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Historical documentation of the discussions and final motion of the Academic Council* to establish Huxley as WWSC's second cluster college.

December 1966-May 1967

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*Precursor body to ACC?

Copy 1

TO: MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

FROM: Jerry Flora

DATE: December 5, 1966

SUBJECT: Comments on tomorrow's Meeting.

1. Items from the Chairman: Nothing to report at this time--probably will have tomorrow.

2. The LRPC Chairman, Radke, will present a recommendation that the second satellite be a College of Environmental Science (Huxley College?) This college would relate Marine Biology, Fresh Water Studies, Ecology, possibly concerns for Environmental Polution, such as atmospheric, etc.; certain aspects of Anthropology, Sociology, and Psychology (e g the ethological) might be included as well. Whereas Fairhaven has been described as a school emphasing interdisciplinary studies with work in the major, i.e., the upper division course work taken outside, Huxley College would seem to emphasize upper division and possibly graduate offerings. It is the view of the LRPC that they should do no more with this matter now other than to present the idea and if it is approved by the Academic Council, would recommend that a committee be appointed immediately to develop the more detailed aspects of the College. If I am in error on anything said here I look to Dr. Radke to announce corrections at tomorrow's meeting. I would think 20 minutes might be enough on this item.

3. Please find the attached memo from the Department of Biology. The Biology Department is protesting the 70 hour limit upon major and minor combinations. I have invited Dr. Broad, and anyone he cares to bring with him, to attend tomorrow's meeting and would suggest that on this matter we conduct a hearing. I believe the Department of Biology feels strongly enough about this that if they are tomorrow denied, they will attempt to pursue the matter further. I indicate this only to show that they feel strongly. It would appear possible in view of last week's Academic Council action concerning the development of the Five-Year, Pre-Service Teacher Education Program, for the Department of Biology to utilize this for their majors, thus they might require all teacher education majors in Biology to complete the teacher education process in the fifth year. They could thereby maintain an 85 credit program. Since I expect this to be a rather fervent item I recommend we spend thirty minutes on it.

4. Please find the attached report on Preprofessional Transfer Programs submitted by the Arts and Sciences Committee. Note particularly the recommendations contained on page 2. Fifteen minutes should take care of this item.

5. Items from the Council. I assume you have read the Faculty Council Minutes of December 1, 1966.

Copy 1

OFFICE OF THE ACADEMIC DEAN

WESTERN WASHINGTON STATE COLLEGE

Date

December 7, 1966

TO: THE FACULTY

FROM: Jerry Flora

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Academic Council Meeting December 6, 1966

Members present: Besserman, Diers, Ellis, Hicks, Higbee, Knapman, Murray, Porter, Radke, Thompson (Absent: Bultmann, Brown)

Guests: 12 Faculty - 9 Students

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 - Items from the Chairman

Course approvals reported as follows:

ECON 474	Office Automation for Business Teachers. Change of number and classification. Every other summer only
HOME EC 422	Nursery Education. New course to be entered as a double listing with EDUCATION 432. Summer 1967
HOME EC 497e	Experimental Textiles and Clothing. New course, summer only
MUSIC 426	Chamber Music Workshop. New course, summer only beginning 1967
P.E. 497a (Men)	Workshop in Coaching Men's and Women's Track and Field, Tennis and Basketball. New course to be offered Summer 1967 only
P.E. 497 (Women)	Teacher's Workshop in Creative Gymnastics for Children. New course to be offered Summer 1967 only

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 - Long Range Planning Committee Report--Recommendation that the second satellite college be a College of Environmental Science.

(This portion of the meeting was chaired by Vice Chairman, Arthur Hicks)

Moved by Radke that the Academic Council approve the recommendation of the Long Range Planning Committee to establish satellite college No. 2 as a College of Environmental Science.

Motion seconded

Radke opened the discussion by indicating the Long Range Planning Committee does not wish to be specific in the details of what this college should be because this would tend in a sense to hinder the planning committee for this college. However, the committee believes the idea of

environmental science has the potential to bring a variety of such studies under one heading and capitalize upon Western's unique environmental opportunities.

During the lengthy discussion the following questions were raised:

1. Would this college have 600 students as is planned for Fairhaven?

   A. This has not been determined.

2. Were other possibilities for the second college discussed?

   A. Yes, several possibilities were discussed.

3. In view of the fact that plans for reorganizing the college are being discussed, just how would this proposed college relate, i.e., would it be best organized around a "living-in" group or as a part of the total academic program?

