

RICHMOND TIMES

VOL. 15 No. 8

RICHMOND TIMES/CUNY

FEBRUARY 3, 1975

Book Exchange Cancelled

A Used Book Exchange, that was planned for the Spring semester by the Richmond College Veterans Association, had to be cancelled due to legal technicalities involving the college book store.

The Veterans had planned to take used texts from students who wished to sell them, during the first two weeks in January. A receipt would be issued for each text, and the student could redeem it for cash when the book was sold. Books that were not sold would be returned to their owners.

When the semester began in February, the books would have been put up for sale at half the original cost, plus a thirty cent markup to cover operating costs.

Upon investigation, however, it was found that such a sale of books on campus is illegal. Exclusive rights to all book sales at the college was given to the Booksmith in the last contract they negotiated with RCA, three years ago.

Although the plans for the Spring 75 semester have been scrapped, the Veterans Association is still looking into the possibility of establishing a permanent used-book exchange on campus.

PSC Officers Meet, Volpe Denounced

by Gordon Matheson

The Richmond College chapter of the Professional Staff Congress, the faculty union, held an officers meeting on December 19. Joe Schwartz presided.

Feelings were still running high over the wholesale faculty firings. President Volpe was called a liar. He was cited as representing positive votes received by faculty members at College Personnel and Budget Committee meetings as negative in conversation with other faculty members.

Other evidence offered was Volpe's telling a fired faculty member that he was to be replaced by a senior person, and then telling the department to replace him with a junior person.

Plans were advanced for student-faculty seminars on the

Sweeping Governance Changes Imposed

by Garry Tanner

Students and faculty met as an unofficial body on January 6 to weigh measures imposed by President Volpe and the Board of Higher Education that take sweeping power into the President's domain. The measure, which is only effective until March, almost totally removes elected students from college governance. The meeting was poorly attended and although the need for another Assembly meeting was acknowledged in principle, no date for one was set.

Replacement of the Student-Faculty Assembly by a decidedly smaller Faculty Council, the imposition of associate deans as the "chief academic and administrative officers of each faculty", the dissolution of the interdisciplinary divisional structure into eleven "academic units" and the restructuring of Personnel and Budget organization are the products of negotiations between the Assembly executive committee and the President that were held during the Christmas vacation.

Richmond is now governed by these measures which are a negotiated version of the Board of Higher Education By-Laws because its own interim charter expired on December 31, 1974 and there was no permanent governance charter to take its place. Barry Bressler, Chairman of the executive committee of the Assembly which negotiated with the President stated that this temporary governance

charter meant a radically altered situation and that the permanent charter which will be written beginning in March also will contain fundamental alterations of Richmond.

But Bressler would not say that President Volpe got what he wanted. Professor Flo Parkinson disagreed with Bressler and described the measure that was delivered the day of the



Prof. Ecrument Ozizmir

Assembly as a "fait accompli (an accomplished fact, referring to Volpe's one-sided success)". She said: "Among other things this means severely cutting back student representation." Later she cautioned: "I'm afraid we are going to sit back and knuckle under."

President Volpe evidently informed the executive committee when their December negotiations ended that

Richmond could have an extension of their current interim governance until January 27 when the Board of Higher Education met. But to their surprise the Assembly found out on January 6 that President Volpe had been "erroneously informed" of the extension by the Board of Higher Education.

Under the section of the document "Academic Structure and Governance" of January 3 entitled "Student Representation" it is explained, "The Bylaws make no provision for student representation." The committee and the President requested of the Board of Higher Education these modifications that "there may be one student representative on a unit Personnel and Budget Committee", that "the College Personnel and Budget committee shall include the President of Student Government" and that "Student representation on Standing Committees (the Curriculum and Instruction Committee, the Search and Evaluation Committee etc.) shall be determined by the Faculty Council."

A contingent of students informed President Volpe on January 9 that what has been conceded to students as representation on Governance committees is totally unacceptable to them and that they would oppose it.

"The overall effect is to negate any student representation," charged Richmond College Association Chairman Tom Whittman. "The Personnel and Budget

Committee representative being the President of Student Government will be presented with an impossible work load to carry out the prescribed task. I feel that students should safeguard their rights to meaningful representation within any college governance plan. This temporary governance should not be accepted."

The four new "Faculties" under which the eleven new units are grouped will probably be one of the provisions of this temporary governance that will become permanent. The "Faculties" are Humanities, Educational Studies Pure and Applied Sciences and Social Sciences. Said former chairman of the now defunct Pure and Applied Sciences Division Ercument Ozizmir, "When you have departmentalization people may stop cooperating. They start to see their own self interest."

"As I have tried to explain," said President Volpe in his December 16 speech to the Assembly, "I am convinced that the attempt to make divisions (Humanities, Pure and Applied Sciences etc.) function as departments has proved unsuccessful as the college has grown."

