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ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE
Annual Report/1971

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WE REAFFIRM:

Our Dreams, Our Objectives

Dr. Ralph E. Gauvey

A few years ago, when the College's new Bristol campus was hardly more than a gleam in our eyes, I said in my annual report to the College Corporation that only such "big dreams" are worth pursuing.

They provide, in fact, an essential kind of creative nourishment for a young, developing institution like Roger Williams College. Our dreams of what we would do, what we would achieve, what we would intend to be, surround us and inform the growth of our college with purpose.

It is appropriate now, with our dream of a new liberal arts facility impressively realized and a dream for a new professional studies campus beginning to develop, with a student population 10 times what it was a decade ago, and with a faculty and staff similarly expanded, that we reaffirm our commitment to such dreams, and to the objectives which shape them.

THIS YEAR Roger Williams received more federal funds than any other college in Rhode Island in support of its student work/study program. The federal grant of \$161,025 permitted Financial Aid Director Donald S. Desrochers to place more than 475 students in part-time jobs in almost every administrative and faculty department of the College. Roger Williams was one of the first colleges in the state to take advantage of the federal work/study funding, and has developed the work/study concept into an integral part both of its financial aid program for students and the day-to-day operations of the College.

ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE is a pluralistic institution, mirroring the society in which it exists. Without the deep roots of academic tradition to which many older schools are tied, the College is able to reflect in its curricula and teaching methods changing styles and innovative experiments in higher education.

We intend this pluralistic approach to programs to keep our institution sensitive to the contemporary educational needs and life styles not only of our students but of the communities to which the college belongs.

We are committed, for example, to the concept of a metropolitan Rhode Island campus, which will provide Professional Studies programs and maintain liaison with the state's business community, while also undertaking the development of adult education and other programs serving the urban population.

We have been and will continue to be a "teaching" college. Our faculty's first commitment is to the student body, rather than to publishing or research. Nor are we a prep-school for graduate study.

We would be divided in purpose were we to attempt to be, because we are committed to providing college-level educational experiences for a wide range of ability groups, including a

significant number of "high risk" students. Our programs of study, our range of teaching methods, and the teaching and counseling orientation of our faculty members are all designed to open doors to learning successes for those students who have perhaps previously experienced failure.

In the coming decade, we intend to strengthen both elements of our two-campus institution, and to link their separate endeavors with an effective Central Services system providing administrative services to both. We have already begun to develop the Central Services concept and with the continually increasing sophistication of our data processing center we will be better able to provide flexible and imaginitive college management with each passing year.

THE COLLEGE'S second baccalaureate class was graduated in June 1971 during the largest commencement ceremony yet held at Roger Williams Under a brilliant blue sky, some 2,000 guests gathered on the Bristol campus Green to watch the awarding of 174 Bachelor of Science, 172 Bachelor of Arts, and 126 Associate degrees. Guest speaker for the occasion was humorist Art Buchwald.

SEPTEMBER 1971 will see the opening on the Bristol campus of the College's second residence hall, a \$1.7-million structure designed to house 300 students in 150 double rooms. The corridorstyle building, like the first dormitory, has an outstanding location directly overlooking the bay. Capitalizing on the site, architects Kent, Cruise and Partners arranged the fifth and highest floor entirely as a series of lounge areas with views on the water.

ACCREDITATION:

A New Dream, A Measure of Excellence

After a decade of exhilerating growth and diversification, we have arrived at a critical stage in the overall development of Roger Williams College.

We must now realize a new dream, one of deep seriousness to all persons associated with the College and concerned for its future well-being. Our aim is to win full accreditation as a four-year independent college by the New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

The Association voted at its December annual meeting to retain us in the category of "candidate" for accreditation, based on the recommendation of the Com-

mission on Institutions of Higher Education.

This news is, of course, a disappointment to faculty members, staff, and students of the College alike, for many people put a full year of thought and effort into a detailed self-study and re-evaluation of all aspects of the College as part of our formal application for accreditation.

However, I am pleased to be able to report that we subsequently received a letter from the Commission's Director of Evaluation, stating that we may request a reconsideration of our application for accreditation this forthcoming May, an indication to me that we are perhaps not too far off the mark at the present time.

The Evaluation Director also graciously cited in his letter several items which he described as "strengths of Roger Williams College which the Commission hopes will flourish: a challenging, innovative approach to curriculum: trustees and administrators who believe in the goals of the College: a dedicated faculty; and the broad involvement of faculty, staff, and students in the College's development."

