

April 17, 1942

NOTICE OF FACULTY MEETING

The Faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will meet on Monday, April 20, at 4:30 p.m. in the auditorium of Frank Strong Hall. Please note the change of day from the usual Tuesday to Monday.

COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

The following table shows the actual student attendance as of November 1 and March 1 in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for the last two years:

Fall 1940 - 1997 students		
Fall 1941 - 1925	"	Decrease 3.6%
Spring 1941 - 1816	"	
Spring 1942 - 1689	"	Decrease 7%

The decrease in students this year over last year averages 5.2%. Our teaching load in credit hours, however, is down 9.4%.

The following College departments have this year held their own or had an increase in their student credit-hour load: Bacteriology, Mathematics, Chemistry, Speech and Drama, Physiology, Physics and Astronomy, and Home Economics.

In order of credit-hour loads the following are the ten largest College departments: English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Romance Languages, Psychology, History, Physics and Astronomy, Sociology, Geology and Geography, and Physiology.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS IN WAR TIMES

We hear much these days about speeding up our educational programs. With this policy we are in hearty sympathy since, if properly done, it is an educational policy not inconsistent with the best interests of both students and the winning of the war.

We should bear in mind, however, that war demands even better trained workers than are required in times of peace, for upon their skill, accuracy, and mastery even more now depends. In college we must produce better workmen, just as the world outside of college walls is being called upon to do a better job than ever before. If we do this we must maintain high standards of work and scholarship, if anything even higher standards than we have hitherto had. Fortunately, the government, the army, the navy, and the other agencies looking to us for trained men, are urging us not to lower our standards of

achievement in the least. And it is significant that all the regional accrediting agencies have united in urging all colleges not to lower the requirements for admission, and not to lower the requirements for graduation in either quantity or quality.

THE LIBERAL AND HUMANE TRADITION

"There can be little doubt that if the war continues as long as now seems probable there will be many drastic alterations in our colleges and universities. There can be little doubt also in the minds of those who have confidence in the future of this country that once the war is over our academic institutions will again thrive. Readjustments may be necessary in a post-war period. Indeed, some changes which have been long overdue may be forced upon the educational world. On balance, it seems to me that the period of stress and strain on which we are now entering will probably be beneficial to the academic world. Contrary to a view prevalent in certain quarters, universities are among the most conservative institutions in human history. An occasional jolt is thoroughly beneficial; it forces adaptations to new needs of society which have perhaps remained unrecognized. That at least is the evidence from the past. Taking a long-range view, therefore, we may be cheerful about the future of the university tradition in the United States."

--James Bryant Conant.

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"But if the nation needs the technical expert today, it needs still more the man of vision tomorrow. If the democratic tradition is to be upheld and strengthened, if a new order of freedom is to be established after the present struggle is over, new leaders must be developed. The colleges cannot evade this task, even though it will make vast demands upon their resources. Students now are clamoring for training adequate to the times in which they live, for a deeper understanding of the forces at work in history, and a clearer vision of their duties as citizens in a democracy. When the work of the soldier and the technician has been accomplished, the world will require the genius of the builder and the creator. The need of a liberal education, such as the colleges can give, was never more urgent than at present."

--"What the Colleges Are Doing."