As of January 3, 1975 four associate deans (Dean of Faculties Shugrue temporarily included until one more associate dean is hired) become the chief academic and administrative officers of each faculty (the "faculty"

continued on page 4

Grievance Committee Dissolved?

by Barry Aylward

In an interview with Mr. Donald Loggins, who at present is the only student member of the committee, it was revealed that there is at least a medium possibility that the Student Grievance Committee will be discontinued under the new college governance plan, along with a number of other committees.

According to the "Student Handbook Supplement of Richmond College 1970-1971"

the matter.

Those present in addition to Schwartz were Robin Carey, Dan Kramer, Lenny Quart, George Cox, Al Auster, Bea Mayes, and Paul Nelson.

see page 2 for official position

(This is the latest edition of the white-cover handbook) the Student-Faculty Grievance Committee exists as the judicial branch of student government. The handbook says that the committee is involved in settling disputes over the constitutionality of student government legislation, bylaws, club rules, regulations and elections. The committee is further involved in settling disputes concerning Student Government, chartered organizations, student government officials, students, faculty, administrative staff and student disciplinary problems. The committee, theoretically, is composed of three faculty members, three student members and a student chairperson who acts as a tie-breaker. At the present, two student positions and the

student chairperson position are vacant. It is not known if the decision of the committee on a case is binding since it has never been tested. In other words the Grievance Committee acts as a type of courtroom where college-related disputes may be resolved.

Mr. Loggins heard of this possible disbandment at a student council meeting. President Volpe is involved in devising the new college governance plan, under which the Grievance Committee may possibly be discontinued. However, the future status of the committee is uncertain.

Mr. Loggins speculated that since the committee has some power yet costs the school nothing, President Volpe may possibly wish to disband the committee for "political" continued on page 4

PSC Questions: Who Does Volpe Serve?

As a result of fundamental changes that have been announced by the new Richmond Administration in personnel, curriculum and governance the Professional Staff Congress/Richmond has found it necessary to summarize their position on these matters. The paper, which the executive committee of the PSC/Richmond authorized Lenny Quart and Joe Schwartz to draft, is titled "Richmond PSC Position Paper #1, The Current Situation at Richmond".

"It is a review of what has been accomplished so far," commented Joe Schwartz. "It should map out a path for next year. And we hope it will translate into action."

The first paragraph of the position paper an introduction contains a summary of President Volpe's overall strategy. It states, "We see the President's overall strategy as one of gaining increasing institutional control at the expense of faculty-student self-governance. The fact that Richmond has been divided in the past is only an excuse, in our view, for the President to assume arbitrary powers and to stifle opposition with firings and the publish and perish syndrome." Schwartz added, "Volpe hopes that the Faculty Council will be divided and unable to function productively and then he will institute an even more repressive governance."

The first section of the paper is entitled, "What Volpe did last semester". This section reviews the actions that the President has made since he began here in July 1974. They indicate an

antagonistic relationship between the union and the administration. This section contains the following:

"In his six months at Richmond he has done the following. He has appointed a Dean of Faculties over the opposition of the faculty-student search Committee; he has fired 50% of those up for tenure; he has systematically selected lecturers and third world people for firing and he has tried to force through a governance that would undermine faculty-student participation in the critical affairs of the college (curriculum and personnel). In addition he has repeatedly excoriated Richmond's functioning both verbally and in writing, and he has twice implicitly and explicitly threatened the school by intimating the Board of Higher Education would close Richmond College down if it did not follow his Master Plan. The emotional quality of the attacks and the fear that has been created among the faculty by the firings tend to obscure the rationality of his actions. It also tends to personalize our opposition losing our perspective on whose behest Volpe serves.

Finally what Volpe hasn't done is to present us with concrete program or curriculum ideas. His activities are entirely devoted to securing Administrative control of the college. Order, efficiency, hierarchy, credentials are the key words and values which underlie his purpose—but no hint of anything substantive has been revealed."

The second section of the

paper claims that the Richmond faculty has made a strong stand during the last six months in dealings with the administration. Further, it points to isolation that has grown around the President and it claims that there are very few people on whom Volpe can rely for advice now. It states that,

"Beginning with the College's response to the threat of Associate Deans, faculty and students have maintained a disciplined and coherent position in the face of the President's attacks and proposals. Two major critical resolutions have passed the Assembly by 3-1 margins (4-1 not counting abstentions) the college P&B has protested Volpe's decisions to the Board, and the Assembly Executive Committee has shown great strength and good tactical sense in preventing Volpe from shoving his governance proposal down our throats. The meeting of the Full Professors and the meeting of the Humanities division have also demonstrated that the faculty will not passively acquiesce to his proposals. Volpe is forced to rely on Kleinman, Wells, and Shugrue, all outsiders, because he is unable to recruit any form of organized, visible support from within the college. We have won a victory in forcing Volpe to separate academic structure from governance and we have made it as difficult as possible for him to arbitrarily fire our colleagues. It has been estimated that 10 jobs have been saved by militant faculty-student response to the initial firings."

