

- Special Issue -
PROVOCATEUR

Special Issue

Assumption College, Worcester, Mass.

Friday, Oct. 31, 1969

Bd. of Trustees Considers Tuition Hike, Police Prosecution, '70-71 Enrollment

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: Friday, October 17, 1969 4:30 p. m.

PLACE: Salon of Maison Francaise

REVISED AGENDA

1. Election of three new members to the Board of Trustees
2. Vote authorizing the signature of deed of Salem properties
3. Vote authorizing College officials to request assistance from Worcester City Police in case of need
4. Tuition increase for 1970-1971
5. Space needs for coming year
6. Complete presentation of Capital Funds Campaign plans
7. Any other business
8. Date of next meeting

To be voted by the Board of Trustees:

Police Chief O'Neill
Worcester Police Department
3 Waldo Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

Dear Chief O'Neill:

As requested at our meeting in your office on September 26, 1969, I am putting in writing the College's requests to have the Worcester City Police Force provide the Assumption College Security Department with assistance in cases of anticipated or real mass disturbances on our campus involving our students and/or outsiders upon the oral requests of either the President, Fr. Georges Bissonnette, A.A. or the Vice President and Academic Dean, Dr. Oscar Remick.

It is understood that if the College requests assistance through either of these individuals, but only through one of these two individuals, that we will support the action of the Worcester City Police and will bring charges against anyone arrested as a result of the calling in of the Worcester City Police. We agree to prosecute the charges resulting from such action.

It is further understood that a member of our Security Department may call for assistance in the case of an ordinary felony or misdemeanor involving persons who are not members of the Assumption College community (faculty, students or staff).

If you have questions on this or wish to have further information, please contact me.

Very truly yours,
Henry L. Rudio
Treasurer

October 7, 1969

MEMORANDUM —

TO: Dr. Oscar Remick
FROM: Henry L. Rudio
SUBJECT: Tuition Increase

DATE: October 13, 1969

Pursuant to a directive from the Board of Trustees to estimate the possible effects of a 25% tuition increase on enrollment for next year I made inquiries at the other three, four-year colleges in the city of Worcester to find out what their rates would be for fiscal 1970-71 and their experiences for this past year.

As you know, Holy Cross raised their tuition this year from \$1700 to \$2000. At the same time they enrolled the largest Freshmen class in the history of the school. Mr. O'Keefe, the General Vice President, was of the opinion that the tuition increase had little or no effect upon the applicants or enrollments they experienced. Holy Cross has not determined the tuition rate for 1970-71 but Mr. O'Keefe guesses that it would be either \$2000 or \$2100. The room and board is \$1150 a year for 21 meals per week and Centrex phone service in each room. No increase is anticipated.

Mr. Lloyd, Treasurer at WPI, informed me that WPI's rate will increase from its present \$2100 per year level to \$2400 per year for 1970-71 and room and board rates were \$1055 per year for 20 meals per week. Mr. Lloyd was of the opinion that the tuition increase would have little effect on WPI's ability to bring in a larger, if not record, Freshmen class.

Mr. Shane Riordan, Business Manager at Clark, informed me that their present tuition rate is \$2200 per year. He has asked for a \$200 increase for 1970-71 and he feels that the Trustees will vote for at least a \$150 increase, making a total of \$2350 - \$2400. Clark's room and board rates vary because there is a different rate for rooms in different dorm complexes. They charge \$600 per year for 20 meals per week for their board and their room charges run from \$350 to \$575 according to location. No increase is anticipated in the room and board charges. Mr. Riordan also expresses the opinion that in these days of rising prices for everything it may be that students are acclimated to increases and that even a raise of 20 - 25% is taken in stride.

Based on all of the above, I am more convinced than ever before that we face the economic facts of life and consider seriously the raise from our present \$1600 to either \$1950 or \$2000. There may be some value in staying below the \$2000 level and below what Holy Cross will be charging at that time.

