

Bennington College
June 6, 1942

The Educational Policies Committee met on Saturday, June 6, 1942, at 10:30 A.M. with Mr. Jones in his office.. Everyone was present.

Senior Division

Within the last two or three days a misunderstanding of policy had arisen in the Art Division concerning entrance into Senior Division. It seemed the faculty believed that students could not find out if they were or were not admitted until the June letter. Mr. Jones explained this misunderstanding on the basis that admittance to Senior Division could only be tentative until the end of the term. However the policy is and should be clear that students should know exactly where they stand. It was suggested that many little administrative problems such as these do arise and that the student E.P.C. could perhaps help. Mr. Jones said that the system, decentralized, as it is, can never be perfect but that the instructions to counselors which will be printed in the fall may clear up many such counselor difficulties.

Basic Courses

The E.P.C. with Mr. Jones went over a rough outline of the Basic courses and discussed the various fields and specific courses as well as the aims of the revised curriculum and the new faculty possibilities. The desire^s to get at general fields through specific courses and without doing a broad survey. Senior division students may take the basic courses. Any limitations will probably arise merely through prerequisites. Mr. Jones explained his policy of fewer faculty members-but these few, first class ones. This naturally means larger courses.

There will be no more 8ths and 4ths as before. Forty-five hours a week will be considered the norm. This will mean four ten-hour units and one five hour unit. This last unit will be spent in conference, rewriting papers, doing reading where it is needed or ~~extra~~ drill work that the counselor and students feel are necessary. The counselor will have more responsibility and more work since he will be asked for help in all fields. Counselors will be chosen for Junior Division; tutors, for senior division. Under this arrangement it will be possible for senior division students to take fifteen hours work on their major, combining one ten-hour unit with the tutorial five-hour unit. There will be less little units as there are now in the music division. The tutorials as in the past will still be possible but only for very good ~~purposes~~ and reasons.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Franke

Anne Franke, secretary