## Plan for the Permanent Organization of the Students and Community of Bennington College

We, the students and faculty of Bennington College, agree on the following form of government.

- I. The organization of the houses to consist of a house committee and chairman, elected in the houses.
  - The houses will be free afterwards to alter their organization to suit their needs.
- II. A Student Council to consist of one representative chosen from each house with a fifth member chosen at large.
  - The nominations for the representative at large to be made in the houses, the election to be made by the College community as a whole.
- III. The Student Council of five to elect its own president and secretary-treasurer.
  - IV. The Student Council of five, together with the members of the faculty Committee on Student Personnel consisting of three members shall constitute the Community Council which shall be the chief deliberative body of the College.
    - V. The Community shall consist of the student body, faculty, and staff.
  - VI. Committees for the carrying on of any special functions such as meeting with the faculty on matters of educational policy, suggestions regarding dining rooms and housekeeping, etc., may be created by the Community Council or by the house organization when matters relate to a single house.

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The houses are to be left free to elect their representatives to the Student Council for a year, a semester, or for a shorter period, and to be free to replace their representatives at any time by a vote of lack of confidence. If officers of the Student Council are replaced by other house representatives, the Student Council shall elect other officers to fill the vacancies.

If, for any reason, the house representative cannot attend the Student Council meeting, another representative shall attend in her place.

All powers of community government shall originally reside in each house. House meetings shall be called at regular intervals to discuss such matters as pertain to each house.

The College community at regularly called meetings of the community may take over any powers of government that it sees fit. It

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may exercise those powers directly or delegate them to the Student or Community Councils. When any house through a majority vote objects to the community government taking over any power, it will require a majority vote at two regular community meetings to validate the taking over of the power. The question of interpreting the proper jurisdiction as between houses and the community government will be decided by the Community Council.

The faculty is to be associated in the government; that is, the faculty in the house as regular members of the house group, the faculty Personnel Committee as members of the Community Council, and faculty as regular members of the community meeting.

November 1, 1932