

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY-SIXTH PLENARY SESSION OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

April 12, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by the Chairman, Professor David Valinsky. All members were present except Professors Abramson, Adickes, Aurbach, Auslander, Briloff, Brostoff, Buder, Caws, Ceccarelli, Cowan, Davidson, Donno, Dreiling, Eichmann, Elster, Fifer, Gilbert, Glasser, Greenbaum, Harvey, Howard, Johansson, Kriegel, Ladas, Lea, Leiter, Lipschutz, Lutz, Magnus, Nash, Nowinski, Ornstein, Page, Patterson, Pauling, Petratos, Robbins, V. Roberts, Rootenberg, Rothman, Schneider, Schmidman, Silver, Soskind, Uretsky, and Walsh. Professors Baumrin, Cammett, D'Adamo, and Paster were excused. Chancellor Robert J. Kibbee and Dr. Jean Ellis also attended as did liaison members.

I. Approval of the Tentative Agenda: The tentative agenda was approved without dissent.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the 65th Plenary Session: The minutes were approved as circulated with the correction that Professor Walsh was excused.

The Chairman then informed the Plenary that a request had been received from some students to be admitted to the meeting to hear the debate on agenda item 8. He asked the house for a decision. Considerable debate ensued. A motion to admit the students as observers when that item on the agenda was reached was passed. A second motion granting the students the floor for a period not to exceed ten minutes was also passed.

III. Chancellor's Report: Chancellor Kibbee announced the following: 1) the EFCB has approved the contract between the PSC and the BHE and the provisions will be reflected in the April paychecks; 2) the State Budget Director has been asked to release the funds being held in reserve in order to fulfill the terms of the contract; 3) Eight Guggenheim fellowships have been awarded to City University Faculty with Professor Hans Trefousse, a Senator, among the winners. Dr. Valinsky added that a former Senator, Professor Edward Pessen was also among the winners; 4) the National Book Award for History has been given to Professor Irving Howe for his study "World of Our Fathers".

Chancellor Kibbee also reported that the Vice-Chancellor for Budget and Planning had resigned and that he was discussing with the remaining leadership in the Central Office how to proceed in the choice of an acting Vice-Chancellor. He stated that the progress of the various Search Committees that have been established is as follows: John Jay has completed its work and installed a new president; Bronx Community College is in the interview stage and should be making a decision sometime in May; Baruch is active and is now working through the more serious candidates; Queens has begun to assemble vitae; the Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs is also underway; the Committee for the Deputy Chancellor has been named and will shortly get underway. The faculty named to the last are Professors Melvin Ferentz, Brooklyn, and Edward Mapp, New York City Community.

Freshman enrollment as of March 1 was projected as 10,000 to 12,000 less than last year. Applications continue to be received at a rapid rate and the expectation now is that the class will be as large or larger than last year's, assuming a comparable show rate.

The Wessell Commission's final report has been received and will be considered at the Informal Meeting of the BHE on April 13. By the end of the month the Board will be issuing a statement or reaction to the report.

The Chancellor then reported on the budget situation for 1977-78. So far as the treatment of the community colleges in the Governor's Executive Budget is concerned it is not realistic but that was not the Governor's fault. Ordinarily he receives certification from the Mayor as to the city's contribution and none was provided this year; therefore, the Governor's figure was a hypothetical one that used the University request as a base which was for about \$157 million or \$10 million more than last year. The State assumed a contribution the same size as last year with \$3 million more from the City and \$7 million more in tuition and fees, computed in the same way as those for the senior colleges and with no allowance for large accounts receivable or CAP. The figure was then \$3 million less. The City has indicated a decrease of \$2.7 million except that the technical supplement from the State requires that the local sponsor not decrease its contribution; therefore, if the present projection goes forward there could be a \$6 million decrease which would mean that the amount was the same as last year. There is a possibility that even if the City's reduction is effected, however, there will be a save harmless clause in the State appropriation. On the senior colleges the Chancellor reported that there had been a net loss from \$323 million to \$308 million and that the actual loss was greater with \$22 million in programmatic terms and some not programmatic, e.g. \$3.7 in fringe benefits. As a result of recent activity in Albany \$5 million was added to the senior college budgets and that meant a figure of \$313 million which is still \$10 million under last year. In the last figure, however, there are some legitimate deductions in the sense of there being non-recurring expenses, e.g. leases that are expiring and that colleges have declared will not be renewed and the July and August salaries paid to faculty who have now been lost through retrenchment. The real difference in programmatic terms is therefore \$6 million and that is a matter for continuing discussion with the Governor, the Budget Office and legislative leaders in order to get some, if not all, of it reinstated.

