1980


Students of Bryn Mawr College

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McPherson speaks on Budget

At a recent open SGA meeting, President McPherson talked with students about Bryn Mawr's budget for next year. Also discussed at the meeting on Sunday were other plans for Bryn Mawr's future.

She began by explaining that, while budgetary deficits for the past two years had been substantially below the projected amounts, this year an unexpected fuel surcharge of $250,000 will almost certainly raise the deficit above the projected value of $500,000. Energy costs are expected to remain high; this is a major factor in next year's budget. "We had to adjust and build from a new base as far as energy was concerned", McPherson declared.

Therefore, tuition for next year has been raised by 11.4%, from $5325 to $5930, and residence fees by 15.2%, from $2300 to $2650. These percentage increases are actually less than those at most comparable women's colleges. Wellesley, for example, has had to increase tuition by 16%, and Smith is increasing its total charges by 15%. President McPherson observed that, as Bryn Mawr's charges are currently high compared to charges at other women's colleges, "It would be a good thing for the others to catch up a bit."

The largest expenditure in the budget is faculty and staff salaries. McPherson feels that these are currently too low, and a minimum increase of 8%-8.5% is projected for next year. Gradual cutbacks in staff through attrition are expected to help limit the College's expenditure on salaries.

Another money-saving development which McPherson foresees in the next five to ten years is an increase in academic co-operation in the four-college community (Bryn Mawr, Haverford, Swarthmore, and the University of Pennsylvania). This would permit cuts in the Bryn Mawr departments. McPherson also indicated the possibility of obtaining partial subsidy from the State of Pennsylvania, as U. Penn has done. She views this as highly unlikely; however: "Our commitments to the State of Pennsylvania are almost nil—and I think the State of Pennsylvania would be the first to recognize that."

Several money-saving plans focus on reducing the College's energy consumption. A computer system will probably be added to monitor the use of energy. Insulation may be improved in some of the residence halls, specifically by caulking loose windows in the older halls and replacing some of the windows in Radnor and Denbigh. Moreover, when the campus center is built, the President revealed, it may employ solar energy as a "booster system" to cut fuel costs.

Adrienne Knight raised the question of possible overcrowding in residence halls as a result of expansion. McPherson responded that current living conditions are "luxurious", and Cheryl Holland, former President of SGA, remarked that during her recent trip to Washington, D.C., students from other colleges had expressed envy when she described Bryn Mawr's housing situation to them.

In response to another question, McPherson stated that the campus center will definitely be located in the Robin Hood Dell area. The exact site is still undetermined.

A related topic was the renovations to be financed by the $8 million Few grant. Scheduled for construction work over this summer are Thomas, Denbigh, and Radnor. This work is expected to carry on into the fall semester, and the board of Trustees has requested that students remain particularly patient with work going on during the school year. Bryn Mawr's future ability to acquire grants depends partly on its prompt and effective use of the grants it receives, so the College is working to maintain its good reputation in this area.

On account of the renovations to be made in Thomas, the bookstore will be moved this spring to the old dance studio in Rockefeller. Access will be available through a special entrance so that customers will not have to walk through Rock's residential area. The Bookstore will probably remain in Rock until it is established permanently in the Campus Center.

Majors' News

GEOLOGY Feb. 29, 3:30pm
Room 100, Park Hall

SOCIOLOGY Feb. 29, 3:30pm
Quita Woodward Room, Thomas

LATIN & GREEK Feb. 29, 4:30pm
Russian Center

CHEMISTRY Feb. 29, 2:30pm
Physics Lounge

ENGLISH Mar. 3, 3:00pm
English House

ECONOMICS Mar. 3, 3:15pm
Vernon Room, Haffner

RUSSIAN Mar. 3, 4:30pm
Russian Center

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The student representatives to the Board of Trustees held an open meeting on Thursday, February 14, to gain student input on Bryn Mawr issues prior to the Board of Trustees meeting that weekend. Although only two or three students came to discuss the issues, representative Michele Gardner-Smith and newly-elected representative Lisa Louise conducted an informal question-and-answer and opinion-expressing session.

