CG 002 497

ED 025 782

By-Chickering, Arthur W.

Campus Climate and Development Studies, Their Implications for Four Year Church Related Colleges.

Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges, Washington, D.C.

Spons Agency-National Inst. of Mental Health (DHEW), Bethesda, Md.

Pub Dare Jun 67

Note-55p.; Given at a workshop, Wheeling College, West Virginia, June 1967.

EDRS Price MF-\$0.25 HC-\$2.85

Descriptors-\*Church Related Colleges, \*College Environment, \*Personal Growth, \*Student College

Relationship, \*Student Development

This paper emphasizes the college role in student development in areas other than intellectual competence. Autonomy, identity, and interpersonal relationships should be main concerns of the college. The campus environment can directly affect student development through the curriculum, residence halls, evaluation methods, and student-faculty interaction. The author proposes ways in which the above can be used to promote healthier student development. (NS)



252003

Comput Climate and Development Studies 1.
Their Implications for Four Year Church Related Colleges

Arenur W. Chickering
Project on Student Development in Small Colleges
Committee on Research and Development
Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges

"Campus Climates and Development Studies - Their Implications for Four Year Church Related Colleges." I suppose the most striking thing about that title is its monumental pretentiousness, a fact that escaped me when I blithely, indeed eagerly, agreed to speak about it. But as the time to produce inexorably arrived, as my leat grain of procrestination dropped to the bottom of the glass, and as my terror escalted, the pretentiousness became all too clear. Yet in reviewing the literature I have been reassured. There are findings of relevance to our problems. There are propositions which receive substantial support. In the interests of clarity and succinctness I've stated these propositions rather baldly. Those qualifying empressions—like "tend to", "for the most part", "under normal circumstances", with which we are prone to hedge our bets and cover our rear, have been dropped. One effect may be an exaggerated implication of conviction and dogmatism; you are, therefore, advised to insert your own qualifying phrases where it seems appropriate. Such insertions will move any of these propositions closer to accuracy.

Proposition 1 - Student development in college occurs in seven major areas:

(a) Development of Competence, (b) Management of Emotions, (c) Development of Autonomy, (d) Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships, (e) Development of Purpose,

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE
PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW GR OPINIONS
STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION
POSITION OR POLICY.



<sup>1.</sup> Given at "A Workshop in Coordination and Integration of Student Personnel and Academic Programs in the Liberal Arts College." These comments were prepared in the context of the Project on Student Development in Small Colleges, supported by NIM grant # NM 01929-02.

\* Whiting Cairlege Ward Vingure. - June, 1967.

(f) Development of Identity, (g) Development of Integrity.

You will recognize that not all these terms are original. I will briefly elaborate aspects of four as a context for discussion of institutional impact; Competence, Autonomy, Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships, Identity.

Competence is a pitchfork with three times, interpersonal competence, physical and manual skills, and intellectual competence. Some tasks require only one kind of competence; others require a mixture. But you can't pitch much hay without a handle and the handle is what R. W. White Calls "sense of competence", the confidence one has in his ability to accomplish what he sets out to do. (63, p. 64) Of course one's sense of competence is related to the reality of one's competences; yet the productivity and effectiveness achieved with a given level of ability varies greatly with one's feelings about and orientations toward, the levels of competence attained. Intellectual competence is that aspect of development to which the major efforts of most colleges are devoted. Without fail, college objectives concern the development intellectual skills and the acquisition of information. We shall therefore, take this aspect of Competence, along with sense of competence, as one point of focus in further discussion.

The Development of Autonomy involves the development of emotional independence, of instrumental independence, and the recognition of interdependence. To be emotionally independent is to be free from continual and pressing needs for reassurance, affection, or approval. Instrumental independence has two major components, the ability to carry on activities and to cope with problems without seeking help, and the ability to be mobile in relation to one's own needs and desires. "Mature dependence" (19) or recognition and acceptance of "interdependence" (64) is the capstone of autonomy. As interdependencies



are recognized, boundaries of personal choice are seen more clearly and one can become an agent for oneself; one's particular existence can be carved out of the larger context of one's life.

The "Treeing of Interpersonal Relationships" is also White's term. He says, "Under reasonably favorable circumstances the natural growth of personality moves in the direction of human relationships that are less anxious, less defensive, less burdened by inappropriate past reactions, more friendly, more spontaneous, more warm, more respectful." (62) Such development involves an increasing tolerance for a wider range of persons; tolerance not only in the sense of "putting up with", but also in the sense of not being upset by exposures that earlier caused distress. Ideally this tolerance develops not through increased resistance and immunization, but through an increasing capacity to respond to persons in their own right rather than with particular conventions or stereotypes.

Identity is characterized by Erickson as "a feeling of being at home in one's own body, a sense of 'knowing where one is going', and an inner assuredness of anticipated recognition from those who count." (18, p. 118) The development of identity is like learning to drive. Progress occurs in fits and starts and there is much wandering from one side of the road to another. But with experience and practice change occurs. The driver and the vehicle become acquainted. Pecular requirements for operation become known. The driver comes to know his own limits and those imposed by certain conditions. In time, snow, heavy traffic, occasional skids, and mechanical failures are encountered with assurance and with some ease. Finally driving becomes a pleasure, not a chore, and other things can be attended to while doing it.



An example and a metaphor for such development is provided by what Cardner Murphy calls "human rhythms" (39, pp. 185, 186) which he illustrates by photic driving. If an individual submits himself to an instrument which emits flashes at intervals, he may reveal his own breaking point, the point at which the rhythm induces a convulsion. If, for example, the number is 16, he may rapidly lose consciousness as this number of flashes is presented in the standard time interval. Seventeen and 15, however, are safe numbers for him. It is not until 32 or other multiples of 16 is reached that he breaks again. Like the piano wire that hums or like the glass that shatters, we all probably have our critical frequencies in a variety of areas. The Development of Identity thus can be seen as the process of discovering what kinds of experiences, at what levels of intensity and frequency, we resonate with in either satisfying, safe, or self-destructive fashion.

There is evidence indicating that change does occur in these areas during the college years. Further, four year liberal arts colleges, including those with church affiliations, usually aim to foster such development, at least as they describe their objectives in their catalogs. So with these four major dimensions of development in mind we ask, "What is the potential impact of college? What relationships exist between institutional policies, practices, and conditions, and development in these four areas?"

<u>Proposition 2</u> - Impact increases as institutional objectives are clear and taken seriously, and as the diverse elements of the college and its program are internally consistent in the service of the objectives.

Eddy, reporting his study of college influence on student character said, "The potential of environment is measurably increased by a feeling of community. And that feeling appears to begin where it should — in common understanding and acceptance of commonly shared goals." (16, p. 143, 144) Jacob's survey of

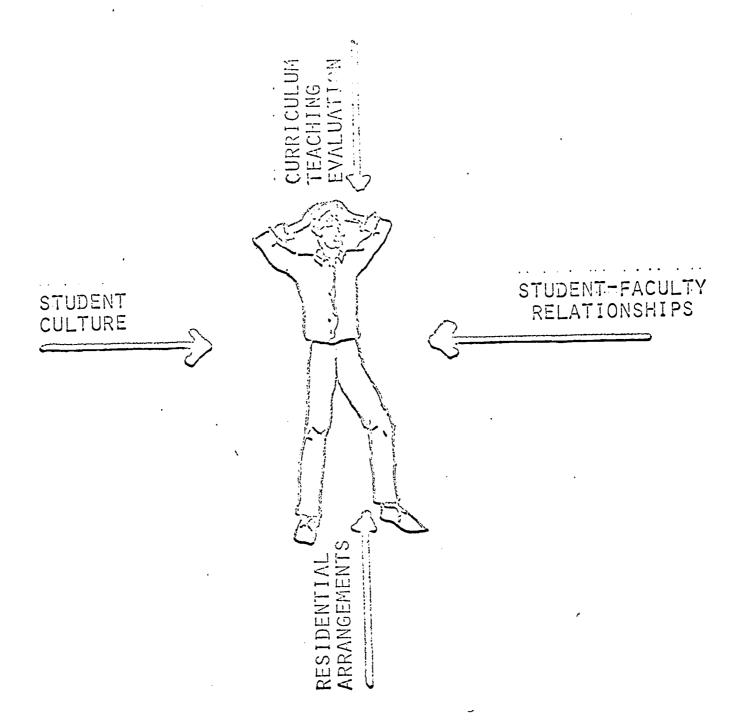


research concerning the effect of college on attitudes and values found little influence except at a few institutions where a distinctive climate prevailed. (28, 1957) At the time of Newcomb's study in the late 1930's Bennington was dominated by a liberal social and political outlook. Students whose attitudes changed were those who most identified with this dominant orientation. (41) And the follow-up study of these same students twenty five years later indicates that for most the change in attitudes has been sustained. (42) Figure 1 illustrates this second proposition.

(Insert Figure 1 about here)

Of course it is not the simple statement of objectives that has an impact. Every college catalog contains such statements. Some speak frankly of hopes or aspirations. Others claim achievement of these ideal ends and for these consumer protection legislation would be appropriate. But where objectives are taken seriously, institutional impact is strengthened three ways. First, policies, programs, and practices tend toward greater internal consistency. When faculty members manning ubiquitous committees make decisions in terms of commonly shared and explicit institutional objectives then the various parts fit together with greater coherence and integration. The developmental impact of one element less frequently runs counter to another. Second, clear objectives help students make more explicit their own reasons for attending the college and their own purposes while there, and help them use time and energy more directly in the service of those objectives they value. Third, it is important to be explicit about objectives because they contain within them strong value commitments. No institution is without such commitments and often they are absorbed unwillingly by students and are learned as matters not to be questioned. At some institutions, ethic, rugged individualism, personal achievement,

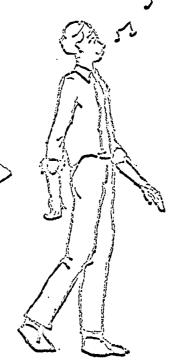




HIGH IMPACT

## INSTITUTIONAL OBJECTIVES

CURRICULUM, TEACHING, EVALUATION RESIDENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS STUDENT-FACULTY RELATIONSHIPS STUDENT CULTURE



self-denial and future time orientation, or a puritan morality, are among the dominant values which are assumed and left implicit, which are not questioned or made explicit. And at other institutions, a similar condition exists for such emergent values as sociability, a relativitistic moral attitude, conformity, or a hedonistic present-time orientation.

