use;
- 8. That there is a wide variation between persons and in the same person at different times as to the subjects or problems which, having meaning, will consequently engage the person in active learning which leads to understanding; that, therefore, programs of the College should at all points allow for individual variation;
- 9. That intellectual development cannot and should not be isolated from the development of the whole personality, and that as far as possible the general College arrangements, especially individual guidance, should give proper weight to physical, emotional, moral, and aesthetic as well as to intellectual factors in personal growth;
- 10. That the College, jointly with other educational agencies, should accept responsibility for cultivating in its students by all available means attitudes of social responsibility, cooperation, and participation, rather than aloofness; that it should promote a sympathetic but objective and realistic understanding of the world of your own day as well as a sense of perspective derived from an understanding of the past; an attitude of suspended judgment towards the strange and the new, and tolerance towards persons and customs alien to the student's own experience.

CONTENTS

Perhaps the most important asset of a Bennington education is the relationship students establish with the people who teach and work here. While reading the handbook, keep in mind the original aims of Bennington listed above are still relevant over fifty years later.

The handbook is a practical guide to student life at Bennington, and includes useful information about the rules, regulations, facilities, and services of the College. For both new and returning students, this handbook is intended to serve as a valuable guide, especially in the area of student government and organization.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

ACADEMIC ORIENTATION

It is in the nature of Bennington that academic expectations are not easily pinned down, but rather are qualitative and even subjective. Generally, students are expected to complete work of good quality in four courses each term. In addition, the College hopes to see growth and progress — more experimentation, independence, complexity — not merely conformity to requirements. Much of this should take place as part of an interaction or dialogue between teacher and student, with feedback from both sides. Counseling, tutorials, and to a large extent classes are set up with this in mind.

The academic areas of the College are divided into broadly conceived groupings of disciplines called Divisions rather than separate departments for each field of study. For example, the Social Science Division offers work in the fields of psychology, economics, philosophy, history, politics, early childhood development and anthropology; Visual Arts offers painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, graphics, architecture, photography and art history. The other major divisions have similarly comprehensive offerings. The divisions are: Literature and Languages, Social Science, Natural Science and Mathematics, Music, Dance, Drama and Visual Arts. Students may major in one of these divisions or sometimes elect to construct an Interdivisional major from two or more fields.

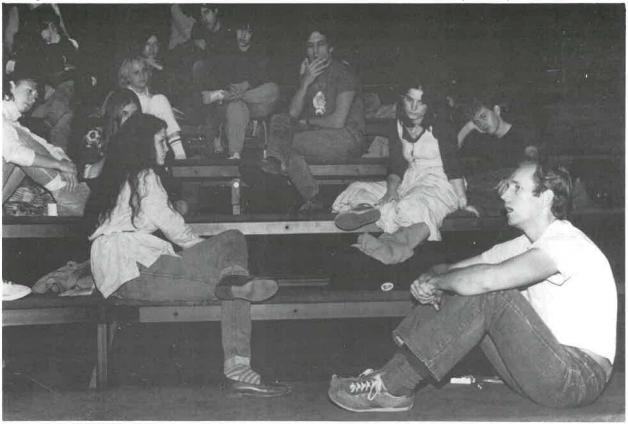
Student Records: The Dean of Studies Office keeps on file a folder for each student, containing his/her application for admission, instructors' midterm and final comments, counselors' reports, Tentative Plan and Confirmation of

Plan, Field Work Term (FWT) reports, correspondence with the Educational Counseling Committee (ECC), and similar items. Access to your records, without your written consent, is limited to you, the faculty, and certain administrators. You may read your folder in the Dean's Office, and they can make photocopies for you at your request.

The Registrar: The Registrar keeps records of enrollment and of registration for courses. It is important that you keep your registration up to date if you change courses during the term, since this information is used to send out comment forms to your teachers, and to notify them if you have missed classes for medical reasons.

A word about deadlines: Deadlines do not exist to harass you, but to make it possible to get things done. For example, a leave request that is received on time enables the Dean of Studies Office to review the student's record and approve the leave, notify the Business Office before the next billing cycle, keep the student current with the Educational Counseling Committee, notify the Housing Office before room assignments are made, and generally eliminate a lot of confusion that affects you and other students, not just the administration. Similarly, a Plan that is submitted in good time can be reviewed by the division and the ECC well before the end of the term, so that any necessary adjustments can be made while you are still here, and you don't get any unpleasant surprises over the summer or FWT. The Dean's Office realizes that individual needs and situations vary, so they try to be flexible about deadlines, but you should be aware that there are inevitable consequences to lateness.

For more complete information, see the section on Academic Policies and Procedures.





COLLEGE STRUCTURE

Everyone in this small, open community is encouraged, urged and expected to participate in the issues that arise and the decisions that have to be reached. Whether or not a student becomes directly involved with the student government or the administration, participation of some kind is inevitable in a community which is truly self-governing.

As is the case for most self-governing bodies, it has been found that a basic structure is necessary to provide an effective means of communication, discussion, debate and resolution. Bennington's structure is unique as it is based on the expectation that common responsibilities will be shared by all members of the community; students, faculty and administration.

President

The President is responsible to the Board of Trustees for College policy and administration. He is an ex-officio member of many College-wide faculty committees and chairs the monthly faculty meeting. The President also provides leadership and supervision to each administrative officer and employee and keeps the College running as smoothly as possible toward the realization of its aims and ideals. To the world outside Bennington, the President maintains and promotes the College's image while raising funds and attracting applicants for Admissions. By

tradition, the President of Bennington is an academic and often teaches courses and counsels students.

Board of Trustees

Entrusted with the ultimate legal responsibility for the College, the Trustees meet four times each year — in October, April and June at the College and in January in New York. The Standing Committees of the Board are: Executive Committee, Committee on Academic Affairs, Admissions and Financial Aid; Committee on Budget and Finance; Development and Alumni Affairs; Campus Facilities and Community Life.

Election and Appointment of Deans

The selection of the Deans is recommended to the Board of Trustees by the President from a slate of candidates elected by the faculty. Appointments are for three-year terms; reappointments are permissible.

Dean of Faculty

The Dean of the Faculty is responsible to the President for the formulation and supervision of policies relating to the faculty of the College, including curriculum planning, the instructional budget, faculty appointments and reappointments, salaries and fringe benefits, sabbaticals, leaves, faculty research funds, faculty committee assignments, and the operation of the Library and the Admissions Office. The Dean also prepares the agenda for faculty meeting, the Faculty Personnel Committee, and the Academic Council. Faculty-related problems that cannot be resolved through divisional offices or the Dean of Studies should be taken to the Dean of the Faculty.

Dean of Studies

The Dean of Studies Office is responsible for all administrative matters pertaining to students' academic lives: matching students with faculty counselors, issuing the curriculum, handling registration for courses, keeping academic records and transcripts, reviewing students' Plans and overall progress, coordinating the Educational Counseling Committee's agenda, and so on. The Dean and the Assistant to the Dean are glad to be available for informal counseling on academic or non-academic matters.

Tuition

Bennington charges its students a single comprehensive fee for tuition, room, and board. There is an additional fee of \$25/term for student activities. There are no special fees for laboratories, music instruction, the library, or graduation. There are library fines for overdue materials and there is a fee for those who require sickness and accident insurance.

Fee Schedule

Each January the trustees set the annual fees. Payment of the comprehensive fee is due August 1 for the fall term and February 1 for the spring term. In addition to the comprehensive fee, there is a \$250 registration deposit which every student is required to make. The deposit is refunded four months after a student's last term and will be used to cover room damage and/or any other charges incurred and not paid. The deposit will be refunded to any student who

withdraws from the College before graduation provided that proper notification, as prescribed by the Dean of Studies, is given by August I for the fall term or February I for the spring term. This money will be forfeited after the above dates.

In the event that a student leaves before the end of a term, the college will refund 50% of the term's fees if the student leaves before the end of the third week of the term, 25% if it is before the end of the sixth week, and no refund after the sixth week.

Student Loans

Student loans are available only in extreme cases (i.e. emergency illness or death in the family). In an emergency, the student should see the Director of Student Affairs, or the Director of Financial Aid, who will determine the appropriateness of the request and make recommendations to the Business Office. All loans are due and payable within 30 days. No loans will be granted to a student who has an outstanding loan.

Vice President for Finance and Administration

The Vice President for Finance and Administration is responsible to the President for the operations of the Business Office. Duplicating, Food Service, Maintenance, the Post Office, Security, Summer Programs and Rentals, and Switchboard. Any problems or concerns related to these departments should be directed to this office.

Business Office

The Business Office prepares student bills and collects payment of them. The office also prepares the College budget/payroll, and general ledger and cashes personal checks in the Cashier's Office. All questions regarding tuition and room/board payments, medical insurance, and student payroll checks should be addressed to the Business Office.

Duplicating

The Duplicating Room houses Xerox, mimeograph, ditto and offset machines, as well as a paper-folding machine. Hours during the terms are Monday through Friday, 9:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Rentals and Programs

The Director of Rentals and Programs is in charge of the use of space during the summer and the development of summer programs including the July Program. This office is also responsible for the rental of College space by outside groups for evening and weekend classes and events.

Cashier's Office

Students, faculty and staff may cash personal checks up to \$25.00 per day in Barn Room 19. The return of a check for insufficient funds will automatically cancel future check cashing privileges. Hours are Monday - Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bad Checks

The College is not a bill collector and therefore limits its

participation in bill collecting for local merchants to a friendly reminder to the student upon receipt of the information that there is an outstanding debt. However, students are encouraged to maintain honest business dealing with local merchants in order to continue good relations. Students should be aware that merchants have the right to pursue legal action if necessary.

Pay Checks

Students who work for the College and receive either College Work Study or regular pay must submit time sheets to either the Financial Aid Office (for C.W.S. jobs) or the Business Office (for regular pay jobs). Students receiving funds from the College Work Study Program are paid monthly — usually on the 10th day of the month. They receive a check for the previous month's work by submitting weekly time sheets. At the end of the month these time sheets are collated, recorded and submitted to the Business Office where the check is drawn. Since it takes at least four or five days for the persons processing checks to complete their work, all time sheets for the previous month's work are expected in the Financial Aid Office by the last day of the month.

Vice President for Development

The Vice President for Development is responsible to the President for fund raising (annual, capital, and planned giving), publications, public relations, many special events on and off campus, alumni and parent associations, and staff support to the Trustee Development and Alumni Affairs Committee.

Alumni Relations and Annual Fund Office

The Alumni Relations and Annual Fund Office is responsible for staff support to the Alumni Association and the Parent's Association. First among these activities is the annual fund. Through the fund, alumni, parents of present students and of alumni, and friends of the College are solicited annually for support of the College's operating budget. Events sponsored by the Office include alumni council meetings three times a year, Parents Weekend in the fall, Reunion in the spring, and Commencement. The student telethon in March and regional telethons throughout the year are coordinated in this office.

Development Office

The Development Office directs its attention to the recapitalization of the college through implementation of a Trustee endorsed five point plan focusing on the solicitation of major gifts from individuals, foundations and corporations.

Information and Publications Office

This office provides communications support — news releases, printed material and in many other forms — to the departments and academic divisions. The office also assists with the design and production of printed materials originating in other sections of the college. Relations with the news media are handled through this office, and the director of information should be consulted when inquiries are made directly to students. In the area of publications,

this office produces *College Week* and five times a year *Quadrille* for alumni and friends of the college. This office also approves before distribution the galleys submitted by students (See Appendices). The director of publications is the campus photographer of record and caretaker of the college's photo archives. On request, this office can arrange for photography related to publicity for campus events or for archival purposes.

Student Use of Performance/Meeting Areas

Planned community events or performing arts rehearsals take precedence over the informal use of Commons Theatre, Usdan Gallery, the Paul Robeson House, Tishman Hall, Martha Hill, Lester Martin, Greenwall, and classrooms. College community events should be scheduled through the Information and Publications Office, which keeps the college calendar. The Dean of Studies' Office must be consulted when events are scheduled during class times. VAPA Theatres are reserved through the secretary of the Drama Division.

Director of Admissions

The Director of Admissions is responsible to the Dean of Faculty for the formulation of policy as well as its administration in all matters relating to college admissions.

Admissions Office

The Admissions Office is charged with the responsibility of recruiting and enrolling about 200 new students each year — 190 in the fall and 10 in the spring. Of these, about 80% are new freshmen. Just under one-half of new students come from the northeastern United States; 10% from international schools, which represent 25 countries. The remainder come from a wide area within the United States (last year, new students came from 30 of the 50 states). Because personal contact and involvement with students is crucial to the admissions program at Bennington, the five-member staff spends time — especially in October and November — interviewing candidates and visiting high schools around the country.

The Personal Statement is central to the Bennington application for admission. This statement, coupled with the required interviews, Parent Statement, transcripts, recommendations and SAT scores, give the Admissions Committee the information it needs to evaluate candidates for admission.

Students who have been enrolled at least one term recommend other candidates, conduct tours for prospective students and their families, and participate actively in the interview process.

Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Office in the Barn is open to students who are receiving financial assistance at Bennington. The office personnel are available to help with financial aid questions or concerns. Guaranteed Student Loans, College workstudy authorization forms and time sheets are processed in this office.

Every student who receives financial aid has a budget which

includes the College's comprehensive fee, personal, books and supplies, and travel expenses. The budget is met in a variety of ways: through a family contribution, state and federal scholarships, outside scholarships, College grants, recommended loans and employment.

Students should also be alert to the close coordination between the Financial Aid Office and the Business Office. The Financial Aid Office makes determinations in consultation with the student, but the Business Office handles the actual disbursement and collection of monies. If a student does not receive financial aid upon entering Bennington, he/she should be aware of a cardinal rule governing aid in succeeding years: unless the student's family can demonstrate a radical change in family circumstances (i.e. parents' working status), chances of receiving aid are minimal.

The aim of the Financial Aid staff is to make its policies and procedures as clear as possible...just ask.

Office of Student Services

Interested in getting involved in campus activities? Have a complaint about something at Bennington? The office of Student Services provides assistance to students in all of these areas. Information on housing, athletics, student problems, non-academic space, Student Handbook, orientation, housekeeping, international students, activities and events are addressed by the staff. The Director of Student Affairs is responsible for Student Services, Health, Psychological Counseling and The Placement Office.

Student Services works closely with House Chairpersons, Student Council and the Community Life Committee, and acts as an ombudsman for students (unsnarling tangles, avoiding red tape, assisting with problem solving, etc.). Student News is published throughout each term and serves as an information center for students with questions.

Student Services and Psychological Services are combined to provide 24-hour emergency on-call coverage during the school year.

International Students

All documentation for international students, including the I-20, I-20B, 538, etc. is prepared by the Student Services Office. The Associate Director of Student Services serves as the College's official foreign student advisor.

Housing

The Housing Coordinator is responsible for the assignment of student rooms, preparation of the house lottery each spring, assisting in solving interpersonal conflicts of student residents, and is the liaison with the student Housing Committee. All questions and problems regarding room assignments should be brought to the attention of the Housing Coordinator.

Student Placement Office

The Student Placement Office is part of the Office of Student Affairs and provides job listings for the Field Work Term, on-and off-campus term employment, summer and permanent jobs. The Associate Director of Placement assists students with resume writing, career planning, and questions related to job hunting and placement.

