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NEW COLLEGE
PUBLIC RELATIONS
MARCH 24, 1965 / FCA

NEW COLLEGE: HOW WE LIVE

As we have progressed through the first academic year of New College, there have arisen numerous questions from the simple situation of the student body, the faculty, and the administration of a college working together for the very first time. Obviously, not all of the answers could have been pre-conceived for all of the questions. In view of valid issues which have been raised, the (President's) (Dean of Student's) office has prepared a series of position statements about vital areas of concern to the college community.

In the New College community, several types of controls need to be recognized if we are to continue to exist together. Perhaps it is well to point out the natures of these controls, and to note that they are not peculiar to the New College campus but are similar on any campus.

CIVIL LAW: All of us know that we must conform to the laws of the political subdivisions in which we are located, which are city, county, state and nation. Civil laws are conceived by elected or appointed officials and are subject to enforcement by civil authorities.

COLLEGE REGULATION: Certain regulations have to be set up to govern the affairs of the college. These regulations begin for students with the requirement that they send a \$10 fee accompanying

an application if they wish it considered. A "no parking" sign constitutes a regulation. Regulations are highly necessary to the functioning of any institution. Like the ordinances of a municipality, regulations frequently change to meet new situations and may be added to at any time. They provide a framework within which we can live, giving us observable boundaries. For instance, there is a whole series of regulations concerning the use of the library. If we did not have these, we would be unable to efficiently operate the library for best use by students. Appeal to change regulations most often is made to the office of issuance. Enforcement of regulations is by the office of issuance or through another office by request.

RULES: Hardest of all forms of control for the college and its family are the rules, which roughly compare to civil laws governing human conduct. The rules of New College have been worked on by various committees and issued in the form of "expectations" and codes of conduct. Where the rules have failed for New College has been in the lack of observance by certain of the student body and the lack of enforcement provisions. Few people will observe a rule which is not generally accepted and one that everyone knows will bring no punishment to violators.

To attempt to live in a community without laws, regulations, or rules has never worked for any people. Societies have tended to make

rather complex laws to govern themselves. The aim at New College has been to simplify such governances and to permit as much personal freedom as possible as long as responsibility is assumed.

However, the institution also has a genuine responsibility and that is to preserve the essence of the college as set forth in its statement of principles. This responsibility, although at various times delegated to members of the college community, always must be shared by the entire college.

It is also both the province and the responsibility of the president, when there is an observable change in the essence of the institution, to call upon the appropriate persons for study and recommendations. It is then his duty to take whatever steps are deemed necessary to restore the college to its proper course.

Thus, if the formulation of the regulations or the rules of the college appear, after investigation, to be the focus of such a drift, then it is the duty of the president to present to the college community the need for action to amend this course. The similar role was recently seen in the investigation taken and action recommended by President Johnson in regard to the nation's voting laws.

It is the intention of the college, as an entity, to maintain its essence. In the scheme of things, neither students, faculty, administration, nor trustees are the college. New College is an idea,

and thus must be larger than all of the people who work to carry out this idea.