It became apparent that the Academic Council needed more information before acting upon the motion. A substitute motion was made by Knapman as follows:

> Moved by Knapman that the Academic Council approve the study of establishing satellite college No. 2 as a College of Environmental Science.
>
> Motion unanimously approved

(Note: The Long Range Planning Committee will appoint a committee to study and make recommendations concerning the proposed college and the matter will be returned to the Academic Council at some later date.)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 - The 70 credit Major-Minor Concentration--The Department of Biology has requested that the 70 credit limit be reviewed.

The Chairman declared this portion of the meeting to be an informal session in order that representatives of the Biology Department and Music Department could present their objections to the 70 credit limit upon major-minor and supporting courses combination.

It was the view of both the Biology and Music Departments that the 70 credit limit was unrealistic in terms of what they believed to be necessary for competent teachers in their areas. Both departments requested permission to continue with requirements as stated in the present catalogue. The discussion was lengthy and at times heated and was far too complex to be included in any detail here.

> Moved by Diers that the previous action of the Academic Council with regard to the 70 hour major-minor combination be reaffirmed.
>
> Motion carried (9 for, 1 opposed)

During the discussion it was suggested that other alternatives were possible; for example, the possibility of doing all teacher education work in the fifth year was mentioned. The general feeling of the council

OFFICE OF THE ACADEMIC DEAN

WESTERN WASHINGTON STATE COLLEGE

Date

May 19, 1967

TO: THE FACULTY

FROM: Jerry Flora

SUBJECT: Agenda for Academic Council Meeting, Tuesday, May 23, 1967
4:00 P.M., Room 106 Humanities Building

AGENDA:

1. Items from the Chairman.
2. Nursing Education Committee Report.
3. Second Cluster College. = Huxley
4. ROTC at Western.
5. Items from the Council.

TO: Members of the Academic Council and Chairman of the Standing Committees: Arts and Sciences, Teacher Education

FROM: Jerry Flora

DATE: 19 May 1967

SUBJECT: Comments on the Agenda

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

The Nursing Education Committee Report materials are now in your hands and the committee will be present.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

The Long Range Planning Committee's recommendations are attached to the Feasibility Committee's report.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

The Student Academic Advisory Board will be finishing up their report on ROTC over the weekend, and their recommendations will be forwarded to you as soon as they are available.

TO: The Academic Council

FROM: Long Range Planning Committee

DATE: May 10, 1967

SUBJECT: The Second Cluster College

On December 6, 1967, the Academic Council approved "...the study of establishing satellite college No. 2 as a College of Environmental Science." To undertake that study the Long Range Planning Committee appointed a special subcommittee of Professors Robert Meade, Chairman, (Psychology), Donald Call, (Sociology/Anthropology), Sea Bong Chang (Chemistry), Michael K. Mischaikow (Economics), and David Mason (Biology). This subcommittee conducted a wide-ranging inquiry into the question of establishing an environmental science college as cluster college No. 2. This subcommittee reported at length to the Long Range Planning Committee.

On the basis of that report the Long Range Planning Committee makes the following recommendations to the Academic Council:

(1) The establishment of environmental science as the second cluster college, as an upper division and graduate institution.

(2) The appointment of a dean and a faculty committee at the earliest possible moment.

(3) The dean and the faculty committee to proceed with the selection of a faculty, the development of a curriculum and the planning of a physical plant in which to house the college.

Attached to these recommendations is the subcommittee's report pertaining to Desirability, Feasibility and Definition. The Long Range Planning Committee concurs in the report.

TO: Long Range Planning Committee

FROM: Special Committee on Feasibility of Environmental Science College

DATE: April 18, 1967

I. DESIRABILITY: Theoretical considerations.

Curious man seeks to organize his knowledge of the world about him on many levels. Science, which represents the most internally consistent method yet promulgated for this organization, has approached the microcosmos of the atom and the macrocosmos of the universe with brilliant predictive success. But, strangely, if there be one level of synthetic intellectual organization which has been slighted, it is that of the immediate world which surrounds man every day, the area of environmental science. Perhaps this deficit arises from a super-abundance of environmental "common knowledge" which has accumulated in the para-scientific culture, clouding and even distorting our attempts at a more rational approach. In any case, granting this inequity of development within the culture of science, it would seem culturally imperative from a theoretical point of view to direct a significant measure of energy toward developing a new vitality in environmental science.

