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## TJC Newsletter, Issue 5

Grand Valley State College. Thomas Jefferson College

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# newsletter

Issue #5

Compiled from the Dean's Office, Thomas Jefferson College, GVSC.  
10 May 1974.

Mostly N.A.U.T.E. (pronounced "naughty")... Network for Alternatives  
in Undergraduate and Teacher Education.

## NAUTE ORGANIZATION MEETING

- Phyllis Kramer and Andy Gold represented TJC at the NAUTE conference and returned full of enthusiasm, verve, and ideas, and are ready to go full blast into this venture. They report:
- Campus Free College and the University of Massachusetts are no longer involved in the NAUTE Exchange Program. The remaining schools are Evergreen State College, Johnston College, Prescott College, North Dakota Center for Teaching and Learning, the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay and TJC.
- Phyllis says that the Conference accomplished a lot, and they learned a good deal about the other schools involved.
- Andy says that everyone was enthusiastic and all talked about their particular schools, the curriculums, uniqueness; most brought brochures with them for distribution to all the representatives. A good rapport was established and a considerable amount of discussion on the mechanics of the exchange was held. Each student promised to write a description of his/her school, especially listing its unique features, the curriculum and class schedule listings, as well as recommendations for implementing the program at his/her respective school.
- Following are the impressions Phyllis and Andy gleaned from the schools involved:
  - EVERGREEN COLLEGE (Olympia, Washington: 2200 students, 150 faculty). They have more labs and more physical science courses there, and a curriculum consisting mostly of highly developed thematically centered program offerings, Many of which have time commitments of one year or

- longer. They also seem to be extremely strong in the scientific fields. Students could freely transfer from one program to another to fit changing needs.
- JOHNSTON COLLEGE (University of the Redlands, Redlands, California: 300 students, 25 faculty). They appear to be autonomous and are part of a cluster college, with opportunities for cross-registration with Redlands College. They are strong in humanistic psychology (Gestalt, Psycho-Drama), offer philosophy, parapsychology, community development, international relations. Off-campus programs and internships are available. Johnston College is in the University Without Walls program. There seems to be a lot of opportunity for contract studies or independent study. They have a Townmeeting which includes everyone (faculty, students, and staff), which is empowered to make any decisions -- other than personnel -- by a two-thirds majority.
  - PRESCOTT COLLEGE (Prescott, Arizona: 455 students [250 on campus at the time], 33 faculty). They have a fairly structured first-year program (a de-schooling process), which includes wilderness orientation and a constant emphasis on integration, mental and physical growth. This is required for first-year students. There are excellent opportunities for off-campus studies in anthropology, archaeology, and a Challenge/Discovery Outdoor program. Emphasis is on Environmental Studies. There is also an advanced study program: an involvement program for social action.
  - CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING (University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota: 500 students, 25 faculty) [Elementary Education]. Phyllis and Andy say they got a lot of good vibes from their representatives. The entire program is oriented toward teacher education, within the field of innovative education especially, and it is possibly the best in the country. Anyone especially interested in elementary teaching should find this a great opportunity. They have, also, an American Indian program, in which they go out and teach at the reservation. A very strong sense of a philosophy of education is apparent, and it certainly would produce effective teachers in an innovative environment. They also have a program of traditional education. Field experience is available. People usually go there in their junior and senior years, after they have made a firm commitment to teaching.
  - THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN (Green Bay, Wisconsin: 3600 students, 220 faculty). They have a mission: a new state school for the study of man in his environment, and the improvement of environmental quality through many avenues. There are action programs like the Alternative Sources of Energy and the Mobile Center of Environment (completely student controlled). They were interested in learning extinct languages of the Indians, and have a Communi-versity emphasis. They also have political and traditional theatre. They are very flexible, since people can be traditional or as innovative as they like. No requirements for exchange students.
  - Interestingly enough, Andy said that, although he was inter-

ested in what the other colleges had to offer, and, although it was very tempting, he felt he was in the right school for him: TJC.

