

New Brooklyn College Seal

For some twenty years we at Brooklyn College have been listening to discussions of the inappropriate and crowded design of the college seal. For some years we have experimented with alternative designs--some of them ultra-modern and abstract, and some in a more conventional style directly related to Brooklyn College as we know it today. We finally determined upon the idea of using a sketch of the library tower and, after a trial run in the catalogue of the School of General Studies, we then began a search for an alternative college motto for the proposed new seal.

The most promising of the suggestions, from an amazing variety ranging from Milton through Shakespeare, Walt Whitman, and the Bible to lyrics by Gershwin, was a motto from the Bible, the Book of Isaiah 60:5 (Revised Standard Version) "See and be radiant." The Torrey Translation of the same passage is perhaps helpful in understanding the spirit of the words: "Thy vision shall widen."

This new combination of design and motto was given an experimental "trial run" on the 1960 edition of the Brooklyn College catalogue and on a number of other college bulletins, and has been favorably received. We now feel that we are ready to adopt this new design and motto as the official college seal and are therefore requesting Board approval to do so.

The following resolutions are respectfully submitted for approval:

RESOLVED, That, in view of the fact that the United States copyright on the old Brooklyn College seal, (adopted by the Board of Higher Education on May 5, 1932) expired this spring, the use of such seal be discontinued; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the new Brooklyn College seal, containing a sketch of the Brooklyn College library tower and inscribed with the new college motto "See and Be Radiant" be adopted as the official seal of Brooklyn College and therefore steps be taken to secure a copyright for this new seal.