Brooklyn College
BEDFORD AVENUE AND AVENUE H
BROOKLYN, N.Y.

Dear President Gideonse:

One week to go before we actually start for Morrisville, and still some problems; some relating to past registration and staffing; some to the expected new applicants we believe will respond to an invitation sent to over five hundred women high school Brooklyn College subfreshmen, and to every high school principal in the official list. There will be plenty of new problems when we get to Morrisville, but I look forward to them as a change and in a situation which carries its own anodyne. I want to summarize briefly the status of registration, curriculum, and staff, as it stands now.

Registration: 130, as of June 18, enrolled and registered, or at least recorded as assured from our earlier application lists. Four new acceptable applicants came in Friday in response to our latest invitation. Over the weekend we believe an additional 30 or more will come through. It is hard to predict the percentage likely to come through. Response will be hindered somewhat by the fact the high schools are holding their graduation exercises this week. For those who qualify, Friday next has been set for official registration.

Curriculum: For our present number, we have set up classes in English 2 (2); 3; 4; Political Science 1 (2); Mathematics 02; Sociology 15; Geology 1; and Biology 7. The latter class has the smallest registration and I am undecided as to its continuance. It has so many possibilities of value for both the work, and also the Institute farm environment, together with the fact that we may count on the Institute staff for the conduct of not a few of the lab periods, that I am very reluctant to drop it. I do not dare, however, engage myself to be responsible for its presentation with all the responsibilities in which I shall be involved. I expect to settle it one way or the other tomorrow.

It is an interesting commentary on the "best laid plans" regarding our curriculum to compare the expectations of last January and present realities. Then we felt sure that the specially designed course in rural sociology, plus farm biology, would cover our chief curricular needs. The predominance of freshmen and sophomores, the greater ease of taking a 3-point course, the lab fee for Biology 7, et al, all seem to have been unconsidered factors. For another year, I believe a farm biology course more on a demonstration basis, for 3 points, will perhaps be a solution. In any event, I mean to arrange guided tours of the farm, etc., for as many of the students as possible. Also, Fleisher is a bird expert, and I can take plant walks on free days.

For the expected new recruits, we plan to expand English sections, perhaps a new math section, with further distribution as may be feasible in our present set-up.
Staff: Dr. Ruth Mohl and Miss Beulah MacMillan are scheduled to carry two English classes apiece. It may be necessary to combine our present two classes of Eng. 2, and provide a new section of 3 for the expected new registrants. All three courses will be oriented as far as possible to the environment; Eng. 3 offering the smallest correlation, but with phases of natural history allusions, etc. possible. In the composition course, the instructors expect to develop writing projects relating to our daily experiences, to the assembly programs. A prospective mimeograph news sheet is already indicated, and correspondents for N. Y. papers should be possibilities. (Either 107 hrs apiece, or 107 & 92)

Political Science has Mr. J. E. Massall, two sections, with Controller Moore on Local Governments scheduled for an early appearance. (92 hrs.)

Sociology 15 (Folk and Rural) has Miss Barnes to cover one section in addition to the extensive supervisory and administrative duties, made even greater than when first planned, to make up the rest of a 90 hour program so far as the budget is concerned. (46 hrs. plus 44, for administr.)

Geology 1, Mr. Verne Booth, will have all the correlation that presentation in the environment involves. In addition, we have two special speakers in prospect, on glaciation, the other on the influence of soil on social and economic factors (Dr. Richard Bradfield, of Cornell—still to be heard from.) (90 hours)

Mathematics 02: Prof. Fleisher. Professor Fleisher was one of the earliest to volunteer his services, months ago, at a time when we had only $4.10 (Miss Barnes rate). For that reason I am including him on a budgetary basis for 46 hours at $4.10 (Miss Barnes rate).

Now Prof. Fleisher is meeting a section of Math 02, and may be called upon to meet a second required Math section, made up of prospective new subfreshmen registrants. I shall not feel that I have any right to ask him to do this on a purely volunteer basis. For that reason I am including him on a budgetary basis for 46 hours at $4.10 (Miss Barnes rate). This does not in any way exceed the budgetary allotment made for Morrisville; in fact, we have crossed off one science course (90 hrs.) military topography; one man down for 46 hours, (Winslow), and I see no chance of filling another 90-hour line (Biology 7) for which provision was made. Our total for staff, including Prof. Fleisher, is around $2100.00.

Supplies, Administration: Correspondence and postage, now, and at Morrisville, will make heavier demands than any regular program. I should like to be allotted some budgetary provision for adequate postage. ($25.00) While there is provided a petty cash allotment for Biology 7, there should be a general administrative fund of the same size for the ordinary emergencies. May I have authorization for this?

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph C. Benedict