Such unconscious learning tends to seal off these matters from conscious control and modification and thus leads to rigidity and dogmatism. When objectives are explicit and when the attendant values are overtly expressed, they can become the object of examination, disagreement, and challenge. Then the learning which occurs makes for more conscious and flexible integration of these values with other components of personality and behavior.

In time another factor begins to operate. Because the objectives are those of "the college" they can be perceived as somewhat outside of and beyond any particular student. One can thus identify with them and be missionary about them; one's own self-interest becomes tied up with their realization both by oneself and by others. Under such conditions campus visitors are exhorted to modify their own values and behavior and the virtues of the institution in fostering the objectives are persuasively extolled. This leads to self-selection by prospective students and faculty members, and Eddy's community of shared ideas and goals becomes a self-sustaining reality which operates with increasing force and subtlety.

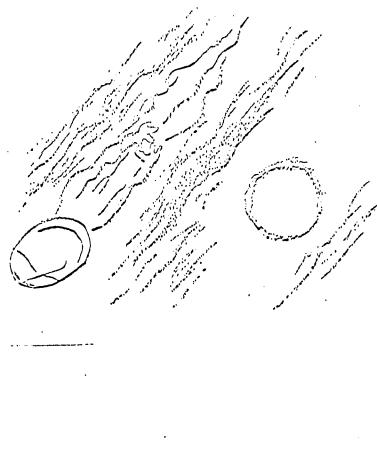
Proposition 3 - Output is primarily determined by input.

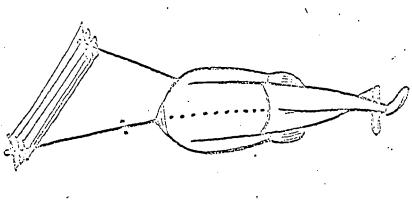
Because of self-selections and because of varied admissions criteria, entering students differ greatly from college to college, and Figure 2 will recall some types we have all encountered.

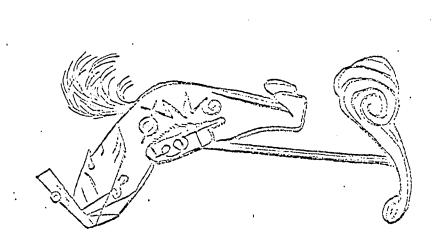
(Insert Figure 2 about here)

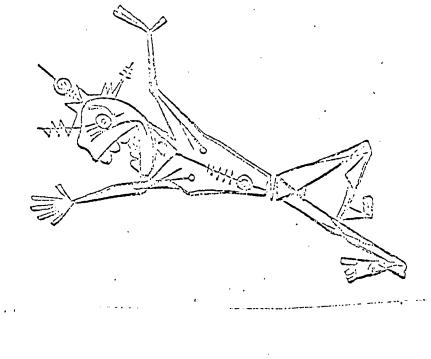


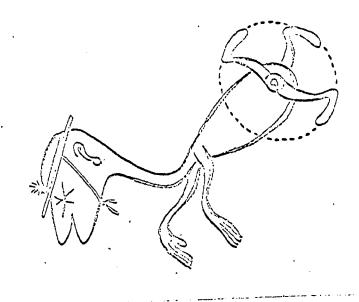


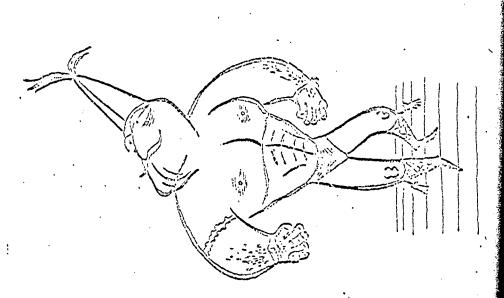


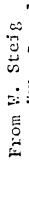












There is substantial diversity among student bodies in characteristics of importance to educational practice. In scholastic aptitude, for example, McConnell and Heist report, "The mean ACM total score for the 60,539 students in the sample of 200 schools was 104.4 with a standard deviation of 27.1. Among the schools, the mean scores ranged from a low of 37.5 to a high of 142.2.... When converted to percentiles ... the two extreme mean scores were equivalent to the first and ninety second percentiles." (34, pp. 232) Data from the Omnibus Personality Inventory (6) collected at the Center for Research and Development in Higher Education, in the context of our own Project on Student Development and in other studies, indicate large differences in attitude and personality characteristics among students in different liberal arts colleges. On measures of social maturity, self-confidence, originality, intellectual interests, esthetic interests and sensitivity, political and religious liberalism, impulsivity, and personal integration, variation in pattern from college to college indicates clearly the distinctive quality of particular student bodies.

The first point, therefore, is the obvious one. Whether graduates from a particular college are frequently Rhodes Scholars and Woodrow Wilson Fellows, political activists or talkative liberal, committed religious leaders, artists, or scientists, depends in large measure upon the characteristics of the students initially attracted and admitted.

The second point is less obvious. It is clear that the impact of a given program varies depending upon its appropriateness to the characteristics of the students being served. Consider institutions A and B, both of which aim to help students become "responsible and independent democratic



citizens". At A, students are self-controlled, self-confident, respectful of authority, unimpulsive, conservative, and relatively lacking in originality and social concern. At B, students are highly concerned about social issues, impulsive, rebellious toward authority, with a flair for the artistic and original. To become responsible independent citizens who can well serve a democracy, students at A seem primarily to need awakening, challenging, opening to experience; students at B need greater integration, organization, self-discipline. To achieve the same objective at these two institutions requires quite different programs.

Or consider the "development of intellectual interests and critical thinking ability" at institutions A and B where A students tend to be "authoritarian" and B students, "anti-authoritarian". According to research by Stern,

"The typical authoritarian student preferred studying alone, since working with others always meant a bull session in which nothing definite was ever settled. He also preferred to study in the same place throughout the year, in a room that was neat and orderly and free from the distraction of the radio, television, or phonograph. He developed rigid time schedules for studying, reading, and review, and relied heavily on formal study aids, teacher suggestions on outlining and notetaking, and rote memorization of significant facts to get himself through. Difficult reading materials were particularly frustrating to him, and he dealt with this problem by going to the instructor or to better students for help. Theoretical discussions in class were another source of difficulty, and the authoritarian student most preferred a straightforward exposition by the instructor to any other classroom activity. He prepared for the final examination by reviewing classroom



and reading notes and memorizing the main points. The only thing he liked about essays was getting them done....

"The responses of the typical antiauthoritarian indicated that his place of study varied, as he alternated between satisfying his desire to be with people and isolating himself as a defense against this need. He enjoyed cooperative study because he liked other viewpoints, liked discussions, and because it gave him an opportunity to be with other people. He didn't care much where he studied as long as it was quiet. Readings challenged him and he sought out additional materials to improve his understanding. He liked it when the class discussed side issues and took notes of stimulating and challenging ideas that he intended to explore later. He prepared for the final examination by trying to arrive at some sense of the course as a totality, and liked essay assignments because they gave him a chance to work with ideas, to express himself, and to explore abstract concepts."

Thus, the response of the authoritarian or the anti-authoritarian, to given patterns of curriculum, teaching, and evaluation will differ sharply.

In summary, then, the developmental level at graduation depends largely upon the particular characteristics students bring with them at entrance. These characteristics influence the response of students to varying institutional conditions and educational practices and also limits the amount and kinds of development that can be expected within a four-year period in a college setting.

Figure 1 suggests four major areas of institutional policy and practice which must be coordinated for maximum impact: (a) curriculum, teaching,



and evaluation; (b) residential arrangements; (c) student-faculty relationships; and (d) the student culture. Any institution has more than these four arrows in its quiver, but these are of major importance and for now discussion will be restricted to them. We take them one at a time in the order menuioned.

Proposition 4A - When the curriculum is highly structured with few electives, when teaching is by lecture, and when evaluation is infrequent and competitive, ability to memorize is fostered. Sense of Competence, Ereeing of Interpersonal Relationships, and Development of Autonomy and Identity is not.

Proposition 4B - When the curriculum provides for choice and flexibility of program, when teaching is by discussion, and when evaluation involves frequent feedback concerning the substance of behavior and performance, the ability to analyse and to synthesize is fostered. Under such conditions Sense of Competence, Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships, and Development of Autonomy and Identity is also fostered.

That two part proposition covers a lot of territory. Curriculum organization, teaching practices, and evaluational procedures are so systematically linked that the force of one element is difficult to disentangle from the force of the other two. Figures 3 and 4 illustrate two curricular approaches, the unstructured, which takes the needs and interests of student as its basis for organization, and the tightly structured which takes the disciplines as its basis and where no student appears. Most colleges fall somewhere between the two though probably closer to the structured than the unstructured. Now lets look at some of the research relevant to relationships between curriculum, teaching, and evaluation, and student development.

