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[Resolutions of the Teaching Faculty, March 10-11, 1969]

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RESOLUTION OF THE TEACHING FACULTY ADOPTED MARCH 10, 1969, with
ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONS A AND B ADOPTED MARCH 11, 1969:

The faculty and trustees traditionally have distinct roles in the running of a college. It is the concern and responsibility of the faculty to act upon all matters which are relevant to the educational life at the College, while the corresponding responsibility of the trustees is mainly fiscal. We should not confuse these roles, or else we will render ourselves incapable of fully discharging our properly constituted responsibility to the College community. It is important that we assume our traditional role now. Therefore, we resolve:

1. That the faculty as a body, pledges its commitment to the greater economic and racial diversity of the student population of Sarah Lawrence, consonant with the urgent positions of the BSA, the Westlands group and indeed the overwhelming majority of the student body because it recognizes that this would substantially contribute toward fulfilling our goals of academic excellence consistent with the immediate and long range needs of our students.

A. Implicit in the endorsement of diversity is the need for adapting the educational process to shape a college academically and realistically compatible with its broader student population.

2. That it recommend to the faculty representatives of the task force that this matter must be given the highest priority, so that part one of this proposal may be implemented as fully and quickly as possible.

3. That we urge the trustees to recognize our commitment and to assume, immediately and intensively, the task of searching for ways in which to make this diversification fiscally possible.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED MARCH 13, 1969 (excerpt regarding diversification):

B. We request the President to forward to the Board of Trustees of Sarah Lawrence College the following resolution:

That the teaching faculty of Sarah Lawrence College calls upon the Board of Trustees to commit themselves to seek new funds and to consider reallocation of present funds towards the end of a major diversification of the student body.

C. The faculty recognizes that the substantive issue inextricably connected with the tuition increase for next year is diversification. Although we understand that this increase, symbolically, might be interpreted as a move toward maintaining the economic composition of our present student population, we see it to be the opposite, because:

1. Assurance has been given that the increase will affect only those students who, as a result, will suffer no financial hardship. Therefore no student who is currently enrolled will be forced to leave because of inability to pay the increase.

2. The additional income from the increase, contributes to the total resources from which monies for diversification will be drawn. In addition, we pledge continuing and intensive commitment to search ways of restructuring the College in order to keep open the possibility of rescinding the tuition increase for the year 1970-71, without adverse effect to our commitment to diversification.