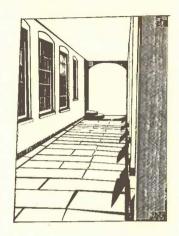
Benningway



This handbook has been designed to answer as many questions as could be anticipated concerning the academic and non-academic life of our community. While it has a reference-like quality, it was conceived to be saved and utilized, though perhaps not cherished, throughout your time at Bennington.

The dynamic of difference among the personalities of our small community invigorates individual creativity. It is our hope that this handbook will serve as an introduction to the mysterious and amazing manner in which students do find their Bennington way.

1 the Barn

2 Edward Clark Crossett Library

3 Commons

4 Watchman's Booth

5 Maintenance Building

6 Swan House

7 Woolley House

8 Stokes-Sanford House

9 Franklin House

10 Canfield House

11 Dewey House

12 Booth House

13 Kilpatrick House

14 Welling House

15 Bingham House

16 McCullough House

17 Leigh House

18 Noyes House

19 Sawtell House

20 Fels House

21 Svaha Cafe

22 Tishman Hall

23 Dickinson Science Building

24 Kiln

25 Feeley Art Workshop

26 Usdan Gallery

27 Lester Martin Drama Workshop

28 Martha Hill Dance Workshop

29 Greenwall Music Workshop

30 Cricket Hill

31 Early Childhood Center

32 Chicken Coop

33 the Brooder

34 Shingle Cottage

35 Presidnet's House

36 Annex & Bunk House

37 Ludlow House

38 Faculty Houses

39 Fruitrich House

40 Carriage Barn

41 Jennings Music Hall

A resident student parking

B non-resident student parking

C faculty & staff parking

D visitor parking

Art and Architecture Committee

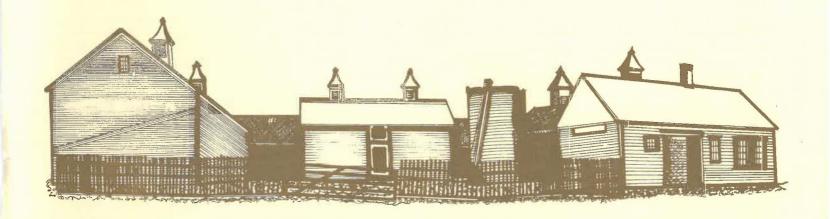
The Art and Architecture Committee advises trustees and the President on all matters relating to College architecture, architects, general maintenance, the design and siting of buildings and the landscaping of College property. Seven members of the faculty, including the chairperson and two administrators, serve for indefinite terms. The Director of Plant Management meets with the committee as an ex-officio member.

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the Barn



President's office

president Joseph Murphy secretary Kay Fay location Barn 60 location Barn 58 extension 241

To be President of Bennington College one needs the wisdom of a Solomon, the patience of a saint and the tenacity of Jaws. According to the Faculty Handbook,"The President is responsible to the Board of Trustees for College policy and administration." He is also an ex-officio member of all faculty committees and chairs the monthly faculty meetings. In addition to formulating policy, the President mediates internal squabbles and keeps the College running as smoothly as possible towards the realization of its aims and ideals. To the world outside Bennington, the President assumes the role of M.V.A. (Most Visible Administrator). He maintains and promotes the College's image while raising funds and attracting applicants.

Joseph Murphy fills all these roles and also manages to conduct several tutorials for the Social Science Division. Since taking office he has focused his attention on the specific areas of fund raising and admissions. Both areas have shown substantial improvements during his first two years as president. Displaying characteristic acumen and savvy, Joe Murphy has declared 1980 to be Bennington College's golden anniversary and has launched a special fund raising drive. The fact that the College's fiftieth birthday could have fallen anywhere between 1978 (fifty years from the drafting of the College's charter) and 1986 (fifty years since the first graduating class) has not seemed to

have had an adverse effect on contributions. Many aspects of internal organization have been placed in the capable hands of Bernie Iser, the Director of Business and Finance. A good rule of thumb is to take all matters concerning money to Bernie and all matters that transcend both the Dean of Studies and the Dean of Faculty to Joe.

Joe Murphy has the warm appeal of all Irish presidents. (There is some truth to the rumor that as a boy, young Murphy broke his nose in an attempt to slap his forehead while muttering "oy.") He is always warm and willing to talk to anyone about anything, but be forewarned that candor is his trademark. He doesn't want students to be intimidated by the title "President." If you feel the urge to talk with Joe you can do any one of a number of things from cornering him at the post-faculty meeting cocktail party to hanging around his Beechcraft at the Bennington County Airport. However, the easiest way to see the President is to make an appointment with his secretary, Kay Fay, in Barn 58.

Dean of the Faculty

dean of the faculty
Donald R. Brown
location Barn 57

secretary Pauline Shea location Barn 56 extension 212

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; the operation of the Library and the Early Childhood Center; preparation of the agenda for faculty meetings, the Faculty Personnel Committee, and the Faculty Educational Policies Committee; and other duties. Any faculty related problems that cannot be resolved through the divisional offices or the Dean of Studies should be taken to the Dean of the Faculty.

Faculty Educational Policies Committee

The FEPC is the policy formulating and review body of the faculty, an executive committee of the faculty. It considers all questions of educational policy, prepares proposals for consideration in faculty meetings, reviews divisional curricula and performance, and reviews all new or changed courses proposed by the divisions. Any member of the faculty wishing to put a proposal before the faculty should first put the item on the agenda of the FEPC.

The FEPC is made up of six members of the faculty, elected at large; the Dean of Studies and the Dean of the Faculty; and two students elected in September for a one year term by the members of the SEPC.

Faculty Personnel Committee

The FPC meets regularly with the President to advise on personnel policies and on all decisions concerning reappointments to the faculty. In addition, it consults and advises on faculty salary increases based on merit.

The FPC is made up of five faculty members: four are elected from the faculty at large, and the Dean of the Faculty chairs and serves as an ex-officio member.

Personnel Review Committee

The PRC hears appeals from faculty members who have not been reappointed or have specific grievances concerning salary, assignment of teaching duties, assignment of space and other facilities or on points of personal privilege. Documents announcing and supporting the argument of an appeal of an FPC decision must be presented to the PRC by the end of the third week of classes in the following term.

Student Educational Policies Committee

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

The SEPC is composed of eighteen students: two representatives from each division (except Literature and Languages, which elects an additional member for Languages), who are elected by the student majors and prospective majors in that division; and an additional member appointed by the Student Council. The SEPC elects a chairperson and two representatives to the Faculty Educational Policies Committee from among its membership. Divisional representatives usually attend divisional faculty meetings, except when student plans and academic standing or faculty personnel decisions are being considered.

Dean of Studies

dean of studies Richard Blake		assistant de	an of studies
		Jane Sobel	
location	Barn 48	location	Barn 50
extension	226	extension	336

The Dean of Studies is responsible to the President for the formulation and administration of policies concerning student studies, including preparation of course materials, course schedules, establishment and operation of Educational Counseling Committee panels, the academic calendar, assignment of academic space, student counseling and advising, registration for courses, and student records and transcripts. If you have any academic questions or problems, make an appointment with the Dean of Studies or his assistant.

Registrar

Gertrude Syverstad is the Registrar and a notary public. Registration cards and changes of program should be submitted to the Registrar.

Recorder

Rosemary Odell is the Recorder. She handles all transcript requests.

Secretary

Teresa Yancy has extra copies of the curriculum as well as

registration cards, tutorial request forms and plan forms for submission to divisions.

Non-Resident Term office

director Alice T. Miller assistant director Deborah Harrington location Barn 44 extension 337

The NRT is a nine week non-resident work period extending from the beginning of January to early March. It 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 less well defined, the Non-Resident Term program is designed to complement and support the academic program and, ideally, to help clarify or confirm a prospective major interest. Special efforts are made to help third and fourth year students seek work which will directly relate to their major interests. Students are expected to work on a full time basis, with a minimum of thirty hours per week. They are also expected to obtain employment for each year they are in residence at Bennington. Note: A total of four successfully completed NRTs are required for graduation, except for those students who entered as transfers or have taken leaves.

Preparation for a successful NRT

Time at Bennington has an elusive and magical quality; when it should still be the beginning of the term, it is already December. With this in mind, it is crucial to plan for your winter term well in advance. Do not panic, the NRT office and faculty counselors are available for assist-

ance. The NRT staff has compiled a large number of job listings which include positions offering salaries, College work-study for financial aid students, stipends, room and board. Note: A limited amount of NRT grant money is provided by the College each year. All College work-study and NRT grant applications have a mid-November deadline. The following steps will aid you in planning for your NRT:

- review and select several interesting job possibilities (consider any personal contacts you might have);
- send cover letters and resumes to your prospective employers (be aware that they often schedule job interviews for Long Weekend and Thanksgiving vacation);
- 3. the NRT office offers assistance in acquiring housing for the duration of the winter; utilize their information. By the end of the fall term, your job and housing plans should be secured.

Independent study and thesis projects

In either your junior or senior year, in lieu of employment you my request approval for one independent study project. Applications to spend one NRT on thesis work are carefully reviewed and rarely granted. All applications for independent study or thesis projects must have the support of the project's sponsor, your faculty counselor and the NRT Director.

Evaluation of the NRT

Upon your return in March, you are required to write a brief evaluation of your winter experience. This paper, coupled with your employer's evaluation, is reviewed by your faculty counselor who comments on the appropriate-

ness of the activity in relation to your academic plan. All these reports, including the NRT Director's final approval, form part of your cumulative academic record. Remember, NRT experiences and evaluations are beneficial for both graduate school entrance and future employment.

NRT Committee

The operation of the Non-Resident Term office is reviewed by an eight member NRT committee composed of student, faculty and administrative representatives who advise on NRT policy, aims and the allocation of NRT grant money.

Student Services office

director Jean S. Aldrich location Barn 42

secretary Edna Garrison location Barn 41 extension 315

The Student Services office exists to serve the needs of students and to facilitate all non-academic plans. The office covers such areas as housing, post graduate plans, athletic plans, non-academic space, Student Handbook, foreign students, housekeeping, security—in other words, anything a student or group of students may propose.

The Director meets weekly with house chairpersons, discussing programs and problems connected with life outside the classroom. Many other members of the administration join these lunch meetings to discuss matters of community concern.