Field Work Term

The Placement Office has a large number of job listings for the Field Work Term including those that pay an hourly wage, or stipends, or offer room and board. Throughout the fall term, the office publishes *FWT News* to inform students of the latest job arrivals, policies and procedures, and private and commercial housing information. The particular policies related to the Field Work Term Program are enumerated in the Handbook section entitled Academic Policies and Procedures.

Term Employment

Both College Work-Study and regular term employment job offers are listed in the Placement Office. Interested students should review the listings immediately upon arrival. Time sheets and contracts for College Work-Study jobs are processed in the Financial Aid Office.

Summer Jobs and Studies

Summer jobs are listed each spring in the Placement Office.

Post Graduate Placement

The Post Graduate reading room is in Barn 52. Job listings, graduate school catalogues, test registration forms, and other pertinent information for graduates are available. *Job News*, published throughout the year, lists permanent employment openings, term positions and summer jobs. *The Network*, an index of Bennington alumnae who have agreed to discuss their careers with recent graduates, is also available for student use.

Health Service

The Health Service is open daily from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. (3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. on weekends) when the College is in session. A nurse is on duty when the infirmary is open. During the night hours, (after 11:00 p.m.), Security arranges emergency transportation to Southwestern Vermont Medical Center. The Health Service provides skilled nursing and physician care to students who need medical supervision during the course of their illness, but do not require hospitalization. A college physician is available 4 half-days a week by appointment during clinic hours.

Laboratory work is available through the infirmary but when emergency lab tests or X-rays are required, or in case of serious illness, the student is referred to Southwestern Vermont Medical Center. Students under age 18 should be aware that their parents will be notified of emergency illness. In all other cases, the college physician will determine whether to notify parents.

Entering students are expected to have a general examination before admission and to submit a report of a negative T.B. skin test or chest X-ray taken within the last year. Another requirement is that all students have their immunizations up-to-date, including tetanus and rubella vaccinations. Each student will have his/her record

reviewed in the fall and any deficiencies will be referred back to the student.

HEALTH INSURANCE: The College requires students to participate in the Student Health Insurance Plan or to show proof of family medical coverage. The College plan covers most routine costs of diagnostic tests, medical consultations and medications, and room and board in the College infirmary when injuries are involved and covers many of the costs associated with illnesses.

Psychological Counseling

The Psychological Counseling Service is available in the Commons, Second Floor, North Suites to assist students through short term crisis situations as well as long term counseling sessions. Confidentiality is strictly maintained; there is no contact with family, faculty or administrative personnel without the student's prior consent. Exceptions to this rule are made solely in cases where a serious threat to the student's health and safety exist. No student is denied counseling services because of an inability to pay for them. In the event that a student needs more intensive, long-term help, the staff will assist in locating a private therapist.

Adjustment to college life is difficult and talking with an experienced and objective person is often helpful. Call extension 208 or see the Counseling Service secretary for an appointment which will be made as soon as possible. For night and/or weekend emergencies, call Operator or extension 235.

FACILITIES

Bennington's campus, comprised of 42 buildings, is situated on 500 acres of rolling countryside in southwestern Vermont, four miles north of the town of Bennington. The campus map identifies the specific offices.

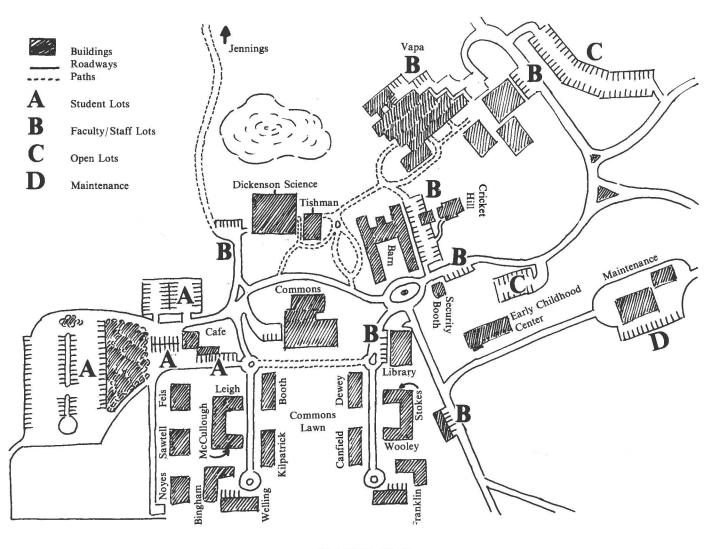
The following pages highlight the College facilities of special interest to students.

Student Houses

There are fifteen on-campus student houses. Each is a distinct social and political entity. Approximately 30 students live in each house; and some have faculty apartments adjoining them. Every house has a kitchenette, living room, and a house chairperson. Any house related problem should be taken to one's house chairperson, or to the Student Services Office.

Commons

First floor houses the Health Services Office, T.V. Room, the Post Office, Snack Bar, Laundry Room, Weight Room, Key Room, and Commons Lounge. Second floor houses the Dining Rooms and Kitchen area, and Switchboard. Psychological Counseling is in Common's West in the North Suites of the second floor. Third floor is Gunnar Schonbeck's Studio as well as the dance studio.



CAMPUS MAP

The Barn

Houses most of the College's administrative offices, such as the President's Office, Offices of the Dean of Faculty and Dean of Studies, Student Services, Student Placement (otherwise known as the Field Work Term office), Financial Aid, Business Office, etc. Upstairs one can find the Social Science and Literature and Languages Divisions. Faculty Offices, Division Secretaries, and classrooms are marked on the Directory. The East Wing houses the College Bookstore and the West Wing contains "Barn 1," location of many lectures, readings and faculty meetings.

Dickinson

Home of the Science Division and all their elaborate paraphernalia. Classrooms, public and private laboratories, and the computer room are all here along with Psychology, Science and Mathematics faculty offices and secretaries.

Tishman

The big wooden box-like structure next to Dickinson is the center of activity on Tuesday and Saturday nights when famous films are shown for free. Also community meetings and the majority of lectures are held here.

V.A.P.A. (Visual Arts/Performing Arts Center)

VAPA, an ample or perhaps awesome structure, houses the Visual Arts and the Dance and Drama Divisions. There are also teaching studios here as well as private student and faculty studios, dark rooms, the Scene Shop, the Sculpture Studio, Faculty and Division Offices for the above mentioned, along with the Usdan Gallery and the Dance, Drama and Music performance spaces. (Bring a roll of string to find your way out.)

Jennings Hall

Houses most of the staff and faculty of the Music Division. It is also the location of the Music Library, faculty studios, and numerous practice rooms (some with pianos and some without).

Music Library Hours:

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Evenings Monday, Tues-

Monday, Tues-

day & Thursday 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The Music Library is closed during all scheduled concerts.

The Crossett Library

The Crossett Library provides over 100,000 books and bound periodicals which support the College curriculum. The library features microprint, art slides, online computer and an inter-library loan system. Music scores and records are available in the Jennings Hall Music Library. (See above.)

Regular Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - Midnight Friday 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday Noon - 10 p.m. Sunday Noon - Midnight

All-Night Study Rooms

Open after regular library hours, these rooms are located on the library's top floor and are accessible by outside stairs on the side nearest the Parn.

Maintenance

The Director of the Physical Plant is responsible for keeping all buildings and grounds in good condition and is located on the east side of Campus, southeast of Library. The Maintenance Plant houses a plumbing shop, an electrical shop, a carpentry shop, a paint shop, the grounds department, and four large boilers which keep the buildings warm and supplied with hot water. The cleaning of student houses and other public rooms is the responsibility of the Head Housekeeper.

Motor vehicles are registered at the Maintenance Office. Students may lock up their motorcycles, mopeds, and bicycles at the Maintenance Plant. Items for shipment by UPS and Greyhound may be brought to the Maintenance Plant, which is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. (See Shipping for more information.)

Campus Security

The function of the Bennington College Security force is to insure the personal safety of community members and to protect the campus property twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week. It is the responsibility of the Chief of Security to maintain all campus rules and regulations prescribed by the Administration and the Safety Committee.

Note: In the event of any emergency or any potentially hazardous situation, it is imperative to notify Security immediately. Dial Operator or 235.

Early Childhood Center

The Early Childhood Center is an integral part of the work in the early childhood studies, serving both the College and the community. The Center offers four programs: a half-day nursery, an all day care program, a pre-Kindergarten, and a Kindergarten. Children range in age from two to six years. The teachers are assisted by College students in the implementation of the Center's philosophy and programs.

The Bookstore

The Bookstore, located in the Barn, is independently owned and operated and carries required textbooks, special interest

books, newspapers, art supplies, canvas, photo supplies as well as emergency items such as toothpaste, aspirin, etc. They special order books and are always pleased to consult with students about supplies. The Bookstore does not have a "charge home" policy, but they do accept Master Charge and Visa, personal checks, travellers checks and cash. Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Laundry Room

The Laundry Room, located in Commons on the first floor past the Snack Bar, is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It contains an assortment of 30-minute washers (60¢) and a 50-minute dryers (60¢). The Laundry Room has a vending machine with detergent and softeners available. Do not leave your clothing unattended in washers and dryers.

Snack Bar

The Snack Bar serves burgers, fries, shakes and tuna fish, as well as bagels, homemade muffins and other inexpensive favorites. The Snack Bar is located on the first floor of Commons. Hours are posted at the beginning of every term and in College Week.

Dining Rooms

There are five dining areas, all located on the second floor of Commons. The meals are cafeteria style. The College takes special pride in its vegetarian program, particularly in the extensive salad bar.

Certain dining areas may be reserved for meetings during meal hours by consulting with the food service secretary. (The new dining room has modules near the west windows which may also be used for reserving meeting space).

It is necessary for students to bring their I.D. cards with them when eating. At the beginning of each term, each student will receive a colored sticker to show whether or not he/she has paid for eating in the dining rooms.

Also, State Law: No Bare Feet in the Cafeteria!

Meal contracts are mandatory for students living on campus. Off-campus students may purchase meals individually, or on a full or partial contract. Guests are welcome but they must have a meal ticket or pay full price. Inquire at either the Business Office or at the Food Service Office for more information.

Hours: Monday - Friday

 Breakfast:
 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

 Lunch:
 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

 Dinner:
 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday

Continental Breakfast: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Brunch: 11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Dinner: 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

(Sundays)5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Post Office

The Post Office is located in the west end of Commons on the ground floor. Each student and faculty member has a mailbox. Messages to administrators may be given to the postmistress who will forward them in the daily intercampus mail. The post office sells stamps and postal cards. Because it is a genuine federal post office substation, the post office is able to handle money orders, to certify and register mail, as well as to send items by parcel post.

Hours: Monday - Friday Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon

The Switchboard

The Switchboard, located on the second floor of Commons, receives incoming calls for students until 5:00 p.m. each evening. Incoming collect calls for students are not accepted. From 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. the following morning, Security answers all incoming calls. Campus calls may be dialed directly through the inter-campus phone system which connects all on-campus houses, offices and buildings. A directory is published each term listing student, faculty and administrators' extensions. Off-campus telephone calls, including toll and collect calls made by students are made on pay telephones. These phones are located on the first floor of every student house, in Commons, the Barn, V.A.P.A., Dickinson, and Jennings. No collect calls can be accepted on a pay phone. A deposit of \$20.00 is left with the Switchboard Operator before placing any international phone calls.

There is a bulletin board across from the Post Office station where topical announcements of genuine social value may be posted, after being initialed by the Postmistress. Announcements not initialed will be taken down, no matter how funny they are!

ACADEMIC POLICIES, PROCEDURES, & SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Divisional Expectations

Dance

Before Tentative Plan: The prospective major is expected to have completed four courses in dance. Three of these courses should include study in composition. It is recommended that the student also show a composition in workshop before applying to the Division.

Tentative Plan: The plan should emphasize work in composition and performance, with supporting work in design, music, or improvisation. Majors should plan to spend at least half their time in dance. The major is required to complete an independent project during three of the last four terms. The major takes five technique classes a week and participates in other student works.

Confirmation of Plan: Approved on successful completion of work to date as previously specified. The Confirmation of Plan also allows for a more detailed planning of the final year.

Requirements for Degree: Successful completion of work.

Drama

Before Tentative Plan: The prospective major in drama will normally have taken five courses in the field. The minimum requirement is four courses. Work in the reading

and analysis of plays, and Stagecraft is required. Studio work in acting, design, or playwriting is taken by students interested in specializing in these areas. Each student takes one term's work in the Research, Rehearsal and Production course during the second year.

Tentative Plan: The plan should include courses in the student's area of specialty which might for example be acting, design, playwriting, dramatic criticism, or directing. The plan should emphasize work in performance. Majors should plan to spend at least half their time in the field. The student must have demonstrated ability in their area of specialization, as well as willingness to cooperate effectively in group undertakings.

Confirmation of Plan: The student should present a statement explaining his senior project, required in all areas with the exception of acting. In some instances a special composite of the final two years' work in drama may eliminate the necessity for the senior project. The project must demonstrate a sound knowledge of theatre process.

Requirements for Degree: Successful completion of program and project.

Literature and Languages

Before Tentative Plan: The usual requirements are two courses of introductory literature, and at least two other courses in literature. Those contemplating a major project in creative writing, and others interested, should take work in prose or verse writing. Those preparing for work in a foreign language should follow the program suggested below. The general requirements are demonstrated ability in all work in the field to maintain a vigorous, self-reliant approach, and to read with discrimination, to analyze in detail and to write clearly and forcefully.

Tentative Plan: The plan should include a projected program for the next four terms' work and an indication of the kind of major project anticipated.

Confirmation of Plan: The request for the Confirmation of Plan should include a detailed description of the student's proposed project, creative or critical, or both. If the project is to be creative, samples of work must be submitted to the Division Secretary for approval by an ad hoc committee of the literature faculty. If critical, the project may take the form of one long or several short essays, depending on the best judgment of the student's counselor and the division.

Language Studies Major: The division offers language students broad possibilities for majoring in foreign languages. Language students may, of course, major in literature with emphasis on a specific language. They may also, however, include courses in fields related to the major language, thus constituting a language studies major. This major includes studies in linguistic skill and literary criticism in one foreign language as well as courses of a more general cultural character, such as philosophy, history, anthropology, etc. A second language may be substituted for any of the latter.

As the curriculum is equipped to serve some languages better than others, interested students should contact language instructors in order to plan programs. In addition, various possibilities of study abroad augment college offerings. The senior project may be a translation or a critical essay of a literary or cultural nature, written in the foreign language or in English. In case the course of study clearly combines languages with a field outside the Literature and Languages Division, it should be regarded as an Interdivisional Major.

Requirements for Degree: Successful completion of the work undertaken, a demonstration of efficiency in the use of language as a craft, and familiarity with a significant body of literature.



Music

Before Tentative Plan: The music division offers courses in original composition, instrumental and ensemble performance, and Black Music. All students intending to major in the division should acquire a basic knowledge of music theory and performance, even those whose primary interest is Aesthetics and Criticism. Such knowledge may be acquired through Introduction to Music or various tutorials. Students intending to concentrate their studies in Black Music are required to take the courses Introduction to Black Music and Black Music II as well as engaging in both harmony in rhythmic studies.