- Phyllis and Andy will be our information sources for the NAUTE program. You will find Phyllis in the TJC office as per the posted schedule, or upstairs in the Townmeeting office. Andy says he will be in the office as follows: Mondays, 3:30 to 4:30; Tuesdays, 2:30 to 5:30; and Thursdays, 2:00 to 5:00.
- We have some brochures and catalogues on these schools in the TJC office, and Andy and Phyllis have acquired a considerable amount of material. So, if you want to know, ask them!

[MARY'S CORNER]

FACULTY NOTES

- Lee Kaufman, whom everybody has had to come to at one time or another, is going to be leaving us at the end of the Spring Term. To say we'll miss him is putting it mildly. Somehow TJC won't be the same without him.
- TJC tutor, Jerry Diller has had his book, entitled *Ring Around the Ivory Tower: A Personal Survey of Innovations in Higher Education*, accepted for publication by Nelson-Hall Company Publishers. The book deals with classroom methods of making higher education more relevant to the psychological needs of its students and devotes several chapters specifically to Thomas Jefferson College.
- In his last public appearance in the area before he leaves for England in July, Robert Vas Dias will read from his new poetry at Stage 3 on Saturday, May 11, 1974, at 8:30 PM. Refreshments will be served before and during the reading. Stage 3's address is 101 Campau, NW, Grand Rapids. Admission is \$1.00 at the door.
- Robert is completing his third year as Tutor and Poet-in-Residence at TJC. During the Winter and Spring Terms, he travelled widely in England and Scotland giving readings, and in Wyoming and Michigan as consultant and participating poet in those states' Poets-in-the-Schools Program. This spring he resigned from TJC, effective at the end of the current academic year, to devote himself fully to writing, editing, and reviewing. He will reside with his family in London. His wife, Susan Vas Dias, is a June graduate of William James College, and will continue her studies of psychology in England.
- Robert's most recent book of poetry is *Speech Acts and Happenings*, published in paperback and hardback by Bobbs-Merrill. He has "several other projects" underway, including a new book of his own poetry.
- Ron and Pat Efron ran a workshop, entitled "Whatever Happened to Daddy? The Strengths and Weaknesses of the New Humanistic Family," at the Future Worlds Association Conference, held at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, on March 29 and 30.

TJC STUDENTS, ALUMNI, AND GRADUATES

- David C. Aussicker writes that he thought the last Newsletter was "the best ever." He is presently a graduate student in University Administration at Western Michigan University, and plans to work part-time on his doctorate after obtaining his Masters, hopefully in an administrative position at a college or university. He says that John Erickson (also a TJC graduate) is also at Western Michigan University, along with a good many other TJC alumni. John is completing his work for an M.B.A. in Finance. Dave adds that he would like to see more news on TJC graduates in graduate or professional schools. He also states that if any TJC people are interested in his graduate school program they should feel free to contact him. You can write Dave at 44 West 39th Street, Holland, Michigan.
- NOTE: Dave, we think it is an excellent idea having a special column in the Newsletter on TJC graduates, and we'll certainly incorporate this if we can get the information. So, TJC graduates, let us know what you're doing and how you're doing. We're really interested.
- John Benser, whom I've always dubbed "the irrepressible," will be graduating from TJC this June and happily informs me that he will be a Zookeeper at John Ball Park Zoo. I ascertained that this is a Civil Service job, and he competed against 200 other applicants. Somehow this seems to be right for John. He also will be doing post-graduate work with College IV in Accounting.
- Jacque Vandeguchte, who was teaching in one of the nearby schools, stopped in especially to tell us that she was even more convinced of the salutary effect TJC's learning style had made on her. It seems that due to cutbacks and being one of the last hired she was given a pink slip. Jacque says she was able to take this in stride (unlike some of the others who broke down). She says at TJC she learned to be more self-confident and reliant, and the constant self-evaluation process bred more confidence and poise.
- Betty Ryan is a social worker for the State of Illinois, Department of Child and Family Services. She and David Shuchman are still very much together.
- Carole Schwetz was just awarded a full paid scholarship for eight weeks at Congress of Strings Music School, which is run by the Musicians Union. Every year 120 students are chosen from the entire nation and 60 each are sent to one of two schools. Choices are made through auditions and applications. One school is the Cincinnati Music Conservatory and the other is the California State University in Northridge, California. Carole has promised to give us a report of this experience. In addition, Carole will be giving a concert on the viola, assisted by Francisco Leon at the piano, sponsored by TJC and CAS on May 20, 1974, at 8:30 PM, in Louis Armstrong Theatre. All are welcome.
- Gil Davis (TJC tutor) tells us that Paul Reinhart completed his M.A. in Political Science at Wayne State University, and Doug Myers is finishing his law degree at John Marshall College in Chicago and hopes to come back to the Grand Rapids area to practice law. Also, Margaret Sullivan is working for the United Fund on budget planning.