H. L. R.

pim
cc: Fr. Alexis Babineau

cc: Fr. Georges Bissonnette

October 17, 1969

TO: Fr. Georges L. Bissonnette

With this analysis from the Registrar's Office, in the form requested by this Office, I have completed the assignment of last week. Permit me to make an observation or two.

1. The report of the Athletic Office is quite clear in its import. Undoubtedly, we can "limp" through a year or so without the facilities requested. But we must become aware of the inevitable eruption of crises when our student body grows in number and in its desire for programs of physical education and recreation. We will too quickly dismiss their requests, given such obvious needs and limitations in so many other areas. While the tail should not wag the body, it is clear to me that our philosophy of education, namely, development of the WHOLE person, will be in jeopardy if we fail to take seriously the plight of our Athletic Department.

2. The report from Mr. Roirdan suggests two facts of consequence.
(a) We can, for we must, raise tuition to \$2,000 per year. I tend to favor this to the \$1,950 recommendation of Mr. Rudio because of our desperate financial need and the fact that there will be a "gestalt" of a round figure of \$2,000 anyway.

(b) How we handle this matter will be of great importance in our escaping unwanted consequences of this action. I therefore urge that this decision be reached without delay.

3. The report from the Registrar, which I include with this letter, points quite clearly to the limitations plaguing us at this hour. My caution is with regard to the relation between mathematical analysis and historical existence. We have pedagogical concerns and professional variables that might prove threats to some of the alterna-

tives suggested. Too, the future of the Evening College is not at all certain at this hour. Should this program be altered we might have extra time and space, a possibility of considerable promise with regard to scheduling our Day College. Before any final decision is made in this area of schedules, etc., I would want to discuss this matter with the faculty.

The Committee which will consider these three reports can be certain of my willingness to help in any way.

Sincerely yours,
Oscar E. Remick
OER:lnw

Father Georges vs. the Academic Community

The agreement between Fr. Georges and Worcester Police Chief O'Neill to prosecute any student arrested on campus, along with the "standing by" attitude of the Worcester Police to the Assumption College community, together constitute a serious blow to the academic atmosphere of our college.

We seriously question what past student action makes such an agreement necessary. The only substantial student "protest" occurred last May, when it was announced that Deans Ryan and Letendre were removed from their positions. At that time, some 400 Assumption students met in the gym and decided **not** to take any disruptive action, but to support the faculty in their bid to have the Deans reinstated. At the next Faculty Senate meeting, students quietly lined the halls of the Kennedy building to demonstrate their support for the faculty proposal.

It becomes clear from the recent agreement between the college and the police that should a demonstration like that of last May take place, the Worcester Police would indeed be called in and charges would be pressed.

One could legitimately ask which faction of the college community, the students or the administration, needs to be kept in line. Have the past actions of Assumption students been so disruptive, so illogical, as to require a safeguard of this kind?

Compared to the past actions of the Administrative Council, (including the dismissal of the Deans, the arbitrary use of Presidential Review in the parietal case last spring, and the decision — without student consultation — to both triple up the men and allow the women to move into the dorms first), the actions of the Assumption students appear both logical and constructive, and certainly not in need of a police safeguard.

We do not mean to suggest that the police should be called in to protect the college community from the irrational and temperamental decisions of Fr. Georges and his Administrative Council.

Rather, we denounce the use of police force to solve the problems of the college community. Such a solution would destroy what remains of the academic atmosphere on campus, and would seriously impair student/administration relations for many years to come.

It is important to consider the position in which the Assumption

College student now finds himself. Though he has been granted representation on all committees, no committee on which he serves can take any action without the approval of the President. Although his S.G.A. President is allowed to sit in on Administrative Council meetings, he is only called when the Council is discussing topics pertinent to the students. What decisions made by this body, one could ask, are **not** pertinent to the students? Furthermore, his Dean of Students has lost his seat on this Council; he, too, is called in only when it is deemed necessary.

