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PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

February 6, 1969 - 5:30 p.m.
The City University-Graduate Center
33 West 42nd Street, New York City

President: Messrs. Frederick Burkhardt, Chairman
Albert H. Bowker
Robert Carson
Luis Quiero-Chiesa
Julius Edelstein
James Oscar Lee
Jack L. Pannigan
Herman Patterson
Joseph Shenker
Albert Vann
Arleigh B. Williamson
Mmes Almira Coursey
Isaura Santiago
Ella Sease

The meeting began with the Chairman's introduction of two members of the City University Senate, a coalition of faculty representatives of all Community Colleges, who were attending the meeting as observers.

He stated that the purpose of this meeting was to review the curriculum vitae of the six strongest candidates, i.e., Samuel Proctor, Samuel Westerfield, Jr., James Holt Reeves, Roscoe C. Brown, Rhody A. McCoy and Preston Wilcox; and to select, if possible, a President for Community College Number Seven.

A voice poll of the six candidates was called for, following the suggestion that each voting member name his three top choices. Messrs. McCoy, Proctor, Westerfield, and Wilcox were nominated.

The Chairman said that before further discussion ensued, it might be proper that each member contribute to establishing a working Presidential Criteria. The Committee was in agreement in such general areas as ability, experience in dealing with urban and minority-group problems, leadership capabilities.

City University factions felt that the President should meet all requirements in the areas of personal education, i.e., possession of a Ph.D., experience in college-level administration and a high professional reputation with working contacts in the educational field. However, the Negotiation Team brought into play additional qualifications, which it felt would be essential in a President of a college in a predominately Black and Puerto Rican community; such as, the ability to attract staff which will be sympathetic to community problems, a knowledge of the Public School system in Black communities and the damage it has wrought, the ability to respond favorably and relate to a community policy-making board and the expertise to innovate programs which serve the needs of Black and Puerto Rican students.

An evaluation of each nominee was made by Committee members, individually.

Discussion continued after the dinner recess, during which Dr. Burkhardt inquired as to the interest of the Committee in Dr. Hugh Smythe. It was agreed that he would be contacted by Dean Shenker, who would explain the delay and arrange, if possible, a tentative appointment for an interview.

Before adjournment, the Negotiation Team was advised that , at present, all monies were still being withheld by the Ford Foundation.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the Presidential Search Committee will be held on Monday, February 17th, 5:00 p.m., at the City University - Graduate Center.

Jul' Gilbert
Acting Secretary