Minutes of the Committee on the Brooklyn College
Work-Study Project for 1944

April 2, 1944

Members of the faculty committee on the Morrisville Work-Study Project and students of the steering committee met at Professor Benedict’s home on Sunday afternoon, April 2, 1944, between 3:30 and 6:00 o’clock P.M.

Faculty members present: Ralph Benedict, Edward Fleisher, Ruth Mohl, Ford Barnard, Joseph Smith, and Elsworth Missall.

Student steering committee members present: Sarah Chosin, Howard Klausner, Renee Liebman, Herle Fuchkoff and Ethel Steinberg.

The major items considered during the meeting included the following:

Recruiting: Two immediate major areas for recruiting were suggested: (1) through (a) last year's students, (b) by way of Vanguard, (c) the bulletin boards; (2) through Miss Sober of the Student Activities Office out to student organizations. On the suggestion of Miss Liebman, it was agreed that a special effort should also be made to reach Evening Session students. Miss Liebman was designated by Professor Benedict to explore the proper procedures for reaching Evening Session students by conference with Professor Park, Director of the Evening Session.

The wisdom of directly conferring with Hillel was questioned since it is not an officially incorporated unit under the control of Brooklyn College. It was also suggested that we may have to recruit outside student organizations because of the small percentage of the total student enrollment represented in them.

Our program of recruitment cleared through Miss Sober’s office, should be prepared for periodic meetings with students from groups of organizations at which the moving picture would be shown, talks would be given, and questions answered. It was thought that it might also be necessary to call upon members of the staff to attend meetings of student organizations to describe the Project and answer questions.

Messrs. Fleisher and Smith were designated to examine the enrollment forms used last year and to prepare forms suitable to the Project. The matter of major concern is the determination of physical fitness and adaptability for the living and working conditions at Morrisville.

The Morrisville Trip:
Professor Benedict and the students (Elaine Dworetzky and Gertrude Greco) were more than satisfied that the interests of the students were fully understood by Mr. Himman and that all of their requests would be satisfied. The points raised and agreed upon in the course of their discussion with Mr. Himman are to be incorporated in a memorandum, copies of which will be available for examination by anyone interested.

It was made clear at a meeting with the farmers of Madison County that no other farmer was able to make an offer equal to or better than that made by Mr. Himman.
The Farmingdale Trip:

The observations of the students on this trip led them to the general conclusion that accommodations, services, and practices at Morrisville were equal to and in some respect superior to the conditions at Farmingdale. The attractive buildings at Farmingdale were offset by (1) reports of poorer quality food at higher cost unattractively prepared and improper refrigeration of milk on the field; (2) strict campus and dormitory regulations.

Students working at Farmingdale enjoyed a more diversified farm experience and generally received per diem compensation, but it was pointed out that the average attendance was only twenty students.

Curriculum:

The preparation of the curriculum presents one of the major problems for the Committee during the coming month, according to the Chairman. The difficulty arises particularly in the demand to meet a variety of course requests from upper-classmen. The Chairman reported that he has been very active and expects to be even more so in negotiations in the coming weeks.

So far the following courses for upper-classmen have fallen within the realm of consideration and planning:

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<tr>
<th>English Composition courses</th>
<th>Cryptography</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geology 1</td>
<td>Meteorology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sociology 15</td>
<td>Calculus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology 2</td>
<td>Political Science 11.1</td>
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The request for Speech 3 will be given serious consideration.

To date it appears that no staff member can be found to teach economics.

The Printed Report for 1943:

The Chairman reported that 5000 copies have been prepared, 1500 of which were paid for by the City of New York. It was noted, however, that because of a contribution made by Mr. Hinman it was possible to increase the number of illustrations.

Copies of the report are to be sent to the Chairmen of Departments, other members of the staff who have worked with the Project, to the members of the Board of Higher Education, to officials at Albany, and to others interested, officials and educators alike. In addition a dozen copies will be placed in the Brooklyn College Library and others will be placed in the College Bookstore for sale at 25 cents, the proceeds, above cost to be placed in a fund for the Morrisville Project.

The recruitment of students workers for the cafeteria was briefly considered.
Professor Benedict said that he planned to telephone Dr. Galbreath early in the week of April 3rd, to report on activities on the Brooklyn College campus relevant to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellsworth Missall
Secretary