Tentative Plan: The Tentative Plan should outline the student's program for advanced work in the third and fourth year and indicate whether the advanced studies will emphasize composing, performance, conducting or aspects of Black Music. The senior project should be described in as much detail as possible at this time. Students emphasizing composition should include a substantial amount of performance in their project and students emphasizing performance should include some original compositions as part of their senior project. Students emphasizing Black Music will devote a substantial portion of their senior project to work out of the literature (Ellington, Coltrane, etc.) either in performance or in analysis.

Confirmation of Plan: Granted on successful completion of work to date as previously specified, and on the approval of a final plan in the event that it differs from the plan already submitted.

Requirements for Degree: Successful completion of coursework and senior project.

Science

A student may choose a field of greatest emphasis from one of the following: Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences (Chemistry and Physics), and Mathematics (including Computers). Ordinarily the student will select a supporting field from within the division. In some cases, a supporting field outside the division might be pertinent, e.g. psychology, anthropology, architecture, music or art.

Before Tentative Plan: A student considering major study with the division should consult with a member of the division appropriate to the field of emphasis. In general, by the time the Tentative Plan is submitted, at least four courses in the field of greatest emphasis and two courses in a supporting field should have been completed or be nearing completion. It is expected that the student's work to that point will have shown promise of ability to undertake more advance work credibly.

Tentative Plan: The Tentative Plan will be developed by the student in consultation with members of the division in the fields of emphasis. A total of at least 16 courses, deemed appropriate by the division is expected during the four years of college.

Confirmation of Plan: Granted upon successful completion of work to date.

Requirements for Degree: Recommendation for the degree depends on successful completion of work taken in the division, as designated in the confirmation of plan.

Social Science

The Social Science Division includes the disciplines of anthropology, early childhood studies, economics, history, philosophy, politics, and psychology. Each discipline has its special techniques and procedures which serve to shape investigation. At the same time, the division is committed to graduating students whose competence is not restricted by narrow disciplinary categories. In collaboration with faculty members, students design their own programs in keeping with their interests and capabilities.

Successful completion of a major in Social Science includes work on the advanced level involving serious engagement with two or more perspectives and a senior project or thesis. The expectation of a multifocal perspective may be achieved either through work in two disciplines or through a program orientated toward a theme, a problem, or issues that require an interdisciplinary approach. As a general rule, the Division expects students doing their major in Social Science to take approximately half of their courses and tutorials within the Division. However, in some cases work in a second field outside of Social Science may be accepted in fulfillment of this expectation. All majors are expected to complete satisfactorily one term of either "Work in Society" or "From Hobbes to Marx" prior to the acceptance of their Plans; waivers of this expectation may be requested by transfer students.

The Tentative Plan: The Tentative Plan is a statement of the student's total academic program, including the projected program for work at the advanced level within the Division. In drafting the Tentative Plan, a student should seek the advice of faculty members in the areas of principal interests. The plan forms include two sets of signatures for Division members from the fields involved, one which indicates they have reviewed the Plan and the other indicating approval of the Plan. It is understood that visiting and new faculty may sign Plans only after they have consulted with an experienced faculty member in the field or in the nearest appropriate field. The student submits the Tentative Plan to the Division's Plan Committee which reports its recommendation to the Division for approval or disapproval.

The Tentative Plan is first of all a plan about the projected completion of a student's education at Bennington College. But the Tentative Plan also provides an opportunity for students to assess the meaning of their education from a broader perspective. Since we are a liberal arts college, devoted to the idea that a meaningful education is that which is shaped by the individual we do not prescribe a mechanical list of requirements, but rather offer guidelines for students. This requires students to arrive at organizing principles for their education which reflect more than career goals. Students must be able to articulate these principles through the written statement and to acknowledge what previous courses have or have not contributed to the present state of their education. Our request for work in two or more perspectives within the division is meant to foster an openness to inquiry while also providing students with the skills that come from in depth study within disciplines. We grant that we are outlining in ideal terms how the Tentative Plan should be conceptualized, but present this ideal so that we may assess the degree to which a Tentative Plan achieves or fails to achieve this goal.

The Tentative Plan should be submitted to the Plans Committee by long weekend of the student's fourth term of study. It will be evaluated according to two major critera:

- 1. The quality of work completed should be better than satisfactory in the fields in which the student proposes to study.
- 2. The kinds of courses taken should support work in the fields projected and should indicate readiness to pursue work at an advanced level.

A note on the status of interdisciplinary Social Science courses vis-a-vis the two field major: first, such courses at the introductory level (Work in Society, or From Hobbes to Marx) are considered simply Social Science courses; secondly, in all interdisciplinary courses beyond the introductory level a student is allowed to consider his/her completion to demonstrate satisfactory work in any one of the disciplines represented by the instructors for the course, but for no more terms than the course lasted.

Confirmation of Plan: The Confirmation of Plan is a statement of the student's program of study, including projected course work and a concise statement of the senior project or thesis. It should indicate how well the Plan is serving the individual's education.

The Confirmation of Plan should be submitted to Plans Committee by Long Weekend of the student's sixth term of study.

The Plans Committee will invite a student to meet with them when there is any question about the student's plan. A student whose plan is not approved by the Division may request a meeting with the division to make a case for the plan and may be present at the discussion but leave when the vote is to be taken.

Requirements for Degree: Successful completion of the program outlined above and of the thesis or senior project.



Visual Arts

Before Tentative Plan: Normally the prospective major in art will take Introduction to Studio Art (consisting of one term in 3-Dimensional studios, one term in 2-Dimensional studios) during the first year, and four courses in art in the second year.

Tentative Plan: At the time the student submits this plan (which contains, in addition to the basic courses and distribution requirements, a written account of the educational experiences of the past as well as those envisioned for the future) to the division, ability must have been demonstrated in at least two media.

The plan should include at least a year's study of art history or criticism (if the student has not taken such a course in the first two years) and continued work in two or more studios in the third year.

Confirmation of Plan: The Confirmation of Plan indicates courses to be taken in the fourth year, and outlines work projects in two or more areas; this work is viewed by the community in the June Senior Exhibition.

Requirements for Degree: Successful completion of the project undertaken in the advanced program.

INTERDIVISIONAL MAJOR

Following are the procedures for submission of Interdivisional Plans:

a. A student wishing to major in two major fields which



are taught by two different divisions should discuss the plan and what constitutes advanced work in each field with the pertinent faculty members. The standard for approval is an ability to perform at an advanced level in each field; approval of the plan by a faculty member implies willingness to supervise the plan, including a senior project, through graduation.

b. Four faculty sponsors are required for an interdivisional plan: two from each division in which the student proposes to major. These plan sponsors constitute an **ad hoc** committee to supervise the work through graduation. All Interdivisional Plans are reviewed by a panel of the Educational Counseling Committee with the four plan sponsors in attendance. This meeting is often the only occasion when all of any given plan's faculty sponsors convene to discuss the proposal's merits and the appropriateness of the program for the student, and so full advantage should be taken of the opportunity. In some ways this meeting parallels the function of a divisional meeting at which Plans for work in only one division are considered.

c. An Interdivisional Major carries with it the expectation of the completion of two senior projects, of a term's duration, one for each area of the major. The quantity of work presented for each should be approximately one-half that expected of students majoring solely in either division. Thus the project requirement, overall, is meant to be the quantitative equivalent of a divisional project, and not in any sense to represent the equivalent of a "double major."

In case of interdisciplinary work where the student's pursuits combine the two areas of concentration, a single year-long project (one quarter for each of two terms) may be proposed. In some ways this is the ideal use of an interdivisional major, particularly the context of a liberal arts education.

Projects have traditionally involved, for example, a thesis or show; but students may want to suggest other possibilities, such as the presentation of a seminar or a public lecture. The purpose in any case is to demonstrate the student's capacity to synthesize important aspects of experience in each field.

d. It is recognized that annual charges in personnel may make changes in faculty plan sponsors unavoidable between the time of the Tentative Plan and Confirmation of Plan's submission. Nonetheless, when the Confirmation of Plan comes before the Educational Counseling Committee for review, those instructors who are the first signers of the plan in their respective fields are to be the faculty consultants for the student's senior project. The second signers will serve as readers if the project is a written work.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Registration

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Near the end of each term, students must pre-register for next term's courses. To sign up for classes, the student picks up a Program Card and several Class Cards from the Registrar. After discussing the selection of classes with his counselor, the student lists the courses on the Program Card and the counselor signs the card. The student then takes a class card to each instructor and obtains a signature indicating admission to the class. Both Program Card and Class Cards are then returned to the Registrar before the end of the one week registration period. Inaccurate or missing cards can seriously jeopardize gaining credit for classes attended.

Counseling

Academic counseling is considered an integral part of the Bennington education. Each student meets regularly, often weekly, with a faculty member to discuss courses, future academic plans, issues concerning the Field Work Term, every day problems, difficulties with a particular paper or project — in short, anything of interest or importance to the student. The counselor provides information about college policy as well as personal advice about academic planning. The faculty member supervising the senior thesis or project usually serves as the student's counselor. Changes in counseling assignments during the term, as well as assistance in finding the right counselor, are obtained through the Assistant to the Dean of Studies Office. Universal Counseling Hour (Wednesdays, 2-3:00) is set aside as time when students may be sure to find their counselors in their offices for brief items of business, but regular counseling sessions are usually more relaxed, and less interrupted, if they are scheduled at some other time.

CLASSES

Class Attendance

Class attendance constitutes part of the expectations for the successful completion of course work. In the event that you must miss a class, your instructor should be notified. If you are detained away from campus, notify the Student Affairs Office or the Dean of Studies Office who will explain the absence to your instructors and your counselor. If you are admitted to the infirmary, the Health Service will notify the Dean's Office.

When in the judgment of the instructor, frequent absences make it impossible for the student to meet the expectations of the course, the student will be asked to drop the course and/or make substitutions for work missed.

Dropping and Adding a Course

Within the first two weeks of the term, you may drop any course by notifying the instructor and the Registrar, and add any course by having a class card signed and returned to the Registrar. Between the third week of the term and Long Weekend, you must have an Application for Change of Program signed by the instructor(s) concerned, and by your counselor, and bring it to the Registrar. After Long Weekend, classes may be dropped only for extra-academic reasons. (For more information, see either the Dean or the Assistant to the Dean of Studies). Applications must be approved by the Dean or the Assistant.

Incompletes

There are two kinds of Incomplete grades, the TBC (To Be Completed) and the Permanent Incomplete. Such a grade is awarded only if there is a genuine medical cause for the work being incomplete. A student who requires an Incomplete must have Health Services or Psychological Counseling send a written verification to the Dean of Studies, and the instructor must receive written authorization from the Dean before awarding an Incomplete. The completed work for a TBC must be handed in by the first week of the following term or the grade will revert automatically to a NP (Not Passed). Permanent incompletes are assigned when it is impossible to complete the work, e.g. in a performance class.

Tutorials

Third and fourth year students may request an individual tutorial with a faculty member knowledgeable in a specific area not covered by the scheduled curriculum offerings and for which the student has enough background to make the tutorial feasible. The student's counselor, proposed tutor, the tutor's division and the Educational Counseling Committee must indicate their approval of the tutorial. Applications for tutorials are available in the Dean of Studies Office. A tutorial is considered a regular course in the student's total program. It is rare for a student to be granted more than two tutorials in one term.

Audits

Students wishing to audit courses must receive permission from the instructor of the class. There should be a clear understanding between the student and the instructor regarding the expectations for the auditor. Instructors may refuse requests for audit if, in their opinion, the student would not be well served by auditing the course.

Extras

Extras, for which no credit will be given, are taken as an adjunct to a full course, such as dance technique within a dance course. Students taking an extra must receive permission from the instructor and are expected to attend class regularly.

Course Credit

Student programs normally consist of four courses each term. While Bennington does not have a course credit system, each course is assigned four hours credit when a transcript is sent to other institutions.

A program of thirds or halves may be elected by a student with the approval of the Educational Counseling Committee if a need for extended work in an area can be demonstrated. This program is not recommended for thesis work or for freshmen.

Mid-Term and Final Reports

Comments are written by instructors for each student in every course at mid-term and at the end of the term. The content of these comments is extensive enough to serve the needs of the students and the Educational Counseling committee, as well as for institutions who need final reports for student transcripts. The only ratings which appear on an

instructor's final report are Passing, Not Passing, To Be Completed, and Permanent Incomplete.

Counselor Report

At the end of each term, the counselor submits a report to the Dean of Studies Office on each counselee. The counselor's comment summarizes the student's educational experience of the term and covers such concerns as the status of the student's program planning, recommendations for future work and evaluation of the student's FWT experience. It also serves to alert the Dean of Studies Office to any problems which might interfere with the student's academic progress.

Educational Counseling Committee

The ECC is a body of eighteen faculty members, representing all divisions, appointed by the Dean of the Faculty in consultation with the Dean of Studies. It is divided into panels of three members each. While the ECC has final authority in all educational matters, its relationship with students is not an adversary one, but rather is intended to encourage dialogue and individual solutions to problems. The ECC is most active in considering a student's plans and in reviewing the progress of students on academic probation. A student may appeal any decision of an ECC panel to the whole ECC.

Educational Counseling Committee Review

The Dean of Studies Office reviews each student's work at the end of the term, and the Educational Counseling Committee may review the records of those students with questionable programs or marginal work. The counselor is normally present when one of his/her counselees is being reviewed by the committee.

Academic Difficulties

A student finding him/herself with academic difficulties in any course should discuss this matter with the instructor on the earliest occasion. The student should also inform the counselor of any such academic problems.

Academic Probation

When the quality of a student's work falls below that required by the standards of the College and thereby makes successful completion of studies uncertain, the student is informed in a letter from the Dean of Studies that he/she is on academic probation. Probation usually results when the student passes two or fewer courses in a term, or does not have a Plan approved on time. It means two things: that the student's counselor and the Dean's Office are signaled to give the student whatever extra help and support are needed; and that the Educational Counseling Committee will review the student's work at the end of the probationary term and make further recommendations. Generally, a student is counseled out after two consecutive terms on probation. Parents are notified when the student is placed on probation.

Leaves of Absence

Leaves of Absence are handled through the Dean of Studies

Office. A leave will normally be approved for any student past the freshmen year who finishes the term in good academic standing and who applies for the leave before the end of the term. Medical leaves require a supporting letter from a doctor. If a leave cannot be approved, the student may withdraw, and later apply for readmission.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism means passing off as one's own work the work of others. This practice is clearly contrary to the educational philosophy and aims of Bennington College. Some students enter college with no sense of the intellectual and moral implications of plagiarism; some, for instance, erroneously think a bibliography at the end of a paper is adequate acknowledgement for any degree of indebtedness and justifies paraphrasing or copying of material. Students who are in doubt about the nature and implications of plagiarism should discuss the problem with their instructors and counselors.

Whenever plagiarism is discovered or suspected, the instructor speaks to the student, and unless satisfied that the suspicion is unfounded, discusses the case at an ad hoc committee meeting with the counselor and the Dean of Studies. It is within the instructor's purview to determine the degree of punishment, from admonition and warning to expulsion from and/or failure in a course. However, the ad hoc committee may decide that the case warrants more serious action and refer it to a panel of the Educational Policies Committee which will act on behalf of the faculty and make a recommendation to the President. A record of cases reported and actions taken will be kept by the Dean of Studies.