I was most gratified by these comments, as they seem to me also to be the enduring values of our institution.

The weaknesses of the College, in the eyes of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, number eight. In order to be granted full accreditation in May we must show "significant progress" toward strength-

ening each of the weak areas. On the accompanying chart (Appendix I) are indicated both the areas of weakness and the all-college "crisis resolution" committees we have set up, each with the specific responsibility for establishing methods and procedures through which necessary changes can be effected.

Each committee, with the exception of the Accreditation Expediting Committee and the Tenure Committee. has student/faculty/administrative representation. The committees have a specific timetable to work by; the timetable allows for public hearings on policy matters, recommendations to the AEC and PAC, revisions, and finally, initiation of proposals for change, all to precede the May meeting of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

All committees except the PAC and the Finance Committee are ad hoc. The PAC was the subject of a permanent organizational change: it was revised last month to include a faculty representative from each campus. It had previously included only the Assistant to the President, the Vice President for Planning, the Dean of Administration and the Deans of the campuses.

Why is accreditation a measure of excellence? Because it renders an outside professional assessment of the merits of the institution, based on what the institution states its merits to be. We have tried to realize a big dream. We have chosen to seek accreditation at the earliest possible date rather than wait the three additional years permitted us as a candidate. We have had the integrity to ask for a judgement on our accomplishments, and I think we are much the stronger for knowing wherein our weaknesses lie.

RESOURCES AND FUNDING:

Dreams For The Future

As I wrote recently in a communication to the parents of our students, only one area of the accreditation report makes me apprehensive, and that is the area of resources and funding. As a young, private institution without a substantial endowment, we must make vigorous efforts in the immediate future to widen our base of support, if we are not to fall into a more and more critical imbalance between income and expenditures, as so many of the country's smaller institutions have already begun to do.

In the next ten years, I would like to see Roger Williams College develop a strong resources framework for the pluralism of its endeavors. This will be a frame-

THIS YEAR a group of 30 Roger Williams juniors are living and studying in London, England, under the auspices of the College's London Theatre Program. Based at an address in the city's West End, the theatre majors are taking courses taught by prominent English theatre professionals, using London's myriad museum and library resources for independent studies, and — as the students themselves report — going to the theatre several times a week. The year abroad also includes a midwinter foray onto the Continent

THIS YEAR the college continues to develop the foreign cultural studies project initiated last year on the island of Sicily. Under the Sicilian Studies program, 20 RWC students will spend the 1972 spring semester on the island, living in the city of Palermo and studying the culture, history and language of the region. Their semester will include a stay with a Sicilian family, field trips and independent study projects on the island, and an excursion to the great cities of the Italian minland

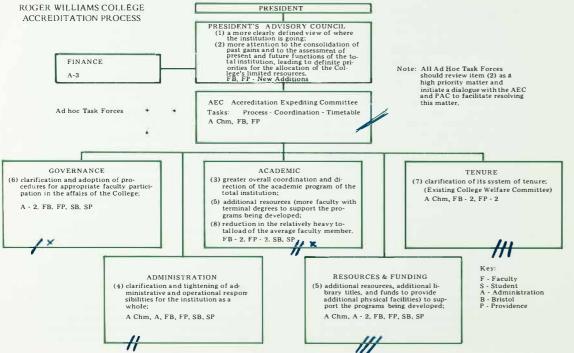
work in which we can develop a new and expanded plant for our urban Professional Studies and evening programs, while at the same time beginning work on Phase II construction at the liberal arts campus. I am specifically thinking of a fine arts building, student center, and larger dining facilities for Bristol.

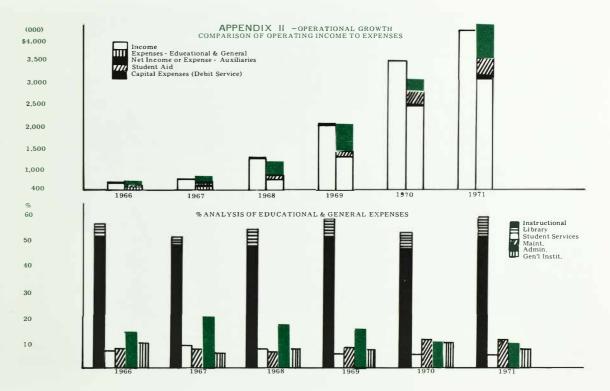
We also need increased library holdings, more laboratory facilities, and more funds for student aid and scholarships.