"This has taken great effort.

It requires us to act collectively and to resist divisive appeals to our "professionalism." There is still too much cynicism and defeatism in impotent shrugging of the shoulders or weary talk of forces that can't be fought which is a tacit collaboration with those who hold power. There are not enough active people and most of the work has fallen on a few who are either taking great risks (if untenured) or are sacrificing their own scholarly work and teaching. The faculty is still too often divided and takes comfort from the fact that the President has managed to fire someone from each clique so everyone can agree with at least one firing. Group II faculty, who were the most easily scapegoated have borne the brunt of it, and the Latin faculty has been abolished. A student strike received only moderate faculty support. These are weaknesses that undermine collective action, and need discussion and attention during the next few months, if we are to maintain a viable form of self-governance.

The final section of the paper is almost completely directed at the faculty but it contains some warnings for the future. It warns of a shift from liberal arts to vocationalism.

And in its conclusion it acknowledges the complexity of the problems that the City University is faced with. But it calls on faculty to clearly see their own interests, to get past the ambiguity that they feel about some issues and to start to work on these issues.

"The whole direction of

Richmond is likely to be subject to change from liberal arts to one form of vocationalism or another. It will be the responsibility of the curriculum committee and the whole college faculty to make certain that the new programs do not transform Richmond College into purely a training ground for careers in lower management and civil service bureaucracy.

"There is no denying the fact that the situation at Richmond College is complex and that there are possibly some people that should be fired and that there were tensions dissipated in factional strife. Our training allows us to see the Administration's point of view, while we are at the same time only too conscious of the limits of our own position. Of course the Administration itself never luxuriates in ambiguity—its positions and power are quite clear. We, in turn must also become clear and simple about our position. We're faculty—our interests differ from the Administration's—we must maintain our power over curriculum and personnel decisions. At a time when the country may be entering a full scale depression, when the universities are operating in a scarcity economy and a buyer's market—we must protect our jobs and our rights.

The union can work in concert with the Administration on a number of issues, but it cannot forget that our present relationship is an adversary one at Richmond and faculty members must choose one side or the other."

CUNY Conference Looks at Student Rights

by Eric Bahrt

What can we as students do to ensure our civil liberties and academic freedoms? That was the general topic which was discussed at the Student Legal Rights Conference which met on November 8th at the International Hotel at Kennedy Airport. The conference, which consisted of over 250 students from 32 states, was set up by the University Student Senate at City University.

Some of the specific reforms that were called for were as follows; 1) A student before starting class should know on what basis he'll be graded; 2) If a student can prove before a small claims court that the teacher didn't cover the course as described in the catalogue he should be able to have his tuition fee returned; and 3) the implementation of a new code of conduct. The problem there was that since different moral standards exist in different areas of the country it would be somewhat difficult to draw up a code of conduct that would be as acceptable to a student in the Mid-West as it would be to a student in New York. That is why it was suggested at the conference that students of each individual college should be allowed to draw up their own campus code.

Another reform that was called for at the conference was a group legal insurance program.

Under state law the students are not entitled to this insurance and there is a student movement to challenge that law. The students want an "open panel plan" which would mean that the insured could go to any lawyer of his choice for legal aid.

Another issue brought up was academic freedom. Quoting from the CUNY paper: "Chip Berlet, Editor of N.S.A. magazine, reviewed recent litigation involving censorship of the student press. On the whole he found that the press of a public university has the same rights and freedoms as the outside press, although this did not always hold true for private universities." Last year State Senator John Marchi was trying to push through a bill which could have destroyed every city college paper in New York. As a reflection of that the threat to academic freedom in our colleges is indeed a very real one.

Also discussed at the conference was the possibility of reforming the Buckley Amendment. The amendment gives students the right to see the files which the colleges have kept on them. But what about letters of recommendation, or psychiatric files? Should a student be able to have access to them? The students at the conference concluded that that was something that should be further looked into.

Right now there are plans to have another such conference

out on the West Coast in late spring. While Ms Gilbert explained that it will basically be run by people on the West Coast, CUNY is helping them set it up and will probably supply them with some workshop leaders.

As a result of the conference CUNY has now hired a lawyer to look into the possibility of having a new insurance plan. A student at the college can now become a "lay advocate". He can be trained how to deal with simple legal procedure or how to read over a landlord's lease.