The study of the environment is unique among the levels of science in that, as nowhere else, the separate basic disciplines of physics, chemistry, geology and biology must be brought concurrently to focus upon the geographic entity under examination. And as man partakes of his set of unique interactions with this environment, so too must the allied suite of behavioral sciences enter into the examination. Extreme disciplinary co-operation is thus essential to a meaningful science of the environment.

More subtle and consequently more controversial is the need for a thorough-going re-examination of the conceptual bases of the current attempts at environmental sciences. Burdened as they are by a vast heritage of poorly structured "common knowledge," these faculty conceptual fundamentals are felt by many advanced thinkers in the field to be the prime retardants to scientific progress.

A significant two-fold step must therefore be taken in the development of the environmental sciences: a hitherto unknown stress upon interdisciplinarity must be coupled to a careful re-evaluation of the basic modes of scientific thought in this area. The establishment of a totally new college embodying these aims would seem to offer a remarkably good stimulus for such re-structuring and re-evaluation processes.

Pragmatic considerations:

An expanding world population with the inevitable consequent increase in demands being made on the various facets of environment is creating pragmatic concern for a study of environmental resources. Problems such as water and air polution, shortages of food supplies in various parts of the world, depletion of natural resources and social problems created by over-crowded conditions are but a few of the areas of acute concern. Attempts to arouse public interest in conservation of natural resources, inauguration of studies designed to determine the feasibility of taking an increasing amount of foodstuffs from the sea and attempts to promote population control are specific examples of actions being taken which reflect a growing concern for these problems.

The recognition of these problems and the concern which has prompted action programs to deal with them is sufficient demonstration of the critical nature of the problems of man's utilization and regulation of his environment and its resources. It is also apparent that any one of these problems enumerated here cuts across the boundaries of the various branches of academia as they have

developed traditionally. At the same time, there is a paucity of effort to investigate these problems from a broadly-interdisciplinary frame of reference.

This committee feels that the theoretical and the pragmatic need for study of these problems and the promotion of empirical research into them has been sufficiently demonstrated. It is also the judgment of this committee that this can be accomplished effectively by the establishment of collections of scholars to undertake such study in an interdisciplinary way.

II. FEASIBILITY.

A. Location: It is a well-known principle that the ease of apprehension of any property is a direct function of the magnitude of gradient which that property displays along some other dimension. In practice this principle means that science is most efficient when studying temporal and spatial interfaces or the limits of a property. When these interfaces are not apparent, the crutch of a statistical approach is substituted with an important loss of efficiency.

It would follow that in the study of the environment, interfaces or sharp gradients should be sought for the best utilization of time and effort. In addition to this advantage, the interaction of such interfaces produces a wide variety of environmental conditions in a short period of space, time or other independent dimension.

Let us examine some of the gradients in space which are readily accessible to the Bellingham region. Within Whatcom County are exposed an assemblage of rock types which are as varied as any in a comparable area in this state. These types range from recent Pleistocene alluvial and landslide materials through Cretaceous sandstones and Devonian limestones to pre-Devonian metamporhics. The effects of both continental and mountain glaciation have been felt throughout the county and active glaciers clothe a number of the higher peaks. Altitude ranges from sea level to 3280 meters some 49 kilometers inland. On this same

transect, yearly precipitation varies from 76 cm to over 500 cm. while to the east rainfall amounts drop to less than 25 cm. Puget Sound provides nutrient-rich sea water which grades into the esturrine fresh water of the several major rivers of the area, and then to the fertile mountain lake waters; again to the east, salt lakes of considerable variety add another dimension to the gradient of salinity. Within 200 km. the monthly mean (sea level) temperatures may vary from 20° C. in summer to -10° C. in winter, while occasional arctic continental air drainages by way of the Fraser River canyon may drop winter temperatures much lower. The biota reflect these gradients and, along with several truncater river systems, numerous island and lakes of varying sizes, provide environmental interactions of especial evolutionary and adaptive significance. Thus the natural setting of Bellingham makes it superbly suited for a college of environmental studies.

The fact that the Bellingham-Whatcom County region is in a state of gradual transition from an almost purely rural economy to one more dependent on industrial development again renders this area unique. Such a transition will allow relevant research in a region where increasing demands are being made upon the environment.

B. Employment Potential of Graduates: It is generally acknowledged that not only all levels of government and education but also private businesses are increasingly requiring college graduates with broad but intensive background in the environmental sciences. The need and importance of research in this area promises continuing and enlarging support for all levels of scientific and technological personnel as well as administrative, educational and related opportunities. It is estimated that for every broadly trained environmental scientist now, there will be a need for 5 within 15 years. This demand must be met by society and a college whose entire focus is on this need will be in an optimal position to meet it with distinction.

