NYQUIST ASKS FOR MORATORIUM ON NEW DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

A one-year moratorium on the approval of all new doctoral programs requested by institutions of higher education in New York State was announced September 24, by Commissioner of Education Ewald B. Nyquist. The action, approved by the Board of Regents, will become effective October 1.

In a memorandum being sent to college officials, Nyquist said he was making the move for two reasons:

1. Deep concern over the expansion of doctoral programs in both public and non-public institutions in the face of evidence that present and future needs are now being met.

2. The effect such expansion may have on both the quality of new programs and the effectiveness of programs in institutions having a deep commitment to doctoral education.

In arriving at the decision, Nyquist was assisted by a special advisory committee consisting of representatives of universities, other State agencies, and private foundations. This group cited the serious educational and fiscal consequences of under-utilization of existing doctoral resources.

During the past decade there has been a tremendous national expansion in doctoral education, the Commissioner pointed out. This is largely the result of reaction to the launching of Sputnik and the subsequent feeling that this country was falling behind the Soviet Union in training scientific personnel. Furthermore, he added, it was a period when both the State and City systems were developing into comprehensive universities and establishing doctoral programs in the same fields as those available at private institutions. "The growth of such programs, both in the public and private sectors," Nyquist said, "was encouraged to meet expected shortages of all types of highly trained specialists."

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More recently, he explained, the picture has changed. "Educators are now questioning earlier forecasts of future needs. They now predict that the shortages which in fact did exist at the beginning of the last decade have been met, and that henceforth surpluses would occur."

Nyquist referred to a study by the Center for the Study of Higher Education at Berkeley, California, which suggested that no institution should start a new program unless it is highly innovative, fully inter-disciplinary, or in a discipline where there is a national shortage. It also recommends that programs be eliminated which have not reached optimum enrollment before 1974 or 1975, since it is unlikely that they will do so afterwards.

The Commissioner's special advisory committee concluded that programs now offered are more than sufficient to meet both short and long-term needs in most fields. They expressed deep concern that as enrollments fall below planned capacity, the deficit will threaten the fiscal stability of institutions and that the quality of their programs will suffer accordingly. In some cases this could result in high quality and needed programs being closed, while others of lesser quality could be continued.

The committee recommended a planned retrenchment where necessary, including joint programs and agreements among institutions to avoid duplication of course offerings where circumstances warrant such action.

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In order to study the overall picture, Nyquist said he plans a comprehensive assessment of doctoral programs in the State to consider their cost, quality, and effectiveness, and the resources available in relation to long-term needs. He intends to appoint a Commissioner's Advisory Committee to prepare recommendations on the next step that needs to be taken following the moratorium.

Nyquist asked for the support of all institutions to realize the objectives of the moratorium and for their cooperation in the studies to be undertaken shortly.

He reminded officials that the moratorium was not a prohibition against planning for new doctoral programs. "We should not impede needed innovation of new programs in certain fields," he said. "Waivers may be granted if the approval of a new program is in the best interests of the institution and of graduate education broadly in the State."

-N.Y.S. Education Department

GUEST EDITORIAL:

I am pleased to contribute brief comments on the pending reaccreditation review of the College from the administrative viewpoint as requested by your Editor. First, a few statements on accreditation itself as to purposes and function for clearer perspective. With hundreds of diverse higher educational institutions in the land there is a need for some standardization as to what programs, courses and credits mean and indices of quality. Whereas most countries depend on massive ministries of education to establish standards to insure baseline quality, the United States has followed the voluntary accreditation route. This was because of the initial largely private nature of higher education in the United States. This escape from administrative bureaucracy in name of academic freedom and innovation has been of great value. It permits more flexibility in programs yet through accreditation mechanisms provides accepted standards of program quality for public guidance and protection. Academic institutions themselves initially formed the accrediting commissions. Six major commissions, each regionally located, coordinated by a nationwide administration of regional accrediting commissions, each regionally located, coordinated by a nationwide administration of regional accrediting commissions, now perform this quality review and standardizing function for higher education. Membership in the associations is voluntary. The commissions are operated and controlled by academic representatives from the various member institutions. For example, Dr. Frank Piskor, former Vice Chancellor of Syracuse University, served as President of the Middle States Commission, our Middle States accrediting group, for many years. The service is on a voluntary non-remunerative basis. The values of accreditation are two-fold. It requires a baseline of program quality for the programs it accredits. This information is useful

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to prospective students and other institutions in accepting course transfers. Perhaps its most important function, however, is to require careful internal reviews of program goals and effectiveness before a carefully selected peer group. In the past decade accreditation has shifted from concern on meeting prescribed minimum standards to the self-evaluation or self-study aspect. In a sense they help an institution to take a critical look at its programs. We view this phase to be of great value. In the next few weeks, representatives of the Middle States Association will study the total program of the College and hopefully recommend reaccreditation. In our case they have instituted a new seminar type of reaccreditation. In its essence we will explain before a carefully selected academic peer group our changing mission, our ideas on the nature of professionalism, how to attain instructional quality and the proper role of research in a professional college. These are important basic questions to the effectiveness of the overall program. Substantial benefits have already come from the internal discussions and debate centered around these questions during the past six months. We expect further valuable insights from the peer group who will participate in the seminars.