(Insert Figures 3 and 4 about here)

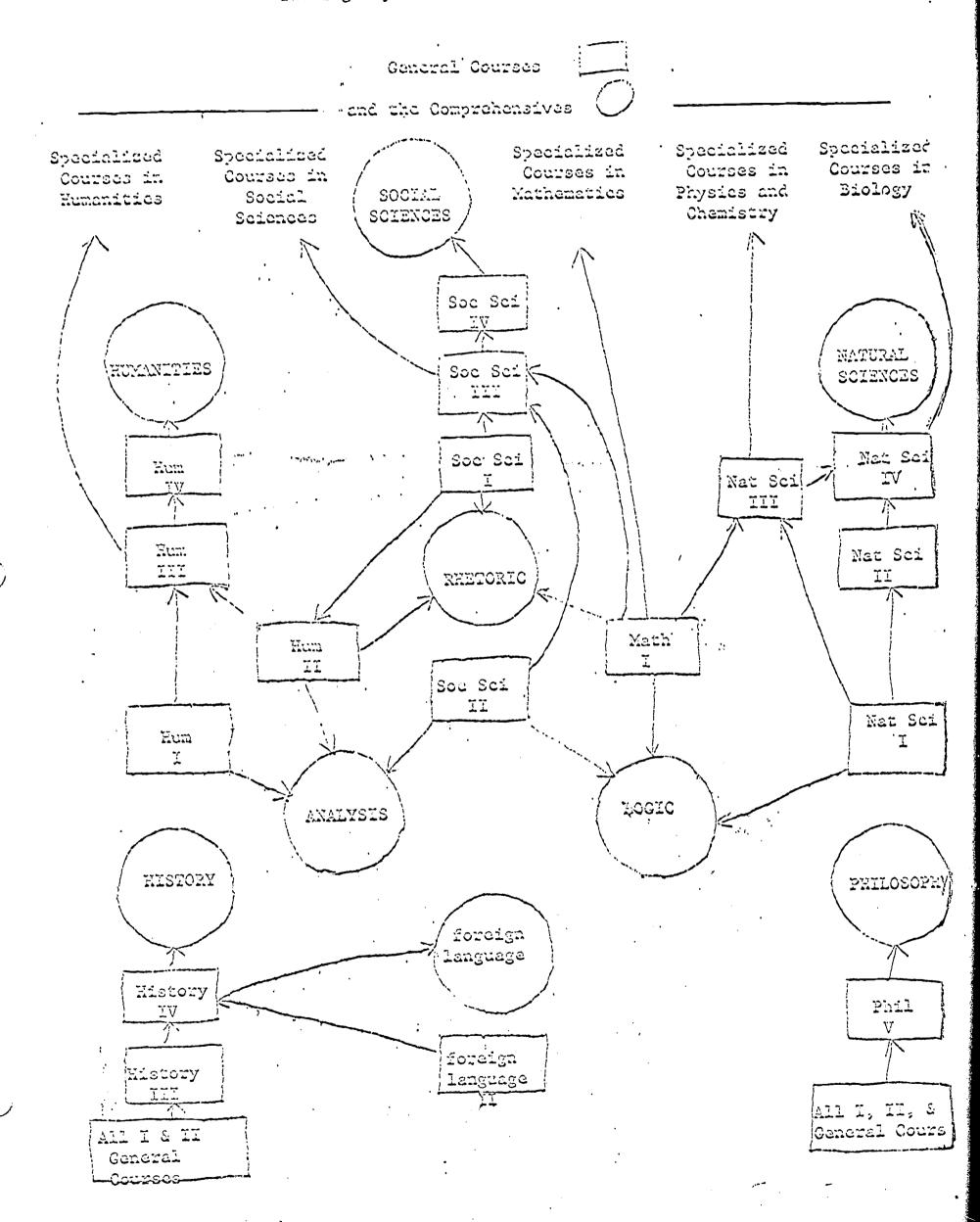




From W. Steig "The Lonely Ones"



Figure 4
The Tightly Structured Curriculum



Intellectual competence does not just happen. As Marlow points out, "Thinking does not develop spontaneously as an expression of innate ability; it is the end result of a long learning process.... The brain is essential to thought, but the untutored brain is not enough, no matter how good a brain it may be. An untrained brain is sufficient for trial and error, fumble-through behavior, but only training enables an individual to think in terms of ideas and concepts." (24, p. 6) It is clear from evidence already available that teaching practices in college produce different kinds of cognitive behavior and therefore are likely to foster different kinds of intellectual competence. The evidence concerning the differential effects of lectures versus discussion classes is now abundant and consistent. In a nutshell, lectures are superior for the transmission of information, particularly information quite specific in nature (3) which does not run counter to beliefs already held. Discussion classes provoke more active thinking than lecture classes (4) and a number of experiments have demonstrated that active learning is more efficient than passive (36). As McKeachie observes, (35) "if we are trying to achieve application, critical thinking, or some of the higher level cognitive outcomes,... students should have an opportunity to practice application and critical thinking and to receive feedback on the results. Group discussion provides an opportunity to do this ... it permits presentation of a variety of problems enabling a number of people to gain experience in integrating facts, formulating hypotheses, amassing relevant evidence, and evaluating conclusions. In addition, when information encounters impllectual or emotional resistance, discussion holds the possibility of revealing the source of resistance so it can be examined and dealt with. And as Levin demonstrated, the presence of a group contributes to changes in



motivation and attitudes, because it is often easier to effect change in a group than with a single individual (31).

The evaluational procedures used also influence cognitive behavior. As licyhew observes, "If teachers base their grades on memorization of details, students will memorize the text. If students believe grades are based upon their ability to integrate and to apply principles, they will try to acquire such ability." (33, p. 225) Early research by Meyer (37) and by Terry (56), for example, suggested that the prospect of an essay exam led to study activities which emphasized the organization and interrelationships of facts and principles, where an upcoming multiple choice exam led to memorization. And as Dressel observes in the context of Michigan State, "the seeming necessity of covering large masses of material ... leaves too little time for any but the most able students to reflect on the meaning, interrelationship, and applicability of knowledge which is being gained. The able student, too, often displays reluctance to think for himself, in part because the exercise of thought and judgement is time-consuming and difficult and in part, no doubt, because he sees little evidence that such effort will yield returns in the currency of the academic realm.... The most discomforting finding was the total inability of some students to engage in a pattern of reasoning or even to realize that this was possible .... Much as we continue to be disturbed about these findings, we cannot feel that the blame rests entirely on the students. It was evident that for many ... the task of thinking through to an answer, rather than recalling one, was a novel experience." (14, p. 199, 202)



Research concerning student-centered teaching is also relevant here, and is summed up by McKeachie as follows: "In eleven studies (of student-centered teaching), significant differences in ability to apply concepts, in attitudes, in motivation, or in group membership skills have been found between discussion techniques emphasizing freer student participation compared with discussion with greater instructor dominance. In 10 of these the differences favored the more student-centered method....

"In short, the choice of instructor-dominated versus student-centered discussion techniques appears to depend upon one's goals. The more highly one values outcomes going beyond acquisition of knowledge, the more likely that student-centered methods will be preferred." (35, p. 1140)

Sense of Competence also may be sharply affected. Most to the point are the studies of Thistlethwaite. He reports that "Increase in level of aspiration (motivation to seek advanced degrees) was associated with: (a) strong faculty press for enthusiasm, humanism, affiliation, independence, achievement, and supportiveness; (b) weak faculty press for compliance; and (c) strong student press for estheticism." (57, p. 313)

"Colleges outstandingly successful in encouraging undergraduates to get the doctorate in humanistic fields are characterized by (a) excellent social science faculty and resources, (b) flexible, or somewhat unstructured curriculum, (c) energy and controversiality of instruction, and (d) informality and warmth of student-faculty contacts." (53)

The results of Davis' nationwide study are congruent with Thistlethwaite's findings. Davis found that high prestige, intellectually elite colleges significantly under-produced future scientists when the talent and the interests of their entering students were taken into account. The encouragement



of a faculty member led students to pursue further work in science, but faculty members rarely encouraged any but their A students. Since grades frequently were distributed according to a rough normal curve, many students in these colleges received B's and C's even though they were among the top ten percent on any national measure of scientific aptitude or achievement.

(12) Thus the consequence of this competitive grading was a reduction in student self-esteem and a lowering of career aspirations.

Research by Atkinson and Litwin concerning the differential effects of negative and positive motives reveals the extent to which such lowered self-esteem and highly competitive grading practices can become a vicious circle. They found that men students who were high in anxiety about tests more frequently completed examinations first and did more poorly on the exam than in their general course work. Students with positive motivation, in this case high "need achievement", tended to stay in the examination room longer. (2)

So much for research relevant to relationships between patterns of curriculum, teaching and evaluation, and the development of intellectual competence and sense of competence. The findings so far suggest fairly clear lines of force associated with various practices.

Development of Autonomy is also influenced. Snyder, from the perspective of his work at M.I.T., says: "The student goes to lecture and hears from his professor that the course ... is exciting. Much independent thought will be demanded. He is urged to think about the subject, reflect on what he reads, and develop the habit of skepticism. The first quiz, in the student's eyes, calls for the playback of a Targe number of discrete facts. The



message that some students hear is that reflection of original thought is for the birds and that memorization will get the A. Some possible student responses to such dissonance include alienation, cynicism about the academic enterprise, a determination to play the academic game with shrewdness, or conformity to the task of getting grades." (53, p. 351) None of these potential responses is likely to foster Autonomy. And such responses are made. A study of men who do well academically, conducted by Black at the Counseling and Testing Center at Stanford, found the most salient trait to be "cooperativeness", which included the tendency to be helpful, moderate, respectful, appreciative, sympathetic, and sensitive. Black observes that such traits are more characteristic of women than of men in our culture and thus may account for the fact that while men constitute seventy percent of the undergraduates at Stanford they consitute only fifty-seven percent of the Dean's List. (38, p. 3)

Thus, when the curriculum specifies what shall be studied, when learning involves memorization of information designated as important by the teacher, and when grades depend upon conformity and cooperativeness within this system, then Autonomy is not fostered.