Currently the Chancellor is working with the \$313 million figure since the University must submit the planned distribution to the State Budget Office this month. The Chancellor met with the senior college presidents on April 12 to have a first look at distribution and to prepare the necessary materials for submission to the State. Those materials will have to include the amount of dollars and also the number of people to be employed in each college.

The Chancellor then responded to the following questions from the floor.

- 1) Professor Leonard (Lehman) - "During a visit by a State Budget officer at Lehman recently he indicated that money was being held back from this year's budget and that the State might not permit it to be used if it were not spent this year. Is the Central Office running a risk if that money is to be used for wages or other needs and can there be an early determination on that issue? The Central Office is not holding anything back. There is a fee reserve that was set up at the beginning of the year because we were not certain whether the colleges would make their fee quotas. What happened is that the State and the City then came to a private agreement that the money couldn't be released until both Budget Directors approved. The Central Office had worked out a system and have indicated that it is clear that the University will over collect by \$5 to 7 million and that there is no reason not to release the funds. Because the State has been slow or unwilling to release the funds we have told the colleges to pay the costs of the contract out of those reserves. The problem is with the State at the moment - its slowness and reluctance to release the funds in

spite of the compelling case we have made. What we intend is to give to those who have met their requirements and all colleges would get some. Professor Leonard further asked - "Is there some misunderstanding between the State and the City?"/ I don't think so. When I first spoke with the State Budget Director he said the funds might be held hostage for the increased amount of funding that has had to be provided for TAP over the original estimate and that would be a way to make up the difference. 2) Professor Roberts (Lehman)- "Quoting the same source as Professor Leonard, I would like to report that we were told that the City has apparently put the \$52 million in place. Can you confirm this? Are they putting up the money or asking for enabling legislation?"/ They haven't put it up. I think they have made the decision to provide it. I am certain that you read in the paper that the idea was to put it up to phase out this year since they had come upon some cyclical Federal funds that have to be spent. The problem is an accounting one. They can't pay it under the existing system; therefore, they had to either get the University to change its fiscal year or get legislative authority to prepay the money. They are in the midst of that discussion. This morning the City Budget Office said that it is the first order of business for the State legislature when it reconvenes. 3) Professor Sohmer (City) - " Can you tell us what the painful story in the press about the senior colleges' overspending means? How hurtful is it?"/ We try to monitor the expenditures each month and have worked out the cash flow month by month for personnel services and for OTPS. The Personnel Services are easier to monitor; OTPS more difficult. We have identified those institutions that seem to be overspending anywhere from the tens of thousands of dollars to several hundred thousand. We have talked with them and worked out the way with all but one that in the next four months they will handle the problem. It is not harmful in the sense that the University will not overspend, but it does mean that someone will have to underspend. Therefore, we have to be stringent as to the consequences to prevent it happening. 4) Professor Loy (Brooklyn) - " I have a question concerning the study of foreign languages. We hear reports of reductions being made of the programs in certain languages. Where are they and have the chairmen of the departments concerned been consulted?"/ There is a proposal out prepared by the Office of Academic Affairs which calls for the amalgamation of departments of certain languages perceived to be low in enrollment. Consultation has taken place though not necessarily with department chairmen. The idea is to put together in a single place certain strong programs with the understanding that the faculty responsible for teaching in the programs would undertake to teach elementary courses elsewhere. During the next two weeks the Vice-Chancellor and his staff will have discussions on the campuses re: the feasibility of the proposal. I doubt if the matter will come up for action before June. 5) Professor Wu (Queens) - " I am a professor of one of the languages that is a candidate for consolidation and I recall two or three years ago a discussion concerning the phasing out of the engineering program at Richmond and that there was an outside team used then to evaluate the program. In foreign languages are you planning to have outside evaluators?"/ We haven't planned to but I would have no objection. We don't intend to deny students the opportunity to have those languages in the University, however; simply to make them stronger and direct students to those places where there are strong programs. We now send students who want engineering or architecture to City College, those in business to Baruch. We want to make sure that there is variety available somewhere in the University but that does not mean everywhere. We need to consider major enrollments and be sure the subject is well offered as a major and then maintain elementary offerings elsewhere. There is nothing nefarious in this; we are just looking for ways to strengthen our offerings. 6) Professor Gruenebaum (Brooklyn) - " The collection of tuition and fees seems to be on schedule but there is one aspect to the process that is puzzling and that is the projected collections for the summer of '77.