Since the conference, the students have fought for a new set of disciplinary rules. A student law has just passed the Council of Presidents which grants the student the right to legal council in the event that he be brought before the deans for disciplinary action. Furthermore no files can be used against him unless they have direct bearing on the case. And since he'll now have a lawyer he will have somebody who is qualified to determine if the files do bear any relevance to the case.

They are also looking into an incident at the University of Texas, in which the college papers were shredded and the editor was fired because an article critical of its president had been published.

But what seemed of great interest to the conferees was the idea of a student taking an incompetent teacher to small

PALO Charges Administrative Racism

There has been considerable campus discussion on the status or fate of the Puerto Rican and Latin American Institute at Richmond College. The following statement was written by members of P.A.L.O. (Puerto Rican and Latin American Organization).

Its purpose is to publicly inform the student body, faculty members, college administrators, and the general Richmond community as to why, the Latin communities efforts at Richmond College, have been hindered in organizing an active,

claims court and getting his money back. While such an idea may seem a bit ambitious such a case is actually occurring right now in Massachusetts. The student took the teacher to court three weeks ago and students are waiting anxiously to find out that the final ruling will be. If the students win the case, it'll be a milestone and it'll be interesting to see how many other students will follow suit.

What the conference proved is that while the bureaucracy is cold and sterile, it is not totally immobile. It can be moved. But will future conferences continue to bring about more reform? Or were these reforms just token gestures by the administration? To answer such a question would probably be premature.

viable, and community oriented Institute.

The content of this statement, is a classical example of how an educational institution functions to perpetuate or produce obstacles, which undermine the educational and social efforts of students, faculty, and minority group members, in an institution of higher learning. It should be understood to all who are concerned, that the negativistic consequences which the Puerto Rican and Latin American Institute incurred, are not exclusive. Rather, that the same can happen to any college program, institute, or club.

Racism manifests itself in different forms. Whether it be in its more blatant or subtle aspect, it nevertheless contributes to the victimization of a people. Here at Richmond College the less visible covert forms of racism operate in ways as to undermine any efforts our education and intellectual pursuits. It is this institution's responsibility to provide academic and professional training, and intellectual atmosphere and badly needed employment. To us all, the aforementioned are essentially related. However, leading bodies or highly placed

continued on page 4

Carter and Nixon: Justice Needs Redefining

by Eric Bahrt

Richard Nixon was found guilty of trying to subvert the United States government. Richard Nixon was let off scott free. Richard Nixon is white.

Rubin Carter was very obviously framed up on a murder rap and yet Rubin Carter is still withering asway in jail. Rubin Carter is black.

John Dean, who was the star witness against Nixon, was discredited as a witness by many people because of his unsavory reputation. Had it not been for the tapes Nixon would never have been removed, though Dean told the truth.

The two star witnesses against Carter were criminals themselves, yet the jury took their words at face value and found Carter guilty, though the witnesses had lied.

John Dean was promised nothing in return for the truth and subsequently he was sent to jail.

The two witnesses against Carter were promised softer sentences in return for their perjury. They have already signed affidavits admitting that they deliberately framed Carter for that reason.

When Ford pardoned Nixon he expressed concern for the former president's health.

Rubin Carter, who was once one of the most ferocious prize fighters in the business is by now partially blind and deaf. He attributes his blindness in one eye to the poor medical facilities which were available to him in jail.

Ford expressed concern for Nixon's family. Rubin Carter, unlike Nixon, doesn't have two grown married daughters, instead he has an eleven year old girl who hasn't been with her father since she was three. And though Carter, unlike Nixon, is an innocent man nobody could care less about his health or family.

President Ford had wanted congress to give Nixon an unprecedented \$850,000 a year as a reward for being America's number 1 criminal. At the time Carter was arrested he had just signed a contract to fight Dick Tiger for the championship. I wonder if Ford will recommend that he be given hundreds of thousands of dollars in back pay for the money that he would have been making had he not been arrested. Fat chance!

And despite the fact that the witnesses against Carter admitted that they lied (and their testimony was the core of the prosecutions case) the judge has refused to even give Carter another trial. Carter believes it could take another year before that judge could be overruled. Then if would take even more time for the trial to proceed and ultimately come to a conclusion. Who knows? By that time Carter may be totally blind and deaf.

When Ford pardoned Nixon he said he did it out of compassion. But when men like Ford talk about compassion the word is merely a euphemism for doing special favors for special friends. And of course the limitations of Ford's compassion are well manifested when it comes to pardoning marijuana smokers or draft evaders. Ford's amnesty program was such a disgraceful farce that the overwhelming majority of draft evaders have totally rejected it. Ford's amnesty proposals were nothing but camouflaged punishment.

Still, at this point, I wouldn't go as far as saying that Ford should pardon Carter. Since it is only 99% certain that Carter is innocent he should be immediately granted another trial and unless the prosecution can come up with something really spectacular he should be exonerated as soon as humanly possible.