One topic of concern was the Pew estate, which the College hopes to acquire to house graduate students. A student questioned the logic of converting the current Graduate Residence Center to undergraduate housing and moving the graduate students to a new Residence Center instead of building a new undergraduate hall. The reply was that the graduate students themselves need a more satisfactory Residence Center.

Gardner-Smith declared that student input into the Expansion Plan had been adequate, and that the student representatives could have influenced that document more than they had if they had not been satisfied with it.

The students at the meeting expressed concern about the projected building renovations financed by the $8 million Pew Memorial Trust grant. One advocated the proposal of allowing the residents of each hall under consideration for renovations to elect one student specifically to represent their interests in these matters. Two objections to this proposal were raised: that it is not clear what planning group or committee the student representatives could serve on, and that most of the renovations will take place over the summer, making student involvement difficult. Nonetheless the representatives were willing to pursue the idea.

**MATH DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Bryn Mawr's math department currently includes Mr. Cunningham (Department Chairman), Mr. Martelli, Ms. Heines and Ms. Soldorl. Mr. Cunningham holds a permanent appointment; Mr. Martelli holds a temporary appointment and may stay next year. Both Ms. Heines and Ms. Soldorl hold appointments for this year only. The department is funded for three full-time positions and one part-time position next year.

Ms. Rhonda J. Hughes will be the third full-time professor next year. Ms. Hughes was hired by the department last year as an assistant professor by the National Science Foundation. And the opportunity existed for the math department to hire a full-time professor next year. Ms. Hughes will be able to stay because of the NSF grant. Ms. Hughes will be teaching a course in group theory, which is a part of abstract algebra. In addition, Ms. Hughes will be teaching a course in differential equations, which is a part of applied mathematics.

**SUMMER COURSES**

Bryn Mawr College will be offering courses during the summer in Introductory Chemistry, Organic Chemistry and Introductory Physics. These courses will cover the same material as the regular Chem 101, Chem 202, Physics 101 respectively. These courses will be offered if enough students are registered. Interested students, please contact the Dean's Office.
If too many city halls and colonial brick townhouses have you a bit depressed over real life in Philadelphia, rest assured that several areas remain student-amenable and even open late. One of the most popular is the area around South Street and 3rd, full of bohemian bookshops, used-and interesting clothing stores, antique shops and a variety of small restaurants. The star attraction of the area is TLA (Theatre of the Living Arts), a revival movie house with new films every few days. And, uncommon in Philadelphia, most of these are open at night as well.

As you get off the bus (see end of article about where to find and take bus) TLA will be just on your right. They have a bargain price of $1.50 before 5:00; otherwise, $2.50. TLA also shows 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show' Fridays and Saturdays at midnight.

Down the street is 'Eye's, 402 South St., which sells clothing, jewelry and everything else; all-silk dresses can be had for $40, as well as a variety of less esoteric things. Around the corner on 4th is a fascinating antique clothing store and there are antique shops of all types along both blocks. You can buy stained glass windows, brass bedsteads, walnut desks and Tiffany lamps for a price, but they're still wonderful to look at.

You can eat at Tang's (429 South), a Chinese restaurant with a decor more like a French one, where sesame-covered chicken is $5.75. Or try Lickety Split (501 South), festooned in greenery with a menu of many assorted delicacies, or the Phila Deli (410 South), somewhat like Deli Garden. Around the corner try the Back-Stage restaurant, (614 8th), which has a shimmering atmosphere and entrees starting at around 8. Ice cream shops also abound.

Bookstores are also popular, staying open late and dabbling in health-food books, religion, mysticism, 'Wimmin' Comix and film as well as more usual subjects. One which has a five-foot gorilla hand in the showcase, specialises in foreign magazines. The bookstores are easy to find and usually stay open very late.

Undoubtedly there is still a lot to be discovered on South Street. If the excitement should begin to wane, however, merely walk a couple blocks down (in the direction of traffic) and to your left will be a New Market, the modern multi-level shopping area with dozens more interesting stores and restaurants.