The figure is insignificant - it is about 13% at Brooklyn College - but those figures are based on 1975 attendance. In 1976 our attendance was down as I suspect it was throughout the University and this summer the students are going to have to pay; therefore, I suspect another decrease so that we will be lucky to collect 40% of the estimate and will therefore lose 8% of the estimated annual amount. What if this happens university-wide?"/ From what I've seen in terms of the collection of fees and tuition by the time you get to summer the estimates will have been met. We are over-collecting lots of money beyond the estimate. To that extent summer school is not going to be that significant. In fact, we are thinking of ways to collect it next year so that we can try to maximize the amount of this year's money that we can spend after July 1. 7) Professor Spinger (Brooklyn) - " I have a question about the City's need for legislation. What about legislation for the money taken from faculty salaries in the form of deferrals last June?"/ That money was deferred as part of the collective bargaining agreement until 1978 pending conditions that had to exist for its payment. Those conditions include the City's having a balanced budget, its ability to go into the market etc. Most people have judged those conditions to be impossible. 8) Professor Hill (Lehman) - " You mentioned the distribution of the budget among the senior colleges. Didn't the State make that distribution and how flexible is it?"/ When talking about the State there are two things you have to consider. The first is the Green Book which is descriptive; the other is the legislation which is a lump sum that you can put in any form that you and the Budget Office agree on. The Budget Office puts in their analysis but agreement for distribution, I am told, is not hard to come by. 9) Professor Trefousse (Graduate Center) - " There have been a number of reports in the newspaper concerning the cost-efficiency of the privates. What's wrong with those reports?"/ They're wrong on the face of it. Arguments have been put forward by various institutions that have something to gain, e.g. the argument that it is cheaper to educate graduate students by having them go to private institutions because it costs \$4000 to \$5000 at the City University whereas the privates have space and could absorb the students at marginal cost. The problem with that argument is that it is true of us-too; we could educate marginal students for nothing but the loss of students doesn't mean saving. The most recent of the articles to which you refer concerns SEEK students or similar ones and says that the average cost at CUNY is \$3900 and that at the end we graduate only 500 or 600. Then they add up all the amounts in the five years SEEK students spend, then divide by the number of graduates and say they have the cost. They do the same at the privates who show they graduate more students. The point is that it is a fact that students who are in HEOP are different at Cornell, for example, where they just have to be economically disadvantaged so that they may have an 89 average and 1150 Board scores and not the 90 average/1200 Board scores of other students. This was confirmed some years ago when it was brought to the light that there were a considerable number of Regents Scholarships held by students in the HEOP program. Also, HEOP is very small in the privates - perhaps 10 of 500 students - and it is possible to give them highly personalized attention. These kinds of arguments made up the kind of information in the articles. 10) Professor Ferentz (Brooklyn) - " I would like to pick up on Professor Hill's question. You said you would be discussing the budget before the Council of Presidents and indicated that by the end of the month the State is to be notified of the bottom line. Will that be going to the BHE? When will the colleges be reporting back to you etc.? And won't there be new budget mods to follow?"/ There is a very sophisticated group in the State Budget Office and I told the Presidents that they are going to have to worry about categories of which there are 7 used by the State. I told the Presidents to be sure they have the bodies in the right places before the material goes to Albany because it is not easy to change in spite of the 5% flexibility.