In the mean time I think it would be a terrific idea if Ford would go down to the prison that Carter is at, or go to Attica, or go to San Quinten, or go down to the ghettos where human beings in the richest country in the world live like caged animals, or go to an Indian reservation where the average life span is 42 years, and tell all these people what compassion and humanity and legal justice in America are all about. You should tell them President Ford how you pardoned Nixon because you are such a kind, merciful man while these people are given no kindness and no mercy. Of course Ford wouldn't do that. He wouldn't have the balls.

And so Nixon is free. Carter is in jail. And the beat goes on . . .

RICHMOND TIMES

editor-in-chief Donna Dietrich
news editor Garry Tanner
associate editor Paul Nelson
secretary Deia Capella
managing editor Bernard Roach

Eric Bahrt, Tom Wilcox, Barry Aylward,
Al DiGuilio, Gordon Matheson

The Richmond Times is a bi-weekly newspaper and is published by and for the students of Richmond College, located at 130 Stuyvesant Place, Staten Island, New York 10301. The opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board or the college. Telephone: (212) 448-6141, Circulation: 3000.

Richmond's Year Reviewed

by Paul Nelson

The normal New Year's Eve celebration in this neck of the woods—perhaps because on our calendar it falls during the post-Christmas depression, far from the promises of spring—embodies two functions: to wipe out the old year as effectively as possible, and to resolve never to do it again, which applies both to the old year itself and to our methods of obliteration.

In beginning a new semester, however, we have no such luxuries—we would be hard pressed to forget the atrocities

of the past year at Richmond, because they face us more starkly every day; and simple resolutions, as the abolished Faculty-Student Assembly found, do not remove evils.

No one has suggested a "New Term's Eve Party", unless it is the administration.

For those of us who are new to the school, or who have not yet caught up on all the action, the following is a brief chronology of the past year in the destruction of Richmond College:

***Sept. 1973—financial aid at Richmond cut by a reported

54%, highest cut in the City University.

***Dec. 1973—Edmond Volpe appointed permanent president of Richmond College by Board of Higher Education over unanimous objections of Richmond Search Committee and Faculty Student Assembly. Objections based on fraudulent lack of due input, Volpe's reputation as administrative hatchet-man at City College, and fear that the ethnic rationale used in choosing him meant future attempt to pit the college against the community, in order to transform the school against faculty-student wishes.

***1973-1974—On the parts of acting President Touster and Dean of Faculties George Odian, continuous refrain that the school would have to begin making "hard decisions"—i.e., budget cuts, firing of faculty, new "academic" "Master Plan"—to make Richmond "more productive" in today's economy. Also, first open threats to close the college, if "acceptable" changes not soon forthcoming, without opposition. Official Curriculum Committee not allowed to meet for three months, bypassed by special "Master Plan" committees set up by Touster. Attempts to fire Profs. Tarjan and Katz on fraudulent grounds narrowly defeated at end of spring. All tenure decisions (normally decided in spring semester) deliberately postponed to fall. Faculty requested to postpone referendum on new governance (organization of the college) until new president is in office.

***Feb. 1974—Administration raises cut-off size for registration, tripling number of overcrowded classes compared to previous year (e.g. 48 in a room at McKee High School designed for thirty-two younger students).

***Summer, 1974—Michael Shugure, formerly accepted as "personal assistant" to President Volpe over unanimous objections of faculty-student search committee based on lack of scholarship and teaching experience, and close (administrative cronyism) ties to Volpe, after numerous guarantees not to do so.

***Sept. 1974—New administration cancels some 15% of all classes before registration figures are completed? rationalizes process for spring semester by refusing to offer courses in first place.

***Oct., 1974—firing of half

continued on page 4

Summore Slander

by Rock Zito

Your roving reporter is on the scene again. Ready for a little slander? I have been informed by the Registrar's Office that the Deans' List concept is being abandoned here at Richmond. It seems that there are now so many Deans that there is no more room on the list for students. So it goes . . . A memo from Dr. Volpe's office has confirmed that Tom Heywood does not exist . . .

Would you believe that the Richmond Times has finally begun to print a quality newspaper? To top that we have it on good authority that it is beginning to turn up in some of the better homes on Staten Island . . .

If decorations were traditional on the College scene I'm sure that our faculty would qualify for the Medal of Honor. Their courage in the face of danger has been astounding. Did you know that they voted not to penalize students who participated in the strike? Bravery of this caliber should not go unrewarded . . .

Revolving door department. Seems as though a fellow named DeLuca worked here at Richmond for about 15 minutes. He was last seen riding the bureaucratic railroad to places unknown. Some people on the ninth floor got together and chipped in for his ticket. (He was to have been in charge of fund raising and Alumni) Nice work boys . . .