At the time of the Middle States visitation, the Society of American Foresters will also conduct a reaccreditation visit of the professional forestry program. This will be an independent appraisal conducted by representatives of the Society of American Foresters. Next year, programs in Landscape Architecture and Engineering will be examined by their respective professional accrediting groups. In the case of the professional program accreditation - the basic purpose - is the public's protection in areas of health, welfare and safety. In these accreditations a profession establishes its own standards to insure a high level of service to the public.

In summary, the broad values of accreditation are the prestige of peer acceptance, the detailed self-study that precedes the formal visitations, standardizing purposes, and enhanced job opportunities for graduates. As there is a need in our personal lives for periodic realistic appraisal of progress towards goals, so in the life of this institution accreditation plays an important review role of progress toward goals of program excellence in natural resource areas.

- Dr. R. Zabel

STUDENT HOUR WITH PRESIDENT PALMER

Upon request of the Student Council, President Palmer has set aside one hour of his busy schedule each week specifically for students. Any student wishing to talk informally with President Palmer, discuss any problems, or ask questions, should feel free to drop in. The hour which has been set aside is from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. every Friday afternoon.

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Please keep in mind that President Palmer stated that in no way would this arrangement exclude other student appointments with him. Also, the "student hour" would be subject to change in case of an emergency. President Palmer also stated that in no way is the "student hour" to be construed as a means to obviate proper procedure for any action or for any activity which must go through proper channels such as the Office of Student Services or the Student Council.

Please feel free to take advantage of this opportunity to talk with President Palmer any Friday afternoon from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. His office is in room 204, Bray Hall.

- Jim Goulet
  Pres. Student Assoc.

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A COMPLETE AND EXHAUSTIVE HISTORY OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGE OF FORESTRY ARCHERY CLUB

Three years ago a small group of College of Forestry students, realized the oppression of the noisy, crowded, polluted environment of Syracuse, and possibly even of classes, homework, and the university community. With a common interest in archery, they collected together to look into the possibilities of providing the opportunity for the unique, pleasurable form of enjoyment of archery to the students at the College of Forestry.

What did this small company of magnanimous people accomplish? Probably the most important accomplishment, one of the main objectives of the fledgling Archery Club, was to get the administration's approval of archery as a sport on campus, i.e., get the rules changed so that bows and arrows would be allowed on campus. Another big obstacle was the fact that not only firearms, but weapons of any kind are not allowed in Syracuse University housing. It does no good if you are allowed to shoot bows and arrows if you can't keep them around. Another of the goals was to enable any archer to practice his sport with a great deal of convenience, in other words on campus and at most any time he wished. In order to deal effectively to achieve these ends, the loosely organized group had to become an authorized member organization of the Student's Association. Once a member of the Student's Association, the Archery Club was able to negotiate in concrete terms with the administration. The result has been that bows and arrows (target and field type) are allowed on campus, and the archery club was given a room in Bray Hall in which to store equipment. The club was also granted the privilege of using an area behind Walters Hall for its target range. As with anything else there were problems in attaining each of these, and a good share of the credit for jumping the hurdles goes to the College of Forestry's administration. The Archery Club would like to sincerely thank the administration, especially Vice-President Payne, Vice-President Anderson and Mr. Litcher, head of College of Forestry Security, who were the main contacts with the club, for their cooperation. Thus the sport of archery was recognized at the College of Forestry.

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Above and beyond the legal and physical opportunities for the actual practice of archery gained at the College, the Archery Club has other goals. Perhaps the most important of which is the organization of archery on campus for the promotion of better communication among archers of valuable and interesting information that would not otherwise be available. The Archery Club also creates the opportunity for people to gather and simply enjoy discussing or practicing the sport together. These two major areas are the aims of the meetings and activities. At the meetings there are equipment demonstrations, entertaining and informative movies; the members talk over their archery-related problems (which can be a tremendous help to new archers especially), and this year the club hopes to have a well known artist and bow hunter, Wayne Trimm, of the New York State Environmental Conservation Department speak at one of the meetings. The activities which the Archery Club sponsors are the Archery Contest at the Barbecue, a Deer Shoot (which consists of walking around a field course and shooting at paper deer targets), and a Field shoot (with regular circular targets). Both of these, especially the Deer Shoot, are beneficial to the bow hunter preparing for deer season. And it is the responsibility of the bow hunter, who is going to try to kill a deer, to become as proficient with his weapon as possible so he can kill the animal quickly. Pre-season practice is a must, and the field course provides an excellent situation for this specialized type of practice. Many Archery Club members, during the winter, take advantage of the indoor archery lanes which the City of Syracuse operates, and later in spring when carp runs get under way, the Archery Club arranges a carp hunt.