The timetable is more flexible. By the end of the month the State would like to know the distribution of the \$313 million if that's what we have. We have to identify the amount that can't be spent and see if we can use it for programmatic purposes. The material will go to the BHE but I don't know how official they will be in acting on it. We will be discussing the first allocation at the informal meeting tomorrow. 11) Professor Miller (Kingsborough) - "Have you been able to gather information concerning the service for retrenched faculty?"/ There is an office in the Central Office that attempts to gather information on positions within the University. They pass that information on to the union people who are supposed to have passed it on to the retrenchees. Professor Miller further asked - "How does it function? Do the colleges post vacancies with the service?"/ They have to. If they don't we won't put on the Chancellor's Report the names of the persons appointed. We watch the ads that we can identify as openings in the City University and check them against our own records. If we have not been notified we contact the college. 12) Professor Brown (Queens) - "Since there are now a propitious number of higher level positions vacant would that offer a reason for reorganization of the Central Office to reduce the number of positions? Have you given any thought to that possibility?"/ We just went through a reorganization. There has been a decline in the number of people in the Central Office contrary to popular belief. We were reduced by some 118 people, somewhere in the neighborhood of 24% or 25%. We are not living on the fat and letting others starve. Professor Brown further asked - "Can we get at those figures and by title?"/ Yes. 13) Professor Burton (Brooklyn)-"I have two questions concerning the foreign languages. My first question has to do with the outside evaluators. There is a fear, I think, that the consolidation is going to be based only on numbers and not on quality of courses, that the Acting Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs will consult with the Provost at each college who will say that college's is the best program. Outside evaluators might be better equipped to consider quality."/ I have no objection. We want to be careful in what we do. Unlike the other consolidations we thought that here we would consolidate faculty too, that we would collect the faculty and the programs and thus in some synergistic way suggest that the result was better than the parts. The tendency will be to put the program where the students and faculty are. Professor Burton further asked - "Couldn't the place where there are only 2 faculty as compared with one where there are 7 have the two more distinguished people?"/ Yes, but they could join the others. 14) Professor Dierlam (Queens) - "On the same point I suggest that people read the endpiece in last week's Chronicle of Higher Education. Suppose that there were 7 departments of ancient Hittite slated for consolidation wouldn't there have to be certain criteria such as faculty, students, admissions, etc. and don't you think outside evaluators could make a contribution?"/ If we had seven departments with 3 faculty members each and four students each it would be difficult but that isn't the way things happen here. On the face of it it makes sense to put the program where there is a critical mass. I have no objection to outside evaluators. If we can get some I am perfectly willing to seek their advice and take it. 15) Professor Valinsky (Baruch) - "Who will be making the decisions?"/ The office of Academic Affairs is looking at the programs and making suggestions that they are passing out for discussion. I suppose that in that process various people will be consulted. 16) Professor Wu (Queens) - "I don't want to carry on the debate just state some facts. In Chinese there are 165 students. Many liberal arts colleges have only 500 or 600 students and they have Chinese programs. Why can't we have a small Chinese, Russian, etc. program at the City University. In any case my program is part of the Department of Oriental and Classical Languages and I must respectfully question the transfer of the program elsewhere. Faculty do more than just teach; they are engaged in counselling, in committee work, etc. If you dismantle Chinese at Queens you will also dismantle the East Asian Studies pro-