To get to the interesting part of South Street first take the train to Center City. Exit on the escalator across from City Hall and wait there for a 'C' bus that says 'Broad-Geary'. (Other C buses do not go far enough; don't take them.) Ask for a transfer when you get on, bearing in mind that they want your 55¢ in change only and won't take bills even if you are paying for a friend. Get off at South Street (after Pine & Lombard) and take any bus along South till you get to 4th and 3rd.

If anybody has any May Day costumes or knows anyone at Bryn Mawr or Haverford who has one, please see that they are returned to Betsy Honig, Me­ rion 61, as soon as possible. These costumes are College property and every piece is important, since we are trying to reconstruct the costumes as they originally were. People who are interested in helping organize the May Day costumes, especially people who can sew, see Betsy or call 5738.
Though those who sought to fulfill their science requirement through Geology have quickly discovered that there is no "rocks for jocks" course at Bryn Mawr. Majors of the "big three" sciences smirk patronizingly at the mention of geology, but the major is a respected one. Few people come to Bryn Mawr with a geology major in mind, though our department is known to be a good one. This is primarily because students just out of high school have not had experience with geology other than a smattering in an Earth Science course.

During their freshman and sophomore years, a few students decide to major in Geology and as a result, there are normally 5 to 6 Geology majors from Bryn Mawr in each class. Added to this is about an equal number of students from Haverford, which has no Geology department of its own. Along with four full-time professors and five graduate students, these make up the Geology department.

It is commonly assumed that those who major in Geology do so only in order to get a job with a big oil company. This is false. Though a Geo major can get a fairly high-paying job without much extra training, most people here major in Geology simply because they like the subject. The typical Geo major is a fairly easy-going person who enjoys the outdoors which accompanies the requirements. These requirements are not stiff as far as a Bryn Mawr science major goes; the labs are short and there are no huge lab reports to write up. But there are regular field trips which are important and the junior summer is expected to be spent at a field camp. Field camps are programs run by various colleges all over the country—a six to eight week field trip with mapping exercises, tests and reports, depending on the way each individual field camp is run. Specifically, the other courses demanded are the introductory course, a semester each of Paleontology and structural Geology (deformed rocks), a year of the dreaded Crystallography and a year of 300-level courses. Also one must have calculus and either Chemistry or Physics. Both are recommended, along with Biology, if one is aiming to go into Paleontology. While the college major goes in one year, the Geo major goes in two.

There are several things which make the Bryn Mawr Geology department a strong one. The mineral and fossil collections combine to make one of the largest collections in the country and contain some valuable and fascinating pieces. But what really makes the department what it is is the faculty. At the base of the operations are the two majors, William and Maria Luisa. Maria Luisa, who is the department chairperson, came to Bryn Mawr as a student intending to be a German major. Finding Geology to be more to her taste, she turned to that and has been at it ever since. Her specialty is metamorphic rocks, especially those of British Columbia and the local Wissahickon schist. She met and married William Crawford at grad school in California and married him there. The two currently have a house near campus and have fairly regular departmental parties there which help to bring the whole department closer together. Unfortunately, they will both be on sabbatical next year first semester in Virginia and the replacement has not yet been decided upon. Another component of the Geo department in Mr. Platt, a former Yale math major who teaches Physical Geology. His teaching style can be confusing as he tends to be a bit of a clown to try to keep the attention of the class and he often goes off on tangents during class; nevertheless, once one breaks through his unorthodox teaching style, one learns to like it. Platt himself is a pleasant character with a penchant for puns which seems to be common among Geology people. Mr. Saunders is the Paleontologist whose only interest in life sometimes seems to be nautili and their extinct relatives with which he is a well known specialist. Last semester he spent a month in the Philippines on a research vessel studying nautili. But if one's interests never quite left dinosaurs and other extinct beasts, Saunders' lectures are quite interesting.

A strong teaching staff and the small size of the department make Geology a good major and one I find enjoyable. But then a number of my classmates in 101 thought I had rocks in my head.

Lee Bierkowski