Student Services works closely with the Housing Committee, the Svaha Cafe, and is responsive to requests from Student Council. Indeed, in some senses, the office exists to act as ombudsman for students, to unsnarl tangles, avoid red tape and, in general, make clear the administration's determination to make students' non-academic life pleasant. The office is flexible and should serve as an information desk for students with questions. The door is always open.

Policy

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, Bennington does have a network of rules and regulations relating to the use of College facilities and the health and safety of the entire College community. The enactment and enforcement of these rulings are primarily the responsibility of the students.

In the event that a student governing body is ineffective in enforcing community regulations, the administration will initiate and enforce appropriate action. In most instances, enforcement will involve bringing the regulation to the attention of the student concerned, explaining its justification and requesting compliance. Administrative action will only be taken after written notice and the proposed administrative action have been given to the student responsible for the alleged violation. Within ten days after receiving the notice of violation, the student concerned may request a hearing before a committee made up of the Dean of Studies, the Dean of Faculty and the Director of

Student Services. If no hearing is requested within ten days, or after an appropriate hearing has been held, this committee shall issue a written statement of penalty to the student concerned, setting forth the nature of the violation and the penalty to be enforced. Notices of administrative reprimand, fines, withholding of grades and transcripts, suspension or expulsion may be invoked. Appeal from such a statement of penalty may then be taken, within ten days, to the President of the College.

Note: Students should remember that they are subject to state and federal laws with respect to drugs, alcohol and automobiles. The College will, upon request of a student's family, act as a temporary court guardian to a student if arrested, and will also provide advice as to counsel and bail.

Housing Office

director Alice Miller location Barn 40

extension 233

All entering freshmen and entering sophomores, regardless of age, will be housed in doubles and may **not** bring pets. Entering juniors will receive singles. All juniors and seniors have single rooms. Juniors and seniors who have been on leave will be assigned singles by the Housing office. No assurance can be given to house re-entering students in their former rooms. Each term, a certain number of students may be given permission to live off campus in independent housing. Room chosing rules are distributed by the Housing Committee each term immedi-

ately following Long Weekend.

Students are responsible for cleaning their own rooms; the College provides the necessary equipment. The College housekeeping staff cleans all common rooms, bathrooms, kitchens and hallways. You will be billed for any damage to your room, other than natural wear and tear, and excessive damage may lead to disciplinary procedures. It is against fire and insurance regulations to paint in your room; art studios are provided for this purpose (see the Art Division secretary).

Housing Committee

The Student Housing Committee acts as an advisory board to the Director of Housing in formulating procedures, priorities and policy for room drawings and allocations. It acts as an appeal and enforcement board in cases of dispute and/or violation of house rules. The five members, who are campus residents, are elected from the community by the Student Council. The Committee elects its own chairperson, and usually meets in the Housing office once a week.

Pets

Each student house has its own pet regulations—some are no pets, some have limited numbers of pets, some are limitless. There are, however, campus regulations applicable to all pets:

- pets must be registered with the Student Services office, and must wear tags at all times;
- 2. pets must be under the control of their owners, either

by verbal command or leash;

3. a \$25.00 refundable damage deposit is required in addition to the annual, non-refundable registration fee.

Unregistered or unaccompanied animals will be collected by the dog warden, held for four hours in cages and, if not retrieved by the owner (\$5.00 fine), taken to the local Humane Society where the retrieval fee is \$15.00. The entire community is asked to cooperate in keeping animals under control; the alternative is an administrative ban on all pets.

Pet Committee

The Pet Committee is concerned for the health of the animals on campus as well as for the comfort and safety of community members. Owners of pets who violate the above mentioned rules (only dogs, cats and small caged animals are allowed) are summoned to Pet Committee hearings. Due process is followed and appeals may be made to an Appeals Committee consisting of the Director of Business and Finance, the Dean of the Faculty and the Director of the 50th Anniversary.

director John Nissen location Barn 30 extension 255 secretary Margaret Persons location Barn 36 extension 225

The Admissions office recruits and selects students for the College, using a variety of methods to accomplish this task. Among them are mass mailings, school visits and a network of representatives in major cities across the country. Personal contact is most productive for both the applicant and the College, and Admissions aims its efforts towards this

Many of the Admissions staff have attended Bennington. They try to compose the student body as artfully as possible. Students can aid Admissions in improving the match between applicants and the College by giving tours and interviews after their first term. Admissions welcomes your suggestions.

Admissions Committee

The Admissions Committee is composed of student, faculty and admissions representatives who determine admissions policies and review applications. The Director of Admissions is responsible for final decisions on applications.

director Jeff Rossbach location Barn 26 secretary Evelyn Hayes extension 261

The Financial Aid office channels monies to needy students; visit it if you have questions concerning the financing of your Bennington education. Every student who receives financial aid has a budget which includes the College's comprehensive fee, personal, text 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. It can be difficult to understand how these components interrelate; also, for students who are eligible for College work-study and apply for those jobs and funding for the Non-Resident Term and summer, revisions in financial aid can be hard to comprehend. However, the aim of the Financial Aid staff is to make its policies and procedures as clear as possible—just ask.

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 of monies.

If a student did not receive financial aid upon entering Bennington, s/he 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. However, the Financial Aid office proces-

Campus jobs

A variety of campus jobs are available for students seeking employment. The College budget includes workstudy jobs for financial aid students and non work-study jobs for anyone who needs or wants to work. The majority of job listings are located in the Financial Aid office: however, departments such as Seiler's Food Service and the Library do their own hiring. Jobs are eagerly sought for and the positions are rapidly filled, so apply early. Bear in mind that parking fines and other unpaid bills are automatically deducted from your pay check.

Financial Aid Committee

The Financial Aid Committee, composed of student, faculty and administrative representatives, serves as an appeal committee for students who disagree with the Director regarding the determination of their aid and feel they cannot resolve the conflict within that office.

director Bernard Iser location Barn 22

Marjorie Mullane secretary Barn 21 location 232 extension

Your most frequent contact with the Business office will involve the giving or getting of money. The giving is the payment of term bills and charge slips. The former is unavoidable; the latter can always be avoided by the simple acts of returning library books, parking in designated areas after your vehicle has been registered and not damaging or losing College property. The getting is cashing personal checks in the Cashier's office and being paid for work performed (pay checks are distributed in the Post Office mailboxes).

If you need a short-term personal loan, emergency loans of no more than \$50.00 may be granted for no more than thirty days. All such loans must be repaid by the end of the term in which such loan was granted. In the event of special circumstances of a larger loan amount and, if necessary, a longer loan period, the loan will carry an interest rate of the same percentage charged to the College by its bank of record. Under no conditions will a student be allowed to have more than one loan outstanding at a time. Any student who defaults on a loan is ineligible for further borrowing. Student loans must be approved, in writing, by the Director of Student Services. If you should need legal aid, the office can refer you to a local attorney.

Seiler's Food Service and Allied Plant Management are

also responsibilities of the Business office and your comments on both may be directed here. Unless other appointments are scheduled, students can see the Director of Business and Finance by paying a visit to Barn 21.

Cashier's office

manager Shirley Percey location Barn 19 extension 231

hours Monday-Friday II am to 12:30 pm, 1:30 pm to 4 pm

Students, faculty and staff may cash personal checks up to \$25.00 per day in the Cashier's office.

Duplicating Room

manager Beatrice Shapiro extension location Barn 6 hours Monday-Friday 8 am to 6 pm

The Duplicating Room houses Xerox, mimeograph, ditto and offset machines, as well as a paper-folding machine. The Duplicating Room is responsible for printing galleys and community notices, and virtually anything you need copied or printed can be accommodated at a minimal price.

College Relations office

Special Projects office

director Christine Graham location Barn 17

secretary Carolyn Hess location Barn 18 extension 270

The object of the Special Projects office is to initiate and implement diversity (i.e. alternatives and additions) to the curriculum. The office instigates programs abroad, summer programs, alumni degree completion, special presentations and the fuller utilization of campus facilities.

Alumni office

director location Barn 10

secretary Joann Watson location Barn 9 extension 269

The Alumni office is responsible for keeping alumni in contact with the College and encouraging their support of it. Specific assignments include the planning and coordination of alumni volunteer activities for Admissions, NRT, fund raising and the Alumni Association, as well as such special projects as Alumni Weekend, and the publication of an Alumni Directory at regular intervals.

Publications office

director location Barn II extension 267

The College's Publications office supervises all College printing and publishes numerous magazines, brochures and descriptive flyers.

To obtain printed announcements or programs, consult the Publications office for information on graphic production. The cost of posters and programs is charged to the event's sponsor, its production budget or the division involved. Information about local printers is available through the Publications office.

To obtain photographs for publicity or record keeping, contact the Director of Publications, who is caretaker of the College's photo archives.

Publications

Quadrille is the Bennington College alumni magazine. It is published three times a year for alumni, faculty, students, friends and parents of current students. Articles and feature ideas should be submitted to the Publications office.

Silo is an arts and letters magazine, published annually in the spring and sold at a nominal rate to the College community, subscribers and hookstores. It 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 will be assembled.

Early Harvest is a literary publication that prints prose, poetry and critical prose of Bennington students. It is published annually in the fall and is sold on campus at a nominal rate. Students interested in working on or contributing to Early Harvest should contact the Publications office early in the fall, when an editorial board will be assembled.

The Bennington Review is a national magazine concerned with current arts—written, visual and performing—and features columns by a permanent staff of contributors. Subscriptions for the Bennington Review, which appears in April, September and December, are available through the Special Projects office. Single issues may be purchased at the Bookstore.

Public Relations office

director Charles Putney location Barn 8 extension 286

secretary Floss Burggraf extension 256

The College's Public Relations office is responsible for representing the College to the outside world—Bennington and beyond. Students who wish aid or suggestions in promoting their events (such as tours or performances), or wish to promote a College event in the immediate area, are invited to drop by Barn 8 For proper publicity on

events or tours, sufficient planning time must be permitted (at least two weeks, preferably four).

Publications

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 Public Relations office by noon on the Wednesday prior to the week of issue. Notices for College Week must be submitted on forms available from faculty secretaries, the Switchboard and Barn 8.

New Paper is the student newspaper, published several times each semester. It is distributed free to all members of the campus community. Persons interested in working for the New Paper should contact the Student Services office.

