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MINUTES OF INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE MEETING, TUESDAY, FEB. 14, 1978

Present: I. Berger, Chairman
M. Chang, D. Hadgis, P. Morrill (guest), L. Powell, M. O'Riordan,
and W. Sokolsky.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. and announced that the Instruction Committee had been charged to "absorb the Remediation Committee which used to have a large sum of money for its budget." The Instruction Committee was now to address itself to the following functions and responsibilities, said Dr. Berger.

- (i) class size considerations on academic principles
- (ii) evaluation of the CETA program
- (iii) library evaluation
- (iv) the student questionnaire
- (v) surveys re instruction and other related problems
- (vi) recommendations re grading systems etc.

Next, it was formally moved and seconded that the following five sets of minutes be approved as distributed, except for the date of the "Dec. 1, 1977"-minutes by D. Hadgis, which should be changed to read "Nov. 17, 1977."

- Minutes of Nov. 3, 1977 (by M. Chang)
- Minutes of Nov. 17, 1977 (by D. Hadgis)
- Minutes of Dec. 1, 1977 (by M. Chang)
- Minutes of Dec. 15, 1977 (by M. Chang)
- Minutes of Jan. 5, 1978 (by M. Chang)

Discussion commenced regarding class size. Prof. Sokolsky suggested that the Departmental representatives solicit opinions from members of their Departments on class size in different kinds of courses, e.g. composition classes, lab courses etc.

Dr. Chang suggested that the "difficult" courses (meaning courses where our students consistently score low grades) be made smaller per section while those in "easy" courses (where high grades are frequently scored by many students) be given less aid by letting more students share the teacher's time. In this manner, help is given to where it is needed most. Under the present system, aid is sometimes given to those who do not need it.

Dr. Berger indicated that he planned to invite members of the Remediation Committee to come to talk to us so that we will get some knowledge of what had been done and was being done in that area. He will probably invite Prof. A. Pomerantz to speak to us for about 20 minutes, said Dr. Berger.

A move towards a formal agenda for our Committee meetings was desirable, declared Prof. Hadgis.

"We will meet again on the coming Tuesday and decide on a schedule of meetings for the semester," said Dr. Berger.

Dr. Berger then distributed copies of an article entitled "How to Kill a College" by T. L. Gross to those present at the meeting.

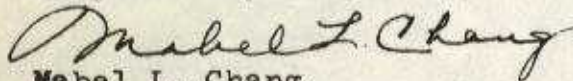
Prof. Hadgis referred members of the Committee to two articles in The Clarion on open admissions. One of the articles was by a former drug addict, it was recalled.

Prof. Powell volunteered to give an article on "Audio-visual Improvement of Instruction."

Prof. Sokolsky concluded that "there are so many variables that enter into a student's success that we may not be able to have a magic formula. There is only a certain degree of maneuverability on our part as instructors."

At 4:30 p.m. it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Mabel L. Chang
Secretary