PROGRAM PLANNING

Tentative Plan

Before the end of the second year students are asked to submit a Tentative Plan for advanced work during the final two years. The plan, prepared in consultation with the student's faculty counselor, reviews the student's education during the first two years and indicated the focus of study to be undertaken in a single major area. The major area can be confined to disciplines within a single division or can cross divisional lines. A Tentative plan will also include projected tutorials designed to explore subject areas not covered in regular course offerings. Students who intend to study abroad or at other institutions for a period of time will define such intentions in their plan. In effect, a Tentative Plan comprises a review of past study, a statement of educational purpose and a list of proposed courses of study.

If the faculty of the division in which the student hopes to major accepts the plan, it is then considered by the Dean of Studies and the Educational Counseling Committee. Approval by the Dean and the ECC is assurance that the student is considered ready for advanced work in the major field and outside it, on the condition that the quality of work does not deteriorate. If the plan is rejected by the division and/or the ECC, it may indicate that the student is not considered capable of doing advanced work, and may

warrant further time for the student to qualify for work in an intended major field, or in another discipline. In such cases, the student will be informed of the reasons for the deferral. The ECC, in deferring a plan, expresses some doubt about a student's ability to work on an advanced level, and the student may return at the possible risk of being asked to spend more time than usual in earning the degree, or of once again failing to gain acceptance of a Tentative Plan.

Confirmation of Plan

During the latter part of the third year, students prepare a request for Confirmation of Plan in which they outline courses, tutorials, and senior projects or thesis proposals. Senior projects or theses are substantial pieces of independent work developed with the guidance of appropriate faculty members. The Confirmation of Plan is submitted to the ECC in much the same way as the Tentative Plan, and if satisfactorily carried out, is regarded as fulfillment of the requirements for the bachelor's degree.

Change of Plan

A student who wishes to make any changes in the plan after either of the above have been approved must submit an Amendment to Plan form to the division of the major field of consideration, to the Dean of Studies and to the ECC.

Degree Requirements

The basic requirements for graduation is that the student has completed a liberal education, including familiarity with a broad range of subjects, solid competence in a few, and extensive knowledge of one or two.

The following are the College-wide degree requirements currently in effect:

- 1. Every student must do passing work of at least one term's duration in four different divisions of the College during his/her first two years.
- 2. Every student beyond the first year must take at least one year's passing work beyond the introductory level in each of three different disciplines, no more than two of which may fall within one division of the College.
- 3. No student is permitted to undertake more than 22 quarters in a single division.
- 4. Every student must complete a successful FWT for each year in residence. Exceptions must be approved by the Dean of Studies and the ECC.

Transfers

Bennington does not automatically assign transfer student's status as freshmen, sophomores or juniors, but considers them to be entering students without defined class ranking. The transfer student's standing and therefore prospective graduation date are determined by the Educational Counseling Committee after the student has spent a period of time here, usually during their second term and in conjunction with a Tentative Plan for advanced work.

Transfer Credits

These are evaluated by the ECC as part of your Tentative

Plan or Confirmation of Plan, and transcripts of the work done elsewhere must be on file. Credit depends, not only on the number of courses and your performance in them, but also on the level of your work at Bennington, and on the relevance of the courses to your total program.

Leaves of Absence

A student who wishes to leave Bennington to complete a plan of study outside the College, and whose plan has been approved by the Educational Counseling Committee, is assured of a place in the College upon return after completion of the leave. Requests for leave should be written to the Dean of Studies Office on a leave/withdrawal form indicating the reasons for requesting a leave, the length of time to be spent away, and what the student intends to do during that time. The Dean's Office, acting in conjunction with the ECC and, when appropriate, the Health Service, will consider the request and inform the student of any expectations or conditions to be met prior to re-entry. The deadline for requesting a leave appears on the Schedule for Reports and Program Planning issued by the Registrar each term.

Withdrawal

Any student who withdraws under other circumstances than those described above and wishes to return must apply for re-admission in competition with entering students. It is important that the student who plans to withdraw, whether temporarily or permanently, inform the Dean of Studies, in writing, as soon as plans are solidified. Students will be required to complete a Withdrawal Questionnaire.

Study in Absentia

A student who has an interest in studying abroad or at another college is advised to begin planning well in advance, and should consult with the appropriate language instructor and a faculty member of the division of the student's major in order to plan a program of study which will meet divisional expectations. It is worthwhile to investigate the Bennington Abroad programs. The Dean of Studies Office, the Division Offices and the Library have further information.

Completion of Work in Absentia

Completing degree requirements while studying in absentia during the senior year is in most cases academically unwise, and the general rule of the College is that the senior year must be completed in residence. Only in exceptional cases may a student who needs no more than two terms for graduation be permitted to fulfill degree requirements in absentia.

Applications for such permission should be incorporated in the student's request for Confirmation of Plan, or in an amendment to it, stating why the student cannot continue at Bennington and describing in detail what remains to be carried out under Bennington direction, such as the senior project, and the course of studies proposed elsewhere.

Permission will be granted if the application is approved by the student's major division and the Educational Counseling Committee. The applicant must satisfy the division and the committee of his/her capacity for independent work on an advanced level, and that the program elsewhere will have educational value equivalent to what the student would be receiving at Bennington.

If permission is granted, a counselor will be appointed to represent the division and the College in further communication with the student, to provide guidance and to certify completion of the agreed program to the division and the ECC. There is a fee for this service. If any part of the work, such as the senior project, is being done under the supervision of the counselor, an additional fee will be charged.

Early Graduation

Normally the work for the degree is completed in four years of full-time study. If a student wishes to qualify for graduation in less than eight terms of full-time study, this, too, should be incorporated into the Tentative Plan. If the proposal is accepted by the divisional faculty of the student's major, the student can request review by the ECC who will consider the plan in light of the following criteria:

- 1. The amount of work necessary to meet the College's standards for general education, as well as competence in a major, is to be fully equivalent to that achieved during a normal eight term period.
- 2. The quality of work in the major field must be distinguished, and advanced work outside the field must be above average.
- 3. The divisional faculty will make the determination if the quality of work in the major will meet the divisional expectations as planned; and secondly, whether the quality of the major work to date is distinguished and promises to continue to be so.

Transcripts

A Bennington transcript consists of a summary sheet listing your courses and final marks (P, NP, Perm. Inc.); course descriptions, instructors' final comments, FWT placements, and through 1983, counselors' comments on FWT jobs. Transcripts must be requested in writing. While there is no charge for the first request, there is a \$3.00 charge for all additional transcripts. Transcripts will not be released if the student has any outstanding debts to the College.

Note: Bennington College does not rank its students, nor does it offer any honors programs.

Educational Privacy Act

All information about a student's academic progress and current status as well as all the documents submitted as part of the admissions procedure with the exception of financial aid documents is kept in the student's cumulative folder in the Dean of Studies Office. Any student may look at his/her folder (with the exception of documents received before January 1, 1975) in the Dean of Studies Office.

The College will continue to deny access to any and all third parties requesting information as the law requires unless the student signs a release permitting access to specific pieces of information.

Directory information such as name, home address, date of birth, previous educational institutions attended, dates of attendance at Bennington College, graduation dates and degree received, will be released to outside parties unless this office informed each term within ten days of registration that such information should not be released without consent.

Policies on Research and Questionnaires

Any research projects involving Bennington students as subjects must be approved beforehand with the instructor involved and with the Dean of Studies. Any individual or group wishing to engage in off campus activities related to the college, such as field work, surveys or organizing, must first consult the Dean of Studies. No questionnaires are to be distributed by outsiders to the College community without the approval of the Dean of Studies.



Field Work Term

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The Field Work Term (FWT) is an eight week non-resident work period extending from the beginning of January to the end of February. Students leave campus in order to work in fields in which they may be interested. It is viewed as a chance for students to amplify their academic studies and to refine the choices they may ultimately make about a career. The FWT provides students with the opportunity to gain experience and grow through challenges encountered in professional work settings.

For first and second year students, whose academic aims and skills may be undefined, the FWT program is designed to complement and support the academic program and to help clarify or confirm a prospective major interest. Special efforts are made to help third and fourth year students find work which will directly relate to their major interests. Successful completion of an FWT consists of a minimum of 30 hours work per week for eight weeks each year a student is in residence at Bennington. Four successfully completed FWT's are required for graduation, except for those students who enter as transfers or take leaves. The FWT is an integral part of the academic program and is considered Bennington's "third term." In either the junior or senior year (but not both), in lieu of employment, a student may request approval for an independent study project. Applications for independent study are carefully reviewed and must have the support of the project's sponsor, the faculty counselor and the FWT Staff. After completion of the work, the student is required to write a brief evaluation of the winter experience. This paper, coupled with the employer's evaluation, is reviewed by the FWT Staff and the student's faculty counselor who comments on the appropriateness of the activity in relation to the academic plan. All these reports, including the final approval, form part of the student's cumulative academic record. FWT experiences and evaluations may be used for graduate school applications and future employment references.

Bennington Abroad Programs

Students at the College who are interested in study abroad may elect to participate in a Bennington Abroad Program. A student joins a Bennington College faculty member and other instructors for a term of study abroad after consulting with the counselor and the Educational Counseling Committee. Locations vary from term to term according to the interests of individual faculty and students, but at the present time there are two regularly offered abroad programs: the Paris Program, which is designed mainly for students of literature and art, and the London Program, which is designed mainly for students in drama. The programs run during alternate fall terms.

Graduate Programs

The general aim of the Master of Fine Arts program at Bennington College is to prepare students for a professional career in the arts. The emphasis in the program is on individual work done under the guidance of experienced practitioners in the field. The programs are small to allow for flexibility in developing a course of study that is suited to the student's own proficiencies and needs. Graduate instruction if offered in the divisions of Dance, Drama, Music and Visual Arts. Degree requirements include four semesters of study, of which summer workshops, study abroad and independent winter projects may be a part. Following the first term, each student must submit a plan describing the general nature of the intended master's project and work to be accomplished.

There is also a special Master of Fine Arts Program in Prose Fiction and Poetry. The program is primarily non-resident although it requires two July residencies and a two week winter session.

STUDENT GOVERNANCE

It is generally agreed that the student houses, of which there are fifteen on campus and three off campus, are the most vital political units in the community life of the College; for it is here that students live, and it is here that the issues of most direct concern to students are discussed, debated and voted upon in house meetings.

House Chairperson

House Chairpersons at Bennington are staff members of Student Services and are elected by their House for a term. Each Chairperson arranges the agenda, schedules house meetings, presides over them and has the ongoing daily responsibility of making sure that life in the houses proceeds smoothly and in good spirit. They act as resource people and as catalysts who help students consider the broader interests of the College.

House Chairpersons meet once a week to discuss common programs, problems and concerns. Each spring the body elects a Chairperson of House Chairpersons to serve for one year beginning the following term. This person, like the President of Student Council and the Chairperson of SEPC, often is called upon to act as spokesperson for student concerns.

Responsibilities, Rights and Authority of House Chairs

- 1. To be the Head of the House.
- 2. To meet as a group with the Student Services Staff on a weekly basis.
- 3. To see that House rules are passed, understood and followed.
- 4. To develop House "spirit."
- 5. To be available to house members to arbitrate disagreements, help with problems or get students to appropriate faculty or administrators for solutions.
- 6. To have basic skills in first aid.
- 7. To work through Security to solve problems that arise or, if possible, to head off potential problems.
- 8. To act as liaison on any maintenance problems and to help the maids if difficulties arise in their department.
- 9. To work on in-house recreation and leisure time activities.
- 10. To act as the official link between students and administration.
- 11. To make sure a Fire Marshall is elected or appointed for each house.
- 12. To serve on the Orentation Committee.
- 13. To alert the Student Services Office to any potential problems and/or consult with the Counseling Service on solutions.
- 14. To provide the Housing Office with a concise and clear list of House rules and a description of the "character" of the House.
- 15. To conduct the in-house room selection and supply the Housing Office with the results promptly.
- 16. To report any absences of more than three days of any students who voluntarily withdraw.
- 17. To advise the Student Services Office on matters relating to community life.

- 18. To be willing to take part in an intensive three-day training workshop before the beginning of Fall term, if necessary.
- 19. To appoint a Housing Committee. (See Student Council Standing Committees for description)

Academic Council

The Academic Council considers all questions of educational policy, reviews the curricula of divisions, and approves all new faculty positions or reallocations.

The Council consists of 7 faculty members elected by the faculty to 3-year staggered terms, 3 students elected by the students to 1-year staggered terms, and the President, who chairs the Council, and the Dean of Faculty and Dean of Studies who serve ex-officio. Any faculty member who has entered at least his third year of service will be eligible for election. Only students who have had a tentative plan accepted in the college are eligible to serve on academic council. Members of the Council can be recalled by a two-thirds written vote of the members of their respective constituents. In the event of a recall new elections will be held.

A budget subcommittee, composed of three faculty members and the Dean of Faculty will have access to the data regarding the financial condition of the college, excepting information which would infringe upon personal privacy. The budget subcommittee reviews both administrative and educational expenses. The subcommittee also reviews and formulates salary policy. This subcommittee presents budget recommendations to the entire Council, and reviews this material with the Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees.

Student Educational Policies Committee

The functions of the SEPC are to: (1) ascertain, consider and communicate student views and recommendations concerning general and divisional educational policy at Bennington; (2) ascertain, consider and communicate student views and recommendations concerning individual courses; and (3) assist the Faculty Personnel Committee in reappointment procedures.

The SEPC is composed of 18 students, two representatives from each division (except Literature and Language which elects an additional member for Languages), who are elected by the student majors and prospective majors in that division; an additional member is appointed by the Student Council. The SEPC elects a chairman who serves on the Academic Council. Divisional representatives usually attend division meetings, except when student plans or performance, or final personnel decisions, are being considered.

The following procedures are designed to help fulfill the SEPC functions:

 Views expressed concerning specifically divisional matters are considered by the two student representatives for that particular division and brought before the division during the term. The two student representatives arrange to confer with faculty members of that division, and record significant issues and recommendations as a memorandum of that conference. Student views concerning matters of general educational policy are considered by the entire SEPC, and significant issues and recommendations are brought before the Academic Council.

2. To investigate and communicate student views concerning problems and needs in individual courses, each class elects a student to represent it. The student representative serves as a liaison between the students and instructor of that class, and twice each term, after consulting the instructor, moderates a class discussion of the course. Directing the discussion along evaluative and constructive lines, the student may ask for opinions or raise questions concerning subject matter for the course, materials, methods and assignments. A report of this discussion, written by the student representative and approved by the class, is presented to the instructor, and copies are submitted to the two SEPC representatives for the appropriate division.

Coffee Hour and House Meetings

The fifteen campus houses form the vital and active political units within the community life of the College. Issues of direct concern to students can most effectively be discussed and voted upon in house meetings, generally held every Sunday at Coffee Hour.

Lead by the house chairperson, Coffee Hour is an informal gathering in each house. The idea originally arose because only two meals are served on Sundays, making virtually everyone ravenous by 10:00 p.m. Each house develops a system of assigning the task of preparing the Coffee Hour food to different students each week. Coffee Hour is the time for students to discuss house and campus activities, use of living space, excess noise and to vote on Student Council affairs.

Student Council

The Student Council is composed of members elected each term by each of the houses, plus an off-campus representative. Representatives concern themselves with issues of community life and make recommendations about administrative policy. The Council's weekly meetings are open to all interested members of the community.