If an Assumption student is found innocent in a judiciary court, his decision can be overturned at any time by the President through "Presidential Review."

Finally, if the student demonstrates his dissatisfaction with the President's decision, the Worcester Police can be called in and the school agrees to press charges in this matter.

The threat of police action to quell real or anticipated protest on campus makes Fr. Georges' call for an academic community a farce.

We strongly object to the fact that no student or faculty opinion was sought in this matter.

We also call upon Fr. Georges to take immediate action on the following recommendations, to help the Assumption student fulfill his legitimate role in the college community.

- 1) that students be represented on the Board of Trustees.
- 2) that Fr. Georges rescind his agreement with the Worcester Chief of Police in regard to the arrest and prosecution of students on campus.
- 3) that the Dean of Students and the S.G.A. President be permanent members of the Administrative Council.
- 4) that Presidential Review be reserved only for cases where due process has been violated or where the goals of the college community have been contradicted; that the Student Personnel Policy Committee be free to initiate policy without the direct approval of the President.

PROVOCATEUR

SPECIAL ISSUE

OCTOBER 31, 1969

Editor-in-Chief

Gerald Burns

S.G.A. President

Charles Harvey

October 13, 1969

TO: DR. OSCAR REMICK

FROM: LAWRENCE ROIRDAN

Sorry I didn't get this in to you earlier. I am afraid I was the victim of communications confusion. After talking with you on Monday and telling you that I would write up my remarks, Henry Rudio asked me if I had talked to you and if I would submit, either in writing or orally, my feelings on the tuition increase. I spent an hour or so with Henry on Wednesday giving him the information orally, since we were very short of secretarial help. I simply assumed that this replaced the report that I was to submit to you.

As to my reactions to the possibility of a \$400 increase in tuition, I would state the following:

1. It is impossible to accurately predict the effect of such a move on either our applications or our enrollment for the fall of 1970 and beyond.
2. However, over the past 5 or 10 years as our costs have gone up, we have been keenly aware that more and more potential applicants are being discouraged from applying to Assumption. Each year there seem to be more and more counselors in more and more schools who tell us that although they feel that our College has much to offer their students, they cannot in good conscience recommend Assumption because of its high costs.
3. I think it is important that we fully realize total costs to a student to attend Assumption for 1 year. The following would be an average budget:

Resident	\$2000 Tuition	Non-Resident	\$2000 Tuition
	1100 Room & Board		140 Fees
	160 Fees		100 Books
	100 Books		400 Other Expenses
	400 Other Expenses		
	<u>\$3760</u>		<u>\$2640</u>

Using College Scholarship Service Tables, for a parent to pay the full cost of a student's education at Assumption for 1 year, his income would have to be the following:

Parents Income	Number of Children	Amount Parents Can Pay
\$17,200	1	\$3,420
\$25,000	3	\$3,400

In this example we have not used assets at all. These would normally be taxed at a rate of 1%. This would tend to indicate incomes somewhat lower than those quoted above. In families with more than 3 children the income necessary for the parents to pay the full cost would have to be even higher. It is our experience from reading Parents' Confidential Statements, from talking to guidance counselors, as well as talking to parents themselves, that the income range of the parents of our prospective students is substantially lower than those indicated above. In my judgement we are generally working with people who earn between \$4,000 and \$13,000 with the vast majority in the \$7,000 to \$10,000 category. In addition, these are usually large families including more than 3 children.

