Present: L. Berger, Chairman
D. Canty, M. Chang, R. Donovan, D. Frank, E. Gore, H. Hermo,
A. Hirshfield, W. Bynes, A. Lessard, J. Ryan, S. Wilkofsky
and M. Wise.
Student: W. Washington

The meeting began at 2:30 p.m. with a report by Prof. Hirshfield on his
participation in the Ad Hoc Committee appointed by the President to work
on a student questionnaire. The following were the high points of that
meeting.

1) There were 7 or 8 students representing the entire student
body.
2) Most of the students seemed to lack knowledge of what a
questionnaire is.
3) If evaluation is to be comprehensively done, it would mean
some 30,000 questionnaires per semester if each instructor
is evaluated only once.
4) The problem of administering the questionnaire is enormous,
with regard to timing, method of control, source of control,
 anonymity of the students, length of the questionnaire, method
of evaluating the collected data etc.

Members of the Instruction Committee who were present voiced the following
questions and comments.

1) Computer read-outs result in lack of subtlety,
2) Negative comments should be explained to avoid capriciousness.
3) Should the collected information be confidential or not?
4) Should there be room for treating certain questions as
"irrelevant" in the eyes of the instructor?
5) How do we guard against backlash?
6) Can the students omit answering certain questions if those
questions seem "irrelevant" to them?
7) How should the questions be weighted? Singly? Or in groups
of questions?
8) Space for "suggestions by students" should be provided at the
end of the questionnaire page, perhaps as a tear-off.
9) How can anonymity in criticizing be reconciled with the
principle of democratic procedure?
10) How can we achieve free expression of opinion and yet have
identification of who is answering the questionnaire?

Dr. Berger, the Chairman, concluded the meeting by announcing the
following dates, and distributing a leaflet on "The Debasement of
Liberal Education" by Morrin B. Abrams.

Mon. Mar. 6 - Meeting with Innovation Center, 3-5 p.m.
(Faculty Cafeteria, Main Building)

Tues. Mar. 7, and 21 - Committee on Instruction meeting,
2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Room 20, Fordham Center)

Before the meeting adjourned at 4 p.m. the minutes of the last meeting
were approved as distributed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mabel L. Chang
Secretary

M.L.C.r
cc: