

PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Professors Fulgado, Glass, Hadgis, Pomerantz, Schor, Skinner, Sokolsky and Wise of the committee.

GUESTS: Dr. Belvin Williams of the Office of Institutional Research and Mr. John McKenzie of the Computer Center.

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Chairman Professor Allen Pomerantz

- [1] The Workshop/demonstration on the I.B.M. P.C. was very successful; it attracted over 100 students, faculty and staff.
- [2] The Stress Reduction Workshop will be held on March 28.
- [3] The Human Relations In Learning Workshop will be held on April 18.
- [4] There will be a conference devoted to the development of academic advisement workshops in Baltimore. (4/25 - 4/27)

B. THE STUDENT EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Logistical considerations were addressed by Mr. McKenzie. The College will switch from cards to optical scan forms providing the following advantages:

- [1] preprinting of codes to facilitate sorting,
- [2] printing of the questions on the same form as the response spaces,
- [3] use of both sides of the page,
- [4] a #2 pencil would no longer be required but any pen or pencil could be used.

Structural and technical considerations were addressed by Dr. Williams. In order to enhance the validity of the instrument, it was recommended that

- [1] internal consistency checks be used to determine if students are using critical reasoning so that their responses are credible,
- [2] the clarity of the wording of questions be tested,
- [3] questions be worded in a more personal form where possible,
- [4] attempts be made to factor out students' considerations of social desirability in making particular responses,
- [5] neutral response options be eliminated in order to force students to make judgments.

Matters of content were addressed by Professor Sokolsky. He offered preliminary versions of seven new questions which he and his sub-committee believed would expand the depth of the questionnaire.

In refernce to the above mentioned points, Chairman Pomerantz requested Dr. Schor to test the vocabulary of the present questionnaire in her English 01 class. Dr. Schor remarked upon the difficulty that remedial students have with the interpretation of "or" being often unsure whether the inclusive or exclusive version is intended. She suggested the possibility of separate questionnaires for basic skills courses and for evaluation of counselors. Professor Wise cautioned against making the questionnaire so long as to become burdensome for students and wasteful of classroom time. Professor Sokolsky reiterated the importance of maintaining the integrity of the evaluation procedure.

Chairman Pomerantz distributed copies of a commercially prepared evaluation questionnaire available from the Summa Corp. Desirable features of that instrument were noted but it was felt by the members that the added cost to the College would be unwarranted.

C. The minutes of December 13, 1984 were reviewed and accepted.

D. THE FORTHCOMING WORKSHOP ON STRESS REDUCTION IN LEARNING

Professor Skinner presented copies of the Stress Inventory Questionnaire which participants will use at the workshop. He stated that Dr. Diamond will begin the workshop with a discussion of the psychological aspects of stress. Professors Charlotte Honda and Michael Steurman will then discuss the body's response to stress and present techniques for reducing the effects.

cc: Dean Polowczyk
Dean Cancienne
Dean Miranda
Department Chairpersons

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Glass
Michael Glass

Secretary, pro tem