At some universities the archery organizations are of a competitive nature and were formed with that purpose in mind. This is not the idea behind the College of Forestry's Archery Club, but there has, nevertheless, been participation in different competitions. The Syracuse University Intramural Council was approached about the feasibility of archery being incorporated into their program, but due to various reasons this effort never bore fruit. Early in the spring semester last year, Archery Club members formed a team called "The Stumpies" and just missed placing first in the city Indoor Archery League. They did bring back a trophy for the College of Forestry, however. The increasing interest in Archery on campus has been reflected in the Tri-State Meet archery event as well. For the past two years the archery event has added more points to the total score, and last year, College of Forestry archers took first and second place in the event, (which added enough extra points to the total score to allow the College of Forestry to win the Tri-State meet). This is the extent of the competitive activities in the club at present, but if there is more interest in this area in the future, the club will participate in more competitions.

Speaking of the future, the Archery Club plans on continuing with its activities and improving its shooting facilities. A clinic for beginning archers may be conducted, and a limited equipment loaning system may be initiated.

The College of Forestry Archery Club is quite pleased with the successes it has enjoyed and would like to extend an invitation to others at the College to come share the fun.

-David H. West
1. Chinese Proverb "The strongest memory is weaker than the palest ink."

2. An eel can detect alcohol in water in the proportion of one teaspoonful in Lake Superior!
   - Nat'l Geo. Mag., Aug. 1967

3. "Some men see things as they are, and say why? I dream things that never were, and say why not?"
   - Robert Kennedy

NOTICES

There will be a rehearsal of the Men's Chorus, 4:00 p.m., Monday (today) at Hendricks Chapel on the Syracuse University campus. New members are welcome.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS IN G.F. 100:

Due to the necessity of using Marshall Auditorium for events scheduled in connection with the College accreditation visitation, the G.F. 100 class will meet in Gifford Auditorium of Syracuse University, on Wed., October 13 only, at the usual time (9:00-10:00).

-Charles C. Larson, Dean

There will be a meeting of the American Statistical Association on Thursday evening, October 14, 1971 at 8:00 p.m. in the Moon Library Conference Room.

Professor Kasile will give a talk on: "Multiple Comparison Tests."

There will be free coffee and donuts.

-Joseph D. Kasile
Assistant Professor - Statistics

INSIDE LOOK AT RUSSIA

On Friday, October 15, the Zoology Club will sponsor a meeting with Albert Jensen, speaking on his experiences aboard Russian ocean-research vessels. Mr. Jensen is Director of the Division of Marine & Coastal Resources for the State of New York. He has had frequent occasions to board Russian vessels for the exchange of scientific information. So come to room 5, Illick Hall at 8:00 p.m. on Oct. 15 for a look at Russian methods of exploring the ocean.

- Ed Neuhauser
President, Zoology Club
The following are corrections and additions to announcements in the October 4 issue of the Knothole:

1. Student Council Social Chairman - Tom Backus X3135
2. President of Senior Class - Pete Buist X2768
3. Soc. Chairman of Sophomore Class - Tom Tobin X2470
4. Mollet Club - Rick Swetland or Gretchen Lotz

The prices quoted in the Knothole for sweatshirts, T-shirts, etc., sales do not include sales tax. Prices quoted in the business office are somewhat higher because they include sales tax.

Prices including sales tax are:

- sweatshirts $3.75
- T-shirts $2.35
- patches $.75
- decals $.25
- book covers $.10

FORESTRY BAR-B-Q IS COMING!

OCTOBER 20
October 5, 1971

Dear Editor:

The State College of Forestry will be visited by two educational accreditation organizations October 11-14, 1971.

The Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools is an organization responsible for the accreditation of institutions of higher learning in the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Canal Zone and the Virgin Islands. It is one of six similar regional organizations which together cover the United States and its possessions. It is an independent organization established in 1887 for the improvement of educational institutions and the establishment of high standards of education in the United States.

The Society of American Foresters is the professional society of foresters with a membership of 17,000. Thru its Committee on Accreditation and its National Council, it is especially interested in the education and development of professional education for foresters and persons in related fields.

The College of Forestry has always been a leader in setting the educational standards of these accreditation agencies, both of which conducted their last accreditation visit to the College ten years ago in October 1961.

The major feature of the current reaccreditation visit is a series of four seminars or panel discussions by eminent educators which will take place each morning and afternoon on October 12 and 13 in Marshall Auditorium. The entire student body is cordially invited to attend these seminars. The first seminar is "The College Mission: A Changing Focus," which begins at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, October 12. The second seminar is "Professional Education: Its Nature and Relevance," at 3:00 p.m. of the same day. The third seminar begins at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, October 13, entitled "Instructional Quality: Its Assessment and Attainment," and the fourth and final seminar at 3:00 p.m. that day on "Research: Its Purpose and Dimensions in an Academic Environment."

Classes and other routines of the College are expected to continue thru the reaccreditation visit; however, students and faculty are invited to attend during any available time between classes and other commitments.

- Russell E. Getty
  Chairman
  Faculty Committee on Accreditation