Closely associated with the Development of Autonomy is the Development of Identity. Three basic conditions foster such development: (a) varied direct experiences and roles; (b) meaningful achievement; and (c) relative freedom from anxiety and pressure (18, 49). Most of us are familiar with the typical student responses to limited arenas for achievement and exploration combined with competitive pressures. We see the frequent and premature settling on one style of life, a single frame of reference, as the focal point for self-organization and self-esteem, as the core of one's



being. We see the beats, the grinds, the jocks, the party boys, the hippies. However, we can also see, in some settings where opportunities are many and varied and where competitive pressures are less, students who range more widely, who can try on various styles, assume varied roles, and throughout, be less tenacious and totalistic in their investments. Freedman sees no evidence that grading helps people lead the good life and argues that the grading system discourages the development of intrinsic and lasting intellectual interests and self-definition in general. His assertion is substantiated by Hoyt and Heath. Studies reviewed by Hoyt showed no relationships between grades and the adult achievement of businessmen, physicians, scientists, engineers or teachers. He further reports that "studies in miscellaneous occupations and in non-occupational areas are consistent in showing little or no relationship between academic success and various criteria of adult performance." (26) Heath reports that, "persistent academic pressure punctuated by the ever recurring examinations and papers forces a student into an increasingly auto-centric existence." (25, p. 27) Perhaps Riesman puts it best when he says, "Leading from strength may rob the students of the possibility of discovering other areas in which they may not be so well-equipped, but which may nevertheless be more relevant for them as they slowly grow." (46, p. 182)

Meaningful work can provide a counterbalance for totalistic adoption of a particular role. Yet students testify to the meaninglessness of college work. The recent conference on student stress (52) which impelled the notion of relevance onto the educational scene is only one of many pieces of evidence. Observation of "free universities" and student taught courses indicates that when students develop courses and programs of study for themselves, the



subject matter, the role of the teacher, and the learning activities pursued, depart markedly from those of the typically organized curriculum, lecture, and examination.

The Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships is also affected. Freedman sees a connection between competitive climates and the sense of isolation on some campuses. Sanford explains the dynamic nicely. Observing Stanford students, he reports that "among the men students at Stanford today there are virtually no friendships.... The thing that I was impressed by ... was that these boys could not really be friends with each other because they could not reveal themselves to each other enough to establish an intimate relationship. In that situation, they saw each other as everything else except friends -- as competitors, as people who could be manipulated, who could make one feel big or make one feel little -- as everything except genuine objects of human relationship. So they had to put on an act all the time, even with ... their fraternity brothers and roommates. always the possibility that this guy would get something on them that would somehow be harmful in the general race that they were all running together .... As a matter of fact I think that the early marriages in college are largely a result of this. The boys can't really be intimate with each other. The only person they can find who will listen while they reveal their softer sides is one of the girls. A friendship will develop with her and this will be mistaken for a romance, and marriage will follow .... The thing I see at Stanford and at other high-pressure places ... is that the idea of the college as a moratorium where people have a few years to discover themselves and to learn how to relate to other people ... is being given up. Instead the whole



thing is being treated as a kind of training program or a business enterprise ... which is likely to be quite damaging both to the development of our people and to their mental health." (48, pp. 21, 22)

So much for curriculum, teaching, and evaluation. The relationships of various patterns of practices to Intellectual Competence and Sense of Competence, to Development of Autonomy and Identity, and to the Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships seem clear and forceful.

Proposition 5 - Residence hall settings foster or inhibit Development of Competence, Autonomy, Identity, and the Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships, depending upon the diversity of backgrounds and attitudes among the residents, the opportunities for significant interchange, the existence of shared intellectual pursuits and interests, and the degree to which the unit becomes a meaningful culture or reference group for its members.

Development in the residence hall setting stems from two major sources:

(a) close friendships and accompanying bull sessions; and (b) the general values and attitudes carried by the house as a cultural entity. It does not surprise us when Dressel and Lehman say, "The most significant reported experience in the collegiate lives of these (Michigan State University) students was their association with different personalities in their living unit. The analysis of interview and questionnaire data suggested that discussions and bull sessions were a potent factor in shaping the attitudes and values of these students." (13)

An example of what can occur is given by Robert White, who describes the following incident for a student he called Hale: "It was during his freshman year that Hale came to his decision to be a doctor.... Across the hall



in the dormitory lived a student who enjoyed argument. Hale also enjoyed argument and he particularly like debating with this neighbor who was always reasonable and therefore did not irritate him and throw him into stubborn negativism. Hale reports 'One night for some reason or other ... he decided, he got it into his mind, that I should be a doctor instead of going into advertising. And so he started to argue with re about it and when morning came I agreed that he was right. He did a very logical, very thorough job on me, and so I went down the next day and I changed my field of concentration to biology. Then I called up my family and told them what I'd decided, which they didn't like. (62)

Now, obviously, not all career decisions are made in such fashion, but it is clear that such discussions have significant impact. Indeed Wallace, on the basis of his study of student culture suggests that "the main criteria of ... friendship selection and the main influence of the resulting friendships may not be on attitudes relevant to ... life as a student, but rather on those ... larger and often more burning problems of developing an orientation to life in general; problems of becoming an adult in an adult world; problems in short, of life cycle ..." (61, p. 114)

Farnsworth, commenting on some still unpublished research, indicates that "in dormitories the sexual behavior of students varies tremendously according to the degree of aggressiveness shown by the popular girls. One aggressive girl can quite definitely change the sexual behavior of several girls in the group. If there are three or four girls in a given entry who are the prestige girls and who have high standards, they can cause others to hold onto the ideals with which they came to college in the first place." (20, p. 72)



It is also clear both from research and from our own experiences that some college housing units develop quite distinctive characteristics, "subcultures" in the jargon of the social scientist, which may persist at length and be resistant to change. The evidence also indicates that these different sub-cultures have an influence. For example, Vreeland and Bidwell, who studied Marvard Louses, found that "when peer involvement is high, House effects upon student value and actitude change are marked.", and indicate that the affective climate of the House is the central mechanism of change. (30, pp. 247-243)

Such research suggests the powerful forces for development, or for its retardation, which reside in residence hall settings. Development of Competence, of Autonomy, of Identity, and the Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships can be fostered or inhibited depending upon the conditions which prevail. In another publication I have spelled out some of these relationships. (8) To manage residence hall conditions in developmentally productive ways is a complex and difficult thing, but there is little room to doubt the need for continued and informed attention to the task.

Proposition # 6 - When student-faculty interaction is frequent and friendly, and when it occurs in diverse situations calling for varied roles, Development of Intellectual Competence and Sense of Competence, of Autonomy, and of Identity, is fostered.

Wallace's study illustrates the potential impact of student-faculty relationships on intellectual competence and sense of competence: "admiration of faculty members was associated with higher GPA's, and with spending less time on dates...", (31, P. 163) He found this relationship to be strongest for high aptitude students and for these students he also found that "admiration



of faculty members positively affected the graduate school aspirations."

(01, p. 118) These findings recall those of Davis mentioned earlier, where faculty encouragement was a major influence for going on to graduate school. This tlethwaite, on the basis of his multi-college research, describes the teacher who stimulates graduate study as follows: "he does not see students only during office hours or by appointment; open displays of emotion are not likely to embarrass him; students need not wait to be called upon before speaking in class; in talking with students he frequently refers to his colleagues by their first names; students do not feel obligated to address him as 'professor' or 'doctor'." (59, pp. 185, 189)

Esther Raushenbush reports an exchange with a boy, which reveals the impact of a good teacher:

"He said, 'Professor Anderson did everything for me.'

'What was the most important thing he did for you?'

'He taught me to think.'

'What does that mean? It is so easy to say.'

'Thinking -- how to take one step at a time to find out what you want to know -- the wonderful experience of being able to do that. He didn't answer questions; he said, 'What are the alternatives?' But he helped you along -- 'Now let me say this alternative won't do. Why not?' And he got you to work on every possibility, one after another...'"

She goes on to say, "About Christmas time that first year, perhaps three and a half months after he began studying in the new program, he came in to see Mr. Anderson. He said, 'What I have to know now is whether you think I have what it takes to go into medicine. I have to make up my mind now, because this is my last chance to get into the Golden Gloves competition.' That afternoon he gave up boxing — a kind of certificate of commitment to try to study. By the end of the first year he had abandoned the idea that he would be a doctor, and decided he wanted to be a theoretical chemist."

(46, pp. 36, 37)



The first step in the Development of Autonomy is disengagement from the parents, and as the first steps are taken, the support of non-parental adults as well as peers is sought. This dynamic accounts for the isolization and idealization of warm and sensitive teachers and other adults by young college students. Because of this, those adults who are accessible and who are fully known can have substantial impact whether they be cook, custodian, or college professor. With them the actions and reactions habitual with parents and other adults which were learned during childhood can be reexamined and alternative behaviors can be tested. In this fashion new modes of relationships with persons in authority and with institutional expressions of authority can be developed. Thus a student can move from dependency or rebellious independence toward relationships of mutual respect and regard where areas of interdependency are recognized within which living space for an autonomous existence can be built. By serving as examples of varied life styles and value orientations such adults can also help foster development of identity. Through them students can perceive more clearly the satisfactions and frustrations which accompany varied patterns of vocation and avocation and varied relationships of marriage and family. In conversation with them students can clarify their own values and interests, their own notions of a satisfying existence, their own areas of consonance and dissonance.

