

S.I. College Offers 2-Year Degrees

Students who satisfactorily complete the two-year terminal courses in electrical and mechanical technology to be offered by the Staten Island Community College, will be awarded AA and AAS degrees.

The trustees of the State University, at a recent meeting, officially approved the mechanical and electrical technology curricular for the Island college and authorized the award of such degrees—associate in arts, and associate in applied sciences.

These are standard two-year college degrees, created a few years ago and now given by colleges in most states.

THE TRUSTEES of the State University also have established the tuition for students of the college at \$125 a semester, or \$250 a year. The balance of the cost of tuition for each student will be shared equally by the city and state.

The State University's trustees have not yet granted approval for the general education curriculum proposed for the Island college, but are expected to do so shortly.

Students completing the course will be given transfer privileges to other colleges in order to complete their training for a four-year college degree.

The Community College is scheduled to open in September at 50 Bay street, St. George, with an initial enrollment of 200 students.

Wagner Prexy Hails S. I. College OK

Dr. David M. Delo, president of Wagner College, today lauded state approval of a curriculum in general education for the new Staten Island Community College in St. George.

The decision by the board of trustees of the State University of New York, Dr. Delo observed, is for "the benefit of all Staten Island."

"We at Wagner," he commented, "have never opposed the Community College or the curriculum considered for it. With its courses in mechanical and electrical technology as well as general education, we

have felt the Community College would supplement Wagner's offerings.

"There was some misunderstanding recently. Some reports indicated Wagner might be 'fighting' liberal arts courses at the new college. Such was not the case.

"STATE university officials asked me for the possible effects of the Community College on Wagner's registration.

"I answered this question as the facts were at the time: We had to make a study to find out. That was done and there wasn't, nor is there, any conflict."

The Wagner president said he feels student demand and needs call for the Community College as well as for the two existing private colleges (Wagner and Notre Dame).

Island Facing Up To College Needs

By ARLEIGH B. WILLIAMSON
Member, Board of Higher Education

We are witnessing on Staten Island the beginning of tremendous growth in college education of our boys and girls. This growth we share with the entire nation.

Nationwide, within ten to 15 years all colleges will have to accommodate close to twice as many students as today. The increase may be 45 to 75 per cent in our borough.

In preparation for the future deluge the Board of Higher Education and the State University are planning as far ahead as 1970, when they will, most likely, have to educate 45 to 75 per cent more students than in 1956.

Throughout America, only about 25 per cent of high school graduates enter college. In New York State it is 40 per cent; in New York City, 43 — perhaps the highest in America.

Staten Island's percentage is lower than citywide figures, because of more limited college facilities than in the other boroughs.

In the state as a whole, 40 per cent of those who enter college never finish. This roughly leaves in New York 74 percent of high school graduates who do not enter or complete college.

THE QUESTION arises, should a higher proportion of this 74 per cent receive a college education? Are there unfulfilled needs in the professions, industry and business for the skills a college education brings?

The answer is positively yes.

The greatest single need in education today is to provide college training for the great number who start college but never finish, and for a host of others who would enroll if the period were not four years. Their need is for a course of training which has a completed goal, accomplished in a briefer period.

A two-year college education will satisfy the needs of many of these and will give them skills for routine engineering positions. Industry and science have as much place for two-year engineers as for five-year.

FILLING this need is a major

purpose of a community college such as is now being opened on Staten Island. The aim is, in part, to provide an education for thousands of that 74 per cent who never get a college degree by providing them, in two years industrial and scientific skills which might take them ten to 15 years to acquire while working in an industry.

Thus, if by 1970 all the colleges on Staten Island can be educating 2,500 to 3,000 high school graduates, they will be giving the finest possible service to our young men and women.

By 1965 the Staten Island Community College should be educating at least half of a possible 2,500 students. Then, to its original mechanical and electrical technologies, it may have added curricula in business, hotel management, building construction and medical, dental and chemical technologies.

The September, 1956, opening schedule includes a two-year, general education program, the graduates of which will be prepared to enter any of the city—or other—liberal arts colleges for the third and fourth years.

AGAIN, by 1956 it may possibly seem necessary to city and state officials—although this is not a part of the present plans—to expand this general education program to a full four-year liberal arts, pre-professional, and engineering college, like the other city colleges.

The 1970 estimated figure of 3,000 students does not take into consideration a possible growth of population as a result of the new bridge. With a great influx of new residents, a whole campus of new buildings will have to be erected under the leadership of the Board of Higher Education, the State University, or both, to meet the needs of our young people.

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