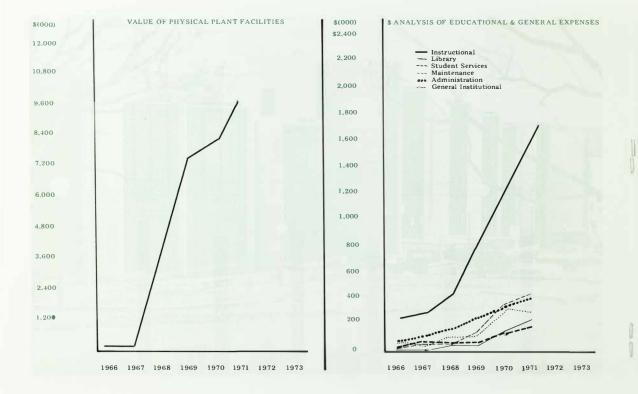
I strongly believe our search for resources for all these developments must not adversely affect the moderate tuition rate which has made this independent college a viable alternative to public education for many students of limited means.

I have greatly appreciated in the past the support of the Roger Williams College Corporation, and I hope I may continue to look to you for counsel and support for a forthcoming financial effort.

APPENDIX I





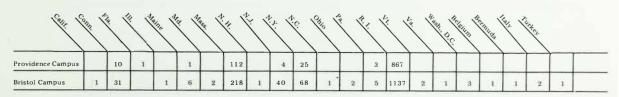


OFFICIAL CLASS ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

	Bristol 19	71 Prov.	Bristol 19	70 Prov.	Bristol 19	1 Prov.	1968 Prov.	1967 Prov.	1966 Prov.
Junior Division	1024	593	1022	640	890	730	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Senior Division	445	423	440	453	405	334	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Unclassified	38	15	77	63	-0-	-0-	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Total by Campus	1507	1031	1539	1156	1295	1064	1540	986	850
Total Day Division	2538		2695		2359		1540	986	850
Total Evening Division	783		803		600		362	112	110

^{*}Not Available

1971 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS



APPENDIX III - STUDENTS

		PROVIDENCE	BRISTOL	TOTAL
Applications Received		591	1371	1962
Deposits Received		242	660	968
	Male	299	446	745
	Female	8	249	257
Students Attending	Totals	307	695	1002
Freshmen	, , , ,	196	495	691
Transfer Students		94	171	265
Re-entering Students		tering Students		46
Veterans		60	53	113

APPENDIX IV

GIFT INCOME REPORT

	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71
Contributions	\$17,137	\$44,549	\$70.125
Donors	38	46	376

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GIFTS BY SOURCES 1970-71

Alumni	\$ 1,395
Corporations	5,511
Foundations	36,435
Friends	8,152
Organizations	6,825
Board of Trustees	10,807
	\$70,125
	Corporations Foundations Friends Organizations

STUDENT AID PROGRAM

National Defense Student Loan \$ 81,900

1970-71

70,300

200,440

321

12%

80,000

\$432,640 \$478,450

1971-72

\$108,067

69,252

230,400

70,731

367

14%

Budget

College Grants in Aid

% of Total Population

Educational Opportunity Grant

College Work-Study Program

Total Students Participating

............

CONTRIBUTING FOUNDATIONS

Blackall Foundation	Foundation X
Chace Foundation	General Electric Foundation
Congdon & Carpenter Foundation	Rhode Island Foundation
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Ford Foundation	S & H Foundation

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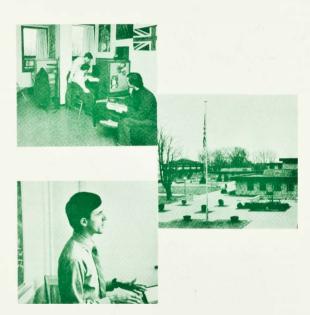
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The Alumni Association is made up of all students who have attended Roger Williams College. Its purpose is to continue the learning experiences through direct participation with the college and its alumni, and communication through publications. Opportunities will be provided for its members to actively participate in the Alumni Association through the Alumni Council, and to continue to be informed for and about the institution through a cooperative effort with administrators, faculty and students.



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