There is substantial evidence concerning the impact of student-faculty relationships on variables relevant to the Development of Autonomy and Identity. Both Jacob (28) and Eddy (16) found "values" and "character development" to be influenced primarily by relationships with individual



teachers who had strong value commitments of their own and who made these clear. Wilson, at Antioch, found that courses and teachers "accounted for 41 percent of new interests, tastes, and appreciations developed" (65, p. 3)

Raushenbush ties it all together beautifully. She says, "The ways in which teachers affect seriously the education of their students are many; but however the teachers function in the classroom, whatever their style, their subject, their way of talking to the students or with them, what students remember, what reached the heart of their learning, what they cherished more than any other one thing, is the sense of shared experience with a teacher. They know the teacher is going through something when the students are; the students speak of this when it is happening, and often afterward, for the sense of communion lasts. Such teachers care about what becomes of their students, but their concern for their students is not limited by a wish to do something for them. There is important experience to be discovered, work to be done, a world to function in; and the education of the students, their growth to manhood, the personal enlargement education should bring, has a better chance of accomplishment if the teacher can forward the experience, reveal work to do, help them to find in study ways to function ....

"In sometimes inarticulate and ungraceful language they explained what teaching had done for them, 'Through contact with people, I learned to understand myself more and to understand other people. And in dealings with a few instructors ... I began, you know, to look into myself and to find out what it was I was doing in school, and to me this is really some-



I want and what I want to do later on, I can get my bearings. Here you know, I've been able to talk and not be on the defensive — not putting on an act all the time. If I don't know something I can come out and show my ignorance, and to me this has been a big help, because most of the time in high school and other courses at the University, I act my way through rather than learn... And it wasn't until I got into personal contact with some of the instructors that I began to realize that learning was more than this, and learning was more important than this..." (46, pp. 135, 136.)

Of course, as Adelson (1) points out, a teacher may also serve as an "anti-model"; as a lodestar from which the student sails away as fast as he can, saying to himself, "Whatever he is, I will not be; whatever he is for, I am against." Figure 5 illustrates some of these lodestars whom we have all observed, at least on campuses other than our own. Teachers who are such a force for revulsion also provoke development, and each of us must recognize that if we are a force at all, for some students the valence will be negative, not positive. But better that students encounter a substantial being, than a calculating role player or an elusive shadow.

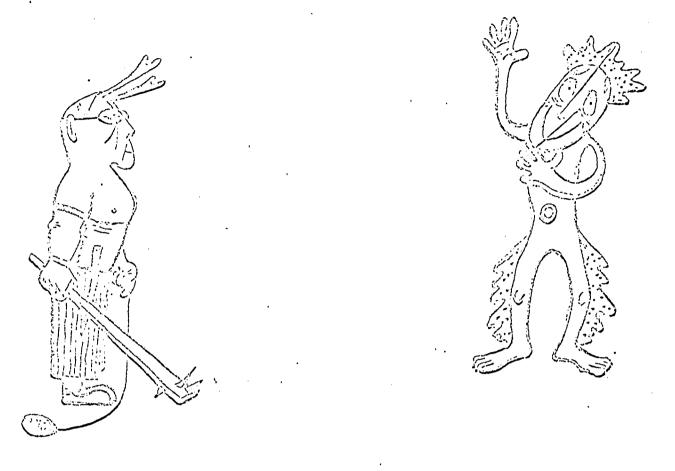
(Insert Figure 5 about here)

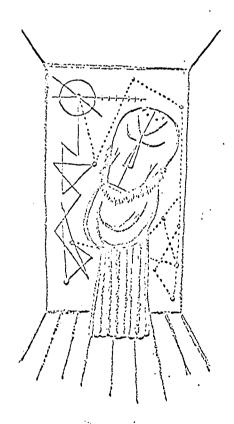
<u>Proposition # 7</u> - The student culture amplifies or attenuates the impact of curriculum, teaching and evaluation, residence hall arrangements, and relationships with faculty.

The student culture defines for those who come into it the acceptable modus vivendi between student and institution. It sets the framework within which a student builds a repertoire of attitudes and activities with which



Figure 5. Our Dedicated Faculty and Administration







From W. Steig
"The Lonely Ones"



he responds to the opportunities and frustrations, the freedom and constraints, the ideals and the disillusions, which the institution provides. It is the student culture which interprets to the newcomer the range of deviancies which the institution will tolerate and the likely consequences if one steps out of bounds. Further, the student culture may carry values and emphases of its own, distinct from or in opposition to, those of the institution; or it may go beyond the faculty and administration in endorsing and acting on values to which the institution ascribes. Thus student culture has substantial impact on student development.

Its impact on the Development of Intellectual Competence is well documented. Hughes, Becker, and Geer (27) describe the ways in which student culture in medical school influences not only how much work will be done but also which knowledge and skills will be given most attention and which neglected. Studies of fraternities and sororities also reveal the strength of this force. Scott, for example, found that fraternity men valued independence, intellectuality, and creativity less, and social skills and social status more, than their non-fraternity peers, and found that pledging and non-pledging freshmen moved in different directions throughout their freshman year. (50) Similarly, Wallace found that membership in Greek-letter societies imparted a powerful downward push to the orientation to achieve high grades. (61, p. 80) On the other hand, as Stern's studies have demonstrated (54, 55) the student culture can also maintain a strong intellectual climate where readings, writings, and artistic products are valued and shared, and where ideas are the principle focus and substance of student conversations rather than the latest developments in heterosexual relation-



ships or the most recent or upcoming athletic event.

It is the student culture which principally defines the appropriate responses to institutional authority and the accepted modes of interaction with faculty members. Thus it may facilitate or limit the Development of Autonomy. Where friendship with a faculty member is seen as currying favor to receive higher grades, easy relationships where free exchange and mutuality of regard might grow are difficult to develop and sustain because the attendant jibes are too painful or the risks of rejection too great. When the culture maintains a conspiracy of silence and supports subversion of regulations, quiet deviation, and playing it cool, those confrontations with persons in authority and those challenges to outdated rules and regulations which are necessary for both individual and institutional growth do not occur. Or when the culture demands intransigent rebelliousness which precludes listening, reflection, or compromise, then impasses develop which fix both students and institution in anti-developmental positions.

Student culture similarly effects the Development of Identity. Identity is best fostered when one can range freely through varied situations and test varied responses to them, when one can try different roles with varying degrees of commitment and investment, and when in so doing one receives clear feedback uncontaminated by the stereotypes of others and unclouded by one's own anxiety. But where status is accorded to only a limited set of roles, be they athlete or intellectual, activist or addict, party boy or preprofessional, and when the range of situations for approved activity are limited, then Development of Identity suffers. Premature and totalistic investment in a single alternative, or passive non-investment, are frequent



responses, neither of which provides the basis by which a wide range of resonances can be tested and through which a satisfying and productive sense of self can be built.

The impact of student culture on the Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships is sufficiently clear to need little elaboration. Where the culture precludes, or assigns second class citizenship to, students of particular background, of particular talents, of particular interests, values, or attitudes, then stereotypes are reinforced and opportunities to learn how to live and to work with such persons are limited. Thus the degree of openness and flexibility which characterizes a particular student culture and the extent to which restrictive sub-cultures exist on a given campus, are factors of special significance for the Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships.

So much for relationshps between student development and for major aspects of the campus environment; curriculum, teaching, and evaluation, residence hall arrangements, student-faculty relationships, and student culture. Seven propositions have been offered which to my mind receive reasonable research support and which are congruent with the experiences of many of us.

## Implications

What are the implications of these seven propositions for four-year church-related colleges? Let's take them in reverse order and consider what changes in customary practice might lead to increased effectiveness. I know there is substantial diversity among the institutions represented here, so I recognize that there are exceptations to some of my assumptions about



"customary practices" but as generalizations I believe they apply to most. Student Culture

Student culture is difficult to manage. Yet when it is non-supporting of, or in opposition to, major institutional objectives action is necessary. Effective action is difficult because primary reliance must be placed on indirect measures which operate in general fashion over a considerable length of time. A foundation stone for influencing the student culture is the involvement of students as bonafide members of major faculty committees which are concerned with institutional practice and policy. Regular membership, with sufficient provision for continuity, allows students to experience the full complexity of problems and enables them to explain these complexities more fully to their peers. Further, such membership calls attention to, and pulls interest toward, the primary purposes of the institution and thus provides a counterbalance for the pulls of extracurricular and extra-college attractions. Students have participated in curriculum planning, in teacher and course evaluation, in revision of rules and regulations, in decisions about food services and their operation, and in deliberations concerning residence hall arrangements, in enough different college settings to demonstrate the value of such involvement. The experience of most institutions is that under conditions of regular membership students are responsible and energetic; they bring information and insights which might have been missed and they serve as sound mediators between the institution and the student culture. After such a practice has been in operation for a time, student-faculty task forces can be set up to deal with particular problems and a reservoir ent experience and competence is there to call on.



The small size and the sense of community which characterize many church-related colleges offer a context where greater student involvement can yield good dividends. On many campuses relationships between the student culture and its leaders, and the faculty and administration, are benign and cooperative. The sharp conflicts which have arisen frequently elsewhere have not yet developed at most church-related colleges. Neither have the tough problems concerning sem, drinking, and drugs grown to such proportions that drastic action is needed. Thus conditions are now propitious for the development of more widespread and more substantial student involvement. Then if the problems currently plaguing the large public and small private institutions come to your church-related colleges, a foundation of experience and a tested framework for cooperative effort will be ready.

Of course direct action is also possible through new programs: tutorials, independent study, freshman seminars, intercession workshops, all campus discussion groups, flexible programming, all have been introduced and have given the intellectual climate a shot in the arm. Experience suggests it is best to start building a modified student culture with the freshmen, and further, that it is important to begin as scon as, and if possible before, they arrive on campus. Wallace's research and other studies suggest that substantial freshman change in response to the existing student culture occurs by the end of the first semester, and even during the first six weeks. But if an entering student is confronted with a new program and treated in varys which define him as something special then there is not only some insulation from the impact of the old timers, but also he may maintain a different orientation long enought to influence the old patterns. Most



students enter college with high ideals and high expectations. Sharp and quick disillusionment is the fate of many. If they meet creative programs which express the institutions's investment in its own primary purposes, its concern to develop a more educative community, and its faith and assumption that they can meet the challenge, then enthusiastic response often occurs, and in the course of two or three years student culture may be significantly modified.

