

MINUTES OF INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE MEETING, WED. FEB. 28, 1979

Present: I. Berger, Chairman  
M. Chang, F. Donnangelo, M. Glass, D. Hadgis, D. McCulloch,  
M. Pollack, A. Pomerantz, S. Ritterman, W. Sokolsky, L. Squitieri  
and J. Whelan.

Dr. Berger called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

- I. The first item was the suggestion that our Committee invite Dean Hobbs or some one designated by her to come to talk to the Committee on the subject of "Students." Experiences with cheating during examinations were exchanged among members of the Committee present. Various ways in which students try to cheat were recounted, e.g. (i) looking at the neighbors' answers, (ii) pulling a paper from desks with drawers, (iii) xeroxing answers to exams, (iv) plagiarism assigned in the form of term reports etc. It was also pointed out that sometimes the entire class refused to bear witness against a cheater. Instead the teacher was accused of being "deviant."
- II. Next, on Item 2 of the agenda, the shortcomings of the physical environment were discussed. There was no heat in Building Tech I. Other buildings were too warm. The windows of South Hall opened to airplane noise. A suggestion was made that whatever room that was assigned to a certain course be decorated with posters to give the room identity. Door stoppers may be installed to prevent slamming. Flickering fluorescent lights should be fixed. "No smoking" signs should be placed in classrooms. Students themselves made noise by congregating in the corridors.
- III. At 4:20 p.m. on the item of "Utilization of the Faculty Lounge" the Committee decided to make a trip to the sixth floor. If the Faculty Lounge was satisfactory the Instruction Committee may meet there next time - unless some one is using the room, said the Chairman.

After the Committee arrived on the sixth floor discussion continued with the following suggestions.

- (i) The rooms in Language Hall had good visibility but they had been taken away from instructional use.
- (ii) Begrish Hall was being used by the Nursing Department classes only, but those rooms would be good for other classes too.
- (iii) Some classrooms were without chairs and desks and erasers. The blackboard areas were insufficient in some classrooms.
- (iv) Prof. Whelan of the Health Dept. extended an invitation to all interested to visit the Department's machine facilities for correcting exams on IBM cards. Such a machine costs about \$300 only, said Prof. Whelan.
- (v) Prof. Pomerantz suggested to the Committee that the topic for a future Staff Development Session might be "Testing."

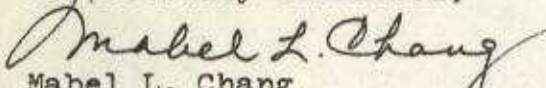
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- (vi) Dr. Donnangelo suggested that resource people for such a session might come from the Educational Facilities Laboratories. He has the address and number of this Manhattan office.
- (vii) Prof. Sokolsky informed the Committee that the latest draft of the Reorganization Plan of the Senate called for a smaller number of members in the Instruction Committee although the Committee functions will be expanded. Dr. Berger pointed out that this would mean losing departmental representation for more than 50% of the Departments and we should take a stand against this.

Finally, the date of the next Staff Development session was discussed. Possible dates were suggested - Friday, Mar. 30, Thursday, Mar. 29 and Wednesday, Mar. 28. It was decided that Dr. Berger proposed to Dean Polowczyk that the next Staff Development session be combined with the Instruction Committee meeting on Mar. 28, from 3 to 5 p.m. It was also decided that Dr. Berger invite Dean Hobbs to talk to the Committee in a future meeting. Last but not least, the Committee wanted copies of the new Proposal regarding Reorganization, particularly the part with respect to the Instruction Committee, so that an item entitled "Responses to the Proposed New Governance Structure" may be included in the Mar. 14 agenda.

At 5 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Mabel L. Chang  
Secretary