gram."/ There is a proposal out and the Queens College president has said that he doesn't like it. It may be decided that the proposal is wrong. We are not at the deciding point yet. Discussion is going on in rational ways and we don't want to prejudge what will happen. It was sent out for response. Professor Wu further said - "I would feel less distressed if you didn't say that there will be a decision in June." 17) Professor Bieler (York) - " Is there any plan to resurrect dormant building programs in the near future?"/ There is a proposal that would sell private placement Dormitory Authority bonds for Lehman. It was worked out by Lehman, the banks and the Central Office. The Budget Director of the State is committed to **completing** buildings already underway and then moving on to others. There has been some talk about an offering in the summer for City College, Hunter College and Borough Manhattan Community College. 18) Professor Cooper (COSI-Saint George) - " I am somewhat confused concerning the recent retrenchment procedures and wonder whether you could issue to the University what they are. I was called by some friends concerning an opening that developed in my department at the last moment and though they had been retrenched they had never been told about it since their names were not on the Central Office list. Is there a way that everyone involved could be notified? I hired from the outside because I didn't have the names from inside."/ My understanding is that in each department as people are retrenched a list is worked out in order of seniority; the next step is for all the colleges to turn in their lists to the Central Office and have them collated; the list is then developed for use in hiring but not as compulsory; only as evidence that these people are available. It is essential that the colleges hire in order but not that others do so. I haven't kept up with how it has been kept up. Professor Cooper further said -" I know that I didn't find the names and wondered if I understood incorrectly." 19) Professor Milentijevic (City) - " My question concerns the budget for next year. We are now \$6 million short and we may get it or not. If not how confident are you that we won't have to face a July or August retrenchment and also, if we do what is being done about the Guidelines which have been condemned by the University Faculty Senate, the PSC, the AAUP, and the academic community throughout the United States? What is being done to insure due process for example?"/ I'm not sure I agree on the academic community. If we get the budget I feel we will lose positions but I am not sure it means retrenchment. The number of positions vacant currently exceeds the number of positions lost. The problem is that they may not be in the right place in the right institution. In any case I don't anticipate a blood bath like last summer though it is possible that a small amount might have to be considered but as of now I don't think it will be of a significant nature. 20) Professor Valinsky (Baruch) - "In view of the fact that the AAUP is evaluating the retrenchment and has issued a preliminary report do you think they will censure the University in June? What preparations are underway if they do?"/ We have been censured before. I wouldn't use the phrase what are we doing to avoid censure or what are we willing to do to avoid censure. I wouldn't want to commit us; it would depend on what was required to remove the censure. The AAUP had to come out with a report and it is probably almost impossible for the University to avoid censure on their terms. The report that I have seen is very fair and sensitive to our problems. 21) Professor Roman (Hostos) "Is it true that TAP is now limited to four semesters for community college students?"/ No. Of the 5 proposals made by the Governor only one has survived and that is the one reducing the level of support for the single emancipated student. Professor Roman further asked - " What is happening with the CUNY mobilization?"/ It is still alive and kicking. It was partly responsible for the \$5 million and the City contribution. I won't lay it all at the door of massive mobilization but we did get it. 22) Professor Ehrenpreis (Bronx Community) - " I want to preface my question with an aside and remind my colleagues of what happened to Uriah the Hittite. My question is - when were the fellowship leaves granted by the BHE two

years ago and then deferred deferred until? I speak for myself and for colleagues who don't know when those leaves are to take place. Now that we have a contract can we hope to know the date soon?" / I don't know that they were deferred. I can tell you the current situation. At the moment all half-year leaves at full pay are being approved. We have told the Presidents that in so far as full year leaves at half-pay are concerned those which they deem to be of special merit will be considered individually. We are trying to limit them to some degree but there is no question that we won't try to meet requests. Professor Ehrenpreis further said - "I am asking about something granted two years ago by the BHE and not withdrawn but deferred." / I will look into it. 23) Professor Leonard (Lehman) - "With reference to the massive mobilization drive there are many faculty at our institution and elsewhere asking for support of the BHE budget request, what should we be asking now - \$6 million, \$10 million, or what? And how should we justify the request?" / I can't say at the moment; we are working on the figures and justification now as well as mapping strategy. I expect to have a conversation with Assemblyman Miller tomorrow and to confer with him on the direction and tactic that will be most successful with the legislature. It is a question of supplying funds or getting the money in the budget that is not spendable released. Which direction is best is in the process of being discussed. I will share the information with you once I have it.

Professor Valinsky stated that since there seemed to be considerable concern about the consolidation of foreign language programs the Senate would like to invite the Acting Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs to the next regular Plenary. The Chancellor responded that he would be happy to produce him.

