

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

March 26, 1969

MINUTES -- Meeting No. 8

Regents Room

Members

Present: Pippin, Boyer, Brown, Burmeister, Decker, Duns, Hand, King, Lark, Mason, Mathias, Mendelson, Moore, Morgali, Moule, Reynolds, Schilling, Schippers, Smutny, Walker, Yoder.

Also Present: Bevan, Binkley, Burns, Cullen, Diamond, Jackson, Jantzen, Kolker, Harrison, McMillin, Meredith, Riddles, Shao, Stedman, Taylor, Winterberg.

President Burns called the special meeting to order at 8:35 p.m. Dr. Burns explained that he was contacted this morning by a group of students with suggestions as to what could be done about the underprivileged student on this campus, to jolt us in our thinking, and asking for an answer by Friday noon. They demanded that 250 black students be admitted in the fall of 1969. The petition was signed by 90 students. A subsequent request also demanded that 250 Third World students be admitted.

Dr. Burns reported that he outlined to them the many things going on on this campus:

- 45 black students on campus, 41 with financial aid
- 44 students with Spanish surnames, 41 with aid
- 121 Oriental students, 42 with aid
- 68 students from South America, most of whom receive aid
- The Teacher Corps program is being expanded by 30 students this year
- There is a good chance of having a HEP program and the Upward Bound summer program
- An Institute on Black Studies will be held this summer, and a Mexican-American Institute is proposed for next summer
- 130 faculty have agreed to teach one course for three out of four years to students with two years of college
- Faculty members have contributed funds for scholarships for culturally disadvantaged students
- Professor John Diamond has been appointed Director of Community Involvement
- A staff member for the Black Studies program has been included in the budget for the fall
- This University was the first in the country to offer a course on the black man and his contribution to society.

However, Dr. Burns reported, this information didn't penetrate to the more militant ones, and they asked him to make a decision on their demands. Dr. Burns said he was in no position to make a unilateral decision, that he had never influenced faculty on the setting of admission requirements, that the real power of the institution is not in the administration but rather in its faculty, and that the decision would be a joint one.

Dr. Burns said that the Executive Policy Committee met for three hours in the afternoon, and he asked Dr. Bevan to outline what occurred. Dr. Bevan explained that we are dealing with a bargaining contract. Prof. Diamond has interpreted the student's primary concern is with the

University's responsibility to the community, in terms of the culturally disadvantaged in the Stockton area who have no opportunity to extend their education beyond Delta College. Both administrative and faculty decisions are involved, Dr. Bevan explained.

The administration feels that they have an opportunity and a responsibility and has decided this institution would be willing to take in 150 students from the junior college program and 50 lower division students on a tuition-free basis (not books, fees, supplies, etc.) and on the basis of need.

The faculty decision is involved in (1) the waiving of entrance requirements and (2) the tutorial program. What, Dr. Bevan asked, is the pleasure of the faculty?

Discussion followed on what would happen once the student was admitted--would instructors have the courage to be strict and to fail a student if necessary? Some expressed opposition to lowering admission standards. Prof. Diamond said the students are really asking to get in, not to get out.

Chairman Pippin opened the meeting for further discussion. Some of the remarks offered follow:

MATHIAS: Let's take the challenge of those who have been shortchanged. The admissions office might work out diagnostic tests which would give a good indication of needs, then tutorials could be utilized. We might even learn something about education; it would be an exciting challenge.

KOLKER: The majority of the students would feel that they don't want a special ride.

REYNOLDS: The air should be cleared; we have standards to adhere to, and I am not going to be coerced into something.

MOORE: I feel that we may react to the language--the the word "demand." There are moral reasons for doing something--the right reason for the moral responsibility that we cannot escape. What we are already doing is not morally enough.

REYNOLDS: But is a plan like this financially feasible?

BURNS: The great financial burden falls back on the faculty. with the handling of larger classes and the giving of tutorial time.

BROWN: If the administration feels they can handle 200 students, then the faculty should be able to handle them too.

MASON: Experimental programs have been run in regard to admissions throughout the country and have been notoriously successful. It seems to me that the general idea that you enroll only the highest 12% of a graduating class is erroneous.

TAYLOR: Regularly 5% of the entering freshmen admitted fall below the standards. In addition, for the past several years a summer program has been operating which allows admission after successful completion of the summer work.