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 must type the stencil for mimeographing, bring it to the Duplicating Room, Barn 6 (where it will be reproduced) and distribute the completed notice to mailboxes in the Post Office.

Galleys are mimeographed broadsides published when a

member of the community wishes to express her/his 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 Director of Public Relations 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 undertakes final distribution of the printed galley to mailboxes in the Post Office. 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.

Bookstore

manager Josie Rahe location Barn, east wing hours Monday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm assistant manager Shawn MacKenzie extension 292

"So," said the Mock Turtle, "you want to know my history. A long, long time ago, when I was a real Mock Turtle, I went to school at a place called Bennington College. We had the best of equations."

"What did you learn?" asked Alice.

"Ambition, distraction, uglification and derision."

"I've never heard of uglification. What is it?"

"I suppose you know what to beautify is; well, if you don't know what to uglify is, you are a simpleton."

Alice did not feel encouraged to ask any more questions about it, so she went to the Bookstore, and there she asked Josie what books she had on the subject of uglification.

"Well," said Josie, "we have text books, school supplies, paints and canvas, tea pot handles and soap, tooth paste, cigarettes, gum, books on almost every subject, but we haven't a thing on uglification. We'd be happy to order anything you want, though."

"Thank you," said Alice.

"By the by," asked Josie, "how did you find us?"

"Well," Alice replied, "the Mock Turtle told me that if I could find the Lion of St. Mark hanging outside of a red building, better known as the Barn, then I would find the best bookstore this side of the rabbit hole."

"That's quite right. We have everything you need for the furthering of your education. And though the comprehensive fee does not cover the cost, we'll gladly except cash or checks. You must come back and visit, browse, chat, drop off some marmalade, anytime. We're open from 9 'til 5 Monday through Friday, with special hours at the beginning of the term. If I'm not here, Shawn can help you. She's the one who smokes a pipe."

"Hmmm," said Alice, "I met someone like that once, but he sat on a mushroom."

So ends the story of Alice in the Bookstore, and it really isn't a dream at all.

Academic structure

Academic Structure

The academic structure of Bennington is fairly simple; you can, with the advise and aid of your counselor, design a curriculum specifically suited to you. It is crucial, however, that you are able to explain your decisions to various faculty and to the Dean of Studies. There are very few requirements and many options and guidelines to help you make optimum use of the faculty and facilities. Any problems or brainstorms should be taken to your faculty counselor, if s/he cannot assist you in achieving a solution, s/he will direct you to someone who will probably be able to do so.

Counseling system

Note: Your faculty counselor is your very own V.I.P. who is ready and willing to assist and guide you through your Bennington education. You are assigned a faculty counselor by the Dean of Studies office to be your personal consultant in program planning, and any other problems, academic or not, which may arise. Course selection for the following term and the formulation of your Tentative or Confirmation of Plans should be discussed with your counselor and the appropriate papers signed. It is your responsibility to keep your counselor informed as to the direction of your academic program, the nature of the course work you have undertaken and any related issues which may arise. In turn, it is your counselor's responsibility to be informed about and to assist in your educational progress.

Universal counseling hour

Universal counseling hour occurs each Wednesday afternoon between 2 and 3 pm. No classes are scheduled during this time and faculty members are accessible in their offices. This is the recommended time to meet with your counselor, or to make appointments for an alternate time. Students generally have the same counselor for the entire year, but if for some reason the relationship is unproductive, it is advisable to request reassignment through the Dean of Studies office.

Educational Counseling Committee

The ECC is composed of ten members of the faculty, one from each division (except Literature and Languages, and Social Science, which have two), elected by the faculty at large, with the Dean of Studies serving as an ex-officio member and as chairperson.

The functions of the ECC are: a) recommending to the faculty standards of academic performance; b) advising the Dean of Studies concerning application of such standards; c) advising any student on her/his academic performance and plans; d) sanctioning individual variations of the College's requirements. Separate panels which meet to review individual student's programs or performance are chaired by the counselor of the student involved.

Program planning system

Planning the course program requires careful consideration. A new student is encouraged to formulate some ten-

tative choices to discuss with her/his counselor before registration begins. A wise general plan includes using the first two years to explore the offerings in a variety of divisions, while maintaining a continuity of interest which will lead to a choice of a major. An unbalanced or over specialized program can work to the student's later disadvantage, since the total four year program is expected to reflect the length and breadth, as well as the depth, implied in a liberal arts education. Program difficulties which cannot be resolved between the student and her/his counselor should be brought to the attention of the Dean of Studies.

Registration

To sign up for classes, the student picks up a program card from Gertrude Syverstad, 'Registrar of the College. On this card, the student lists all the classes s/he intends to take the following term, which have been discussed with the counselor, whose signature also appears on the card. A student obtains individual class cards from the Dean of Studies office, which the instructor of the class signs, thereby admitting the student to that particular class. All these cards are due in the Dean of Studies office by an announced date after the registration period. Inaccurate or missing cards can seriously jeopardize gaining credit for classes attended.

Tentative Plan

The Tentative Plan is written after careful consultation between the student and her/his counselor, usually in the spring term of the second year. In the plan, the student is

expected to address the range and balance of her/his work during the first two years, acknowledging any omissions in the program or shortcomings in areas studied. A plan also describes the preparation for the major being chosen and how this choice fits in with future plans. In outlining the program for advanced work, the student indicates the areas of study to be continued. A student also mentions any special requests for future study, such as a leave of absence or study in absentia, giving specific reasons why these plans are justified, and indicating the manner in which they will be fulfilled.

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 guality of work does not deteriorate. If a 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 subsequently be asked to withdraw. On the other hand, the record may warrant further time for the student to qualify for work in an intended major field, or in another discipline. In such case, 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.

This plan, which is occasionally called the Senior Plan to distinguish it from the Tentative Plan, is usually written in the spring term of the third year, to follow up and finalize the goals set forth in the Tentative Plan. Attention is given to the senior thesis or project, and the course of study complementing it, with explanations about any change s/he has made or wishes to make contrary to the intentions of the Tentative Plan. The earlier plan, in fact, is something of a point of comparison, having served to help the student prepare for the final plan.

Change of Plan

If a student wishes to make any changes in her/his plan after either of the above have been approved, s/he must submit a Change of Plan form to the division of her/his major field of concentration, to the Dean of Studies office and to the ECC.

Degree requirements

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

- 1. That every student do passing work of at least one term's duration in four different divisions of the College during her/his first two years.
- 2. That every student beyond the first year take at least one year's passing work beyond the introductory level in each of three different disciplines, two of which

may, but need not, fall within one division of the College.

3. That no student be permitted to undertake more than 22 quarters in a single division.

 That every student must complete four successful NRTs unless otherwise specified by the Dean of Studies office and the ECC.

Graduate programs

While a formal program for graduate studies is being developed, currently a few students may be accepted into the Performing and Visual Arts Divisions and the Literature and Languages Division (prose fiction), where a course of studies leading to a Master of Fine Arts or a Master of Arts degree is devised for them. Initial inquiries should be directed to the secretary of the appropriate division of the College.

Classes

Class attendance

It is expected that you will attend all your classes; however, in the event that you must miss a class, your instructor should be notified. If you are detained away from campus, you can notify the Student Services office or the Dean of Studies office who will explain the absence to your instructors and your counselor. If perchance you are admitted to the infirmary, the Health Service will notify your counselor but it is up to you to let your instructors

know of your absence.

When in the judgment of the instructor, frequent absence makes it impossible to meet the demands of the course, the student will be asked to drop the course and accept the consequent failure. It is the instructor's option to accept substitutions for work missed.

Dropping a course

If you wish to make any change of program you should first discuss the idea with your counselor. Dropping a course and replacing it with another in the first two weeks of the term may be done without prejudice to your record. After that date, a Change of Program form must be obtained from the Dean of Studies office, on which the reasons for the change are explained. This form must then be signed by the instructor or instructors concerned and by your counselor, all of whom are free to comment on the proposed change. The completed form is then returned to the Dean of Studies, who may question any change of program which reduces the number of courses you are taking.

Tutorials

Second and third year students may request an individual tutorial with a faculty member knowledgeable in a specific area not covered by the curriculum offerings. The student's counselor, proposed tutor, her/his major division and the Educational Counseling Committee must indicate their approval of the tutorial application on a form available in the Dean of Studies office. Any tutorial is consid-

ered a regular course in the student's total program.

Audits

Auditing courses is possible at Bennington College; however, permission to attend a class without expectation of credit will depend to some extent on the student's academic standing and the inclinations of the instructor of the class.

Extras

Extras are taken as an adjunct to a full course, such as dance technique within a dance course, which may be taken with the instructor's permission, but for which no credit is given. Students taking an extra are expected to attend class regularly.

Course credit

Students normally take four courses each term. While Bennington does not have a course credit system, four semester hours credit are assigned to each course when a transcript is sent out 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.

Student use of academic facilities

With the exception of the uses specified below, academic

facilities may be used for other purposes only by special arrangement with the Registrar of the College, who assigns the classrooms.

 Unoccupied classrooms may be used for study at night provided they are left in good order for classes the next day.

2. Students may use faculty offices for studying with the permission of the instructor to whom the office belongs.

3. Art students are asked to work in assigned areas only.

Use of performance space

Planned community events or performing arts rehearsals take precedence over the informal use of Commons Theatre, Usdan Gallery, the Carriage Barn or Tishman Hall. Community events should be scheduled through the Public Relations office, which keeps the College calendar. Requests for other uses of the above mentioned spaces should also be made at the Public Relations office, except for during those times when classes are scheduled, in which case the Registrar of the College must be consulted.

Evaluation of student work

Instructor's mid-term and final reports

Comments are written by instructors for each student in every course, both at mid-term and at the end of term. The content of these comments is extensive enough to serve the needs of the students and the Educational Counseling Committee, as well as those outside institutions who have a need for a student's transcript. The only ratings which appear on an instructor's final report are Passing, Not

Passing and To Be Completed.

To Be Completed

A student may request, but may not elect, a TBC (To Be Completed) in a course which s/he is otherwise passing and for which, usually for medical reasons, s/he has been unable to complete the work. Requests based on medical reasons must be reviewed by the Health Service to avoid placing the instructor in the position of having to judge the validity of the request. The initial decision on the granting of the TBC is the instructor's, and final approval must be granted by the Dean of Studies. TBCs are to be made up by the first day of the following resident term. If a student fails to make up work, the record will show failure in the course.

Counselor's report

At the end of each term, a report is submitted to the Dean of Studies office by the counselor on her/his counselee. The counselor's comment serves to summarize the student's educational experience of the term. It covers such concerns as the status of the student's program planning and recommendations for future work. It also serves to alert the Dean of Studies office to any problems the student might have which interfere with academic progress.

ECC review

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

Confidentiality of Records Act

According to the Confidentiality of Records Act passed in 1974, any student may see any information in her/his file dated after January 1, 1975. If you desire to see your file, a request may be made at the Dean of Studies office.

Policy on research and questionnaires involving students

Any class 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.

Academic policies

Transfers

Bennington does not automatically assign transfer students 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. Most transfer students graduate in the expected four year period, however, it is advisable to realize that unforeseen academic difficulties may make additional time necessary to earn the degree.

Study in absentia - during the term

Study away from Bennington which partially fulfills the requirements for graduation is carried out by some students every year. Plans for study elsewhere should be incorporated into the Tentative Plan and must be approved by the student's major division and the Educational Counseling Committee. Approval of the student's plan constitutes a commitment on the part of the College that if the plan is satisfactorily completed, and the student's work upon return to College is satisfactory, the time spent elsewhere will be considered the equivalent of a specified period of residence at Bennington.

A student who has an interest in studying abroad 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. The Student Services office and the NRT office have considerable information about study abroad, including the curricula of specific universities, fellowship programs and facts on travel and employment. It is also worthwhile to investigate the Bennington Abroad programs.

Study in absentia - completing work for the degree

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 present or former 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 her/his 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.

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 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.

Withdrawal

Any student who withdraws under other circumstances than those described above and wishes to return may 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 her/his plans are solidified.

Academic difficulties

A student finding her/himself with academic difficulties in any course should discuss this matter with the instructor on the earliest occasion. The counselor should also be informed of any such academic problems. Many divisions of the College have tutors available to help students with their work.

Academic probation

When the quality of a student's work falls below that required by the standards of the College and thereby makes a successful completion of studies uncertain, the student is informed by a letter to consider her/himself on academic probation. (A copy of this letter is sent to the student's parents.) At the end of the following term, the student's work will be reviewed by the Educational Counseling Committee to determine whether sufficient improvement has taken place to warrant the termination of probationary status. Where such improvements have not taken place, the student may be asked to withdraw from the College.

Early graduation

Normally, the work for the degree is completed in four years. If a student wishes to qualify for graduation in less than eight terms, this too should be incorporated into the Tentative Plan. If the proposal is accepted by the 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 over a normal period.

2. The quality of work in the major field is to be distinguished, and advanced work outside the major field is to be above average.

3. The faculty in the major field is to judge, first, whether or not the quantity of work in the major will be suffi-

cient if carried out as planned; second, whether or not the quality of the major work to date is distinguished and promises to continue to be so.

Graduate work

Many Bennington students go on after graduation to earn advanced degrees. Planning for this starts well before graduation, however. The student should discuss the possibility of graduate work with her/his counselor and the instructors in her/his major division for whatever guidance they may be able to give her/him. S/he should also consult the Dean's office for further guidance and general and specific information about entrance examinations and requirements, especially if s/he intends to compete for any graduate scholarships or fellowships.

Plagiarism

"Plagiarism means the passing off as one's own 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 counselor.

Whenever plagiarism is discovered or suspected, the instructor speaks to the student, and unless s/he is satisfied

24 that the suspicion is unfounded, reports the case to the Dean of Studies. Before deciding on further action, the instructor discusses the case at an ad hoc meeting with the counselor and the Dean of Studies, Procedures within the instructor's choice range from admonition and warning to expulsion from and/or failure in a course. If the ad hoc group considers more extreme action necessary, the case will be referred 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"

- Faculty Handbook 1978

Edward Clark Crossett Library

Robert Agard location east side of campus

reference librarian Michael Carver extension

278, 279

When your instructor assigns readings which are on reserve, or when you need to study, research reports or socialize the Library is the place to go. After the main part of the Library is closed for the evening, you may adjourn upstairs to a seminar and typing room that is open all night long, hence the name, All Night Study Room.

The Library contains a collection of books, journals and slides, a Xerox machine, and records and tapes of poetry and plays which are available in the listening room (music recordings are available in the Jennings Music Library). These can be checked out (except for the Xerox machine) on your College 1D card at the circulation desk.

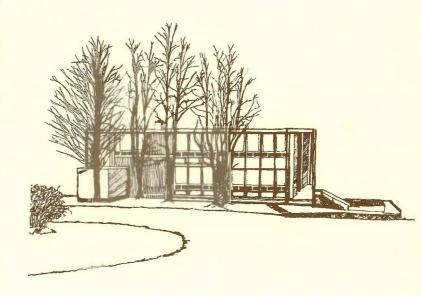
Through your library, there is potential access to anything existing on written record. Our collection is well selected, however, if you are in need of a book we do not possess, it can be borrowed through the Interlibrary Loan service.

The traditional strength of our collection lies in arts and literature, with the social sciences as a strong contender. A sturdy reference collection serves as a guide through this maze of recorded knowledge. The reference librarian is trained in the effective use of these tools and serves as a

guide in the flesh. Librarians and staff are accesssible; feel free to ask about anything at all.

So, whether to find a quiet place, meet a friend, read the reserves, locate needed materials, read the morning paper or just out of curiosity you will probably be in the Library one time or another or many. *Enjoy!*

Details concerning hours, policies and procedures of the Library are set out in the Library Fact Sheet which is given to you with your orientation materials, and is updated in College Week announcements. Read it as you need it.





Switchboard

must register it at the Switchboard.

location Commons, first floor, west end extension 0

hours 24 hours, 7 days a week

the Switchboard/Post Office room is locked between 10 pm and 8 am Monday-Saturday; 10 pm and 9 am Sundays and holidays

Incoming and campus calls

The Switchboard will receive incoming calls for students until midnight (this cut-off hour was set by a vote of house chairpersons). Incoming collect calls for students will not be accepted by the Switchboard, but will be referred to the pay telephone in the student house. Campus calls may be dialed directly through the inter-campus phone system which connects all on campus houses, offices and buildings.

Outgoing calls

Off campus telephone calls, including toll and collect calls made by students, must be made on pay telephones. Pay telephones are located on the first floor of all student houses, Commons, the Barn, the Arts Center, Dickinson, Jennings and outside the Watchman's Booth.

Bell Telephone credit cards

Any student expecting to use a Bell Telephone credit card

Bulletin board

Students may use the Post Office bulletin board for notices. All notices should be checked with the Switchboard Operator before posting. Any notice not initialed by the Switchboard Operator will be removed, no matter how funny it is. Notices are removed at the end of two weeks from the date of posting.

In addition to its other assignments, the Switchboard is the lost and found department, possesses local telephone directories and bus schedules, makes change for telephone calls, accepts address changes at the end of each term and supplies paper for in-box note dropping.

Post Office

postmistress Eleanor Moore extension 200

location Commons, first floor, west end hours Monday-Friday 8 am to 5 pm

address Bennington College, Bennington, Vermont

05201

Bennington College is, in addition to an academic institution of wide repute, a genuine federal post office substation. The Post Office sells stamps, postal cards, money orders, parcel post and so forth. Every student and faculty member has her/his own mailbox in Commons. Messages to administrators may be given to the postmistress, who

will forward them in the daily inter-campus mail deliver-

Mail schedule	incoming	outgoing
Monday-Friday	11:30 am	5:00 pm
	7:00 pm	
Saturday	11:30 am	3:00 pm
Sundays & holidays	none	none

Food Service

director Paul Renzi secretary Marge Healy location Commons, second extension 252

The six informal dining rooms are maintained by Seiler's Food Service Management of New England, who plan and prepare all menus. Meals are served cafeteria style and in addition to the regular fare, Seiler's provides a vegetarian program and a prodigious salad bar. The New Dining Room has modules near the west windows which may be reserved for meetings during the dining hours by consulting the Director of the Food Service or his assistant.

Some simple rules to follow

- Students are required to present their ID cards when entering the dining area;
- 2. Vermont State Law says no student may go barefoot in the dining area;
- 3. dishes, silver, glassware and food are to remain in the

- dining rooms except by permission of the Director;
- 4. guests are welcome, but must have meal tickets or pay full meal price;
- 5. dogs are taboo Vermont State Law.

Food Committee

The Student Council has established a Food Committee whose purpose is to make suggestions and complaints to the Director of the Food Service. Another medium of communication with the Food Service is the napkin comment board where compliments, complaints or recipes may be posted.

Dining hours

Monday-	breakfast	8:00 to 9	9:00 am
Friday	continental breakfast	9:00 to 9	9:30 am
,	lunch	12:00 to 1	:30 pm
	dinner	5:00 to 6	5:30 pm
Saturday	continental breakfast	10:00 to 11	:00 am
& Sunday	full brunch	11:00 to 12	2:00 am
	continental	12:00 to 12	2:30 pm
	dinner	4:30 to 5	:30 pm
special hours giving	posted for Long Week	ends and	Thanks-

hours

location Commons, first floor

hours Posted at the beginning of the term, watch for College Week announcements

The Snack Bar serves burgers, fries, shakes and tuna fish, as well as bagels, pizza, soft pretzels, homemade muffins and other inexpensive favorites. It is managed by Seiler's Food Service and welcomes your suggestions.

Health Service

location Commons, first floor, east end extension 220, 285

Monday-Friday 9 to 12 am, 1 to 4:30 pm

and 6:30 to 9:30 pm

Sunday, except for student vacations

9 to 10 am, 11 am to 4 pm and 5 to 9:30 pm

emergency dial Operator and the Switchboard will put you in touch with a physician

There is a nurse or physician on duty or available at all times when the College is in session. The Health Service is open at certain specified times, seven days a week, and the College physician holds five clinics a week. In the event of an emergency, service can be obtained at any

Most of the services are free to enrolled students. There is no charge for infirmary care or for medications ordered by the College physician for acute illnesses. However, a fee will be charged for laboratory tests. Many insurance programs will cover the cost of those studies. If you are not covered by one of these programs, it is mandatory that the insurance available through the College be obtained.