IV. Communications from the Chairman: After greeting the Senators, Dr. Valinsky expressed the hope that they had returned from the Easter recess prepared for a period of intensive activity. He suggested that with respect to the budget there might well be a need for additional lobbying efforts on behalf of additional funds in the supplemental budget. In relation to the Wessell Commission report he described the plan of action set up by the Senate leadership as follows: The Executive Committees of the CUNY and SUNY Faculty Senates met in March to discuss the preliminary report. At that time a joint letter was sent to Senator Stafford, chairman of the New York State Senate Committee on Higher Education, stating the two groups' support of the Commission's recommendations on funding but stating also concern that the proposed restructuring seemed to lack a rationale based on educational criteria. A response from the Senator indicated his pleasure that the two faculty governance groups have entered into a forward looking, cooperative consortium. He also said, "I appreciate your comments, especially concerning the lack of rationale based on educational criteria offered for the proposed reorganization. My initial reaction was similar to yours, and two days of hearings by my committee has only reinforced that opinion. Although I will reserve judgment until the final report, it will take much more in the way of justification before I can accept the reorganization currently proposed." Now that the final report has been received the two Executive Committees will meet again on April 16 to discuss it in the context of the totality of public higher education in New York. Dr. Valinsky added parenthetically that members should know that a representative of the Faculty Council of the SUNY community colleges now attends the meetings and that members of the CUNY Executive Committee participated in a meeting with that Faculty Council's Executive Committee on March 24. Dr. Valinsky then resumed his outline of planned activities in connection with the Report. On Tuesday, April 19 open hearings for the University community will be held. The Senate's Standing Committees have been charged with developing responses to the Report in terms of its implications for the Committee's particular area of concern and those reports will be ready for the April 26 Special Plenary on the Report. At that Plenary it is hoped to elicit the views that will lead to the formulation of a Senate position on the Report's recommendations.

Dr. Valinsky then reported on recent activities of the BHE. At its March 28 meeting the Board adopted a number of resolutions to consolidate or eliminate programs in the Allied Health area. The rest of the business at that meeting was routine. The BHE's subcommittees are meeting regularly. As a member of the Committee on Central Administration of the BHE, Dr. Valinsky reported that at its last meeting the proposed governance plan for Hostos Community College was approved as well as the establishment of a new title, College Administrative Assistant, for non-instructional staff. It was also reported at the meeting that it is now projected that the Fall 1977 freshman class will be about 32,000 a small increase over last year's. One item on the agenda, said Dr. Valinsky, concerned extending benefits included in the PSC contract to persons in excluded titles. Among these was the provision for travel monies. Dr. Valinsky raised a number of questions on this item particularly because of the special need of faculty for travel funds and the limitations on the amounts available. As a result the committee did not include travel funds in the resolution to be recommended to the full BHE.

Dr. Valinsky also reminded the membership that the May 17th Plenary would be the election meeting and that the offices of Secretary, Treasurer and five members-at-large of the Executive Committee will have to be elected.

Finally, Dr. Valinsky said that he thought that the final product of the Senate's study of the Wessell Commission recommendations should not be a routine report. Rather, it seemed to him, that since faculty have the primary responsibility for academic matters it was incumbent on the Senate to come out with a well publicized report on the future of higher education in New York City.

Dr. Valinsky then asked for a motion to amend the agenda in order to consider item VIII next. On motion duly made, seconded, and passed the agenda was so amended.

VIII. Discussion of the Report of the Committee on Movement from Lower Division to Upper Division: Professor Ruth Milberg-Kaye (Lehman) chairperson of the Chancellor's Committee on Movement from Lower Division to Upper Division outlined the origins, method of procedure, and contents of the report for the Senate. She reminded the body of its discussions last year in relation to the UFS Task Force on Enrollment's report and of the Senate's endorsement of that report.

Professor Milberg-Kaye then responded to comments and questions from the floor. Professor Sohmer (City) stated that he found the recommendations in the mathematics area bizarre especially in light of the fact that the University has students of various ages and not only students who are recent high school graduates. It is his opinion that retention of mathematical skills ought not to be expected. Professor Sohmer also voiced his objection to a University committee intervening in academic matters that seemed to him to be the prerogative of individual units' faculties. Professor Gruenebaum (Brooklyn) reminded Professor Sohmer that the BHE By-Laws authorize the faculties to act in academic decision-making within guidelines as determined by the Board. Professor Panes (Queensborough) asked whether the intent was to use standardized reading test scores. If so, he said, it was well known that such scores did not indicate true reading level. Thus, a score that ranked a student's ability at the eleventh grade level would, in fact, indicate ability to read at the ninth grade level. Professor Lederman (Baruch) said that she believed that The New York Times had put its finger on the heart of the problem when it attributed the need for these tests to over-grading. Since over-grading can not be controlled, she continued, it was her perception that faculty were now being asked to remedy that situation by certifying that 60 credits mean nothing. She asked, "Are we willing to say that we can not control grading? What happens if a student fails the test but has an A, B, etc. average?"/ There is only

