

DRAFT

Meeting of the
Bedford-Stuyvesant Community College Negotiating Team
and the
City University
Tuesday, July 9, 1968
5:30 - 8:15 p.m.
at
New York City Community College

no Bd. members

Present

B-S Negotiating Team

Albert Van, chairman
Jack Pannigan, Vice chairman
Dr. Herman Patterson, Neighborhood
College
Miss Santiago, ASPERO
Mrs. Ella Sease, PTA Distr. 16

City University

Dean Joseph Shenker, Community College
Affairs
Vice Chancellor Robert Birbaum,
Admissions
Prof. Julius Edelstein, Ed. of Higher
Education Committee
William Ballard, consulting architect
Mrs. Almira Coursey, staff

Dean Shenker proposed the meeting be an orientation session for the Bedford-Stuyvesant Negotiating Team to familiarize it with fiscal and operational procedures fundamental to establishing a community college. Mr. Van accepted the suggested agenda:

- 1) Capital Budget (William Ballard)
- 2) Admission Procedures (Prof. Birbaum)
- 3) Planning New Curriculum at New or Existing Colleges (Dean Shenker).

CAPITAL BUDGET

The Capital Budget encompasses the planning, design and maintenance of City University facilities. Each division has an architect planner who works with the administrative president, his staff and an educational consultant in determining the general campus plan (which is based on space requirements and the educational program). These factors govern the capital budget request, which must be approved by the University and the College.

Site Selection Board

This board is composed of five members, three of which are representatives of the Mayor: City Planning Commission, Budget Director and the Commission of Real Estate. The City Planning Commission is a key factor. For new institutions the site determination must be approved by this Board, following agreement on the site by the community, City Planning Commission, the college and the university. The CFC has already been asked to consider the Bedford-Stuyvesant site.

The Team should not set limits on its capital budget request. The City allocates these funds on the basis of priority of need; and educational program falls into this category.

Different Capital Budget Procedures for Senior & Junior Colleges

Senior Colleges come under the State University Construction Fund and also receive funds from the State Dormitory Authority, which is empowered to issue its own bonds. Community colleges are not included in this legislation, but they are a part of the State University system and receive funds from both the city and the state, necessitating State approval on each step, an admittedly slower process. The Board of Higher Education decides whether a facility will be a two or four year institution. If the Bedford-Stuyvesant community wants a senior college, although present plans call for opening a two year college, a new decision by this 21-member Board is required.

Question: If the Capital Budget has been approved for a community college and the Board of Higher Education feels it should be developed into a four year unit, would it affect the Capital Budget?

Answer: Under present legislation, it is not possible to do this.

Community colleges come from the City's Capital Budget, senior colleges funds come from the State Construction Fund, which is not part of the Capital Budget. City Capital Budget will not give money if Bedford-Stuyvesant gets the Construction Fund money.

Question: In the two-year period following opening, is it possible to convert the school to a senior college?

Answer: The school is being built under the Community College Act (Public Law 137, Chap. 13) which allows for transfer to a senior college.

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE IN BEDFORD STUYVESANT

The Negotiating Team advised City University the community was in agreement that a two year facility is inadequate to its needs and aspirations. It prefers a four-year college awarding a baccalaureate degree. It recommended change in present legislation to permit transition from a two to four year institution.

The method for determining the need for a new senior college in Queens was outlined by Dean Shenker. Surveys were made on the number of students graduating from public and private high schools and eligible for senior colleges; projections were obtained from other people on the number of students graduating and the expected enrollment in senior colleges; comparisons with present capacity, our goal of serving a certain percentage of high school students in the senior colleges, and a determination as to what this meant for new students wishing to enter college revealed the need for a new senior facility. Prof. Edelstein added, the determination by the

Board of Higher Education that there is need for the new facility on the basis of these statistical projections must be followed by the Board recommending to the Board of Regents that a new facility be included in the Master Plan (does not specify name or location). Senior colleges are a city-wide system, not a borough system. In the Queens situation, the site was not decided upon until months later.

The Negotiating Team reported much of its student population is two years behind. So a preparation period is necessary before these students are ready for the regular two year program, and inasmuch as the community wants a four year baccalaureate college, this means a six year program.

Question: If the community accepts the two year Capital Budget but wants a four year program, and if the Board of Higher Education agrees this community should have a four year program, is a transition possible and how does this affect the money City University has received from the City?

Answer: To modify the college program requires Board of Regents permission, but it will remain a community college. The State Legislature will have to pass a bill making it a senior college.