In addition to being available for first aid treatment, the Health Service provides consultation and help with any health related problems. When necessary, they will refer students to other medical specialists in Bennington. The Health Service staff regularly administers allergy injections and immunizations for travel as well as routine checkups and examinations for graduate school admissions, summer and NRT employment.

The Health Service staff holds in confidence all information given to them by students. The student's health record is not revealed to the family, faculty or administrative officers without the student's consent.

Student Health Committee

A Student Health Committee works with the Health Service to improve the quality of care on campus. Student participation and suggestions are encouraged.

Psychological Counseling Service

director Barbara Finlayson extension 208 location Commons, second floor north suites, entrance from northwest corner of building Monday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm hours

The Psychological Counseling Service is staffed by skilled individuals who are ready and willing to assist any student through short-term crisis situations as well as long-term counseling sessions. Confidentiality is strictly maintained and there is no contact with family, faculty or administrative personnel without the student's consent. Exceptions to this rule are made solely in the case of a serious threat to a student's health and safety. Counseling services are offered free of charge. In the event that a student finds her/himself in need of more intensive, long-term help, the staff will help her/him locate a private therapist.

If you find yourself going through a difficult period and would like to talk with an experienced and objective person, do not hesitate to contact the Counseling Service.

To make an appointment

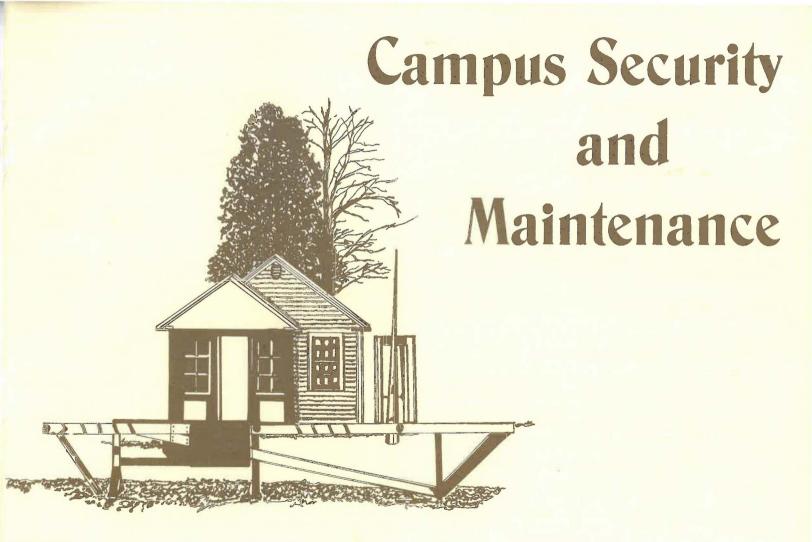
Call extension 208 or see the Counseling Service secretary between 10:00 and 12:00 am, and an appointment will be made as soon as possible.

If you need an appointment immediately, and it is after 12 noon, call extension 250.

If you need help during the night or the weekend call the Operator or extension 235.

location Commons, first floor, north end, down the hallway past the Snack Bar and to the left 24 hours, 7 days a week hours

Your campus laundromat contains an assortment of 30minute washers and 50-minute dryers which cost 35 cents each. The laundry room also has a vending machine with detergent and softeners at 25 cents a packet. A word of wisdom from the school of hard knox and lost sox: do not leave your clothing unattended in these machines.



Campus Security

24 hours

director Dick Borden extension 235, 210 location Watchman's Booth hours

The function of the Bennington College Security force is to maintain the personal safety of community members and to protect the campus property. It is the responsibility of Security to enforce all campus rules and regulations prescribed by the administration and the Student Council. Note: In the event of any emergency or any potentially hazardous situation it is imperative to notify Security immediatedly. Your Security force is comprised of individuals with many talents who will assist you wherever and whenever possible.

Rules and regulations

Emergencies, accidents and arrests

Any accident or arrest involving a student must be immediately reported to the Student Services office or to the Watchman's Booth. Accidents should also be reported to the Health Service whether injury is apparent or not. Note: In the event of an emergency-any emergency-dial Operator or 235.

Firearms

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

Locking student houses

The houses are locked every night by the night watchman at 1:00 am and are unlocked again between 6:30 and 7:00 am. If locked out, a student may get a house key from the Watchman's Booth and deposit it in the small box next to each house door. If a key is lost, the student will be charged for the cost of replacing the lock and keys (\$25.00). The night watchmen inspect the houses on fixed routes throughout the night.

Visitors

Students are welcome to have visitors on campus and are asked to register them at the Watchman's Booth. Guests will not be admitted on campus after 11:00 pm unless they are accompanied by a student. Visitors are not permitted to take up residence on campus, and if a complaint is registered by anyone, the administration will ask the person to leave. Students are held responsible for the conduct of any guest they might have.

Motor vehicles

Registration

All vehicles, including motorcycles, owned and/or operated by College community members must be registered with Security. Free registration stickers are issued at the Watchman's Booth.

Parking

Registered vehicles may be parked in designated campus lots in accordance with the regulations circulated by Security. Parking in front of buildings is limited to the amount of time it takes to load and unload a car or to drop off and pick up passengers.

Unregistered and illegally parked vehicles

Unregistered and illegally parked vehicles are ticketed by Security. Parking ticket fines are \$7.00 per violation, but a fourth violation results in an obtrusive sticker on the windshield as well as a fine. Unregistered vehicles are denied access to the campus after 6 pm. Any car parked at a fire hydrant will be towed immediately.

Most of the roads on campus also serve as fire lanes; so, in the interest of community safety, students are urged to cooperate with the motor vehicle regulations and to be conscientious and considerate motor vehicle operators.

Fire regulations

In case of fire dial Operator

The Director of the Physical Plant, in cooperation with the student fire chief and the fire wardens from each house, are responsible for the enforcement of all fire regulations. Note: Any Fire, no matter how small, should be reported to the Director of the Physical Plant immediately.

The Director of the Physical Plant also organizes periodic room inspections for fire and safety hazards. Inspections

are announced well in advance and only fire and safety hazards are checked for. 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 alarms sound.

In the interest of fire prevention, a few guidelines do exist:

- 1. smoking is not permitted in Tishman Hall, the Commons Theatre or in the Carriage Barn; large audiences make smoking particularly dangerous;
- candles may not be used in any campus building without the express approval of the Director of the Physical Plant;
- 3. hallways in student houses must be kept clear at all times;
- 4. firescreens must be employed whenever fireplaces are in use;
- 5. it is strongly suggested that students supply their rooms with metal wastebaskets and ashtrays;
- 6. extension cords, three way plugs and oil paints are not to be used anywhere in the student houses;
- 7. all appliances using a heating unit (i.e., televisions, blowdryers, coffee makers, hot plates, refrigerators) may only be used in living rooms, bathrooms or kitchenettes, where there is adequate wiring for them.

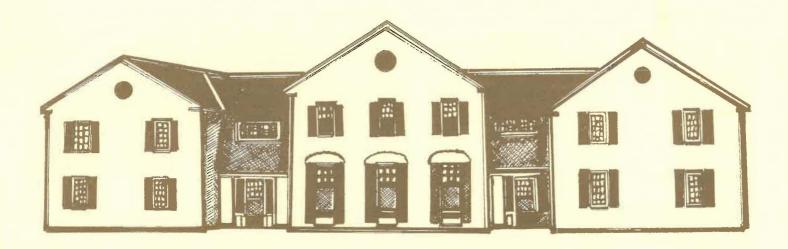
See Appendix for alarm signals and fire instructions.

director Russell Lord secretary Louise Dumas location east side of campus, southeast of the Library

The Maintenance Plant, a two-storied, flat-roofed building of natural wood construction with a tall, black smoke-stack on its west end, houses a plumbing shop, an electrical shop, a carpentry shop, a paintshop, the key office, the grounds department and four large boilers which keep the buildings warm and supplied with hot water.

The main function of the Allied Maintenance staff is to keep all buildings and grounds in good condition. There is a large assortment of custodial personnel who share in this endeavor under the direction of the Head House-keeper. They will assist you with any problems you might encounter if it is within their power to do so, however, they do not clean student rooms. If you have any Maintenance-related problems, don't hesitate to take a walk down to the nerve center of the College.

Community life



Community life

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, 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 and constitution are unique in that they are based on the expectation that common responsibilities will be shared by all members of the community: students, faculty and administration. All participate and have some voice in most questions of College wide concern. The three constituencies usually meet separately to deliberate and vote upon matters affecting them, although all three occasionally come together in community meetings to discuss issues of general or overlapping concern.

House life

House meetings

There are fifteen campus houses and four off campus, College owned houses which 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 once a week at coffee hour.

Each house elects a chairperson who arranges the agenda and schedules for these informal house meetings, and makes sure that daily life within the house is proceeding smoothly. Considerations such as excess of noise, the use of living areas, house and campus activities all fall under the jurisdiction of each house. The chairperson can determine when problems necessitate consultation with the Director of Student Services, and, in extreme cases, an administrative decision. Each house also elects a representative to the Student Council.

Coffee hour

Coffee hour is an informal gathering in each house on Sunday evenings. The idea originally arose because only two meals are served on Sundays, making virtually everyone ravenous around 9 or 10 pm. Each house evolves a system of assigning the task, to different students each week, of preparing a coffee hour feast. Coffee hours range from culinary tour de force in hot competition with each other to noisy, weird parties. Students should stick with their own house for coffee hour repast, since each student is responsible only for feeding the members of her/his own house, not the entire informed gourmet population of the College.

Use of living areas

Keys

Keys to student rooms and art studios are obtained at the

Key office in the Maintenance Building upon the payment of a \$5.00 deposit. Students will be charged the cost (\$25.00) of changing the locks if their keys are not returned at the end of each term.

Room furnishings

The College provides each student with the following items: a bed and mattress, desk, chair, bookcase, bureau and mirror. Most rooms are not equipped with wall or ceiling lights. Each student is responsible for the College property in her/his room and is expected to treat it with care. Cost of repair or replacement will be charged to the student. Students are also responsible for the cleaning of their rooms; cleaning equipment is available in each house.