The president and vice-president of Student Council are elected each term in a campus-wide election.

Student Council has the following broad responsibilities and rights:

- 1. Inquiring and deliberating upon all matters of community life arising within the council or presented to it for consideration by other groups.
- 2. Referring such matters, with or without recommendation, to student houses for balloting and deliberation whenever appropriate.
- 3. Consolidating and publicizing the results of elections and votes held in the houses or in the entire community.
- 4. Executing the regulations and conducting the business of the student electorate, employing whatever means necessary and proper within the provisions of the

- Constitution.
- Creating committees to facilitate the executive and deliberative functions of the council. These committees will be headed by one member of council, elected or appointed to the position, and staffed by members of the community at large.
- 6. Calling student or community meetings to discuss issues which are judged to require public debate before deliberation in house meetings.

Student Council - Standing Committees

Judicial Committee - composed of seven students elected by Student Council at the end of each semester to serve during the following semester. The Vice President of Student Council serves as a non-voting chairperson of Judicial. The authority of the Judicial committee extends to all infractions of non-academic rules and regulations concerning student conduct and to infringement by the students of the rights or privileges of members of the College community. The authority of Judicial is limited only by the administration's legal duty to provide for the health and safety of the student population. The Judicial Committee investigates cases only when requested to do so by any member of the College community.

Housing Committee - assists the Housing Office in formulating procedures, priorities, and policy for room drawings and allocations. It acts as an appeal board in cases of dispute and/or violation of house rules. The five members, who are all campus residents, are appointed from the community by the House Chairpersons. The committee elects its own chairperson and meets as necessary.

Health Committee - works with Student Services to improve the quality of medical and psychological services on campus. Its members conduct surveys on student opinion and offers recommendations for improvements in the system. Students who have complaints have open access to the committee.

Food Committee - works with Food Service providing recommendations for the improvement of food items and management.

film Society - responsible for ordering all entertainment films, and some supplementary course films each school year. Prior to ordering these films, the Film Society distributes a questionnaire to students and faculty asking what films people are particularly interested in viewing. Two films per week are shown in Tishman Hall. They are free of charge, unless otherwise specified, and are open to the entire community.

Recreation Committee - organizes parties, dances, picnics and concerts for the community at large.

Sports Committee - coordinates athletic activities in conjunction with Student Services.

STUDENT CONSTITUTION

Article I: House Government

1. The members of each College-owned house shall elect a

- house chairperson at the end of each spring semester to serve for one year and shall elect a house delegate at the end of each semester to serve for one semester. No first term freshmen or transfer student shall be eligible to serve as a house chairperson or a house delegate.
- 2. It shall be the responsibility of the house chairperson to execute the regulations and to conduct the business of the house, employing those measures that may be necessary and proper to fulfill the responsibilities put forth in this constitution. The house chairperson shall be responsible for the orientation of the new students in the house at the beginning of each semester. The chairperson shall enforce legislation that has been passed by the residents of the house, by student government or by the community. When enforcement proves impossible, the chairperson shall report offenses to the Judiciary Committee. The chairperson shall be exempt from the financial obligations of the house, except as a member thereof.
- 3. Each house shall hold weekly meetings of all its members in order to:
 - (a) Legislate on house business,
 - (b) Deliberate and vote on matters of College policy whenever requested by Student Council or members of the house. A motion regarding College or house policy shall be passed when approved by a majority of the students in the house.

Article II: Student Government and Electorate

- 1. Individual participation is essential to effective self-government. Therefore:
 - (a) every student shall have the right of suffrage;
 - (b) every student shall have the right to nominate candidates for elective office, provided that constitutional provisions are observed in offering such nominations;
 - (c) every student shall have the right to petition the Student Council on any matter of College policy, and if 15% of the student body shall petition the Student Council in support of specific legislation, Student Council must refer the matter to a vote in the house meetings:
 - (d) in any balloting of the student body the candidate shall be elected who gets the largest number of votes;
 - (e) members of the student community shall have the right to recall officials elected or appointed by the students. A recall election shall be held whenever 15% of the appropriate constituency has petitioned for it, and an official shall be removed from office when a majority of those voting in a recall election or 1/3 of the eligible voters, whichever is larger, have voted for his/her recall.
- 2. All monies drawn from the College treasury for non-academic activities which are organized and promoted wholly or primarily by students and for student contributions to events promoted by other

- constituencies shall be considered student funds. Expenditures of such funds shall be provided for by a student budget. One month before the end of each semester there shall be a meeting of the student body to review and pass the student budget for the following semester. The Student Council is responsible for drawing up a proposed student budget and making the proposal public at least one week before the meeting of the student body. The student body meeting will follow standard town meeting procedure.
- 3. (a) The student body shall elect a President and Vice President of the Student Council at the end of each semester to serve for the following semester. Only students who have served at least one term on Student Council or the Student Educational Policies Committee shall be eligible for the office of Student Council President. Any matriculated student may be elected to serve as Vice President for the following semester.
 - (b) The President of Student Council shall preside over Student Council and student and community meetings provided for in this constitution and shall be responsible for seeing that motions passed by Student Council are carried into effect. In the absence of the Student Council President, the Vice President shall assume the duties of the Student Council President until such time as the Student Council President returns or new elections can be held. The Student Council President Shall not concurrently hold the position of Student Council representative. The Student Council Vice President shall serve concurrently as a representative-at-large but shall not cast a vote in Student Council except to break ties.
 - (c) The Student Council shall elect a treasurer and a secretary. The secretary shall not concurrently be a member of Student Council, and shall be paid from student funds.
 - (d) Student Council shall be composed of the house delegates from each College-owned house in addition to representatives of students living independently off campus. It shall be the responsibility of the house delegates to inform residents of their houses about recent Student Council decisions and to conduct house votes on matters of College policy as requested by Student Council. Questions referred to house meetings for discussion by a proper authority shall be discussed within two weeks.
 - (e) Any student living independently off campus shall be eligible to serve as off-campus Student Council representative with the exception of first term freshmen or transfer. Off-campus representatives shall be elected in a balloting of students living independently off campus conducted within the first two weeks of each semester and shall serve for one semester. Student Council shall determine each semester the number of off-campus representatives needed to provide representation proportional to that of students living in College owned housing.
 - (f) It shall be the responsibility of Student Council or its delegated committee:
 - (I) to execute expenditures of student funds as

- appropriated by the student budget;
- (II) to establish regulations governing the allocation of housing space to individual students and to arbitrate all conflicts regarding the administration of such regulations.
- (III) to conduct student elections and referenda and to publicize the results;
- (IV) to conduct such other business of the student electorate as it deems necessary and proper, with the exception of matters for which responsibility is specifically assigned to other authorities by this constitution;
- (g) Student Council shall hold meetings at least once every two weeks. All meetings will be open. Student Council may refer matters of special importance, or where general student opinion is desired to the student body. It may call for discussions of such matters in house meeting or in student or community meeting.
- (h) Student Council shall have authority to name standing and ad hoc committes to carry out its executive functions more effectively, provided that:
 - (I) in establishing such committees the Council shall elect a Council member as chairperson of the committee:
 - (II) at the discretion of the Council the remainder of the committee members may be chosen from within the Student Council or the student body, or committee membership may be open to all students or other members of the community;
 - (III) the committee so appointed shall make periodic reports to the Council;
 - (IV) the members of the committee may be subject to recall by the established process;
 - (V) Student Council shall compose a charter for each committee describing the duties of the committee and the nature and extent of authority delegated to the committee by Student Council. Committee charters shall be kept on file throughout the duration of the committee's existence and shall, in the case of standing committees, be reviewed annually by Student Council.
- (i) The Student Council shall elect a Constitutional Advisory Committee composed of five students serving one-year terms. Elections shall be held in the spring and the fall to fill those vacancies which may occur. The chairperson shall be chosen by the committee each term and shall attend all Student Council meetings in an advisory capacity. The committee shall be available to advise members of the community on constitutional provisions.
- (j) There shall be a Judicial Committee composed of seven students elected by Student Council at the end of each semester to serve during the following semester. Any student other than a first term freshman may be elected for the following semester. Voting members of the Judicial Committee shall not concurrently hold other elective positions and no student shall serve as voting member for two consecutive terms.
- (k) The Vice President of Student Council shall serve as

- a non-voting chairperson of the Judicial Committee. The chairperson shall be responsible for promulgating committee decisions and conducting any necessary communications.
- (l) The authority of the Judicial Committee shall extend to all infractions of non-academic rules and regulations governing student conduct and to infringement by students of the rights or privileges of members of the College community. The authority of the Judicial Committee in these areas shall be limited only by the administration's legal duty to provide for the health and safety of the student population.
- (m) The Judicial Committee shall investigate a case only when requested to do so by the plaintiff, by a house chairperson on the plaintiff's behalf or by a member of the faculty or administration. Five voting members of the Judicial Committee shall hear evidence and deliberate on each case. The chairperson shall excuse two members from each case prior to beginning an investigation, including any member deemed by the chairperson to have conflicting interests regarding the case.
- (n) The Judicial Committee may follow its own procedural rules, providing that fundamental concepts of process are observed. Deliberations and testimony shall be confidential. Decisions of the committee, including descriptions of any penalties imposed, shall be delivered in writing to the Student Council President and to the College President, along with any dissenting opinions. All decisions and opinions will be maintained in a Judiciary file in the Student Services Office.
- (o) The Judicial Committee may impose any penalty which it deems appropriate. Decisions of the Judicial Committee shall be binding unless appealed to the College President. Expulsions and suspensions must be appealed to the College President. Either the plaintiff(s) or the defendent(s) may appeal if violations of due process are alleged or if the penalty imposed is considered unjust.
- 4. (a) There shall be a Student Educational Policy Committee (SEPC) composed of two representatives from each division serving one year terms and one representative from Student Council serving a one semester term. One representative from each division shall be elected each fall and the other each spring. Representatives shall be elected at meetings of students majoring or planning to major in each of the divisions, such meetings to be called by the incumbent divisional representative within the first two weeks of each term. (b) The SEPC shal elect a chairperson for the coming year at the end of each spring term. No student shall be eligible for election as chairperson unless he/she had served at least one term as a divisional representative. The chairperson shall not concurrently hold the position of divisional representative and may vote only to break ties.
 - (c) It shall be the responsibility of the SEPC to evaluate and to stimulate the evaluation of the educational aims

- and policies of the College and its divisions and to represent the student body in the formulation and assessment of proposed changes in educational policy. In addition, the SEPC shall solicit and present to the Faculty Personnel Committee student opinion regarding the performance of faculty members.
- (d) The divisional SEPC representatives shall represent the students in divisional faculty meetings. They shall participate in faculty discussions of all matters other than the academic plans and progress of individual students, and have access to all available information pertinent to such discussions.
- (e) Class SEPC representatives shall be elected in each class to act as liaisons between students and teacher and to aid the SEPC in fulfillment of its responsibilities.
- (f) SEPC shall have a secretary, who shall not concurrently be a member of SEPC. The secretary shall be paid from student funds.
- 5. Amendment of Article I and II of this constitution may be proposed by a majority of the Student Council, by a majority in each of three College-owned houses or by petition of one-fourth of the student body. An amendment shall be adopted when approved by a majority of students voting in a special referendum. A referendum on a constitutional amendment shall be valid only if a waiting period of two weeks is observed between proposal of the amendment and its referendum.

Article III: Community Government

- 1. The Bennington College community consists of the student body, the faculty, and the administration and staff. Each of these bodies shall constitute an electorate. All voting on matters of community concern shall take place in the separate constituencies.
- 2. The community shall meet as a simple group upon the call of the President of the College, the Academic Council, of the Student Council; upon petition of 15% of the community to the Student Council. In all cases, community meetings shall be presided over by the President of the Student Council or the Student Council's delegated representative. The community meeting will serve as a forum for the expression of views and opinions regarding matters of current concern.
- 3. Any election or balloting in which less than 25% of the appropriate electorate shall cast its vote shall be invalid.
- 4. Amendment of Article III of this constitution may be proposed by Student Council, by the faculty meeting or by Student Council, by the faculty meeting or by the administration. An amendment shall be adopted when approved by a majority of voters in each constituency. A referendum on a constitutional amendment shall be valid only if a waiting period of two weeks is observed between proposal of the amendment and the referendum.

STUDENT RIGHTS

The College subscribes to the following rules and rights which are contained in the *Policy Documents and Reports* of the American Association of University Professors.

- 1. The student should be informed, in writing, of the reasons for any proposed disciplinary action with sufficient particularity, and in sufficient time, to insure opportunity to prepare for the hearing.
- 2. The student appearing before any hearing committee should have the right to be assisted in his/her defense by an adviser of his/her choice.
- 3. The burden of proof should rest upon the persons bringing the charge.
- 4. All matters upon which the decision may be based must be introduced into evidence at the proceeding before the hearing committee. The decision should be based solely upon such matters. Improperly acquired evidence should not be admitted.
- 5. In the absence of a transcript, there should be both a digest and a verbatim record, such as a tape recording, of the hearing.
- 6. The student has the right not to be put in jeopardy more than once for any single charge.

In accord with the principles stated above, the senior administrative officers of Bennington College reserve the right to ask anyone to withdraw from the College.

Right of Equal Opportunity

Every member of the Bennington community has the right not to be discriminated against on account of sex, race, age ethnic background, beliefs or sexual preference.

Right of Freedom of Communication of Ideas

Every member of the Bennington community has the right to freely express ideas provided that the method of expression does not violate other rights. Any member of the College has the right to publish and distribute without interference. However, while such members may not be subject to previous restraint they shall be held accountable for any erroneous, malicious or libelous statements that violate any other right.

Right of Integrity

Every member of the Bennington community is entitled to the right not to be subjected to maliciously false slander and libel, not to have his or her character impugned. Every member has the right to keep one's academic work as one's own. Every member has the right to expect that any business conducted with any other member is free from malice and fraud.

Right of Assembly

All members of the Bennington community have a right to peaceably assemble and petition for the redress of their grievance.

Right of Personal Security

Every member of the Bennington community has the right to be secure from threat or physical abuse or mental anguish by any other person or device or substance controlled by any other person. This right includes the right not to come to harm through the neglect of another.

The Judicial Committee

The Judicial Committee is composed of seven students, elected by Student Council at the beginning of each term. Any registered student may be elected. The Vice President of Student Council serves as a non-voting Chairperson of the committee. The President of Student Council will act as Chairperson of the Judicial Committee pro tem. if the elected chair is absent. Five voting members of the Judicial Committee shall hear evidence and deliberate on each case. The chairperson shall excuse two members from each case prior to beginning an investigation, including any members prior to beginning an investigation, including any member of the committee deemed by the Chairperson to have conflicting interests regarding the case. The Judicial Committee may follow its own procedural rules, providing that the Judicial Committee Procedures, outlined in the Bennington College Constitution, are not violated. The authority of the Judicial Committee extends to all infractions of non-academic rules and regulations concerning student conduct and to infringement by students of the rights or privileges of members of the college community. The authority of the Judicial Committee is limited only by the administration's legal duty to provide for the health and safety of the student population. The Judicial Committee investigates and tries cases only when asked to do so by any member of the college community.