## EVENTS

- Eastown Street Fair
  - Steven Garwood reports that the second annual Eastown Street Fair at Lake Drive and Wealthy Street in Grand Rapids was a huge success. TJC people took part in this event. Sunny weather and a large crowd of happy people made the Fair a great success. Several TJC people -- Bill Strickland, Bill Gebben, and Rick Tringali -- did well selling ceramics and paintings. The Ananda Marga group raised money selling baked goods. There was good response to the TJC publicity, posters, and printed information. Steven, one of the main organizers of the Fair, extends his thanks to all who helped and came to it.
- TJC Student Poetry Reading
  - Andy Gold wants you to reserve Monday, May 20, at 3:00 for the TJC Student Poetry Reading in the Seidman Lounge.
- TJC Community Arts Center
  - Please note the big write-up (with pictures too) of the TJC Community Arts Center in *Grand Valley Today*, February-March 1974 issue, Volume IV, No. 2. Also included are write-ups of Gilbert Davis and Robert Shechtman, TJC tutors.
- Miha Pogačnik
  - The Benefit Concert by Miha Pogačnik, violinist from Yugoslavia and Fulbright Scholar, was enjoyed by all who attended. Unfortunately, attendance was not too good, but his rendition of Bach's partittas and cantatas on the violin was superb.
- Eurythmics Workshop
  - Truus Geraets, who will be teaching a course in Eurhythmics for TJC in the fall, through the enterprise of two of our students -- Orlando Morales and David Reese -- will donate her time to a workshop on Eurhythmics to be held Tuesday, May 28, from 1:30 to 5:00 PM in the Seidman Lounge. Watch the TJC Gazette and posters for more details.

## GRADUATION

- Remember all you graduates: GVSC Graduation will take place at the Fieldhouse on Saturday, June 8, 1974, at 12:00 noon.
- Rehearsal will be held from 10:00 to 11:00 that day. TJC Graduates Please Be There. Coffee and rolls will be served to graduates and guests. There is no graduation fee this year.
- Tentative plans for the TJC reception indicate that it will be held in the Campus Center Theatre from 1:15 to 2:15 PM.
- Spring graduates will receive their diplomas two weeks following graduation.
- Invitations for graduation can be purchased at the bookstore; they are available now.

## TJC GRADUATION PICNIC

- We're going to have our annual bash. Lets all celebrate the end of the academic year and wish our graduates the best. We're having a picnic at Johnson Park shelterhouse on Friday, May 31, at 5:30 PM. Pizza, beer, and wine will be served,

and there will be lots of music and merrymaking. Graduates are admitted free as our guests, but get your tickets from kaje in the TJC office. All the rest of us pay, but it's a mere \$1.50 for all of it. You must have a ticket to partake, so get your ticket from kaje. No tickets can be purchased at the door. We simply can't plan enough food, etc., that way. So please cooperate and buy your tickets ahead of time, now if possible.

#### PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS

- The Committee on Performing Arts Scholarships has awarded a total of 22 scholarships. Ten of these went to TJC students. Recipients were:
  - Blyth, Philip: Music
  - Cliffer, Jill: Dance
  - McCready, Marian: Photography
  - Meade, Richard: Art
  - Petterson, Robin: Dance
  - Pope, Sam: Art
  - Quaintance, Michael: Dance
  - Strobel, John: Acting
  - Willey, Anne: Art
  - Yanelli, John: Dance
- Awards ranged from \$100 to \$300 and are renewable annually upon continued significant contribution to the artistic life of the college.