one test to be taken after 60 credits are completed. The others are to be taken at the beginning. Professor Jarrett (Brooklyn) said that he had no quarrel with the principles involved. It is his understanding, however, that there is increasing dissatisfaction with standardized testing for verbal skills. "Is it possible that the Committee considered alternative methods?", he asked. Yes and the writing sample is not a standardized test. Professor Cooper (COSI-St. George) said that she was confused since she thought the report dealt with movement from lower to upper division but the tests seemed to be directed towards entering lower division students. Objectively the Committee would have liked to have tests after the completion of 45 to 60 credits but we decided that to start early would be better so that the student's college could provide the necessary help for those who needed it. A student may take the tests as many times as necessary or as he or she wishes. The intent was to put pressure on the college to provide for the students. Professor Zimmerman (COSI-Sunnyside) said that he was not too clear on procedures. "Would this apply to all lower division students, those enrolled in the senior colleges as well as those in community colleges?" To all. Professor Wakatama (Medgar Evers), a member of the Chancellor's committee, said that the report was being circulated to the campuses for discussion concerning its implications and that its implementation was not immediately at hand. Professor Ferentz (Brooklyn) said that he thought the Committee had done an excellent job, that they had taken the BHE resolution and managed to turn it around. Whereas that resolution may have been aimed at reducing the size of the student body, the Committee's report was directed to helping students remain in the University and complete their degrees successfully. Professor Dash (Hunter) asked whether the Committee visualized central grading of the writing and how they expected this to be accomplished. She also asked whether the committee had determined what percent of the students might require remediation. Group or centralized grading is used regularly for such tests as the advanced placement examinations. The percentage will vary from college to college but the aim is to insure that students do not leave remediation before they are ready to do so. Professor Wedeen (Brooklyn) said that she did not understand why many speakers had adopted a defensive attitude. She perceived the report as having a positive intent - to help students be successful in achieving their college education. The question it seemed to her was to be realistic about the tools one has to work with and make the best possible use of them.

The students were then permitted the floor. They stated their view that the report and its proposals were an insult to the remedial faculty, that they were pleased to see that there was dissension among faculty concerning the report, that it struck them as ludicrous, that it seemed aimed at getting rid of students and that it might be well to bear in mind that fewer students could lead to firing of faculty.

Professor Cole (New York City Community), a member of the Committee, said that she felt it very important that everyone understand the Committee's aim which was a concern not to separate students from the University. The report which had not yet been distributed to the Senate was much more complex than people seemed to realize and it was based on the work of a number of committees throughout the University. It was also important to realize that this was not a question of not trusting faculty. Faced with the reality that the University has a certain student body it seemed necessary to develop a proposal in this area. It seemed impossible to the Committee to impose any kind of uniform standard by means of grades. The report was based on perceived realities. Perhaps it would be best for members to read the report and then discuss it. Professor Burton (Brooklyn) said that so far as the question of taking a course and receiving a satisfactory grade was concerned one needed to remember that remedial

courses often included students at varying levels. It was therefore possible for students to progress during the course and thus earn grades that recognized that progress but still not achieve a high enough level to complete more advanced work successfully.

The Senate agreed to hold over further discussion of the report until after members had an opportunity to read it. Dr. Valinsky expressed the thanks of the Senate to Professor Milberg-Kaye and the other members of the Chancellor's committee.

IX. Proposed Resolution on Tuition and Fees: Professor Ferentz introduced the proposed resolutions on tuition and fees on behalf of the Executive Committee. He explained that they endorsed the equalization of tuition for community college and graduate students who were out-of-city New York State residents with resident tuition in the same manner as tuition for senior college students had been equalized by the BHE. The second resolution proposed endorsement of the equalization of tuition - really a maintenance of matriculation fee - for Level III doctoral students with the maintenance of matriculation charge for master's students.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Ellis