Judicial Committee Procedures

- I Any member of the College community who judges that he/she has a serious grievance against a registered student or group of students may ask the Judicial Committee to hear charges against that student or group of students.
- II Except in unusual circumstances, all such charges must be presented to the Chairperson of the Judicial Committee in writing within 10 working days of the act in question. The Judicial Committee will judge what constitutes "unusual circumstances" in all instances pertaining to Judicial review.
- III When it agrees to deal with a complaint, the Judicial Committee shall proceed by reasonable means to establish the truth or falsity of the charges. Such means may include questioning of parties to the act in question, the calling of witnesses to the act, or consultation with the appropriate members of the College faculty, staff, or community. If the charge is true, the Committee shall commute an appropriate punishment. The Judicial Committee shall bear sole and exclusive authority for the handling of all complaints directed to it, except in cases involving breaches of academic standards,

- unusual psychological problems (to be judged by the Director of Student Affairs) or offenses against state or federal law, which are unrelated to the campus community.
- IV The Judicial Committee shall investigate and try a case only when requested to do so by the plaintiff, by a house chairperson on the plaintiff's behalf, or by a member of the faculty or administration or member of the College community.
- V Upon receiving a statement of charges, the Chairperson of the Judicial Committee may refer the case to an administrative officer or deal with it informally, if the circumstances seem to warrant such handling of the case. When the Chairperson of the Judicial Committee handles a case informally, he/she shall record the grievence and the resolution and file it in the Judicial files. The plaintiff has the right to insist that the Judicial Committee itself meet to review his/her charges, except in instances where the Chairperson refers the case to the administration and except in cases involving breaches of academic standards, unusual psychological problems, or offenses against state or federal law.
- VI In all cases that are to be acted upon by the Judicial Committee, the Chairperson shall write the accused a letter stating the plaintiff's name, the charges, the proposed time for a hearing, and authorization for the defendant to bring one friend or counselor to the hearing. The defendant has the right to review background information pertaining to the case. The time of the hearing shall not be less than forty-eight hours after the defendant's receipt of charges, and shall take into account the schedules of the plaintiff, the defendant, and the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee shall act as expeditiously as possible in making its decision.
- VII The burden of proof rests upon the plaintiff in all cases which come before the Judicial Committee.
- VIII Both plaintiff and defendant must be present at the hearing. Except in unusual circumstances, if the plaintiff fails to appear, the charges shall be dropped; failure of the defendant to appear shall itself be an offense against good order, to be judged and punished by the Judicial Committee. Disruption of the meeting by any party shall also be an offense against good order.
- IX The defendant and the plaintiff each have the right to request that the Judicial Committee make a tape recording of the hearing. This tape may be used as a transcript in an appeal. Except in unusual circumstances, this request must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Committee no less than 24 hours prior to the hearing. The Judicial Committee also has the right to tape record any hearing, if it feels a transcript is necessary for further review. These tapes are to be filed with all other Judicial manuscripts, and shall remain confidential.
- X The Judicial Committee Procedures and the Rights and Obligations of the defendant(s) and the plaintiff(s) shall be read to both parties at the beginning of each hearing.
- XI Actions of the Judicial Committee may be appealed in

- all cases, and must be appealed in cases involving suspension or expulsion of a student. Appeals are to be directed to the Administrative Review Committee. In cases where the Administrative Review Committee is the plaintiff, appeals shall be taken to the President of the College.
- XII The Administrative Review Committee shall act as an Administrative Executive Branch, enforcing the decisions of the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee may impose any penalty which it deems appropriate. Decisions of the Judicial Committee are binding, unless appealed. Either the defendant(s) or the plaintiff(s) may appeal, if violations of Judicial Process are alleged, or if the penalty is considered unjust.
- XIII The Judicial Committee shall write a statement of its disposition on each case and file it, along with any dissenting opinions and background information in the Judicial files, which are to be kept in Student Services' Office. Copies of the Judicial Committe's decisions must be sent to the plaintiff and the defendant. Copies must also be sent, with the names of those students involved deleted, to the President of Student Council and the President of the College.
- XIV The Judicial Files are confidential, and shall not be open to the public. Except in instances of an appeal, the Chairperson of the Judicial Committee shall have exclusive access to all Judicial Files. These files may be reviewed by the Chairperson of the Judicial Committee in order to note precedents set and in order to gather past information pertinent to present cases. No one may be tried twice for the same charges by the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Files are to be kept up to date by the Chairperson of the Judicial Committee, and shall be passed on to the next succeeding Vice President of Student Council to be placed in the Student Services Office.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment constitutes sex discrimination. Any student feeling that he or she has been sexually harassed under the condition of Title IX should report the incident to the Director or Associate Director of Student Services; anyone can file a formal complaint with the Sexual Harassment Grievance Committee.

Sexual Harassment Grievance Committee

A committee of three persons, not all of whom should be of the same gender, constitutes the Sexual Harassment Grievance Committee. Two people, usually one faculty and one student, are appointed by the President to serve staggered terms of one and one and one-half years. The third person is the Dean of Faculty, who serves ex-officio. This committee receives complaints from and offers advice and/or counseling to complainants while maintaining confidentiality.

-January, 1980

Administrative Review Committee

The Administrative Review Committee assumes original jurisdiction for the enforcement of the health and safety of the community, serves as a Review and Appeals committee in the case of disputed Judicial Committee decisions, and acts as an advisory board to the President of the College on other appropriate administrative matters.

Any member of the College community may register a complaint with the Administrative Review Committee. The Committee, composed of the Dean of Faculty, Dean of Studies and Director of Student Affairs, will meet to determine if the Administrative Review Committee will hear the complaint or refer it to Judicial or some other body. If the Committee determines that the complaint warrants a hearing, the following procedure will apply:

- 1. The defendant will receive written notice of the charge ten days (weekends are included) prior to the hearing.
- 2. The charge will be as specific as possible, noting the rule of the institution that has been allegedly violated.
- 3. The letter shall contain the name of the body that will hear the case and the fact that the defendant is allowed to bring any representative with him/her including legal counsel.
- 4. The defendant will be informed of the appeal process. To appeal an Administrative Review Committee decision, the defendant must submit the appeal request in writing to the President of the College within 10 days of the decision.
- 5. After hearing the evidence against him/her, the defendant will be provided an opportunity to present his/her case to the contrary at the hearing.
- 6. The Administrative Review Committee will set up its own internal procedures designed to deal with any case brought before it with maximum speed, fairness and justice for all concerned parties.
- 7. All proceedings of the Administrative Review Committee are confidential.

COMMITTEES A - Z

Trustee Standing Committees

Academic Affairs, Admissions and Financial Aid Budget and Finance Community Life and Campus Facilities Development and Alumni Affairs

Membership Key

 $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{Faculty}$

A = Administration

S = Student

Administrative Committees

Administrative Review Committee — A
Cat Committee — S
Entertainment Committee — A, S
Facilities Committee — A, F, S
Financial Aid Appeals Committee — A, F
Interior Decorating Committee — A
Liquor Policies Task Force — A, S
Safety Committee — A, F, S
Sexual Harassment Grievance Committee — A, F, S

Faculty Committees

Academic Council — F, A, S

Educational Counseling Committee — F, A

Field Work Term Committee — F, A

Library Committee — F, A, S

Student Educational Policies Committee — S

Student Committees

Constitutional Committee — S
Film Society — S
Food Committee — S, A
Health Committee — S, A
Housing Committee — S, A
Judicial Committee — S, F, A
Recreation Committee — S
Senior Commencement Committee — S, A
Sports Committee — S



CAMPUS LIFE

Life After Class

Bennington is quite self-contained and the focus of the cultural, social and intellectual life is on campus. A community of lively and creative minds is free to generate activities. Students and faculty initiate an enormous number of concerts, plays, dance performances, lectures, movies and readings during the term. Other activities include writing for student publications, sports, parties, clubs and special events. A typical weekly calendar is: Monday - Social Science Night; Tuesday - Movie Night; Wednesday - Music Division; Thursday - Literature Night; Friday - Party Night; Saturday - Back to the Movies Night, followed by Coffee House; Sunday - House Coffee Hour.

Coffee House

The Coffee House Concert Series usually occurs from 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Saturdays in either Commons, the New Dining Room, Greenwall or Robeson House. Check College Week for actual times and location. Bill of fare at the Coffee House may include such student entertainment as Comedy Corner, or an assortment of rhythm and blues, jazz, rock or folk performances. Outside entertainment provides listeners with musical themes such as Birdland Revisited, Country Folk, Wild Blues and North India Recital Series. Light snacks and drinks are served in a nightclub atmosphere.



The Cafe

The Cafe is the cross cultural nexus of intellectual and social life, an alternative to the packed parties and sometimes sedate house coffee hours. Here East truly meets West, existentialist meets Sufi, Booth meets Swan. The Cafe is open for your drinking and dining pleasure from 6:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday. ("Drinking" means assorted juices, teas, sodas and coffee as of July 1, 1986). Juke box music, occasional live entertainment, pizza and sandwiches are all provided as well as lots of fun 'n' games. An air conditioned welcome to all.



Athletic Activities

The athletics program is designed to encourage all college community members, regardless of their athletic ability, to participate in intercollegiate and recreational activities. Events such as bicycling, running, hiking and rafting are sponsored throughout the year as are intercollegiate matches in soccer, tennis and volleyball. Students also show interest in horseback riding, camping, and rock climbing. A weight-lifting facility is located in Commons across from the Laundry Room. Northwest of the New Houses is a soccer field, four clay tennis courts, and a blacktop basketball court. Spontaneous frisbee, football, softball and volleyball occur frequently on Commons lawn.

Note: Turn to the Surrounding Territories section for information on entertainment outside the College.



HOUSING

Room Assignment and Selection

Each house has its own unique character which allows students to choose their style of living. When a student first enters the college, he/she is placed in a house based on information obtained from the Housing questionnaire filled out by each student. Freshmen and entering sophomores live in double rooms, while most sophomores and all juniors and seniors have singles. Juniors and seniors who have been on leave will be assigned singles by the Housing Office. No assurances can be given to re-entering students of their former rooms. Any change or exchange of room assignments must be approved by the Housing Office.

Four weeks before the end of the term the Housing Office holds lotteries for the purpose of assigning changes in residence for the upcoming term. Room priority among students within a house is given by class. All students of the same class and term, including transfers, have equal priority in their houses once residency is established.

Each term a lottery is held to determine the number of

students able to live independently off-campus. Due to budget restraints, the number of students varies from term to term. Room rules are distributed by the Housing Committee each term to House Chairpersons, Student Council leaders and anyone else who desires a copy. No student who has been assigned a room on campus as a result of the room selection process may decide to move into independent housing without the approval of the Housing Office. If the student then chooses to live off campus, no refund will be available.

Room Furnishings

The College provides each student with a bed and mattress; a desk and chair; a bookcase, bureau and mirror. Most rooms do not have wall or ceiling lights. Each student is responsible for the College property in the room and is expected to treat it with proper care. The cost of repairs or replacement will be charged to the student. Students are responsible for cleaning their room; housecleaning equipment is available to each house.

All furniture removed from rooms must be immediately stored by the student in a designated place: attics in the old

houses and storerooms in the new. Furniture may not be removed from common areas or rooms without the permission of the head housekeeper. A \$10.00 fine will be charged for any piece of furniture or other college property found in an individual's room which has not been provided by the college.

Kitchenettes

Each house has a kitchenette equipped with a refrigerator, stove and some utensils. Several houses have ovens as well as stoves. The house members, not the maids, are responsible for the maintenance of these facilities.

Appliances

Refrigerators, coffee-makers, and other heavy-use appliances are not permitted in the houses due to the limitations of the electrical system. If an appliance causes a temporary black-out which requires electricians to be brought to campus outside the regular working day, the student will be required to pay the cost of the service.

Visitors

Students are welcome to have visitors on campus but are asked to register them at the Security Booth. Guests will not be admitted on campus after 11:00 p.m. unless accompanied by a student. Visitors are not permitted to take up residence on campus — visits are limited to three days. If a complaint is registered by anyone, the administration will ask the guest to leave. Students are held responsible for the conduct of their guests.

Room Damage

Students are responsible for any room and/or furniture damage above normal wear and tear. Room checks are conducted around the middle of the term and at the end of the term. 24-hour notice is given in each instance. Damages incurred will be added to the student's bill.

In order to maintain a uniform appearance and proper workmanship, all room painting must be requested through Student Services and completed by the Maintenance Department. Students who paint their rooms without permission will be billed at the end of the term for repainting.

Key Policy

- 1. All room keys are to be turned in at the end of the term, before leaving campus.
- 2. If the key room is not open, turn the key into the security booth.
- 3. A receipt will be given in either instance. The refund will be mailed at a later date if turned into security. Otherwise, someone in the key room will be able to give the \$5.00 deposit upon returning the key.
- 4. Failure to return a key will result in the cylinder being replaced and a \$25.00 replacement fee being charged the student.
- 5. If a key is lost during the term, a new one will be issued for a \$5.00 deposit. If the missing key is not returned by the end of the term, a new cylinder will be put in the door and a \$25.00 replacement fee will be charged to the

student.

Room Painting

Students should submit their requests to have their rooms painted to Student Services. Room painting is completed according to the painter's schedule and requires that the student vacate his/her room for 24 hours.

Pets

No pets, except for cats, gerbils and fish, may be brought onto the campus, including those owned by students living in non-College, off-campus housing. Furthermore, pets owned by employees currently living on campus must be kept on leash or under the owner's verbal control at all times. This rule will be rigidly enforced including, if necessary, using the Town of Bennington dog-catcher. Violators will be subject to strong disciplinary action. Pets found in dormitories or on college grounds will be taken to the nearest animal shelter for boarding at the student's expense.

Cat Policy

- 1. Any student, other than a first term student, will be permitted to register one domestic cat with the permission of his/her house and the Cat Committee.
- 2. Each house will determine after mid-term whether to accept cats in the house by a secret ballot. The house must have a two-thirds majority vote in order to have cats.
- 3. All cats must be registered with the Cat Committee. The cat owner is responsible for keeping litter pans and feeding dishes clean in his/her room.
- 4. Any complaints about cats or cat owners should be directed to the Cat Committee.

Note: The complete cat policy, Cat Committee description, and complaint procedure can be made available from Student Services or any member of the Committee.

Use of Public Space in Houses

Living rooms are for public use, some are often used for classes. Living rooms, empty card rooms and attics are not to be used for overnight sleeping. Academic functions, rehearsals and parties are permitted with house approval. College property may not be removed from its original place without permission of the Housekeeper. If responsibility for loss or damage to College owned house property cannot be specifically determined, each member of the house will be charged for a share of the cost.

The College's fire insurance carrier requires that hallways be kept clear at all times.

Each house has a pay phone as well as two inter-campus phones (the green phones). Students may also have private phones installed in their rooms at a nominal rate. Check with the Business Office for more details.

Firearn

All firearms, licensed or not, are forbidden on College property.

Moving at the End of Term

Students must dismantle their rooms twice a year, in December and in June. Possessions may be left in locked closets during the winter, but only college-owned furniture may be left in the summer, when summer programs take place. Belongings that are name-tagged may be left in attics and storerooms at the students own risk.

