

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

The Community shall consist of the student body, faculty, and staff.

We, the Community, agree on the following form of government.

- I. The organization of the houses to consist of a chairman, and a house council, if desired, to be elected in the houses.
- II. The Student Council, consisting of the chairman of each house, together with the members of the faculty Committee on Student Personnel, consisting of four members, shall constitute the Community Council which shall be the chief deliberative and executive body of the College.
- III. The Community Council to elect its own president, secretary-treasurer, and recording secretary. In voting for officers to fill vacancies the retiring members as well as the new council shall vote.
- IV. Committees for the carrying on of any special functions may be created by the Community Council or by the house organization when matters relate to a single house.

The houses are to be left free to elect their chairmen for a year, a semester, or for a shorter period, and to be free to replace their representatives at any time by a vote of lack of confidence.

If, for any reason, the chairman cannot attend the Student Council meeting she shall appoint another representative to attend in her place.

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

In general important matters shall be discussed in the houses before being voted upon in Community Meetings.

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