If College furniture is not desired in a room, it must be immediately stored by the student in a designated space: attics in the old houses and storage rooms in the new. If a student does not wish to use a bed frame, the frame and box spring must both be stored, since the spring may scratch the floor. At the end of each term, the student is responsible for returning to her/his room any College furniture s/he has stored.

Rooms

Students are expected to use rooms in such a manner as not to interfere unreasonably with the use and enjoyment of other College rooms and facilities, and so as not to endanger the health or safety of the community. Unreasonable noise is to be avoided.

Public space

Living rooms are public spaces. Academic functions, such as classes and theatre rehearsals, parties and amusing gatherings are permissible with the house chairperson's approval, as determined in a house meeting. Living rooms, card rooms and attics are not to be used for overnight sleeping.

House property may not be removed from its predetermined location without permission of the housekeeper. If responsibility for loss or damage to College owned property cannot be specifically determined, each member of the house will be charged for a share of the cost.

Kitchenettes

Each house has a kitchenette equipped with a refrigerator, a stove and a few utensils. Several houses have ovens as well as stoves. The house members, not the maids, are responsible for the maintenance of these facilities. A consistently unclean kitchen may be locked by the Head Housekeeper to prevent further misuse.

Dismantling rooms at the end of term

Students must dismantle their rooms twice each year, in December and again in June. Possessions which are clearly labelled may be left in house attics or storage rooms during the winter and summer months at the student's own risk.

40 Entertainment Svaha Cafe

While Bennington is not a den of disco-like delights, there is a generous amount of cultural entertainment about campus. The Dance and Drama Divisions produce a wide variety of performances throughout the school year, and the Art Division sponsors periodic exhibitions and receptions. Monday night belongs to the Social Science Division, Tuesday is movie night, Wednesday the Music Division presents faculty, student and/or guest concerts, Thursday is Literature night, Friday night is the campus party, Saturday is back to the cinema and Sunday is house coffee hour time. Except for movies on Tuesday and Saturday, this is neither a rigid nor regular schedule; it is simply an agreed upon tradition to keep the divisionally sponsored lectures and activities out of conflict.

Overseen by Student Council, the Recreation Committee arranges and publicizes night clubs, square dances and athletic events such as soccer, tennis and baseball. Free for all, spontaneous sports include volleyball, basketball and the all time favorite, frisbee. The Recreation Center, on Gage Street in Bennington, offers swimming and saunas; see the Director of Student Services for details on their hours and admission price.

Standardized clubs do not exist at Bennington; however, student-instigated organizations flourish when interest, energy and commitment to a particular field are prevalent

manager Peter Kaizer assistant manager Deborah Ivie location west side of campus extension 204 hours posted at the beginning of the term, watch for College Week announcements

Where there was once a brick garage, then a sculpture studio, then a collection of memorial bars...there is now the Svaha Cafe. Where there was once a tractor, then steel sheets, then beer, popcorn and a television set...there is now a fine selection of inexpensive food and drink, music and nice tables.

Entirely non profit and student run, the Cafe offers a variety of meaty and vegetarian dishes: sandwiches, quiches, soups, salads and a daily assortment of pies, cakes, crepes, cookies and special desserts.

Until the Cafe is set up to serve its own beer and wine, you are welcome to bring your own, to sit with your friends, talking, eating, drinking and admiring the red, green, grey and black decor.

Located on Cafe Avenue on the Bennington College campus, the staff of the Cafe welcomes your suggestions, your presence and your tips.

Film Society

The Film Society is a student run organization that is responsible for ordering all entertainment films, and some supplementary course films, for each school year. Prior to

ordering these films, the Society distributes a questionnaire to students and faculty asking what films people are particularly interested in viewing. From the responses received, a list of films is compiled and subsequently ordered. At the beginning of each term, community members receive a copy of this list; save it for future reference and watch for *College Week* announcements regarding alterations in the schedule.

Two films per week are shown in Tishman Hall. They are free of charge, unless otherwise specified, and are open to the entire College community. Tuesday evenings are reserved for educational and artistic films; Saturday evenings for entertainment films.

The Film Society is open to opinions, suggestions and complaints from its variegated viewers. Contact can be made through the Film Society mailbox, located to the right of faculty mailboxes, in the Post Office.

Bennington Gay Community

It is the Bennington Gay Community's desire to be of service, educational and/or supportive, to any member of the College community with questions or problems. With this in mind, the BGC sponsors informal teas, and parties throughout the school year, and compiles a list of members who are available for consultation, moral support or simply communication. In addition, they have established a bulletin board next to the Health Service where topical announcements of genuine social value may be posted.

Those wishing to contact the Bennington Gay Community organization can do so either through the BGC mailbox,

located to the right of faculty mailboxes in the Post Office, or through the Psychological Counseling Service. Confidentiality will, of course, be completely respected.

Recycling

For a number of years a group of students has been working on a recycling program. They presently make about \$200.00 a year and use the money to purchase trees, shrubs and flowers for campus beautification. Volunteers are needed to help with the collection of paper, cans and bottles. If you are interested in contributing your energies to this endeavor, contact science instructor Ed Flaccus.

Silo, Early Harvest, New Paper

For information see Publications and Public Relations offices.

Town of Bennington

Transportation

Bus

There is a bus station in Bennington on 126 Washington Avenue, which is just off Main Street. Bus schedules can be found at the Switchboard and the Student Services office.

A local mini bus, with routes in the surrounding area, stops at the flagpole in front of the Barn several times a day. The schedule changes frequently, so be sure to check the listings on the Post Office bulletin board or outside the Student Services office.

Train and plane

The closest train stations, both using the AmTrack line, are in Rensselaer, New York, and Pittsfield, Vermont. Albany, New York, has the closest commercial airport, although Bennington has a small, private one. Airline connections can be made through local travel agencies.

In addition to the above mentioned modes of travel, the Student Services office sponsors a bus to Williamstown, Massachusetts; watch for *College Week* announcements regarding this schedule. Local taxis services, restaurants, movie theatres and stores are listed in the Yellow pages.

Car service

Most American cars can be serviced in Bennington at the appropriate car dealership. There are also many free lance mechanics who can be found in the Yellow Pages. Parts for foreign cars can be found or ordered through: Bennington Auto Body, Harmon Road, Bennington B & L Sales and Service Corp., 513 South Street, Bennington

Central Auto Supply, Inc., 201 Ben Mont Avenue, Bennington

H & H Auto Parts, Inc., Manchester Depot, Vermont Ott & Berger, Inc., North Hoosic Road, Williamstown, Massachusetts

Banks

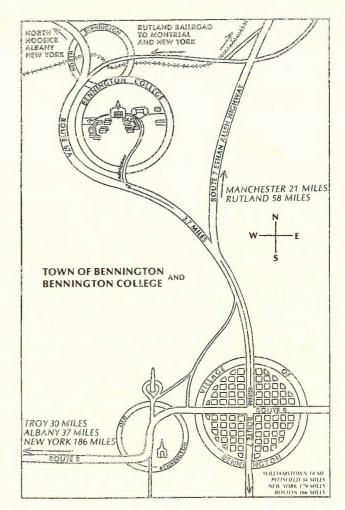
Bank listings can be located in the Yellow Pages. The following banks are both convenient and accustomed to handling Bennington students' accounts:

Catamount National, offices in North Bennington, Price Chopper parking lot and Putnam Square, Main Street, Bennington

First Vermont Bank & Trust Co., office in the Monument Plaza Shopping Center and 500 Main Street, Bennington Vermont National, 338 Main Street, Bennington Chittenden Trust Co., 401 Main Street, Bennington

Community service organizations

Volunteer work by students is much appreciated by the community organizations of Bennington. Details on vol-



Constitution

Old College Constitution

Preamble

We, the members of the Bennington College community, jointly seek

to promote the exercise of individual responsibility to moderate conflict between the organs of government

to provide forums for the discussion of affairs affecting all members of the community

to clarify the locus of legislative authority

to insure continuity in the governance of the community.

Under the laws of the State of Vermont and under the charter of the Bennington College Corporation, we therfore establish this constitution.

1. House Government

1. The members of each house shall elect a House Committee, to be composed of a house chairman, an assistant house chairman and a house delegate, to serve for a period of one year. The following six houses shall elect their respective House Committees at the conclusion of the fall term: Leigh, McCullough, Stokes-Sanford, Swan, Welling, Wooley. The following six houses shall elect their respective House Committees at the conclusion of the spring term: Bingham, Booth, Canfield, Dewey, Franklin, Kilpatrick. Additional student houses shall elect their House Committees on the same staggered schedule. No

first term freshman shall be eligible to serve as house chairman or house delegate.

(as amended spring 1966)

- 2. It shall be the responsibility of the house chairman, with the assistance of the House Committee, to execute the regulations and conduct the business of the house, employing whatever measures may be necessary and proper to fulfill her responsibilities under this constitution. She shall enforce legislation that has been passed by the house meeting, by the Student Government or by the community. When enforcement proves impossible, she shall report offenses to the Judicial Committee. The members of the House Committee shall be exempt from responsibility for the financial obligations of the house except as residents thereof.
- 3. Each house shall hold frequent meetings of all its members in order to:

legislate on house business, such as quiet hours, house dues and check up duty;

deliberate on matters of general College policy, such as men in rooms, library hours or traffic regulations, whenever requested by the Legislative Council or by members of the house;

vote, by secret ballot, on matters of general College policy after they have been discussed in house meetings;

orient new students each fall term.

Questions referred to house meetings for discussion by a proper authority shall be discussed within two weeks. Failure to meet this requirement shall be grounds for disciplinary action by the Judicial Committee.

4. The Legislative Council of the student government shall provide appropriate procedures for deliberation and voting by special students and off campus students.

II. Student Government

erally observed;

Executive Committee of the Houses

1. The house chairmen shall constitute an Executive Committee of the Houses, which shall meet at least once in every two weeks. The Judicial Committee and the Student Fire Department shall each be represented on the Executive Committee by one delegate, who shall have the right to take part in deliberations but not to cast a vote. Upon their first meeting of the term, the members of the Executive Committee shall elect a chairman and a secretary to preside over and record their meetings.