Storage

To store student possessions during FWT and the summer, Student Services makes arrangements with a local storage company. Information and rates are published in advance in **Student News.**

The College contracts at the end of each term with Connors Brothers of Williamstown, MA to store student belongings at an average cost of \$20-40 per storage period (FWT or summer). Students may also store possessions in individual house attics. However, The College assumes no liability for theft, loss or damage of any student property stored in college property.

Property Insurance

The College cannot insure items that it does not own. Therefore, it is recommended that students either rely on their parents' homeowners coverage if such coverage exists and they reside with their parents or purchase specific coverage in their own name through their hometown insurance agent to cover valuable belongings.

Telephones

Students may have telephones installed in their rooms. Interested students should contact the Business Office for details. It should be noted that the College assumes no responsibility for any liabilities incurred by students regarding the use of individual telephones.

Health and Safety

A community intent on the principles of self-government and respect for individual variations is guided more by sensible and considerate behavior than by elaborate rules and regulations. However, in order to fulfill the College's legal obligations to federal, state and local codes, Bennington does have a network of rules and regulations relating to the use of College facilities intended to provide for the health and safety of the entire College community.

Students should be aware that no behavior will be tolerated which endangers the health and safety of the community. The College maintains the right to proscribe any behavior which, in the judgment of the Student Council Judicial Committee, the Safety Committee or the Administrative Review Commitee, threatens community welfare.

FIRE REGULATIONS

In the Event of Fire:

- 1. Pull any red pull switch.
- 2. Call Maintenance extension 206 DAYTIME. Call Security extension 235 NIGHT.
- 3. Begin evacuation of House, room by room.
- 4. Fire Marshall and House Chairperson are in charge and

should begin roll call immediately.

Fire System at Bennington College

All student houses are equipped with fire extinguishers and heat and smoke detection systems linked to a locator-enunciator panel in the Security Booth. Tampering with or destruction of this equipment can leave the house without fire protection. In addition, fire alarm boxes connected with the horn in the tower of Commons are located in six places throughout campus: on the front of Jennings, on the wall in the middle section of the Barn facing Crosset Library, on the west side of Woolley, on the east side of McCullough, next to the southeast door of Commons, and on the west side of the Security Booth.

Penalty for Tampering with Equipment

Vermont law states that "a person who wilfully or knowingly tampers with, interferes with or impairs any public fire alarm apparatus, wire or associated equipment (including fire extinguishers) shall be imprisoned for not more than one year or fined not more than \$1,000 or both." Sutdents who violate the code will be reported to the Administrative Review Committee or Judicial Committee. Violators may be subject to fines, suspension, expulsion, and/or prosecution under State Law.

In the Event of a Small Fire

- 1. Use nearest fire extinguisher to put out fire. If fire is in trash barrel, simply put the lid on the barrel.
- 2. Contact Maintenance (Ext. 206) or Security (Ext. 235) immediately.

In the Event of Alarm Sounding

- 1. Double-check to see that there is no fire present.
- 2. Contact Security (Ext. 235) or Maintenance (Ext. 206) to shut off alarm.

Common Reasons for Alarms Sounding

- 1. Actual fire.
- 2. Cooking that produces excessive heat or smoke.
- 3. Popcorn popping left unattended.
- 4. Lighting fire in fireplace without opening flue.
- 5. Keeping kitchen door open while cooking.
- 6. Steam from showers.
- 7. No apparent reason; due to problem with the system.

Fire Evacuation Procedure

If you hear a fire alarm: keep low to the floor if smoke is present. Before opening a door, feel the knob. If it is hot, do not open the door. If the knob is not hot, brace yourself against the door and open it slightly (fire can create pressure enough to push open a door if it is not held firmly). If heat or heavy smoke is present in the corridor, close the door and stay in the room.

If you canne* leave the room, keep the door closed and open the windows. If the windows are the type that can be raised and lowered, open the top slightly to let out heat and smoke; open the bottom slightly to let in fresh air. Seal the cracks around the door with clothing or other material, soaking it if water is available. To attract attention if you are trapped.

hang an object out the window, such as a shirt, jacket, towel or anything that will attract attention. Shout for help.

If you can leave the room, close all doors behind you as an exit. This will retard the spread of smoke and lessen damage. Go to the nearest exit or stairway. If the nearest exit is blocked by smoke, heat, or fire, go to an alternate exit.

After leaving the building, stand clear. Emergency apparatus will be maneuvering around the building. Follow directions of fire, police personnel, your House Chairperson and fire marshall.

Vermont State Fire Code Requires:

- 1. Smoking is not permitted in Tishman Hall, the Commons Theatre, the Carriage Barn (Paul Robeson House), or any of the theatres in the Visual and Performing Arts Center (V.A.P.A.).
- 2. Candles may not be used in any campus building without the approval of the Director of the Physical Plant (Maintenance).
- Hallways in student houses must be kept clear at all times.
- 4. Firescreens must be employed whenever fireplaces are in use.
- 5. Only extension cords approved by the Safety Committee and available through the College Bookstore may be used. Three-way plugs and oil paints may not be used anywhere in student houses.
- 6. All appliances using a heating unit (i.e. blowdryers, coffee makers, hot plate, refrigerators) may only be used in living rooms, bathrooms, kitchenettes, where there is adequate wiring for them.
- 7. It is strongly suggested that students supply their rooms with metal wastebaskets and ashtrays.

Fire Inspections

The Director of the Physical Plant (Maintenance) and the Chief of Security organize periodic room inspections for fire and safety hazards. Inspections are announced well in advance and only fire and safety hazards are checked.

Fire Drills

Fire drills are held once or twice per term and the Community is urged to cooperate by clearing the buildings as quickly as possible when the appropriate alarm sounds.

Fire Marshals

Student Fire Marshals are selected each term by their house and are responsible for organizing fire prevention and taking charge in case of fire. Marshals will periodically be given training sessions by members of the North Bennington Fire Department.

Marshals review fire rules and procedures in house meetings. Their responsibilities include explaining the proper usage for each type of extinguisher in their House and emphasizing the importance of using the right one. Marshals have a current list of all residents in their houses in an easily accessible place to be used in taking roll call at drills or fires. A place to meet away from the house should be agreed upon for the roll call.

Right of Entry

The College recognizes the importance that students attach to the privacy of their rooms. It intends that any right of entry shall be exercised only when required for purposes of health, safety, and maintenance, and to regulate the use of its premises in accordance with College rules and regulations, but consistent with the constitutional right to be free of unreasonable search and seizures. The College does not intend to enter a student's room without twenty-four hour notice except in the case of an emergency or other circumstances where advance notice is not feasible in view of the pressing need for entry. All entry into student rooms must be approved by the Director or Associate Director of Student Services.

Liability, Theft, Damage, or Loss

The College takes no responsibility for the theft, damage, or loss of personal property. Students should register valuable belongings on their parents' home owner insurance..

Students are responsible for the loss or theft of, or damage to College property caused by the students or guests.

Drugs

The College and its property are subject to all state and federal drug regulations and the administration must comply in all situations brought to its attention. Any member of the College community engaging in the illegal possession or distribution of halucinogenic drugs, barbiturates, amphetamines, narcotics and certain other drugs, except on a doctor's prescription, are prohibited by law. Any member of the community engaging in such illegal actions will be subject to disciplinary procedures, up to and including expulsion from the College.

Drug Abuse

A drug can be defined as any substance which chemically modifies the function of living tissues resulting in physiological or behavioral change. In the broadest sense, this can include nicotine and caffeine in addition to marijuana, alcohol, and other "hard" drugs such as cocaine, PCP, speed, etc. Whether the use of drugs results in physiological addiction, psychological dependence, or both, chronic use of drugs can have a significant and often devastating effect on a student's ability to function in school and elsewhere.

The professional staff at Health Service and Psychological Counseling provide confidential counseling to all currently enrolled Bennington students. Contact Health Services, Psychological Counseling or Student Services for more information. In addition, there are weekly meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous held on campus. Check College Week for days and times.

Alcohol Beverages

The legal drinking age in the State of Vermont may be 21, as of July 1, 1986. Bennington College was issued a Rathskeller License in the Spring, 1981. This license is expected to be revoked when the new Liquor Law is put into effect. Presently the license allows students to purchase and

consume beer and wine in the Cafe only, from 6:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday. The following rules regarding the Cafe are in effect and will continue to be in effect until July 1, 1986:

- 1. Only beer and wine will be sold.
- 2. No outside liquor can be brought into the Cafe for any reason.
- 3. No one under 18 years of age is permitted to consume alcoholic beverages.
- 4. No alcoholic beverages purchased from the bar may be taken and/or consumed anywhere outside the cafe premises.
- 5. Only Bennington College students, faculty, administration and their guests are permitted to purchase alcoholic beverages.
- 6. The bartender has the right to check identification for age.
- 7. The Cafe is the only place on campus where alcohol can be legally sold.
- 8. Food must be served as well.

Students are reminded that the sale of alcoholic beverages at Friday night parties or any other social event is illegal. Students may consume alcoholic beverages in their houses as these are considered private dwellings, but any exchange of money directly or indirectly for the purchase of alcohol is illegal.

MOTOR VEHICLES

All vehicle and traffic laws promulgated by the State of Vermont are effective on Bennington College campus as elsewhere in the State. Vehicles in operation must be licensed, registered, insured, equipped and otherwise legal to operate.

All motor vehicles, owned and/or operated by students, faculty or staff members employed at Bennington College, must be registered with Security. Upon presentation of a valid driver's license, state registration and completed application, a permit to park in a designated lot will be issued. Permit stickers are free and valid for the current academic year, but do not guarantee the availability of a parking space in every lot at all times. Vehicles are registered only once, unless a new vehicle is brought on campus. Unregistered cars will be treated as in violation and tickets will be issued. Repeat offenders are subject to towing.

No vehicle will operate on campus in excess of the posted speed limit. In the absence of such postings at any time, the maximum speed limit is 15 miles per hour in academic, administrative and residential areas, and 30 miles per hour on College Drive. Regardless of the posted limits, no vehicle shall be operated at a speed greater than that which is reasonable and prudent as determined by the existing conditions (rain, ice, heavy traffic, special hazards, etc.)

The College has defined reckless driving as driving that endangers people, property, animals or other drivers. Drunk driving or driving across lawns, around flag poles, etc. are considered reckless driving. Security will intervene with any student suspected of reckless driving or driving while intoxicated. Driving on campus is considered a

privilege not a right. Anyone abusing that privilege will not be allowed to drive on campus and the vehicle may be banned.

All motor vehicle accidents which occur on campus must be reported promptly to Security. Motorists are reminded that leaving the scene of an accident or failure by a motorist to file a Report of a Motor Vehicle Accident Form (available at Security) is a violation of Vermont Law.

PARKING

Fire insurance regulations require fire lanes to be kept free at all times.

The entire community is asked to observe the parking regulations, which will be enforced by Security.

- 1. Parking along roads and fire lanes is limited to 15 minutes stops for loading and unloading, with parking lights on.
- 2. Cars must be parked in those areas for which they have been registered. Cars with red stickers may use yellow sticker lots between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. except in spaces marked RESERVED and the lot at Commons loading dock/post office.
- 3. Cars parked so as to block walkways and fire hydrants and cars parked on lawns are subject to towing at the owner's expense.
- 4. Cars and motorcycles driven on lawns or fields may be banned from campus for the academic year.
- 5. Parking violators will be ticketed and fined; all violations are \$2.50 and must be paid within 24 hours of issuance of the ticket. Tickets that are not paid within this prescribed time are subject to a \$2.50 late fee.
- 6. If a ticket or tow charge is not paid within 10 days, a copy of the bill will be sent to the parents. If within 30 days the bill is still unpaid, the car will be banned from campus. If the bill is still unpaid by the end of the term, transcripts and final comments will be withheld until payment is received.
- 7. Appeal of any parking ticket and/or tow charge is to be made in writing within 10 days after receipt of the ticket and/or tow charge to the Safety Committee via the Business Office.

Parking Areas

- RESIDENT LOT (Red Sticker): Located near the tennis courts, this lot is for all campus residents and non-residents overflow.
- NON-RESIDENT LOTS: These lots are available north and west of the Brick Garage/Cafe and are for use by off campus students. If the lots are full, the Resident Lot should be used.
- FACULTY-STAFF LOT (Yellow Sticker): Located east of the Barn, this lot is reserved for use by faculty and staff members.
- VISITOR'S LOT: The Visitor's area is located below the Security Booth, north of the Early Childhood Center. This area is for use by visitors, faculty, & staff during weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. After 6 p.m. the lot is

available to off-campus students, and on weekends it is open to all. All students must remove their vehicles by 8 a.m., Mondays.

SWAN GARAGE PARKING: Located east of the garage, this area is for faculty and staff with four student spaces. Do not park in front of the doors at each end.

LOT EAST OF SECURITY BOOTH: During weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., this lot is reserved for faculty/staff overflow from the yellow sticker lot. After 6 p.m. and on weekends the lot may be used by off-campus students. Student cars must be removed by 8 a.m., Monday-Friday.

VAPA LOT: For general use by campus students and employees.

CARRIAGE BARN LOT: For use by both resident and non-resident students who need parking space near Jennings.

OTHER LOTS: The parking areas at Commons, Dickinson, Jennings, Library and the Nursery School are reserved for specified personnel only, and at no time are available for student use.

SURROUNDING TERRITORIES

Following is a list of goods, services and attractions, some within walking distance from the campus and others just minutes away. A self-guided tour is recommended for newcomers to capture the true essence of this area. Travel in and around Bennington and the Southwest corner of Vermont is easy, with connecting state routes NY 7 and VT 9 running east and west; US 7 running north and south. There is independent bus and shuttle service from Albany Airport, the Turf Inn (where one may catch the shuttle into Kennedy, LaGuardia and Newark Airports) and the Rensselaer Train Station. The College van offers daily runs to Bennington and surrounding areas. Schedules may be obtained from Student Services.

For information on parks and beaches, contact The Greater Bennington Chamber of Commerce Tourist Bureau at 442-5900. Information on day hikes, camping and outdoor activities, write or visit The Green Mountain National Forest, Manchester Center, Vermont 05255.

Travel Agencies

Bennington Travel Agency, Inc. 493 Main Street, Bennington, Vt. 447-1511

Hoosac Travel 16 John Street, Hoosick Falls, N.Y. (518) 686-4326

The Travel Store 128 North Street, Bennington, Vt. 442-8177

Car Service

Most American cars can be serviced in Bennington at the appropriate car dealerships. There are also many freelance mechanics who can be found in the Yellow Pages. Parts for foreign cars can be found or ordered through several local auto supply stores listed in the Yellow Pages.

Banks

Chittenden Trust Company 401 Main Street, Bennington, Vt. 442-6396

First Vermont Bank and Trust Company 500 Main Street, Bennington, Vt. 447-7533

The Merchants Bank Putnam Square, Bennington, Vt. 442-8321

The Merchants Bank Bank Street, No. Bennington, Vt. 447-7545

Vermont National Bank 338 Main Street, Bennington, Vt. 442-5409

Hospitals

Southwestern Vermont Medical Center Hospital Drive, Bennington, Vt. 442-6361

Taxi

Reed's Shuttle Service 442-4542

Red Top Cab 442-8141

C & C Cab 447-1186

Percey's Cab 442-6836

Bus

Vermont Transit, a subsidiary of Greyhound, provides bus service to New York, Massachusetts and Vermont. The terminal is located at 126 Washington Avenue, just off of Main Street. Bus schedules can be found in the Student Services Office or by calling 442-4808.

