

TO: STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

FROM: STUDENT UNION

RE: END OF THE OPEN ADMISSIONS POLICY

DATE: APRIL 25, 1980

Once again, the Administration has made an arbitrary decision to end the open admissions policy of this campus. The president of this college, Dr. John Maguire, has proved his role as a DICTATOR once more. Without consulting with students and faculty, as it should have done, he implemented this procedure of closed admissions as per last week, April 14, 1980, ignoring any possibility of input by the other constituencies of the college. This is a continuous struggle that goes back into our C.O.W. history.

In the Spring of 1976, the students at the College at Old Westbury executed a strike against administration's attempts to destroy the "mission" of our school. The "mission" of the College at Old Westbury is to provide equal and quality education to the "traditionally bypassed" student, i.e., national minorities, women, older returning students, veterans and working people in general. The formation of C.O.W. and its commitment to the traditionally bypassed was a direct result of the struggles waged by poor and working people, in particular national minorities and women, during the 1960's. In 1977, realizing that the struggle continues, students again began a strike on Monday, April 18. Since our strikes of 1976 and 1977, the administration has failed to work on the implementation of the strike agreements. They have repeatedly blocked the efforts of faculty and students in the implementation of these agreements and in maintaining the mission. In addition, students have been subjected to an escalated campaign directed at destroying the mission of the school!

A proposal of the institution of a pre-admissions test that would effectively close the doors on those students who have problems in skills and who have traditionally been denied access to higher education in this country. Thus, the end of open admissions at Old Westbury.

The President has proposed new admissions and recruitment policies that would drastically reduce the number of black, hispanic and working class white students, as well as reduce the number of lower division and full time students.

Gradual elimination of housing for married couples, including the prohibition of having children allowed into these facilities.

Imposition of a Mandatory Meal Plan.

Elimination of Intersession Housing.

Constant harrassment against the students, by the Public Safety Office and by other departments as well.

Housing and food services are intolerable.

These actions, to name just a few, are in direct contradiction to the mission of the college, to the strike agreements and to human justice. Maguire and his administration's blatant attack on educational opportunities for minorities and working people in general, reaches beyond the scope of the college and into the hearts of our communities since we are all affected by these actions. Thus,

we have taken up the task on informing the communities inside and outside of the college because we need your support. You can aid us in our struggle for our democratic right to equal and quality education. We ask that you express your solidarity with the students in their struggle to defend our mission at the College at Old Westbury.

As students, alone we cannot win - - we need your support

IN UNITY WE WILL HAVE VICTORY !!!!!!!!!!!

LONG LIVE THE RIGHT TO EQUAL AND QUALITY EDUCATION !!!!!

.... The Struggle Continues....La Lucha Continua.....

COME TO THE EMERGENCY INFORMATION MASS MEETING

To be held on Monday April 28, 1980 at the Roof-top Plaza (in front of the Library)

AT 12 NOON