MOORE: We already have 130 faculty members willing to give time to tutoring. The faculty has also pledged \$20,000 over four years for scholarships for the culturally disadvantaged. This year the funds are being used for 3 black students and 1 Mexican-American student.

LARK: Faculty will need to give more time for these additional students. The students also have a decision to make--ask the student body if they will give time too.

MENDELSON: Students are presently participating in tutoring programs, and I feel that they will continue. The PSA is also considering the giving of 10 to 20 thousand dollars from their budget next year toward a scholarship program for minority groups.

BURNS: Tuition raises are competitive with faculty raises. The Development Office will need to raise \$864,000 to balance the budget for next year. Hopefully, subventions from the state and federal governments will be forthcoming. If we don't start getting some federal or state support in the immediate future, it's going to be tough going, and the same is true for all independent colleges.

RIDDLES: UOP presently has a 10% enrollment of minority groups, and this demand is asking that we raise it to 20%. This will change the complexion of UOP. Being labeled a white racist campus hurts us all, but it will be a real part of the student's education to brush shoulders with students from South Stockton.

MASON: I hope these students will not be condemned to a second-rate standing by students and faculty. We will need to look into the social organization and kinds of interaction taking place.

MATHIAS: I would like to try these "risky" people. I am sure stamina and moral character might have some merit.

MASON: Having these students will provide a better mix of the socio-economic level of our classes.

TAYLOR: Our admission standards are not awfully high by State standards. Students can also be judged by evidence of ability, letters of testimony in their behalf, and recommendations of the high school or junior college.

BEVAN: Make admission requirements more flexible so that they can accommodate culturally disadvantaged. Use the same standards but use discretion on difficult cases.

TAYLOR: If we make the effort to accommodate too many areas, we run the risk of getting more applications than we can take care of. We not have 160 new applicants who qualify for EOG, and we don't have enough funds for them.

MOULE: The junior college meets the need for the first two years. Taking upper division students will to some extent allay the charge of our being in the way of a state college in this area.

YODER: Will the demanding group accept the lower number of 200 students?

DIAMOND: Though they actually want 500, 200 will seem very good, like "manna from heaven."

MENDELSON: Would these 200 students be on top of the students which we were going to admit anyway?

BEVAN: Yes, these would be 200 new students. We don't know how many we'll get, but we will recruit for 200.

WALKER: If the University had started to move 10 years ago, this would not be happening today. Any university has some obligation to the community. It's amazing that at least a year ago we started moving toward a proposal and we're still planning and organizing. All of a sudden, with some other kind of phrasing, we move. The key issue is, what is there on this campus to hold these students in terms of educational experience. The work here is somewhat meaningless in relation to his life.

BEVAN: The Black Studies Task Force is now in a position to move on a program, and one or two additional staff members will be added. The plan is for a definite mix of students. The program will be first presented to the Academic Affairs Committee and then will go to the Academic Council for approval.

Discussion followed on various methods which could be used in devising and administering admission procedures.

Dr. Mason moved that the Academic Council accept the principle of 150 transfer students and 50 freshmen as being academically workable. The motion was seconded.

Dr. Schippers made a substitute motion: That the Academic Council recommend that admission standards to UOP be changed and made more flexible for 200 students from low income areas of Stockton, the details to be determined by a committee of eight composed of: UOP Director of Community Involvement, ad admissions officer, an Academic Council member, BSU member, PSA member, Latin-American UOP student, Oriental-American UOP student, and the Academic Vice President. The motion was seconded.

Dr. Moule made an amendment to the motion: That 200 students be admitted, 150 of whom can qualify for junior standing in UOP. A vote was taken and the amendment was defeated.

Dr. Moule then made the following motion:

It is recommended that the admissions criteria of the University be made flexible to accommodate culturally disadvantaged students from the Stockton community, the criteria in these instances to be worked out between the Director of Community Involvement, the Dean of Admissions, and others recommended by them, their recommendations to be reported to the Academic Affairs Committee. The total number of students to be admitted in this program is up to two hundred--150 with junior level standing and 50 below the junior standing.

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The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

After further discussion about the tutorial program and the desire to have students also participate, Dr. Lark made the following motion:

I move that we tell the student body of the recommendation that an additional 200 students be admitted to the University tuition free. Tell them that the administration has recommended that these students be admitted without any addition of faculty members. Let them understand that the success of this move depends partly on the faculty and partly on the students, and ask for their approval and their physical support.

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The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

After several announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Alice Kroeck
Secretary