Train and Plane

The closest train stations, both using the Amtrack line, are located in Rensselaer, New York and Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Albany, New York, has the closest commercial airport, although Bennington has a small charter service. Airline reservations can be made through local travel agencies.

Shipping

Trunks, suitcases and packages for shipment by Greyhound,

UPS or Rapid Air Freight must be taken to the Maintenance Plant shipping dock between 7:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. (call in advance) every day except Saturday and Sunday. Trunks or suitcases must have two address tags on them; each carton must be clearly labeled.

Shipments by Greyhound may be prepaid or C.O.D. Packages for shipment by Greyhound or Vermont Transit cannot exceed 75 pounds per package and may be delivered to the Bus Terminal in Bennington by the student or Maintenance. Shipment prepaid by the student must be taken to the Bus Terminal by the student.

Rapid Air Freight Company in Albany, New York, will come to the College to pick up shipments at the Maintenance loading dock. Maintenance will notify them to do so when a few packages have accumulated to make the pick up worthwhile. Packages must be C.O.D. and delivery is made to your door within a few days. Questions and information regarding shipment to foreign countries should be directed to (518) 434-6250.

U.P.S. will only accept for shipment, stereos and speakers that have been professionally packed in original cartons. Packaging must be done by Radio Shack, etc. or a professional moving company.

BENNINGTON COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The following community organizations welcome student participation and volunteer support. If interested contact Student Services:

Bennington Community Chorus

A community organization dedicated to the finest presentation of choral music. Singers rehearse weekly on Monday evenings at 7:30 in the Mount Anthony Union High School for a period of about 10-12 weeks. Regular attendance is required. Minimal dues (\$5 per session) are paid by singing members. Major works presented in recent performances: Bach's *St. John Passion*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Edwin I. Lawrence, director.

Bennington Tutorial Center

The Bennington Tutorial Center has operated since 1971 as a private, non-profit institution offering individualized instruction to children and adults who need educational services not provided by other community facilities.

Big Brother/Big Sister Program

Big Brother/Big Sister of Bennington County is a program which seeks to establish and maintain one-to-one relationships between young people aged 5-17 who are in need of special attention and responsible adult volunteers.

Office on Aging

The Southwestern Vermont Area Agency on Aging is a non-profit organization which needs volunteers interested in working on a one-to-one basis with an older person or persons. They are also seeking volunteer drivers to deliver meals to home-bound elderly residents in the Bennington area.

Old Castle Theatre Company

An outstanding professional theatre company at Southern Vermont College, performing March through October, with a variety of productions.

Park-McCullough House

An elegant 35-room Victorian mansion, with period furniture, antique clothing, and a stable full of old carriages. Concerts, exhibits, and regular tours. Friends of Park-McCullough are involved in archival and research.

Recreation Center

The Recreation Center complex contains a 6 lane, 25 yard, heated indoor pool, showers, a sauna in each of the locker rooms, 2 weight rooms, a game room, 4 outdoor tennis courts, 2 handball walls, a 20 station Gamefield physical fitness/exercise trail, play equipment, ball fields and parking for 75 cars. In the winter, if weather permits, this complex is the site of an ice skating rink.

Sage City Symphony

A community-based symphony orchestra conducted by Louis Calabro. The symphony has one of the most extensive commissioning series in the country, performing traditional and contemporary repertoire in four annual concerts in various southern Vermont locations.

American Legion Band

A community based band which meets Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the American Legion Hall. The legion welcomes volunteers.

Southwest Supervisory School District

Public school system servicing Arlington, Shaftsbury, Bennington, North Bennington, Woodford, and Pownal occasionally needs assistants to help out in the classrooms or to tutor students.

Southwestern Vermont Medical Center

The major hospital in southwestern Vermont needs all types of services but mainly in the gift shop and cashiering areas. Also needs "feeders", volunteers who would help feed patients who have difficulty feeding themselves.

United Counseling Service

The United Counseling Service is in need of responsible, caring volunteers willing to give a little of their time and to share a little of themselves. There are volunteer positions in the areas of:

Big Brother/Big Sister Community Workers Child Care Home Visitors Tutors for the Mentally Handicapped

The program is new, the need is great, and the possibilities are endless.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Bennington Potters: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. daily; 12:30 - 5:30 Sundays. Wide selection of "seconds," plants gifts, children's toys, glassware.

Bennington Museum: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily, including Sundays and holidays. \$2.00 admission. A regional museum with Revolutionary War memorabilia, Grandma Moses art and schoolhouse, and genealogy library.

Bennington Recreation Center: see schedule in Student Services Office. Daily rate - \$3.00, student rate for six months - \$30.00. Free swim on Fridays from 4-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Clark Art Museum Institute: Williamstown, Ma. - Tuesday through Saturday, 10-5 p.m. Closed Mondays. Free.

Chelsea House: Route 9, Brattleboro. Open year round with all kinds of activities. Schedule available in Student Services.

RESTAURANTS

HIGH QUALITY, MODERATE TO HIGH PRICED

Blackfriar: 300 Northside Drive, Bennington. Hearty food served up in a 200 year old stone house.

The Brasserie: Bennington Potter's Yard, 324 County Street, Bennington. Lunch, Dinner and Cocktails. A French based menu with emphasis on omelettes and quiches. Outside patio. Unique and tasty house salad dressing.

The Publyk House: Harwood Hill (Route 7A toward Manchester) Bennington. Open for Lunch and Dinner. Bar. Imaginative fare. Great salad bar, fine steaks and poultry items. Very substantial dinner selections. Reasonable cost. Bring your parents.

Yoshi's: Just over the New York State Line on Route 7 (Vermont Route 9). Fine Japanese cuisine, a lot of food at moderate prices. Exotic cocktails and Japanese beer and

The Fortune Cookie: 663 Main Street, Bennington. Open daily. Lunch, Dinner and Cocktails. An adequate Chinese restaurant located in a New England style country house setting. Wide menue.

setting. Wide menu.

Casa Miguel: Rt. 67, No. Bennington. Authentic Mexican

THE BEST ALTERNATIVES

Schwinn's: 101 West Main Street, Bennington. Lunch and Dinner. German-American food. Home baked breads, pastries and cookies.

The Villager: Main Street, North Bennington. Although reputed as a Bennington student hot-spot, the Villager offers an excellent excuse to get away from campus. A wonderful local atmosphere. Great drinks. Great juke box. Not the best place to take ones parents.

Northside Diner: 132 Northside Drive, Bennington. Second home for Bennington's old guard. Good and strong coffee.

The Vermont Steak House: 716 Main Street, Bennington. As its name implies, real Vermont steaks abound, as well as some seafood dishes. Lunch and Dinner. A beautiful wooden bar. Again, great local character.

Bennington Pizza House: In Monument Plaza and on Main Street, Bennington. Decent pizza served in the strange atmosphere of walls covered with ski posters and Greek Isle Travel Posters. Good prices for generally good food. Phone in orders. They serve grinders.

Micky's Pizza, Inc.: 510 Main Street, Bennington. Probably the best pizzas one could find in Bennington. They serve grinders, as well.

The Blue Benn: 102 Hunt Street, Bennington. Without a doubt the best place in town for breakfast, lunch, maybe even dinner. Wonderful omelettes, tasty homemade soups, delicious blueberry muffins. All this and more, brought to you be friendly waitresses in an authentic silk city dining car.

SERVICES

MEDIA

AM Radio S	tations	
	Albany	590
WROW	Schenectady	810
WGY		980
WTRY	Troy	1230
WMNB	North Adams	1370
WBTN	Bennington	1460
WOKO	Albany	1540
WPTR	Albany	1540
FM Radio S		90.1
WMHT	Schenectady	89.1
WAMC	Albany	90.3
WRPI	Troy (RPI)	91.5
WCFM	Williamstown	91.9
WFLY	Troy	92.3
WROW	Albany	95.5
WGFM	Schenectady	99.5
WMNB	North Adams	100.1
WWOM	Albany	101.1
WJIV	Cherry Valley	101.9
WHRL	Albany	103.1
WQBK	Albany	104.1
WHSH	Albany	106.5
WGNA	Albany	107.7
Television !	Stations	
WRGB	Schenectady	6
WTEN	Albany	10
WAST	Menands	13
WMHT	Schenectady	17
WCDC	Adams	19

Newspapers and Periodicals

Bennington Banner, 425 Main Street, Bennington, VT 05201; 802-447-7567. Daily. Berkshire Eagle, 33 Eagle

Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201; 413-447-7311. Daily. Country Journal, Route 7, Manchester, VT 05254; 802-362-1022. Monthly. Hemmings Motor News, West Road, Bennington, VT 05201; 802-442-3101. Monthly. Manchester Journal, Manchester Center, VT 05255; 802-362-2222. Weekly. Pennysaver, 109 South Street, Bennington, VT 05201; 802-442-5449. Weekly. Rutland herald, 27 Wales Street, Rutland, VT 05701; 802-775-5511. Daily. Springfield Union, 1860 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01101; 413-787-2411. Daily. Standard Press, 22 Second Street, Hoosick Falls, NY 12090; 518-686-7338. Weekly. Times Record, 501 Broadway, Troy, NY 12180; 518-272-2000. Daily. Times Union and Knickerbocker News, 645 Albany Shaker Road, Colonie, NY 12211; 518-453-5454. Daily. Transcript, 124 American Legion Drive, North Adams, MA 01247; 413-663-3741. Daily. Valley News, Wilmington, VT 05363; 802-464-5757. Biweekly. Vermont Life, 61 Elm Street, Montpelier, VT 05602; 802-828-3241. Quarterly. Vermont News Guide, Manchester Center, VT 05255; 802-362-3535. Weekly, Vermont Sportsman, 140 Dewey Street, Bennington, VT 05201; 802-442-8193. Monthly. Voice, Box 8, Bondville, VT 05340; 802-297-1600. Biweekly.

CHURCHES

All Faiths Chapel, Vermont Veterans Home, Bennington: 802-442-5646.

Christian and Missionary Alliance, Crescent Boulevard, Bennington; 802-442-6840.

Congregation Beth Israel Synagogue, 265 Church Street, North Adams; 413-663-5830.

Congregational Church, North Bennington; 802-442-5161.

Federated Church, East Arlington; 802-375-2548.

First Baptist Church, 601 Main Street, Bennington; 802-442-2105.

First Baptist Church, Manchester Center; 802-362-1555.

First Baptist Church, Main Street, Williamstown; 413-458-

First Church of Christ Scientist, 125 Hillside Street, Bennington; 802-442-2862.

First Congregational Church, Monument Avenue, Bennington; 802-447-7875.

First Congregational Church, Manchester; 802-362-2709.

First Congregation Church, Main Street, Williamstown; 413-458-4273.

First United Methodist Church, Shaftsbury.

First United Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Hoosick Falls: 518-686-5113.

Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church, 67 Main Street, Hoosick Falls; 518-686-5064.

Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall, Route 67, Shaftsbury; 802-552-5878.

Methodist Church, 440 Main Street, Bennington; 802-442-

North Bennington Baptist Church, North Bennington; 802-442-2711.

Old Stone Church, North Bennington; 802-442-9690.

Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church, Wilmington; 802-464-5256.

Pownal United Methodist Church, Pownal; 802-823-5401.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 36 Harbour Road, Bennington; 802-442-8423.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, School Street, Bennington; 802-442-6281.

Second Congregational Church, Hillside Street, Bennington; 802-442-2559.

St. Francis De Sales Catholic Church, Main Street, Bennington; 802-442-4518.

St. James Episcopal Church, Arlington; 802-375-9952.

St. John the Baptist Church, North Bennington; 802-447-

St. Johns Episcopal Church, Park Street, Williamstown; 413-458-8144.

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, Arlington; 802-375-

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Southworth Avenue, Williamstown; 413-458-4946.

St. Peters Episcopal Church, Pleasant Street, Bennington; 802-442-2911.

St. Raphael's Roman Catholic Church. Cole Avenue. Williamstown; 413-458-3051.

Second Congregational Church, Hillside Street, Bennington; 802-442-2559.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 103 Burgess Road, Bennington; 802-442-5856.

Society of Friends (Quakers), Bennington Free Library, Bennington.

Temple Beth-El Synagogue, North Street, Bennington; 802-442-9026.

Unitarian-Universalist, McCullough Library, North Bennington; 802-442-5526.

United Church of Dorset, Dorset; 802-867-2260.

United Methodist Church, West Arlington.

United Methodist Church, Main Street, Williamstown; 413-458-3183.

Zion Episcopal Church, Manchester.

Harvest Christian Ministries, 200 School Street, Bennington; 802-447-0869.

COMMUNICATION SOURCES

College Week

College Week is distributed weekly to the resident community and a limited subscription list. It contains a calendar of the week's events and announcements. Advertisements, solicitations or personal messages are not included. Anyone may submit announcements to the Publications Office by noon on the Wednesday prior to the week of the issue. Notices for College Week must be submitted on forms available from faculty secretaries, Switchboard or the Publications Office.

Community Notices

Community Notices are mimeographed announcements listing events or information which could not be included in College Week. These notices are distributed to the resident community in response to schedule changes or emergencies, and should not be issued as supplements to College Week. Persons wishing to issue a community notice are responsible for typing the stencil, delivering it to the Duplicating Room, and distributing the completed notices to mailboxes.

Galleys

Galleys are mimeographed broadsides published when a member of the community wishes to express his/her opinion in writing on some issue of community concern. Galleys have neither an editor nor an editorial policy, but should a galley contain libelous material, the Information/Publicaions Office will call this to the attention of the writer. The original galley manuscript must be signed by the author, but the printed galley may appear, if the writer wishes, with a nom de plume. Galley manuscripts should be left in the galley mailbox at the Post Office where they will be picked up by a student employed to type the stencils. The author or sponsor is responsible for final distribution of the printed galley into mailboxes. Galleys are a form of expression traditional to Bennington and have taken on many issues of interest to the community, both major and minor. When galleys take the form of ballots or questionnaires, the name of the author or sponsoring group must appear on the distributed copies.

Student News

Student News is published by the Office of Student Affairs throughout the Fall and Spring terms. It contains information, notices, and issues of particular concern to students. Any member of the community is invited to submit material for Student News.

Job News

Job News is published by the Office of Student Affairs throughout both terms and provides information about term, summer and post-graduate employment opportunities and study programs.

FWT News

FWT News is published by the Office of Student Affairs during the Fall term to provide students with information about FWT jobs, job and housing changes, and FWT policies and procedures.

Quadrille

Quadrille, the Bennington College alumni magazine, is published six times a year for alumni, faculty, students, friends and parents of current students. Ideas for articles and features should be submitted to the Publications Office.

Silo, an arts and letters magazine published annually in the Spring and sold at a nominal rate to the College community, subscribers and bookstores, is edited by students and includes prose, poetry, music and art from contributors both inside and outside the College community. Students interested in working on or contributing to Silo should contact the Publications Office early in the Fall, when an editorial board is assembled.

The Bennington Review

The Bennington Review is a national magazine concerned with current arts, both written, visual and performing. It features articles written by participants of the Bennington Summer Writing Workshops. Subscriptions for The Bennington Review, which appears annually, are available through the Bennington Review Office in Barn #3. Single issues may be purchased at the Bookstore.

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