C. Potential Student Body: Availability of applicants for a student body is partly determined by interest and partly by employment possibilities. Evidence of interest in environmental problems comes from current student concern for such practical problems facing mankind as population explosion, utilization of science and technology to extend food resources, and the application of science generally to the well-being of mankind. It is the judgment of this committee that undergraduate students would be particularly attracted to such a program especially if they were actually involved in research which is meaningful to them and association with others who are doing such research.

D. Potential Faculty: A nucleus of potential faculty members for such a college already exists at Western. These people are currently engaged in research on various problems which are concerned with environment and could very well focus their activities on the development of a college. Many of these faculty members have chosen Western because of the natural laboratory which forms its setting. There also appears to exist elsewhere growing numbers of scientists who we believe would find such a college attractive. Problems concerned with the attraction of appropriate faculty members to such a college, however, have not been explored.

In addition, several semi-interdisciplinary nucleii already exist within the present structure of Western. The Freshwater Institute and the atmospheric studies program are examples of such nucleii.

E. Relevant Library Materials: The need for an interdisciplinary approach to problems of the environment is manifest in a number of scholarly journals of broad coverage: Limnology and Oceanography, Ecology, Ecological Monographs, Wetter und Leben, The Journal of Ecology, the Journal of Marine Research, Oikos, Analytical Chemistry, Archives of Biochemistry, Journal of Inorganic and Nuclear

Chemistry, Journal of Applied Microbiology, Journal of Biological Chemistry, etc. Additionally some journals of each special discipline offer contributions to the study of the environment: U.S. Geological Survey Water Supply Papers, Transactions of the American Geophysical Union, Biological Bulletin, Journal of Hydrology, Plant Physiology, Soil Science, Journal of the American Meterological Society, Journal of Agricultural Science, etc.

F. Financial Support: The United States Federal Government and private businesses are increasingly funding research into problems of environmental science and Western has already made preliminary inquiries into availability of such funds. The Department of Defense, The Interior Department, The Department of Health, Education and Welfare are all supporting granting agencies which can be approached to assist in the financial development of such a college. In addition, the Travelers Insurance Company, to cite but one private business example, has funded a special research center to study problems of environment.

III. DEFINITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Throughout this discussion we have avoided a specific definition of the area of environmental studies. However, implicit in our working definition have been two lines of thought. The one derives from the practical need of man to understand and control that world in which he lives. The other attempts to transcend man's immediate needs and to see the lacunae within our developing culture. To fill these spaces--to foster teaching and basic research into the interfaces between land, air and water by any and all methods of science should be the ultimate aim of this college.

In this sense and in this kind of meaning, environmental science could be defined as that branch of empirical science which treats problems of the physical and biological matrix with which mankind interacts.

OFFICE OF THE ACADEMIC DEAN

WESTERN WASHINGTON STATE COLLEGE

Date

May 24, 1967

TO: THE FACULTY

FROM: Jerry Flora

SUBJECT: Minutes of Academic Council Meeting, Tuesday, May 23, 1967

Members present: Besserman, Diers, Hashisaki, Hicks, Higbee, Murray, Porter, Thompson (Absent: Bultmann, Ellis, Knapman, Radke)

Guests: 9 Faculty
11 Students

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 - Items from the Chairman.

The Chairman announced the appointment of the augmented Fine Arts Committee as follows:

Dr. Charles North, Chairman
Mr. Philip Ager
Dr. Sene Carlile
Dr. Emelia Kilby
Mr. David Marsh
Dr. Thomas Napiecinski
Mr. Thomas Schlotterback

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 - Nursing Education Committee Report.

After discussion of the difficulties inherent in staffing such a program, the urgent national need for professionally trained nurses, and various suggestions about ways that Western should move in implementing the program,

Thompson moved approval of the program specified in A 2 b - "Degree-granting Nursing Programs" - with the earliest possible implementation.

Motion unanimously approved

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 - Second Cluster College.

After considerable discussion of the alternative plans for cluster colleges that had been considered by the Long Range Planning Committee as well as an examination of the question of residency as it pertains to cluster colleges,

Murray moved that the recommendation of the Long Range Planning Committee for the second cluster college be accepted and that the Long Range Planning Committee subcommittee be instructed to continue their study and present a formal curriculum to this body for approval before further action.

Motion approved (Tie vote - Chair voted in favor of the motion)