(as amended spring 1966)

2. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee of the Houses:

A. to confer regularly on the problems of house government, to consider grievances reported by individual students and to make recommendations to individual house chairmen as to how they may more effectively carry out their responsibilities;

B. to devise and promulgate such administrative regulations as are necessary to put into effect standards and rules adopted by the proper legislative authority; C. to plan the annual orientation of new students; D. to call and conduct special house meetings in

houses in which the standards and rules are not gen-

E. to consult at frequent intervals with the Director of Student Personnel and other members of the administration on house matters:

F. to recommend legislation affecting the houses to the Legislative Council and, through it, to the student electorate.

Legislative Council

3. The delegates from the houses, together with the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Houses, the chairman of the Judicial Committee and the chairman of the Student Educational Policies Committee, shall constitute a Legislative Council, which shall meet at least once in every two weeks.

4. Each term the student electorate shall elect a President of the Council from among the twelve house delegates. If a new house delegate is elected President, her house will elect a delegate to replace her.

(amended spring 1961)

Each term the Council shall appoint a secretary who will be paid from the student government budget. The secretary shall not have the right to vote.

(amended spring 1961)

The President of the Council shall designate a spokesman to present the views of the Council at community meetings.

5. It shall be the responsibility of the Legislative Council: A. to inquire into and deliberate upon matters of student or College policy arising within the Council or presented to it for consideration by other agencies; B. to refer such matters, with or without its recom-

mendation, to the student houses for deliberation and balloting whenever appropriate;

C. to consolidate and publicize the results of elections and votes held in the houses, provided that the delegates shall report both majority and minority votes cast in the houses, and the vote cast in the houses shall be binding on council;

D. to execute the regulations and conduct the business of the student electorate, employing whatever means may be necessary and proper to fulfill its responsibilities under this constitution, provided that while the Council shall have original responsibility for the execution of policies so voted within the limits of the constitution, it shall also have authority to name standing committees and ad hoc committees to carry out various executive functions more effectively; provided further that in establishing such committees the Legislative Council shall name one of its members as chairman of the committee. choosing the remainder from the student body at large, and the subcommittees so appointed shall make periodic reports to the houses via the Legislative Council, that they shall be subject to recall by established processes, and that upon petition of 15% of the student electorate they shall be required to conduct a public hearing on the policies they propose or have adopted; provided further that the student electorate shall have the power to nominate members for these subcommittees by petition of 15% of the eligible voters;

E. to appoint a treasurer for the student government according to the procedures stipulated for standing and ad hoc committees:

F. to call student meetings or community meetings in order to discuss issues that in the judgement of the Council require public discussion before they are deliberated upon in house meetings;

G. to conduct special elections to fill unexpired terms of officers of the student government.

Judicial Committee

6. There shall be a Judicial Committee composed of five students and one non-voting faculty advisor serving one year terms.

(amended spring 1961)

Two students shall be elected at the end of the fall term, and three students and the faculty advisor shall be elected at the end of the spring term by the student electorate in a preferential secret ballot conducted by the Legislative Council. They shall elect a chairman from the student members who have experience on the committee.

No student shall be eligible until she has served at least one semester on a House Committee or on a divisional Educational Policies Committee; but no student shall be a member of the Judicial Committee while she is serving as a house chairman. No faculty member shall be eligible for election until he has been a member of the faculty for two years. Candidates shall be nominated by the Legislative Council, by house meetings or by petition of fifteen eligible members of the community, and a preliminary election shall be held one week before the final balloting to reduce the number of candidates to three times the number of vacancies. The authority of the Judicial Committee shall extend to all infractions of the rules and regulations voted upon by the student electorate. It shall have

the power to rescind campus motor vehicle permits issued by the College, to limit individual students' sign out privileges and to campus individual students, to suspend or expel students from the College or to employ such other penalties as it deems appropriate. The committee shall operate at all times as a full committee, except in instances in which it has specifically and publically delegated authority to an individual member.

(amended spring 1966)

7. Every student shall have the right to appeal to a Judicial Review Committee to reduce a penalty imposed by the Judicial Committee. Sentences of expulsion or suspension must be appealed to the Judicial Review Committee, and shall require the approval of the President of the College before they may be carried into effect. The Judicial Review Committee shall be composed of the Director of Student Personnel and two faculty members serving two year terms and elected in alternate years by the student electorate in a preferential secret ballot conducted by the Legislative Council, by a faculty meeting, by a house meeting or by petition of fifteen members of the community; and a preliminary election shall be held one week before the final balloting to reduce the number of candidates to three times the number of vacancies.

Educational Policies Committee

8. There shall be a Student Educational Policies Committee composed of two representatives from each division, serving one year terms. One representative shall be appointed by the faculty of the division within the first month of the fall term; the other shall be elected at meetings of students majoring in or intending to major in each of the div-

isions, such meetings to be called by the chairman of the Educational Policies Committee within the first month of the fall term. The divisional representatives shall elect a chairman for the coming year at the end of each spring term. No student shall be eligible for election as chairman until she has served at least one term as a class or divisional EPC representative. Class EPC representatives shall be elected in all classes at the beginning of each term, such class elections to be conducted by the class instructor.

It shall be the responsibility of the Student Educational Policies Committee to evaluate, and to stimulate the evaluation of, the educational aims and policies of the College as they are carried out in the classroom, within each division and by the College as a whole. In carrying out this responsibility, the class representative shall act as a liason between students and instructor, consulting with the instructor, holding at least one student meeting a term on the effectiveness of the instruction and the quality of student participation, then submitting a written report (as approved by the class) to the instructor, to the divisional representatives and to the President at the end of each term. The divisional representatives shall meet with the faculty members or the secretary of their divisions at the beginning of each term to discuss questions of policy, bringing the results of such discussions to the attention of the students and shall also consult with faculty members of their divisions whenever the expression of student opinion is sought. The divisional representatives shall also study and discuss the class representatives' reports, bringing any general suggestions that emerge to the attention of the faculty, then sending these reports on to the President. The divisional representatives shall meet as a committee of the whole to discuss questions of educational policy affecting the entire student body or questions of educational policy being considered by the Faculty and/or Trustee Educational Policies Committees when its opinions as representative of the student body is sought.

Non-Resident Term Committee

8a. There shall be a Non-Resident Term Committee composed of one representative of each of the sophomore, junior and senior classes, three members of the teaching faculty, the Director of the Non-Resident Term office and the Dean of studies, ex officio. One freshman shall be elected by vote of the student body every year at the end of the spring term and shall be a candidate for reelection each following year until she graduates, but other candidates may be nominated by the student body at its discretion and according to the nomination procedures applying to student members of the Judicial Committee. At the same time one faculty member shall be elected in a preferential secret ballot of the faculty to serve for a term of three years.

The committee as a whole shall elect a faculty chairman at the first meeting in the fall term. This first meeting shall be called by the Director of the Non-Resident Term office and shall be held during the first month of the fall term. The committee shall stand in the same relationship to the Non-Resident Term office as the faculty and student Educational Policies Committees do to the Dean of Studies.

The committee will serve the Director of the Non-Resident Term office in the capacity of a consultative body. The student, faculty and administrative members of the committee shall serve as liasons to their respective constituencies, and a representative must be present from each constituency for the committee to transact business. (as voted fall 1962)

Student Electorate

9. Individual participation being essential to effective self government,

A. every student member of the community shall have the right of suffrage on every matter that is presented for a vote, and 15% of those eligible voters present at any election or balloting shall have the right to demand that voting take place by secret ballot if not already required by the constitution;

B. all members of the student community shall the right to nominate candidates for elective office, provided that they observe the provisions of the constitution in offering such nomination;

C. every member of the student community shall have the right to petition the Legislative Council in any matter of College policy; and if students numbering 15% of the electorate shall petition the Legislative Council in support of specific legislation the Legislative Council must refer the matter (with or without recommendation) to a vote in the house meetings:

D. members of the student community shall have the right to recall officials elected or appointed by students. A recall election shall be held when 15% of the appropriate constituency has petitioned for it and an official shall be removed from office whenever a majority of those voting in a recall election or one-third of the eligible voters (whichever is larger) shall have voted for her recall:

E. 15% of the student electorate may petition for a student or community meeting;

F. any election or balloting where less than 25% of the student electorate cast their vote shall be declared invalid.

(amended spring 1963)

10. Amendment of Articles I and II of this constitution may be proposed by a majority of the Legislative Council, by a majority in each of three houses (by three house meetings) or by petition of one-fourth of the members of the student constituency. An amendment shall be adopted when approved by a majority of those voting and by a majority of the student houses.

III. Faculty

- 1. Every member of the teaching faculty, and every member of the administration of the College who has been accorded suffrage in educational matters by the faculty, shall have the right to vote in faculty meetings. Voting members of the faculty meeting may invite other members of the administration to vote on particular issues.
- 2. The authority of the faculty meeting shall extend to all areas of College policy affecting the educational standing of the College and the education of its students. The faculty shall have the authority to name standing committees and ad hoc committees to carry out its various educational functions more effectively and also to delegate the execution of particular faculty responsibilities to the College administration.

3. The faculty shall have authority:

A. to inquire into and to deliberate upon questions of College policy arising within the faculty or presented to it for consideration by other agencies; B. to refer such matters, with or without its recommendation, to other constituencies for deliberation and balloting whenever appropriate;

C. to request the chairman of the Legislative Council to call community meetings in order to discuss issues that in the judgment of the faculty require public discussion before they are deliberated and voted upon in the separate constituencies.

- 4. The faculty meeting shall designate a spokesman whose duty it will be to present the judgement of the faculty on any matter of general College policy to the community meeting.
- 5. Amendments to the third article of this constitution may be proposed by any committee of the faculty, by vote of one of the seven academic divisions, or by petition of one of the seven academic divisions or by petition of one-fourth of the voting members of the faculty. An amendment shall be adopted when approved by a majority of those voting in a faculty meeting.

IV. Administration

- 1. For the purposes of this constitution, the members of the administration shall be designated by the President of the College.
- 2. The administration exercises the authority necessary to

52 carry out policies adopted by constitutional authority where their execution is not otherwise provided for.

