

*Palmer*

Meeting of the General Committee, Casa María, November 9, 1955

Present: President Bauer, Miss Lamar, Dr. Casby, Mrs. Irizarry, Mrs. Rivera, Dr. Boyd Palmer, Dr. Vélez, Dr. Champlin, Dr. Rios, Mr. Castillo, Mr. Sambolin, Mr. Bower, Miss Hosholder.

Subjects discussed:

I. Proposed buildings

- A. Dr. Bauer reported on his conference with representatives of the Federal Housing Authority who were on the campus a few days earlier.
  1. Money will be available for the construction of two dormitories at a combined cost of \$400,000.
  2. The following additional loans were proposed and met with favorable response:
    - a. \$30,000 for six faculty apartments
    - b. \$26,000 for two faculty houses
    3. \$25,000 for remodeling Harris Hall
  3. It is unlikely that money will be granted for the renovation of Borinquen and Phramer Halls since that would not increase the accommodations.
  4. The proposal concerning a loan for a student center met with favorable response. Several additional services features have been added to the plans.
- B. It was reported that Mrs. R. H. Elliott was sending a contribution to the chapel fund in memory of her late husband as a result of the appeal made in the editorial of the SEPTEMBER POLYGRAPH.

II. Need for promotional literature for distribution in the States and to put in the hands of campus visitors; use of photographs for publicity purposes.

III. Supplementary faculty meetings for the purpose of informing the faculty about the following aspects of the college were proposed by President Bauer:

- A. Finances
- B. Admissions
- C. College program, particularly curricular
- D. Auxiliary enterprises

IV. Proposals for future development arising out of committee discussion

- A. In relation to intensifying the English program, Mrs. Irizarry proposed that the Polytechnic recommend to the Department of Instruction that in the larger high schools students be permitted to choose between instruction in English or Spanish for subject matter courses in which there are several sections.
- B. Opportunities for bi-lingual graduates to make unique contributions of service to under-developed areas of the world.
- C. Possibility of a future experimental or demonstration school. Dr. Rios proposed experiments in bi-lingual education on the elementary level.
- D. Dr. Champlin suggested inviting Puerto Rican educators like Mr. Mario Milán to speak on their proposals for public education in Puerto Rico.
- E. Potential use of certain phases of the college program for demonstration purposes: farm and dairy, teacher training program, religious education. Advantages of the Polytechnic over the UPR in regard to the preparation of rural teachers.

V. Inauguration of President Bauer

- A. Program - Dr. Bauer suggested that the theme for the week inaugural activities might deal with education in Puerto Rico. It could focus on the following:
  1. Puerto Rico's Educational Program
  2. Contributions that the Polytechnic can make

Such a program would render service to the island as a whole and specifically to the Polytechnic Institute. Some of the addresses might be worthy of publication.

B. Organization - A committee composed of Mr. Castillo, Miss Lamar, Mr. Sambolin and Dr. Boyd Palmer proposed the following set up:

1. Central committee
2. Sub-committees on:
  - a. Publicity
  - b. Education (to plan forum and other educational programs)
  - c. Entertainment
  - d. Campus preparation
  - e. Contact
  - f. Invitations, programs, etc.

#### VI. Absence regulations

Dr. Bauer stated that there are existing regulations for attendance at chapel, assembly and Sunday evening services, but they are not well enforced. On November 9 when the lists for chapel-assembly seating were posted, he placed above them a statement to the effect that three cuts would be allowed for the rest of the semester. Excess absences will be added to the cumulated class absences and dealt with in the same way.

#### VII. ROTC

The question was raised as to why we do not have ROTC. Several persons provided information to the effect that the matter has been considered before, but it was found that the program would be too costly to the college, and that now the number of ROTC units is being reduced.