## Student-Faculty Relationships

Student-faculty relationships may be more intransigent than student culture. But most church-related colleges have a head start in this area. First, they have long been primarily teaching institutions, both by design and by necessity. Second, there is frequently a high level of concern for the individual student and open espousal of values explicitly stated. Thus, faculty motivation and institutional orientation are both favorable. Some institutions, however, as they increase in size, as federal funds for research become more readily available, as they are able to pay better salaries and attract persons with a large collection of academic credentials, and as it becomes possible to aim for prestige rather than simple survival, are attempting to yoke the glamorous filly research to the old workhorse teaching. It seems clear from the experience of institutions large and small that these two don't pull together smoothly, and indeed often pull in contrary directions, leaving the institution immobilized if not torn apart. It seems to me the small church-related college should develop from its strength, teaching and concern for individual development, rather than from its weakness, research, equipped to compete successfully. Few can be two-event



men. Therefore, manimal development of that area of major strength and experience is most likely to yield a place on the team. Pattillo puts it well, "In this day when the teaching of undergraduates has clearly taken second place to research and perhaps third place to research and service in universities, liberal arts colleges, including the church colleges, can make an educational contribution of the first order by giving priority to good teaching. ... In an age of bigness and impersonality, the church college has at its disposal a view of the worth and dignity of the individual which can give to undergraduate teaching an ingredient badly needed." (43, p. 59)

Public and wholehearted a Hegiance to this orientation would attract students and would attract faculty members who want to work with them. And it would get the climate firmly in favor of working relationships between students and faculty members to foster student development. In such a context students could go to faculty members less anxious about interrupting the "more important" activities of research and writing. Faculty members in turn could respond with greater sense of leisure and concern, and could more often establish those relationships with students which are clearly satisfying and productive.

#### Residence Hall Arrangements

The developmental potential and impact of residence hall settings has received little systematic attention. If church-related colleges gave some thought to relationships between the usual residence hall arrangements and the Development of Intellectual Competence, the Development of Autonomy, and the Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships, I suspect two modifications would follow: (a) more adequate space for joint study and for group conver-



sations would be provided in new scructures and in renovation, and (b) regulations would become more florible.

Sherpened and new information is acquired, values are clarified, storeotypes are questioned and desuroyed. Residence hall design and the regulations imposed can foster or inhibit such exchanges and can influence the range of persons with whom such exchanges may occur. When lounge space is available bull sessions can occur and roommates can study without direct interference. When a lounge must be crossed to get to a room the possibilities of being captured by a hot argument increase. A small increase in the square footage of a lounge may yield a large increase in the number of groups or pairs that can be accommodated. Lounges with somewhat broken space accommodate more groups with less interference than the same space as an uninterrupted rectangle. Thus attention to the size, the design, and the location of lounges in residence halls can yield developmental dividends.

Regulations also play a role. Rules which severely restrict visiting within and between houses may curtail opportunities for significant exchange when the time for it is ripe. Curfews and room checks may nip fruitful discussion and may generate reluctance to open up important areas of concern when one cannot look forward to pursuing them until some temporary resolution is achieved. Over-concern for maintaining silence or quiet conditions may create an insistent fog which dampens the free exchange and emotional expression that is part of any serious consideration of issues significant to the person one is or that one tentatively might become.

In short, regulations and housing design may create a condition where because



fruitful exchange is difficult to achieve, it becomes "not the thing to do", or at least generally not done. But with attention, conditions more developmentally propitious can be arranged. And the potential gains are great enough to warrant such efforts.

# Curriculum, Toaching and Evaluation

Despite the importance of student-faculty relationships and residence hall arrangements, for the church-related college the primary focus for concern must be its system of curriculum, teaching, and evaluation. This is particularly true for the Catholic colleges and for colleges serving the Beptists, Lutherans, and other evangelical and fundamentalistic protestant denominations. For them the need is urgent for two reasons. First, because the balance of evidence suggests intellectual under-productivity relative to other American colleges. Second, because the characteristics of students who seek out and are admitted to these institutions are such that prevailing practices are not the ones most likely to foster the development of higher order Intellectual Competence, the Development of Autonomy, or the Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships. And further, when these institutions are staffed by their own or by similar graudates a system of limited productivity is perpetuated.

Mow I realize that these are hard words and I recognize that there are exceptions. But the weight of the general evidence seems clear. I can only be illustrative, not exhaustive, but if you are unfamiliar with this literature I recommend the summaries given by Trent (59) and Pattillo and MacKenzie (44). Each of these reflects somewhat the orientation of the author, but taken together they provide a comprehensive picture of the



relevant research.

The relative lack of intellectual productivity among American Catholics is reflected by racings of college's educational quality, proportions of Ph.D., proportions of scholarly and creative contributions in the arts, humanities, or sciences, or the expression of attitudes known to be associated with scholarliness. And the fundamentalistic Protestant sects follow closely after the Catholics. (11, 23, 29, 30, 47). Thistlethwaite (57) found flexibility of curriculum, and energy and controversiality of instruction to be positively related to hours of study, reflectiveness, breadth of interests, and intellectual endeavor. Catholic colleges, however, espoused closeness of supervision and direct teaching which minimized controversy, and these factors were negatively related to the items mentioned above. Neel (40), found a Catholic faculty group to be "fact-oriented", aiming to give students the basic facts of a subject, compared to a non-Catholic faculty which was more "problem oriented", aiming to stimulate thinking about problem areas in a subject. Our own research indicates that those conditions cited for the Catholic colleges also characterize our conservative Protestant institutions. (9)

What are the characteristics of the students who encounter this conventional orientation and its attendant teaching practices? Dressel administered a battery of instruments to Michigan State students and found the Catholics as a group to be more stereotypic than all others and this was particularly true of parochial school graduates. And he found Baptists to be highly similar. (15) Farwell and Warren (21) studying National Merit Scholarship winners found those enrolled in Catholic colleges compared to



those enrolled in all others, to be the most superficial in their perceptions, the least interested in abstract thought and the manipulation of ideas, and the most authoritarian. And again, the findings for the students entering the conservative Protestant colleges in our Project are consistent with this picture. (9)

Such findings are not attributable to variation in academic aptitude nor in social class because they still occur when such factors are taken into account. (10, 59) Nor are they a simple function of religious faith. Basically, they seem to stem from in-group cohesiveness and defensiveness which has fostered rigid and restrictive norms for behavior and belief, authoritarianism, fearfulness of ambiguity and conflict, and thus lack of interest in complex and subtle ideas. This is the basic dynamic posited by Trent and his own studies of students in colleges of different religious orientations offer solid and clear support. Those of you who are familiar with the recent Denforth Foundation Report (44) will note the remarkable congruence between the findings of that comprehensive effort and the more particular studies mentioned above.

As one moves toward more liberal religious orientations or more nominal church affiliation, the picture changes. Swarthmore, Haverford, Grinnell, and Kenyon, for example, are among the top ranking institutions. Thus I want to reemphasize that the findings and the dynamic described here apply most forcefully to the Catholic and the fundamentalistic Protestant colleges. And we should also not forget the contribution of church related colleges to the service professions of medicine, ministry, and teaching (5, 32, 45) as we focus on this other problem area.



The basic points concerning curriculum, teaching, and evaluation for the church related college are these: (a) a required curriculum, implemented by lectures and competitive evaluation procedures fosters memorization of information in conformity to teacher expectations and requirements, and inhibits the Development of Autonomy, Identity, and the Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships; it does not foster higher order critical thinking and problem solving abilities, (b) this pattern prevails in most church related colleges, (c) students who enter such institutions are not strongly interested in things intellectual and are already predisposed toward conformity and toward passive and uncritical acceptance of "the facts" as given by the teacher, (d) consequently, there is only limited development of higher intellectual skills, and limited Development of Autonomy. Stereotyped attitudes and behaviors toward others are also little affected.

The centrality of this problem requires that it receive attention.

Despite the complexity of different patterns of curriculum, teaching, and evaluation, action is possible which can lead to fundamental improvements.

Here we can only list briefly some changes which have been viewed with satisfaction where tried:

- It has been recognized that sound resources for learning and opportunities for developmentally useful experiences exist away from the campus and that each institution does not have to provide the full range with its own limited resources. In response to this shift in thinking, curricula have been modified to accommodate study abroad and at other colleges in this country, Peace Corps service, work in city slums and with American Indians, participation in community development and community action programs, and similar activities.



- It has been recognized that not all learning occurs in classes and that not all teaching must be done by faculty members. Thus reading periods, week-end conferences, intercession seminars, student taught courses, independent study, and tutorials with persons outside the institution are no longer new or radical notions.
- The effectiveness of self observation in improving performance has been recognized. Consequently, some institutions have begun to use audio and video tape recordings of class sessions for subsequent review by the teacher alone or with a colleague or two, as a way to improve teaching.
- It has been recognized that evaluational procedures can be modified and that the traditional system has within it room for considerable flexibility. Consequently:
- -- Pass or fail grading has increased, especially for courses "outside the major".
- -- Students have been permitted to take courses and be exempt

  from any grade.
- -- Within courses instructors have put substantial portions of work on a simple pass-fail basis, or have let the grade derive from a limited sample of performance while asking for other materials which are not subjected to grading of any form.
- -- Group oral exams and group papers have been used to promote cooperative rather than competitive effort.
- -- Two answer sheets have been distributed with multiple choice exams. One is turned in at the end of the exam period. The other is taken away to be reviewed with books available and with the benefit of more time

for thought. When this second sheet is turned in half credit is given for correct answers which were in error on the first sheet.

- At the end of the last week of classes each student is told of his grade up to that point. He is told also what exam scores would yield different grades. In the light of this information each student decides whether or not to take the final.
- -- Students have been given problems and sample answers reflecting varied levels of performance. With these in hand they have graded themselves and other class members.
- -- Students have been asked to state their own purposes in taking a course and to develop the criteria and measures by which successful performance would be assessed.