4. Today as never in the past, we face greater competition from low cost state supported colleges and universities. To quote from my report to Fr. Babineau in May of 1968, "These institutions are going through a period of great expansion and improvement. This is especially true in the Northeast. Witness the opening of the Boston campus of the University of Massachusetts, the expansion of all the state colleges into the liberal arts area, the community college system etc. Not only have these colleges grown rapidly in size, but they also have grown considerable in quality and reputation. While it may be reasonable to expect parents to pay perhaps \$400 more or \$500 more for a student to go to a private college rather than a public college, we are asking students to pay eight times as much in tuition to attend Assumption College. Another factor which is less tangible, but certainly no less real, is the question of student independence. If a student comes to Assumption where it costs \$3,000, he has to depend heavily on his parents for support. Because he is depending on them he is certainly more subject to them than would otherwise be the case. On the other hand, if a student attends a state college or the state university, he oftentimes can pay his own way completely and thus free himself from his obligation to his parents, which allows him to operate much more independently than would be the case if he were receiving money from them. High tuition also means that a student must work very hard during the summer, as well as during the year and get along with few, if any, luxuries. A student attending a state college or university could pay his own way without working during the school year and with summer earnings could buy a car and gradually afford many more activities than our students." I think this sums up the situation accurately.

5. Financial Aid - Obviously financial aid can be of great help in this kind of a situation. However, I think it should be made completely clear that our present financial aid program is not adequate to meet the needs of our applicants. Over the last 2 or 3 years I would guess that approximately 50% of those students who apply for financial aid are actually offered aid. Most of the colleges that are charging the kind of tuition that we are proposing have a better financial aid program than we do and often claim that they will help any student who is qualified with sufficient aid for them to attend the college. Most of these schools operate with large scholarship endowment funds rather than relying primarily on government loans and College Work-Study programs as we do. I have attached the results of a survey that I did 2 or 3 years ago, which should give you some indication of what I mean.

6. I have one final plea. The Admissions Office would greatly appreciate it if when changes are made, that they be made early enough so that we would be able to inform prospective applicants of the correct charges for the coming year. As things stand now, we have already covered college nights in upstate New York, New England, and will be starting in the New York metropolitan area very shortly. Because no final decision has been made on this, we have been indicating that our tuition is \$1600. Many students, therefore, may apply with a mistaken idea of what the costs at Assumption will be. Writing them a letter explaining that tuition has been increased by \$400 later in the year we feel will have a more discouraging effect than if we were to tell them the correct price from the beginning.

Space Needs and Enrollment Projection 1970-71

A. DATA

1. No. of Classrooms 16
2. No. of Seats 702
3. No. of Full Time Equivalent Day College Students 869
4. No. of Possible Hours of class use per/week 39
5. No. of Clock Hours:
 - a. Calculated (Definition: No. of students x no. of courses x no. of class periods/week/course. $869 \times 5 \times 3 = 13,035$ clock hours/week.
 - b. Actual 11,513 classroom clock hours.

The discrepancy between the calculated count and the actual count is probably due to the following:

- a. Several Day College courses are offered during evening hours (4-6)
- b. Day College students in some cases may participate in evening classes.
- c. Several students are taking a four-course load.
6. Period usage of classrooms:

b. Calculated	624	100%
b. Actual	424	67.9%
7. Capacity usage of classroom seats:

a. Average number of seats per room	44
b. Average number of seats occupied:	
11,513 clock hours	= 27.2 (61.8%)
424 class periods	

B. CONCLUSIONS FROM DATA

1. The literature states that "highly efficient" utilization involves:

	High	Assumption '68	Assumption '69
a. Period usage	80%	73.8%	67.9%
b. Capacity usage	66.7%	51.3%	61.8%
2. Period usage is reasonably high. It could be higher if the Tuesday/Thursday sequence were used more than in the present schedule.
3. Capacity usage is unusually high. Our hope is to maintain at least the same capacity usage for next year. This cannot be guaranteed since the needs for certain spaces change from schedule to schedule.

C. PROJECTIONS 1970-71

Based on an enrollment which would include other Freshman Class of 325 for a total of 1050, we would require 15,750 clock hours of space. For an incoming Freshman Class of 225 to make a total enrollment of 950, we would require 14,250 clock hours of space.

NOTE: The editors regret that limited space does not permit the five plans and conclusions which followed the projections to be printed at this time.