Because of the overwhelming success of Woman's Day here at the College, it has been suggested that a Mens' Day be held also. Wally Grunt, chariperson of the "I'm proud to have a penis" committee filled me in on some of the activities. There will be a slide show of the whores of the world to be followed by a lecture entitled, "They all look the same when you turn them upside down." The days activities will then culminate in a ritual circle jerk to be held in the student lounge. Sign up now in the third floor mens room . . .

Did you know that while faculty and staff are being fired to save money this school spent \$18,000 on the floor for the Multi Purpose Room? Something is a little strange about this . . .

Let me leave you with a thought overheard at the last Student Government meeting: "Would you buy a Klein, man?"

LETTERS

Editor,

It is totally inconsiderate of the administration to have planned the library hours for such a short duration during the Christmas vacation. In planning the only library hours from 9 to 5 on only Thursdays and Fridays for the period from December 21 until January 5, they have decided to ignore the needs of the entire graduate school (as well as some undergrads).

It seems quite strange that the one school in CUNY that has the foresight to plan graduate courses from 4:40 and later in order to accommodate working graduate students, then proceeds to ignore the needs of these students when it comes to vacation library hours.

With examinations and end-term papers due shortly after the vacation, the chosen library hours literally exclude the graduate student. Those who are working at full-time jobs from 9 to 5 cannot possibly make those hours. Other CUNY branches such as Brooklyn College have had more foresight in planning their library hours. I was just shocked when I learned I would not be able to use the books reserved for my course over the vacation. Another kudo for administrative planning.

Frank Levey

Work in Women's Self-Help Center

Women's Self-Help is accepting applicants for a paid staff person. Qualifications: Post-June graduate eligible for work study, interest in health, feminist tendencies. Low pay, long hours, lots of grief, and your own office key.

Drop by Room 420 or call 273-0287.

The RICHMOND HISTORIAN Begins Publication

The Richmond College Graduate History Association announces that it is in the process of editing and publishing *The Richmond Historian*, a historical journal. The purpose of this journal is to bring into print literate articles, essays, and reviews that would be publishable in any respectable historical journal. Therefore, everyone, regardless of student standing or major field is invited to submit articles for publication.

Notification of intent to submit articles should be received by the second week in January; all articles must be submitted by the last week in January. Articles should be limited in size according to the following specifications: full-length articles — 20-25 double spaced typewritten pages (5000-7000 words), interpretive articles — 2000-3000 words, review essays — 1500 words, book reviews — 400 words.

The editorial board cannot accept responsibility for manuscripts sent to us for consideration, however, every effort will be made to return them. For further information on submissions please contact Joe Vuolo in Room 811.

The Editorial Board

Howard Duchan, Michael Fogerty, Gordon Matheson, George McGovern, Paul Nelson, James RAichle, and Joe Vuolo.

Grievance

continued from page 1

reasons." This is only speculation. Mr. Loggins went on to say that the disbandment of the committee would mean that students would lose their input into the college's judicial process. In that case judicial decisions would be effected by the college president and the deans.

At the present time, since most students are unaware of the Grievance Committee's existence, only two or three cases reach the committee each year. The Grievance Committee may be contacted through the secretary (Donna Brogna) in the student government office on the fourth floor. Students wishing to obtain further information about the committee and student government in general may peruse the "Student Handbook Supplement of Richmond College 1970-1971."

Richmond's Year

continued from page 3

the faculty (adjuncts) in Women's Studies Dept., plus word of plans to eliminate Latin-American Studies, lead to mass meetings of students, several confrontations with Volpe, and some picketing.

***Nov. 4, 1974—Volpe fires half of faculty eligible for tenure (8), seven of these against the recommendations of the college Personnel and Budget Committee; publicly declares faculty incompetent to make any valid policy decisions for school (not to mention students).

***Nov.-Dec. 1974—Ten more regular faculty fired, including all Latin-American teachers, large number from sociology and Integrated Studies, Tarjen and Katz for second year in a row, and the professor in African-American studies with the highest academic credentials in the program. Major damage also done to programs in history, psychology and engineering.

***Nov. 25, 1974—Students call strike against firing of teachers and destruction of programs, which lasts three days; Faculty-Student Assembly condemns firings as "discriminatory and illegal," supports strike, vows further action if firings not reversed.

***December 16, 1974—Volpe, in further attack on competence of faculty ("I could do the easy thing and be a popular president") announces plans to abolish present governance of college (including Assembly P&B Committee, student elected committee members, etc.), to reorganize around senior, tenured faculty, and to place Associate Deans in charge of restructured Divisions. Assembly votes total non-acceptance of new governance.

***Jan. 6, 1975—Volpe announces college has reverted to the By-Laws of the Board (i.e. abolishes faculty-student governance), including breaking the school into eleven departments. Assembly (which no longer officially exists) meets, generally hostile, but no decisive action taken as yet.