City University noted that the Master Plan projections indicate enrollments through 1975 will remain around the present level, which means no need for an additional four year college until that period. Therefore would the Bedford-Stuyvesant problem be solved if every student who graduated from the program went on to a four year program without loss of time or credit. The Team felt the transfer system would not work. Psychologically the four-year college is a greater incentive to the Bedford-Stuyvesant student who sees community colleges as stigmatized as inferior schools.

*Arrange
for Conference
of Legislators
for Pa. 11*

City University noted Board of Higher Education had committed itself to a two-year college in Brooklyn. As a result of community interest, Bedford Stuyvesant was chosen as the area. The City, Chancellor, and City University agreed to accomodate the needs of the community by trying to establish a new form based on this community college. If the community rejects the present plan, we have to go back to the planning stage, the beginning of the process. We are ready to deliver a community college in 1969 and open with 500 students. If in addition the community wants the Board to consider an entirely new type of senior college, the Board will consider it, give it consideration, but it would be something absolutely new for which there is no model and would require tremendous expert study before the Board would act on such a proposal. The community wants a commitment from the Committee and the Chancellor that he will try to work out some sort of plan in consultation with the community, the Board, City University and the Board of Regents whereby baccalaureate degree granting privileges comes out of this college. This is something new. If we could begin in 1969, we have a going concern. If the alternative is to start on a senior college, we are in a new ball game.

The Negotiating felt these were the alternatives facing the community:

- accept the two-year program with the assurance that it will be upgraded to a four year program;
- accept the two-year program with the idea an additional two-year unit will be provided;
- or, from a community viewpoint, refuse the present plan and try to work for a four-year unit.

Prof. Edelstein and Dean Shenker were asked to secure a "Statement of Purpose" from the Chancellor regarding the alternatives the City University considers as possibilities for expanding the two-year program into a four-year baccalaureate degree awarding program. Hopefully this will be ready for the Steering Committee meeting Thursday, July 11. The Statement of Purpose must also include a guarantee to students of transfer and admission to a senior college of their choice without loss of any credits.

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ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Regular Admission and Special Admission procedures were outlined. The Bedford-Stuyvesant Negotiating Team has the privilege of setting its own admission criteria, with a reliable selective mechanism to eliminate those applicants in excess of capacity. The criteria must be defensible, non-discriminatory and cannot be capricious or arbitrary. The Team was advised it is advantageous to the student to have B-S Community College applications processed through the City Processing Center. If B-S cannot accommodate some students the possibility exists that the City University might be able to. The Processing Center will abstain from processing B-S applications if its admission procedures prove harmful to their present data processing system.

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It was recommended that further discussion Admission Procedure be put off for a later date in view of three imperative decisions that precede this stage: "Statement of Purpose"; whether we move ahead and where; and the selection of the president of the college. The recommendation was accepted.

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OFFICE SPACE, EQUIPMENT, PERSONNEL

The Steering Committee and the Negotiating Team asked for clarification of prior commitments by the Board of Higher Education. They feel the Board has not adhered to its commitment as little has been done to set up the office requested in order to provide services to the community, do whatever research is necessary in conjunction with the project, and personnel to handle the administrative matters for the community. W

The space obtained has been given on a monthly basis, and personnel is to be hired on this basis as well. Further clarification on consultants is needed.

The Team reported the Revolving Fund for Supplies had gone through and were informed the furniture and machinery should be delivered sometime during the middle of next week.

City University explained the difficulty with office space lay in the long delays in going through the Real Estate Commission, which normally secures space (generally takes a six-month period to accomplish). As for personnel, Civil Service regulations and the union are barriers which could only be circumvented in the above manner. Otherwise such personnel will have to come off established civil service lists for the position of secretary or administrative assistant. These are open-competitive lists, and the Team would have to select someone from among the top three sent it by the Civil Service Commission.

The Negotiating Team is to rent the office space obtained and have the landlord send the bill to the City University (Dean Shenker's office).

The Board of Higher Education Committee assured the Bedford-Stuyvesant Team something more stable and long-term would be worked out, although no

present financial authority exists for this unique situation. Space rental requires Board action and such action will be requested.

The Negotiating Team requested the Committee present a written statement on its commitment to finance and provide services to the Team.

PLANNING NEW CURRICULUM AT NEW OR EXISTING COLLEGES

All consented to postponing until a later date.

Anniece Garner-Recorder.

JULY 15

1. Alternatives see pgs

(a) Recommend a Course of Action to Coalition and B.S. Community