

Bennington College
November 6, 1940

The Educational Policies Committee met on Wednesday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the committee dining room. Present were Vida Ginsberg, Phoebe Arnold, Antoinette Larrabee, Sylvia Thayer, Elizabeth Plimpton, Mary Werna, Margaret Dudley, and Mr. Leigh.

Faculty Reappointments

Mr. Leigh asked the committee members to summarize the results of the survey of courses in regard to the teaching and counseling abilities of those instructors who are coming up for reappointment. These reports were given, and additional information was volunteered confidentially when the committee members felt it was appropriate.

Exchange Students

The matter of exchange students who have teaching responsibilities was discussed. Mr. Leigh said that the several experiences of the college with this arrangement have proved generally unsatisfactory, and the practice will be discontinued. The committee agreed that, so far as their personal experience indicated, the arrangement was not successful.

Graduate Associations

Mr. Leigh outlined briefly the new graduate plan for organization on the basis of geographic area. He said that he planned to meet with the New York group in January and participate in the reorganization. A new feature is that they are going to have employment placement as one of their functions.

Freshman Orientation

Mr. Leigh suggested that the EPC work on the idea of changing the Freshman Reading List. Instead of its being just a general reading list, he thinks it might be better if the suggested material dealt with education, particularly of the Bennington type, and that articles with titles such as "The Place of Music in American Culture Today" and "What is Scientific Method?" be made available. This might introduce students to Bennington and its curriculum rather than just help them while away the time.

The Committee agreed not to meet any more this term unless a member had particular business she wished to bring up.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Dudley, secretary