***No doubt many of us could add considerable details and examples, such as the "Lecturers," whose very title seems to guarantee they'll be fired; the ex-student of the incident (alterantive Junior High School abolished last September.); or those in the crippled Medical Technology Program. The Times will

Governance

continued from page 1

corresponds closely to the defunct division in this respect)." This completely contradicts a promise made to the faculty by Volpe on June 27, 1974 that, "The current academic structure does now allow for deans of divisions and it requires that chairpersons work directly with the Dean of Faculties on matters of personnel and budgeting. Unless the current academic structure is altered by the governing body of the college, it will remain in effect; the associate deans will not function as divisional deans."

"The only choice we as students and faculty have to deal with this is total non-compliance," said Paul Nelson, student representative to the now defunct Personnel and Budget Committee and current Richmond representative to the University Student Senate.

welcome letters on such issues.

In the meantime, of course, the city has announced a series of budget cuts affecting the whole of CUNY, with at least \$160,000 to come out of this year's Richmond budget, mandated but unspecified additional firings (for the first time, all adjuncts were given formal termination notes this year, though some will be rehired in the spring), and much more drastic cuts expected in the near future. This, in turn, has led to the first unified CUNY-wide opposition to the cutbacks, presently organized around the University Student Senate.

In early December the Senate—in former years a very quiet group of would-be politicians, with close ties to the Board and the college presidents—called a joint cutback-protest demonstration with the faculty union (Professional Staff Congress) at City Hall. This was attended by 7-10,000, with very large representation from the community colleges, which face the worst cuts. The large turn-out lent visible support, at the next Senate meeting in December, to a proposal from the student government president at Bronx Community College, Ari Garcia, that the Senate itself—through an open sub-committee—actively organize to stop any cutbacks in CUNY (or other city services) whatsoever. The proposal, beginning with a review of the damage cutbacks are already doing to almost everyone in CUNY, students, faculty and staff alike, and emphasizing the specifically racist effects the cuts will have, goes on to present an escalating plan of action, leading if necessary to a one-day city-wide shut-down of CUNY and affected City agencies, and beyond that to a general strike with the city's unions.

The sub-committee has been meeting now for six weeks. The first action taken was a city-wide protest at the open Board of Higher Ed. meeting of January 27, again co-sponsored by the PSC.

Of more long-range importance is the all-day CUNY-wide Conference on Fighting the Cutbacks, to be held at Hunter College on Monday, February 17. The planning committee for this Conference, with representatives from fifteen of the CUNY branches thus far, has been meeting twice weekly since early

continued from page 2

individuals at Richmond, have the power to penalize and to reward those individuals who are either enrolled or employed here.

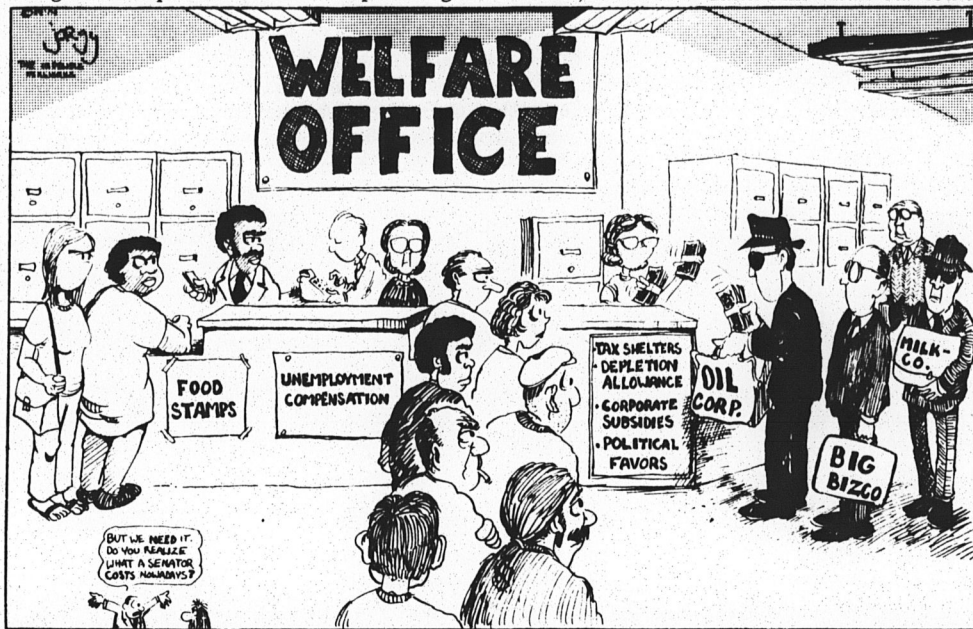
The hierarchical and bureaucratically administered structure of Richmond College operates in such a way that it lends support to the role of leading bodies and officials. Consequently, it provides essential career opportunities for some of us, while barring many of us from a more meaningful learning experience. Therefore, the results of institutional racism are that we are deprived of badly needed training, skills, self-respect, self-confidence and essential moral support. The preceding consequences are