This array of ideas obviously is not offered as a set of recommendations. But it does indicate some of the things which have been tried and suggests practices which would probably improve the effectiveness of most current systems. Because curriculum, teaching, and evaluation is so central, modification must take place here before change in residence hall arrangements or student-faculty relationships is likely to have much effect. And because the consequences of current practices seem so severe, change is indicated even if it is limited to some of the small steps described above.

## Characteristics of Entrants

Of course another way to foster the development of Intellectual Competence, of Autonomy, of Identity, and the Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships is to modify the "mix" among the students admitted. The distinctive



<sup>1.</sup> Lany of these were reported to me by James McDowell, with our Project this year while on sabbatical from Harlham.

characteristics of students entering different types of colleges is well documented. For those colleges with a clear and well defined image, as is the case with most church related institutions, the result is a homogeneous student body. In our thirteen college project for example, the means and standard devictions on personality measures for Goddard and Shimer and for Bryan and Messiah were such that overlap in the groups was insignificant. I would argue that the impact of both these pairs of institutions would be increased if each had some students of the other. To achieve greater diversity within the student body at the same time that one maintains a clear and forceful institutional philosophy and purpose, is not easy. First, it requires careful and systematic recruitment with a resulting increase in cost per applicant. Second, it requires enough applicants so some selection is possible, and not all of us are in that position. But third, and most difficult, it requires the courage to accept students who clearly deviate from the pattern which gives us greatest comfort, and it requires supportive efforts for such students after they arrive. No one likes to give himself the needle, but injection of a few antibodies of the right kind can lead to increased health and vigor. Of course, when the antibody may make its presence felt for four years, we cannot be consoled with the thought that "it will only hurt for a minute". On the other hand, we may grow enough ourselves so that that which initially gives pain comes to be felt as pleasure.

The point is that the major educative force for one student is another. If Freeing of Interpersonal Relationships is to occur, and if Intellectual Competence, Autonomy, and Identity are to be maximally fostered, greater



diversity than currently exists at most church related colleges is needed. Simply raising the cut off points for college board scores will not foster a rich and educative institutional climate. Values, beliefs, intellectual style, and orientations toward authority, must also receive attention. Careful student selection, guided by clearly formulated institutional purposes and thoughtful balancing of diverse characteristics is one of the best roads to improved institutional effectiveness.

## Clarity of Objectives, Leadership, and Initiative

By now it should be clear that explicit institutional objectives which are taken seriously, and a well informed and soundly developed point of view concerning educational practice and student development, are both necessary if congruent fields of force are to be generated. But to get all the institutional arrows pointed in roughly the same direction is no mean administrative task. To achieve it the small college president must not only be able to raise funds. He must also have a coherent philosophy of education, administrative skill, and the ability to delegate authority. Men brought directly from the ministry or from business may be effective fund raisers but they are often deficient in these other qualifications. A useful response to this condition is the inauguration of workshops and more frequent faculty meetings in which all members of the administration and faculty are expected to participate. When such meetings are devoted to the educational process and to the strengths and weaknesses of various institutional components, considerable refreshment and growth can occur. While outside resource persons can be helpful, useful exchange can readily occur without Interested faculty members can review the literature and present



relevant findings or selected materials which help move thinking along. Or all members of the faculty and administration can read relevant studies and examine their implications.

Church related colleges share another characteristic which is a two eaged swore. It is, as Pattillo delightfully says, their "responsiveness to loadership." (43, p. 19) He attributes this "responsiveness" to their relatively small size, but I suspect also it is a function of the generally authoritarian characteristics of faculty members and administrators, and of long standing practices and expectations where decisions and prescriptions for behavior come down from above. It is interesting to note that later in the Danforth Foundation report the second recommendation asks for "restructuring of administration". The writers say, "We urge trustees and administrators to give serious thought to the advantages of a group leadership pattern in which the day-to-day work of the president would be more realistically defined .... We realize that some presidents may resist proposals for a more realistic sharing of authority and responsibility on the grounds that this would tend to weaken their position. This objection, it seems to us, is less telling than the deficiencies of the present form of organization." (43, pp. 52, 53) Indeed such reorganization is necessary if intellectual ferment and widely shared participation in institutional improvement is to become indigenous.

One useful step might be to ask some members of the Board to join with members of both administration and faculty in the consideration of institutional problems, particularly those which involve more than funding and minances. The survival of some sound church colleges is threatened by intransigent Boards, and other Boards have severely hampered creative administrative leadership which has generated energetic faculty support. More

joint effort which involved some Board members and which increased their sophistication concerning higher education and the problems of their institution, would help. Administrative and faculty leadership and initiative would then less often be squelched.

But administrative change of heart, or change of administrative personnel, will not yield immediate results. The authoritarian structure and disposition is as much a part of the faculty as of the administration. A friend of mane, recently returned to a conservative Protestant college which had brought in a new president had this to say, "You know, this new president is really ready to move. He's willing to let things happen. But nobody on the faculty will do anything. I used to think we never did anything because the administration didn't let us. Now you get a new idea and the administration says, 'Go ahead', and you can't get anyone to work on it."

My own experience in a workshop with that faculty and administration was instructive. The workshop comprised three, three hour sessions with all the faculty and administration. In the first session it became clear that a major institutional objective concerned the preparation of students to deal effectively with, and to have an impact on, American society which was perceived as needing modification in certain areas. In this discussion it was recognized that American society was essentially urban and suburban and was becoming more so. Next, attention was turned to data concerning the backgrounds of the entering students which indicated that the parents of ninety percent belonged to the denomination served by the college, that fifty percent had attended denominational secondary schools, and that most had grown up on farms, or in small or medium sized towns. In the second session we



actumpted, through discussion, to address two questions. Given students with this kind of background, (a) what aspects of the current program prepara students to deal effectively with and to have an impact on American society?, and (b) what changes or new programs might increase institutional effectiveness in this regard. I use the work "attempted" advisedly because starting discussion and getting it to run reminded me of my 1946 Jeep on a thirty below zero morning. The participants seemed simply unable or unwilling to examine the institution in relation to the ideas of concern, and similarly unable to generate any new ideas for action. In the third session the following morning, a brilliant ex-minister from a related denomination, lately turned Dean and now with a state university, gave an impassioned speech in which he reviewed the problem and suggested that the institution send students for a period to live with families of the denomination in New York or Philadelphia or Washington. During this period they would study the city, undertake some kind of service work in it, and directly experience it for themselves. Both the faculty and administration responded with great enthusiasm to these remarks and to the suggestion. During this last year a joint program was developed with the City College of New York with financial assistance under the Developing Colleges act. This summer twenty students and a faculty member will be spending six weeks studying and living in New York and academic credit will be granted for the experience. It is worth noting that despite the initial enthusiasm of faculty and administration two years passed before action was taken. And it is probably also significant that the faculty member who helped develop the program and who is going with the students to New York is the one who commented to me about the passivity of the rest.



Now I mention chis not to indicate that significant change can't occur. I think this new program is an important addition to the college and I suspect it will enliven the institution and break the ground for additional efforts. But note that while the faculty could not generate the rather simple idea, it could respond enchusiastically to it when exhorted by an admired authority of similar background. But also note, however, that it took the push and energy of a more adventurous member, fresh from a year away, to convert the idea into a program and to carry it out.

It is experiences such as this which suggest to me that something beyond more widespread delegation of authority and responsibility is required if institutional change in the service of increased effectiveness is to occur. Clear and vigorous educational leadership rather than a simple laissez faire stance, is obviously necessary. But in addition it will probably also be necessary to undertake a program of faculty diversification similar to that needed for the student body. Faculty selection is, of course, the most important vehicle for the maintenance and implementation of institutional purposes, and faculty appointed must be sympathetic with those purposes. Yet diversity of orientation concerning means, diversity of educational orientations, and diversity of backgrounds, can provide both the stimulus to new and improved programs and the manpower to plan and to carry them out. Again, as with students, an institution must be in a position to exercise choice, and then careful balancing is necessary to preserve the basic institutional thrust and to guard against chaos. But it seems clear that adherence to a credal statement or general agreement with a particular religious orientation, and/or appropriate academic credentials are not sufficient criteria to assure a faculty which will provide continued institutional



self-regeneration. For that, additional dimensions of difference must be considered and additional exiteria for employment exercised. And for an institution to survive in the current context of rapid social change, such self-regeneration is required.

# Student Development in College

In conclusion let me speak emplicitly to that which I have left implicit so far. I have granted a major place to aspects of student development other than intellectual competence. I started out by positing six others that deserve attention and have commented on three in more detail. Many colleges have long given lip service to some of these but now words must be joined by deeds. When colleges simply served to prepare ministers, teachers, and aristocrats for their future occupations, and when few attended college, exclusive concentration on the verbal and on the intellect was sufficient for the needs of the students and of society. But consider this. In 1953 2,000,000 students enrolled for undergraduate and professional degrees; in 1963 the figure was 4,000,000; by 1973 7,000,000 are expected, and this will be about forty-six percent of the population aged eighteen to twenty-one. The industrial revolution of the nineteenth century created an adolescence where none existed before and now the technological revolution of the twentieth is creating another developmental period of young adulthood. It is in the college setting where this period will be experienced by more and more young people as universal higher education becomes a reality. During the next twenty years it is the college graduate who will assume control of the occupational, political, educational, and religious organizations in this



country. The kind of society that results will largely depend upon the kinds of persons they become. It is the prime responsibility of the college to address itself to that task, and to do so requires more than preparing students to pass finals and to score high on tests for graduate school admission. It requires informed, thoughtful, and dedicated effort, and attention to the total college environment, if better management of emotions, freer interpersonal relationships, and the Development of Autonomy, Purpose, Identity, and Integrity are to be fostered.

