



Student-Faculty Retreat Reviews Mission, Goals, Objectives

Does Bennett Have a Future?

by Kay Dolberry

The perseverance of the private college is somewhat questionable.

Due to such adversities as diminishing funds for support, rising operational expenses, decreasing enrollments, new and different anticipations from students as well as from the job market some private colleges will be subjected to changing their concerns, others to closing their doors.

Since Bennett is one of two black private colleges for women in the United States, how do we combat these societal changes so that all too soon we won't be-

come a monument to the past?

On May 10-11, 1977, the Colonial Williamsburg styled Quail Roost Conference Center, located about thirteen miles from Durham, N. C., was the scene in which selected members of the faculty, staff and student body retreated in an effort to deal with the question of Bennett College's future, its mission, goals and objectives.

Those in attendance were: the Rev. Peter Addo, Dean Harold Bragg, Myra Davis, Mary Eady, Wilhelmina Gilbert, Dorothy Harris, President Isaac H. Miller, Jr., Dr. J. H. Sayles, Ouida Scarborough, Louise Streat, Dean Chelsea Tipton and Dr. William Trent, of

the faculty and staff and Kay Dolberry, Marilyn Hicks, Cassandra Jones and Rochelle Moody of the student body.

President Miller, who presided at the conference, in his opening statement put the purpose of the conference into a perspective by going back to what he considers to be the "roots" of Bennett College. In answer to his question "Who are we?" he said that we are an embodiment of five things. We are a church affiliated college, we are a women's college, we are a liberal arts college, we are a career oriented college and we are a black college.

We are these things; yet, he

said, we may be "like unto a new born infant who daily is exposing a new surface of its nature to a constantly changing environment."

He also listed on a handout prior to the conference some imperatives regarding what he felt the college's immediate and future mission should entail.

The participants were divided into four groups which the president charged with the task of addressing themselves to the question of how to go about "achieving a greater sense of community in institution." He said, "For out of the community relations I think we can achieve the ownership of goals which is necessary to make our venture a success."

The four groups, led by Ms. Gilbert, Ms. Harris, Mrs. Streat and Mrs. Eady, each came up with practical "how to's and methods of implementation in answer to the president's call. Each group approached its task somewhat differently and revealed its findings to others in closing reports. However, it was the consensus of all that those findings and recommendations be followed up without hesitation.

The first follow-up meeting of



Dr. Miller opens conference.

Photo by Myra Davis

New Members Join Family

During the opening session of Bennett College's Faculty/Staff Institute, Dr. Isaac H. Miller announced new faculty appointments and staff additions for the academic year.

New administrative appointments are Dr. Mary Lynn Sadler, Dr. Donald F. Martin, and Dr. Morris C. Peterkin. Dr. Sadler received her undergraduate education at Duke University. She serves as director of the Humanities Division and chairman of the Communications Department. Her doctoral study was done at the University of Illinois.

Dr. Martin, new director of the Division of Social Sciences, completed his undergraduate studies at North Carolina A. & T. State University and graduate study at

the University of Akron. Also serving as chairman of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, he received the doctorate from Ohio State University.

Appointed director of the Division of Education is Dr. Peterkin, an alumnus of Cheney State College. He received the masters of education certificate from Temple University, the masters of arts from Governors State University and the doctoral degree from the University of Pittsburgh. He also chairs the department of Secondary and Professional Education.

Joining the Science faculty is Joella Hendricks, instructor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Receiving her undergraduate education at Missouri Western, she com-

pleted graduate study at Colorado State University.

Cheryl McLeod, a graduate of Chatham College, serves as part-time instructor of mathematics. Mrs. McLeod received her graduate study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Also joining the Mathematics Department is Dr. John F. Wiggs, an alumnus of Oakland City College. He serves as assistant professor of mathematics and physics. Dr. Wiggs completed graduate study at Indiana University and doctoral study at North Carolina State University.

Dr. Robert C. Miller, assistant professor of History and Social Science, received his undergraduate degree from Colorado State (Continued on Page 3)

the Quail Roost Conference took place on July 11. It consisted mainly of regrouping the concerns raised at the retreat so as to achieve maximum effectiveness in making the suggested measures of reform realities. Specific reform measures were listed under the broad categories of Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, Fiscal Affairs, Developmental Affairs and Cultural Climate.

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Labor Day Festivities at Bennett College Ranged from Morning Brunch to a Disco

by Joyce Bass

Labor Day activities on Bennett's campus this year ranged from an early morning brunch with all the "fixins" to an evening disco in front of David D. Jones Student Union.

Monday's activities in the campus quadrangle began with volleyball games, badminton games, ping-pong and the ever-popular "blanket-on-grass" card game. It was a little later in the day when most of the "on the ground" activities took place.

Lined in six rows were the eager participants for the sack races and three-legged races. While most of them managed to get through the race in an "upright" position, there were a few of them who "took the count."

The softball game attracted females and males of all sizes from miles around, but that wasn't the highlight of the day.

With burlap sacks marking the line, the opposing teams in the tug-of-war stood facing each other

anxiously awaiting the go signal. The whistle blew, the rope broke and the group went down, laughing. A second attempt was made. Again, the rope snapped. The winning side was victorious with the winning knot.

Smoke from the grills aroused impatient hungry mobs who surrounded and attacked the grills and food with a vengeance. Hot-dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, lemonade and beans made the menu. But the best was yet to come! Watermelons by the truck load climaxed the festivities.

The Labor Day disco music was provided by Pyramid Productions and was well attended. Two of the campus Greek sororities gave the Labor Day crowd a soul "stepping" show which added that extra something.

Around 1 a.m., as the lights went out in Player Hall, voices could be heard saying, "I ache all over . . . but wasn't that fun? Wouldn't it be nice to have it every weekend."



Labor Day activities took place on the campus quadrangle.

Photo by Myra Davis

Cuts Remain the Same

New Attendance Procedures Announced

by Sheila Purnell

The procedure for reporting class absences has been revised. Dean Chelsea Tipton stated that there was too much confusion on college procedure concerning unexcused absences.

Freshmen, sophomores and juniors are allowed one unexcused absence for each semester hour of credit awarded for a course in which they are enrolled.

Senior students with a "B" average or above in a course by the first letter grading period may use their discretion in attending the course. Seniors with less than a "B" average at the time of the first letter grading period are subject to the same class attendance regulations as all undergraduates.

The following procedure for reporting class absences is effective for the academic year 1977-78.

1. All class absences should be cleared with the teacher of the course for validation.

2. Teachers should report student absences on appropriate forms to the office of Freshmen Studies and Academic Support

Services only when a student has reached the maximum number of absences allowed for a given class.

3. Absences due to illness should be verified by a physician or the campus medical staff.

4. Teachers should excuse all absences related to field trips or other official college-sponsored events approved by the Dean of the College. Notices of these excused absences will come from the Dean's office.

5. Other requests for excused absences should be referred to the Office of Freshman Studies and Academic Support Services.

6. After a student has exceeded the maximum number of absences allowed for a given class, a dropped notice will be sent by the Dean of the College to the teacher of the course, advisers, Office of Records and Admissions and the student.

All matters pertaining to this procedure should be referred to Dorothy Harris, director of Freshmen Studies and Academic Support Services.