

Students Demand Planning Power

By Martin Buskin

Newsday Education Editor

Oyster Bay—When students were being screened last year for the State University's highly experimental colleges at Old Westbury, they were told that an integral part of their role would be to act as college planners, to help design curriculum and formulate standards for a liberal arts education.

Many of those same students are now engaged in marathon negotiations with the administration over a plan they have devised which would require the complete overhaul of the college. Its key proposal is for massive student power, if not control, since they obviously are dissatisfied with the way Old Westbury has developed in its first year.

The negotiations began yesterday after students ended a five-day sit-in at administrative offices at the school's temporary Oyster Bay campus. The sit-in began after they returned from off-campus projects in New York City and Long Island ghettos and found that what they considered objectionable plans and decisions had been made by the administration in their absence. Here are the students' main proposals:

- A statement of purpose defining Old Westbury as a "college of colleges wherein a creative pluralism of educational ideas can flourish in an atmosphere of mutual respect and constructive criticism . . ."

- Constituent colleges on the campus, which would come into being by first existing for a year as "nascent" colleges. A nascent, or embryonic, college can be created when "any member of the Old Westbury community, faculty, students or administrators, who have an idea which they think offers a good possibility for shaping a constituent college shall be free to think out and realize that idea, given only that they notify the academic council in writing of their intent."

- A budget committee, which would allocate funds to the constituent colleges for hiring of faculty, and would consist of four students, two faculty members and one administrator.

- An admissions council to formulate admission policy, consisting of three students, one administrator, one counselor and one faculty member. One of the policies would be to "bring the ratio of white and non-white students near to parity." The proposal also calls for limiting to 83 the number of students in 1969-70, the same number as this year, although the college is sched-

uled to have a total enrollment of 250 by next year.

While the proposal gives the college president veto power over the decisions of any council or committee, his veto could be overridden by a two-thirds vote of the university community, in which students would have the majority of votes.

At other Long Island and city campuses these developments took place yesterday as a result of previous disorders:

Hofstra—A group of Hofstra University students, white and Negro, who said that they were involved in the melee at the school cafeteria on Tuesday, formed a committee yesterday to help prevent similar disturbances.

The 15 students, who refused to discuss how they were involved, met for six hours and issued a statement saying that "Hofstra students, black and white, involved in the incident in the student cafeteria . . . regret its occurrence and have met to reconcile the differences that may have caused it." The students, meeting of their own accord, said that the committee will "work amicably and deliberately for better student relationships."

Meanwhile, student witnesses to the Hofstra disorders were questioned yesterday by the administration in an attempt to piece together an accurate account of the incident and to identify the instigators.

The campus appeared relatively calm throughout the day. The school's 29-man campus police force was assigned to extra duty and one of the two entrances to the university's north campus, where the incident took place, was closed while campus police checked cars coming in the other entrance to insure that no unauthorized persons came on campus.

Witnesses said that the incident started after four Negro youths questioned a white student in the cafeteria about the origin of a leaflet that had been mailed anonymously to some faculty members and posted on the campus Tuesday. A university spokesman said the origin of the leaflet still was not known yesterday.

About a dozen students were injured, none seriously, in the fighting, which ended after 40 Nassau policemen were called to the campus. Windows were broken and cafeteria furniture, glassware and china also were destroyed in the melee.

C. W. Post—A bomb threat that proved to be false was reported in the
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Newsday Photo by Cliff De Bear

A Hofstra Guard Checks a Car Entering the Campus

Students Insistent

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humanities building at C. W. Post College yesterday, but otherwise the campus was quiet, a Post spokesman said.

The college's dormitories, housing 1,500 of a total of 5,000 day students, were to be closed today because of continuing tension resulting from racial clashes last week. A Negro student charged with the stabbing of a white student in a campus dormitory last Saturday was released yesterday in \$2,000 bail pending grand jury action. The student, Noah Mitchell, 19, of 225 E. 168th St., Bronx, is accused of knifing Jack Abrams, 21, of Fairfield, Conn.

CCNY—Black student and faculty leaders at City College, in a formal reply yesterday to criticism of their demands, ruled out violence for the present and insisted that their goal was to rebuild the university, not to destroy it.

In defending militant demands for a dual admission policy, black student leader Charles Powell, a history major, said: "Violence does not seem to be the answer now. We realize we'll have to work with people in the administration and with the white student body to obtain the just rights to educate our people."

In another development, Acting President Joseph J. Copeland distributed ballots among the voting members of the faculty (about 650 associate and full professors of all ranks) for a referendum on the five black-student demands. The results would be presented to a special meeting of the Board of Higher Education along with recommendations of the faculty senate, the student senate and the president.

Powell, along with Oscar J. Lumpkin, a black professor, issued a statement which reiterated in capsule form the details of a proposal, which has been attacked by Gov. Rockefeller, Mayor Lindsay, most of the New York mayoralty candidates and many City College faculty members.

The most controversial aspect of the five-point plan is a proposal which, if approved by the Board of Higher Education, would create a policy whereby half the students would be accepted on the present basis of academic grades and the other half would be chosen from ghetto schools, without regard to grades, providing that the candidates possess the potential for regular college work.



UPI Radlphoto

MILITARY ESCORT. A student in Tucuman, Argentina, is flanked by two soldiers yesterday after he was arrested for participating in a demonstration. One soldier carries a tear-gas launcher. Students and workers in Argentina have been striking to protest police action and low wages.

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