PALO Charges Racism

people, who are the most materially impoverished group in the metropolitan area. In other words, the administration is more preoccupied with the appearance of institutional support than with its substance. In addition, this institution has a past history of covert racist practices, exposing further its lack of support towards us. That is, administrators rarely extended themselves to contribute helpful suggestions, point out areas of reinforcement, or provide badly needed resources. Our repeated requests for a recruiter, were either ignored or dismissed. Our curriculum proposals were scrutinized in the most nitpicking manner, while

our constituency, and our major and official student support, La Asociación organization. With no alternative, we were forced to move and share our office with La Asociacion.

This forced upon us the loss of both Institute and student autonomy. The requisite distance between students and faculty was erased. Consequently, normal healthy differences turned into irreconcilable antagonism. Without the necessary facilities, administrative assistantships, student aides, and supplies, the Institute could at best serve as a mere display of institutional support for our efforts to develop a Puerto Rican and Latin American curriculum. The



institutionally dictatorial in that, we have been denied any significant say over what happens to us. All decisions made thus far, have been autonomous, and at the discretion of this institution.

Not long ago, a few of us and a program in principle, were put on display in order to preserve and to perpetuate the myth of equal opportunity and the much touted ideology of the "search for truth." Our concern then, is not so much with the limits of objective studies into racism, poverty, violence, etc., but with the pernicious effects of the elimination of our program, the firing of all Puerto Rican faculty—Professors Tony Garcia and Roy Herrera. Also, the attempts by the administration to factionalize and to pit Latin against Latin, in such ways as to have deleterious consequences on the moral and intellectual commitments of individuals to a

channels for the mutual development of our Institute were gradually and inexorably closed to us. It vigorously opposed the appointment and later, the hiring of a director for our Institute. Our former director Richard Perez, was denied the same status on the college P and B that was accorded his counterpart of the African-American Institute. After a number of acrimonious exchanges with leading college officials, Mr. Perez was given observer status at P and B proceedings. Stripped of a vote and reduced to the position of a spectator, disillusionment and demoralization was engendered in a number of us, particularly the faculty members who made attempts to develop an institute. Well into 1972, our request for an office in the main building was denied. Office space was finally allocated to us, but it was far away from the main building,

rejection of Mr. Perez's proposal led him to resign and take a full-time teaching position at Brooklyn College. This left us with an open line that the administration refused to fill until it was too late to accomplish anything. The Institute was a name only in the face of active indifference to the fate of Puerto Rican and Latin students, and faculty members of Richmond College.

Our concern is an urgent one. We must preserve a program in such a way that we have a significant say in its development. Our professors must be reinstated. We must develop a recruitment program of students that will encompass communities in Manhattan, Brooklyn as well as Staten Island.

Prepared by Angel Diaz
Aurelia Weatherburn
Evelyn Quiles
Freddy Dihz
Pablo Suarez
Tony Garcia

January, and a rough outline is ready. Based on some thirteen workshops, which will detail both the major effects of the cutbacks and various plans of fighting them, and followed by a plenary session to vote on major resolutions, the aim of the Conference is to involve massive participation and discussion, to encourage students and faculty from every area of the University to go back to their campus and lead fights against all aspects of the budget and related cuts, and to turn these local fights into one that is closely organized CUNY-wide. Specific plans expected to come out of the Conference range from legislative proposals for increased funding to a specific date for the one-day CUNY shut-down.

For the faculty and students

of Richmond this is about the best news we've had in a long time. While the effects of finings, cutbacks, program changes and so on are presently running far ahead of the average here, many had felt that we were both too small and isolated to act on our own. Teachers in particular have felt hopeless, due to the lack of cooperation on the firings and governance takeover from union headquarters in the city. But pressed by "official" action by the University Student Senate, the union leaders have had to give at least token support to the fight so far; faced with an actual city-wide movement, our own chances of winning are all the greater.

What is needed now is active participation in organizing, advertising and attending the

conference. Workshops on a range of topics—relation to the general economy, racist and sexist aspects, possibility of allying with unions and community groups, legislative action, effects on adjuncts and graduate students, Open Admissions, and on-campus organizing, for instance—are planned. And we are in the dubious position, based on the past year's experience, to add a lot to the discussion, as well as learn from the other schools. Anyone interested in working on the conference—or any related activities in fighting the firings, budget cuts and so on—should contact the Richmond delegate to the University Student Senate, Paul Nelson, 273-3510, or Stephanie Palladino, 448-5245.