- 3. The President has the authority to recommend to the trustees the appointment and reappointment of members of the faculty and administration, observing such recommendations as they may be adopted by the faculty affecting the nature of the advice that is to be employed in reviewing appointments.
- 4. The President has authority to recommend to the trustees changes in the policies of the College on his own initiative or upon formal recommendation of the faculty or the community.
- 5. Nothing in this constitution shall abridge the authority of the President to act in all matters in which he is legally responsible for, or accountable to trustees for, the conduct of the College. Nevertheless, in cases in which the President finds it necessary to contravene legislation adopted by the community or one of its constituencies, he shall report his action to the appropriate body of the community government and to the trustees, and shall transmit to the trustees any memoranda prepared for their consideration by the community or one of its constituencies.

V. Community Government

1 The Bennington College community consists of the student body, the faculty and the members of the administration and staff.

2. The Bennington College community will normally meet in separate constituencies to deliberate upon matters of College policy, but nothing in this constitution shall be held to preclude a general meeting of the whole community on matters of general concern. The community shall meet as a single group upon the call of the President, the Faculty Educational Policies Committee or the Legislative Council of the student government; upon petition of 15% of the community to the Legislative Council or when two constituencies have adopted divergent policies. In all cases, community meetings shall be presided over by the chairman of the Legislative Council or by her delegated representative.

(amended spring 1966)

- 3. Amendment of Article III may be proposed by any standing committee of the faculty, by majority vote of the members of an academic division (by vote of one of the seven academic divisions) or by petition of one-fourth of the voting members of the faculty. An amendment shall be adopted when approved by a majority of those voting in a faculty meeting.
- 4. All voting on matters of community concern shall take place in the separate constituencies, as provided for in this constitution
- 5. In all cases in which the interpretation of the constitution is in dispute, and in all cases where two or more competent constituencies disagree upon a policy affecting both or in which one constituency asserts a claim to competence that is disputed by another, the difference of opinion shall be referred to a Constitutional Council, to be

composed of three members of the administration other than the President to be designated by the President, three members of the teaching faculty and three students chosen by preferential ballot of the student body from candidates nominated as for the Judicial Committee as in Article II, section 6.

No member of the administration or faculty shall be eligible for the Constitutional Council until he has been a member of the faculty for two years. No student shall be eligible for the Constitutional Council until she has served at least one semester on the Executive Committee of the Houses or the Legislative Council or the Judicial Committee or the Student Educational Policies Committee.

The Constitutional Council shall be a standing committee, presided over by one of its members. Its members shall be elected for one and one-half years, one member from each constituency being chosen each term. A majority vote of the Council shall be binding on all parties to a dispute, provided that no decision of this council may abridge Article IV, section 5 of this constitution. The Council shall publish its decision when made, assigning reasons therefor, and shall publish both majority and minority opinions when it fails to reach a unanimous decision.

(amended spring 1966)

6. Except for policies adopted on an emergency basis or falling exclusively within the competence of a single constituency, no policy adopted by a single constituency shall take effect until thirty days after an official representative of each of the other constituencies has been informed of it.

(amended spring 1966)

1. Amendment of Articles V and VI may be proposed by one quarter of the student body, the Legislative Council, the faculty meeting or the members of the administration, and shall be adopted when approved by a majority of those students voting and a majority of the student houses, a majority of the faculty and a majority of the administration.

2. No amendment of this constitution may be voted upon until after a period of two weeks following the formal proposal of the amendment and its circulation to all members of the College community by the Secretary of the College.

VII. Ratification

- 1. This constitution shall be adopted when it has been approved by a majority of the students and a majority of the faculty voting in a referendum to be conducted by the present executive committee, provided that the total number of voters in each constituency is greater than 50% of the eligible voters.
- 2. When this constitution has been adopted, officers of the present community government shall conduct necessary elections and make such other arrangements as may be necessary to insure an orderly transfer of authority, provided that members of standing committees established under the present community government whose terms have not expired shall be entitled to continue in office for no longer than one semester. For the first student

election under this constitution eligibility requirements shall be determined by the present executive committee on the basis of past experience.

3. Rules and regulations of the present community government shall remain in effect until changed by properly established constitutional authority.

Note: In 1971, an amendment was passed creating the current Student Council, but this amendment was never recorded.

Announcement

The following is proposed amendment to the existing community constitution. You will note that it is called a student constitution and deals with matters of student government. This proposed constitution remains subject to amendment and ratification by the community, pursuant to the procedures specified in the now-effective constitution. The process of amendment and ratification will commence with the fall 1978 term.

Proposed Student Constitution

Article 1: 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 freshman 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 offences 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 can-

- didates 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 manner of College policy, and if 15% of the student body shall petition the Student Council in suport of specific legislation, the 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 her/his 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 Policy 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 transfers. 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 committees:

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 meetings or in student or community meetings. b) Student Council shall have authority to name stand-

h) Student Council shall have authority to name standing and *ad hoc* committees 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 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 consitutional

provisions.

ii) There shall be a Judicial Committee composed of seven students elected by Student Council at the end of each semeester 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.

iii) 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.

iv) 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.

v) 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 chairper-

son to have conflicting interests regarding the case. vi) 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.

vii) 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 defendant(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 shall elect a chairperson for the coming year at the end of each spring term. No student shall be eligible for election as chairperson unless s/he has 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 EPC 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 student 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 the 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 Faculty Educational Policies Committee, 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 President's delegated representative. The community meeting will serve as a forum for the expression of views and opinions regarding matters of current concern.
- 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 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.

Appendix

Bennington College calendar, 1978-1979

Fall Term 1978

Thu. Sep. 7 New students arrive all day First faculty meeting—4:15 pm

New students' appointments with counselors Fri. Sep. 8 -9 am to 12:30 pm

Counseling, re-entering students (those away at least one term)-2 to 4 pm Language Placement Tests - 4 to 5 pm

Registration, new and re-entering students Sat. Sep. 9 -9 am to 4 pm

Registration, returning students (those here last term) - 2 to 4 pm

Mon. Sep. 11 Classes begin -8:30 am

Fri. Oct. 20 Long Weekend begins — 1 pm

Wed. Oct. 25 Classes resume - 8:30 am

Wed. Nov. 22 Classes end for Thanksgiving vacation—4 pm

Mon Nov. 27 Classes resume - 8:30 am

Mon. Dec. 11 Final reports, graduating seniors and students scheduled for ECC-5 pm

Fri, Dec. 15 Classes end, all student work due Last faculty meeting -4:15 pm

Mon. Dec. 18 Final reports due - 9 am

All faculty members must be available through Dec. 20 for ECC

Tue. Jan. 2, 1979 Non-Resident Term begins

Spring Term 1979

Mon. Mar. 5 New students arrive all day First faculty meeting -4:15 pm Tue. Mar. 6 New students' appointments with counselors - 9 am to 4 pm Counseling, re-entering students (those away at least one term) -2 to 4 pm

Wed. Mar. 7 Registration, new and re-entering students -9 am to 12:30 pm

Registration, returning students (those here last term) - 2 to 4 pm

Thu. Mar. 8 Classes begin - 8:30 am Wed. Apr. 25 Long Weekend begins - 1 pm

Mon. Apr. 30 Classes resume - 8:30 am

Mon. June 11 Final reports, graduating seniors and students scheduled for ECC-5 pm

Wed. June 13 Classes end, all student work due Vote on candidates for graduation Faculty meeting — 4:15 pm

Sat. June 16 Commencement

Mon. June 18 Final reports on all other than graduating seniors due-10 am

> All faculty members must be available through June 20 for ECC

Fall Term 1979

New students arrive Thu. Sep. 6 First faculty meeting Mon. Sep. 10 Classes begin - 8:30 am

Fire instructions

In case of fire

Sound interior alarm and evacuate building. Dial operator or use fire alarm box for campus signals. Isolate fire by

60

closing windows and doors. At night, turn on lights and open shades. Go to the Watchman's Booth to direct fire truck to scene of fire. Stay 100 yards away from fire—hose pressure can injure a person. Do **not** use telephone except to report a fire.

Campus signals (horn in tower of Commons)

One (1) continuous blast—Initial alarm to be followed by area signal below.

Two (2) short blasts—East student houses, Library, Maintenance and Faculty Row.

Three (3) short blasts — West student houses, Brick Garage (Svaha).

Four (4) short blasts—Commons, Dickinson, Tishman.

Five (5) short blasts - Arts Center (VAPA).

Six (6) short blasts - Barn, Cricket Hill.

Seven (7) short blasts - Orchard, Jennings, Carriage Barn.

Eight (8) short blasts—Shingle Cottage, President's House, Ludlow.

One (1) short blast-all clear

Fire alarm boxes (direct connection to horn in tower of Commons)

On the front of Jennings

On the wall of the middle section of the Barn facing Library

On the west side of Woolley

On the east side of McCullough

On Commons, next to southeast door

On the west side of the Watchman's Booth

Lift door and pull down lever.

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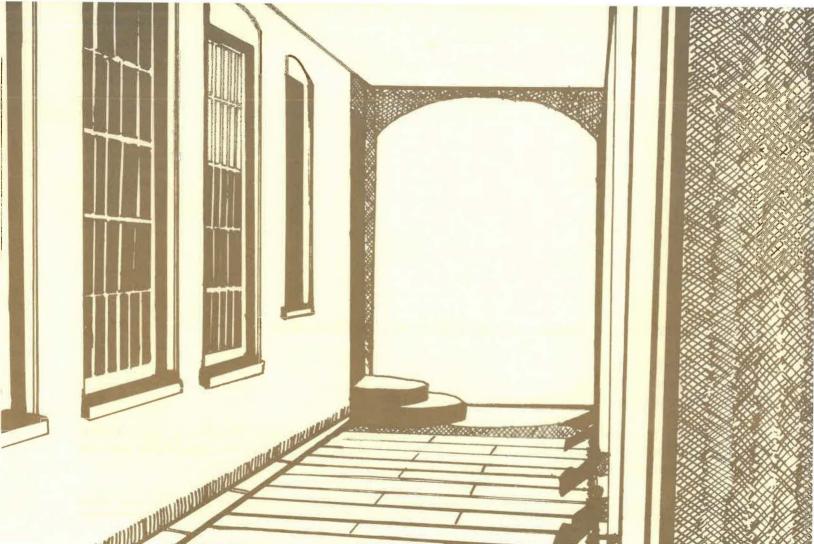
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It is the policy of Bennington College to recruit, employ, retain and promote employees and to admit and provide services for students without regard to sex, age, religion, handicap, race or color. The College complies with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 which protects persons from discrimination on the basis of sex.



Notes