ERIC Full Text Provided by ERIC

#### References

- 1. Adelson, J. The teacher as a model. In N. Sanford (Ed.) The American College. New J vork: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1962. Pp. 396-417.
- 2. Atkinson, J. W. & Litwin, G. H. An experimental study of need-achievement and examination anxiety. <u>J. Abnorm. Soc. Psychol.</u>, 1960, 60, 52-63.
- 3. Bernard, J. D. The lecture-demonstration versus the problem-solving method of teaching a college science course. <u>Science Educ.</u>, 1942, 26, 121-132.
- 4. Bloom, B. S. Thought processes in lectures and discussions. <u>J. Gen. Educ.</u>, 1953, 7, 160-169.
- 5. Bridston, K. R. & Culver, D. W. <u>Pre-seminary education</u>. Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1965.
- 6. Center for Research and Development in Higher Education. Omnibus Personality Inventory. Univ. of California, Berkeley, 1959.
- 7. Chickering, A. W. The Young Adult: a need and needed course for college personnel administrators, <u>Journal of the National Association of Women's Deans and Counsellors</u>, vol. 30, No. 3, Spring 1967.
- 8. Chickering, A. W. College residence and student development, Educational Record, Spring 1967.
- 9. Chickering, A. W. Institutional differences and student characteristics.

  J. Amer. Coll. Health Association, December 1966.
- 10. Darley, J. G. <u>Promise and performance</u>. Berkeley, Calif: Center for the Study of Higher Educ., University of California, 1962.
- 11. Davis, Beverly. Eminence and Level of social origin. Amer. J. Sociol,, 1953, 59, 11.
- 12. Davis, J. Great aspirations: the graduate school plans of America's college seniors. Chicago, Aldine Publishing Co., 1964.
- 13. Dressel, P. L., & Lehman, I. J. "The Impact of Higher Education on Student Attitudes, Values, and Critical Thinking Abilities," <u>Educational Record</u>, Summer, 1965, pp. 248-257.
- 14. Dressel, P. L. In critical thinking. In P. L. Dressel (Ed.), Evaluation in the basic college at Michigan State University. New York: Harper & Bros., 1958. Pp. 199-213
- 15. Dressel, P. L. Critical thinking, attitudes and values in higher education (Preliminary report) East Lansing, Michigan State Univer., 1959.
- 16. Eddy, E. G. Jr. The college influence on student character. American Council on Education. Washington, 1959.
- 17. Educational Testing Service. American Council on Education Psychological Examination for College Freshmen, Cooperative Test Division, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey.
- 3. Trikson, E. H. Growth and Crises of the "healthy personality." In M. J. E. Senn (Ed.), Symposium on the healthy personality. Supplement II. New York Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation, 1950, 91-146.

### keferences - page 2

- 19. Fairbairn, W. R. Payeloanalytic Studies of the Personality, pp. 34-58, Tavistock Publications Lud., London, 1952.
- 20. Farnsworth, D. The need for a comprehensive college mental health program: accent on prevention! In Den Barger and Everette Hall (Eds.) <u>Higher Education and Mental Health</u>. Proceedings of a Conference, University of Florida, Gainesville, Sept. 1963.
- 21. Farwell, E. D. & Warren, J. R. Student personality characteristics associated with types of colleges and fields of study. Berkeley, Calif. Center for the Study of higher Educ., Univer. of California, 1959, (Mimeographed).
- 22. Foster, J., Stanek, R., & Krassowski, W. The impact of a value-oriented university on gundent attitudes and thinking. Santa Clara California: University of Santa Clara & Cooperative Research Project No. 729, Office of Educ., Dept. Health, Educ. & Welfare, 1961, (Mimcographed).
- 23. Fry, L. C. Religious affiliation of American leaders. Sci. Mon., 1933, 36, 241.
- 24. Harlow, H. F. & harlow, Margaret K. Learning to think. <u>Scientific American</u>, August, 1949 (Reprint).
- 25. Heath, D. Unpublished manuscript, Haverford College, January, 1967.
- 26. Hoyt, D. P. The relationship between college grades and adult achievement.

  ACT Research Reports, 1965, no. 7.
- 27: Hughes, E., Becker, H. & Geer, Blanche. Student culture and academic effort. In N. Sanford (Ed.) The American College, John Wiley & Sons, 1962. 515-530.
  - 28. Jacob, P. E. Changing Values in College. Harper & Bros. New York, 1957.
  - 29. Knapp, R. H. & Greenbaum, J. J. The younger American scholar: his collegiate origins. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1953.
  - 30. Knapp, R. H. & Goodrich, H. G. Origins of American scientists. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1952.
  - 31. Lewin, K. Group decision and social change. In G. E. Swanson, T. M. Newcomb, & E. L. Hartley (Eds.) Readings in social psychology (2nd ed.) New York: Holt, 1952, Pp. 330-344.
  - 32. Manuel, W. A. & Marion Altenderfer. <u>Baccalaureate origins of 1950-59 medical graduates</u>
    Public Health Monograph No. 66 Washington: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1961.
  - 33. Mayhew, L. B. Institutional factors and the learning environment. In L. E. Dennis & J. P. Kauffman (Eds.) The college and the student. Washington, D. C.: American Council on Education, 1966, p. 211-230.
  - 34. McConnell, T. R. & Heist, P. The diverse college student population. In Sanford, N. (Ed.) The American College, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., N. Y. 1962.
- 35. McReachie, W. J. Procedures and techniques of teaching: a survey of experimental studies. In N. Sanford (Ed.), The American College. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1962.

ERIC

### References - page 3

- )6. McGaoch, J. A., & Trion, A. L. The psychology of human learning. New York:
  Longmans, Green, 1952. p. 46.
- 37. Mayer, G. An emperimental study of the old and new types of examinations: II, method of study. J. Educational Psychol., 1936, 26, 30-40.
- 38. Miller, S. Report on methods of evaluating students at the University of California, Barkeley.
- 39. Murphy, G. Human potentialities. New York: Basic Books, Inc. 1958.
- 40. Neal, Ann. Asking questions and giving answer: two approaches to the teaching of social science. Unpublished seminar paper. Led with Sociology Department, Univer. of California, Berkeley, 1962.
- 41. Newcomb, T. M. Personality and Social Change. Dryden Press, New York, 1943.
- 42. Newcomb, T. M., Koenig, Kathryn, Flacks, R. & Warwick, D. P. Persistence and change:

  Bennington College and its students after twenty-five years. John Wiley and Sons Inc.

  New York: 1967.
- 43. Pattillo, M. M. & Mackenzie, D. M. <u>Hight hundred colleges face the future</u>. The Danforth Foundation, St. Louis, Missouri, 1965.
- 44. Pattillo, M. M. & Mackenzie, D. M. <u>Church-sponsored higher education in the United States</u>. Report of the Danforth Commission, American Council on Education, Washington, D. C., 1966.
- 45. Pfnister, A. O. A report on the baccalaureate origins of college faculties. Washington: Association of American Colleges, 1961.
- 46. Raushenbush, Esther. The student and his studies. Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan Univ. Press. 1964.
- 47. Roe, Anne. The psychology of occupations. New York, John Wiley, 1956.
- 48. Sanford, N. Factors related to the effectiveness of student interaction with the college social system. In Een Barger & Everette E. Hall (Eds.) <u>Higher Education</u> and <u>Mental Health</u>, Proceedings of a Conference, University of Florida, Gainesville, 1963.
- 49. Sanford, N. Self & society, social change and individual development. New York: Atherton Press, 1966.
- 50. Scott, W. A. <u>Values and Organizations</u>: A Study of Fraternities and Sororities, Rand McNally & Co., Chicago, 1965.
- 51. Sherif, M. & Sherif, Carolyn. Reference Groups, Harper & Row, New York, 1964.
- 52. Shoben, E. J. Students, stress, and the college experience. Report of the National Conference on Student Stress, published by the Council Press for the U. S. National Student Association, May, 1966.
- 53. Snyder, B. R. The invisible curriculum. In L. E. Dennis & J. F. Kauffman (Eds.)

  The college and the student, Washington, D. C.: American Council on Education,
  1965, p. 349-353.

### References - page 4

- 54. Stern, C. G. Environments for learning. In N. Sanford (Ed.) The American College.

  7. Viley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1962, 690-730.
- 55. Stern, G. G. Student Ecology and the College Environment, Research in Higher Education College Entrance Examination board, New York, 1964 pp.35-52.
- 56. Terry, P. W. How students review for objective and essay tests. Elementary School J. 1933, 33, 592-503.
- 57. Thistlethwaite, D. L. College press and student achievement. J. Educ. Psychol., 1959, 50, 5, pp. 183-194.
- 58. Thistlethwaite, D. L. Rival hypotheses for explaining the effects of different learning environments. <u>J. Educ. Psychol</u>, 1962, 53, 6, Pp. 310-315.
- 59. Trent, J. W. The etiology of catholic intellectualism, Dissertation study, University of California, Boukeley, California, 1964.
- 50. Vreeland, Rebecca, & Bidwell, C. Organizational effects on student attitudes: A study of the Harvard houses. Sociology of Educ. 1965, 38 (3), 233-250.
- 61. Wallace, W. L. Student culture, Aldine Publishing Co., Chicago, 1966.
- 62. White, R. W. Lives in Progress, Dryden Press, N. Y., 1952.

ERIC

- 63. White, R. W. Sense of interpersonal competence. In R. W. White (Ed.), The Study of Lives. New York, Atherton Press, 1963, 74-93.
- 64. Whitehorn, J. C. "A Working Concept of Maturity of Personality", American Journal of Psychiatry, 119:197-202, 1962.
- 65. Wilson, E. K. Effecting change in the college student: who teaches what? Antioch College Reports, Office of Educational Research, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, March, 1963. P. 1-4.