MORATORIUM PLANS

To All Members Of The College Community:

In response to student and faculty interest in a full discussion of the purpose, function, and structure of education - the function of education in our society, the relation of our society to our education, the qualities of that society that give us concern, the excellences and short-comings of our educational community at Amherst, your own experience at Amherst - the College Council is calling an open meeting of all members of the college community at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, in the Quad in front of Frost Library (incase of bad weather we shall meet in the Cage). This meeting will gather the college community and give voice to questions and concerns that individuals or groups may want to put forward. Following the meeting and a break for lunch, the college community will divide into smaller discussion groups and talk about the questions raised at the meeting and other issues felt important. Four areas have been designated to serve as centers for these discussions. They are Valentine Annex, Converse Assembly, Converse Third Floor Lounge and Johnson Chapel. The break-up into smaller groups will allow full and active participation by all members of the college community. Centering these group meetings in four areas will maintain an atmosphere conducive to continuing discussion since persons will be free to move among groups. In the evening there will be gatherings for coffee and further discussions in the fraternity houses, beginning at 8:00 p.m. All members of the community are invited to eat in Valentine noon and evening on Monday and Tuesday.

To ensure the movement of ideas and opinions among the college community prior to the 10:30 open meeting on Monday, the Council urges everyone, individually or in groups, to put whatever questions he wishes to hear discussed in writing for general distribution. To facilitate communication all questions should carry the name of those persons interested in asking them. Stencils are available for this purpose at the main desk in Converse. When ready for mimeographing stencils should be left at the same desk by 3:00 p.m. Sunday. The Council will see that these questions are in mailboxes on Monday morning in time to inform discussions before and during the general meeting. Members of the faculty are urged to be available in the lobbies or lounges of the buildings where they normally teach beginning from 9:00 o'clock.

The moratorium can be a constructive period of self-appraisal and provide the framework within which students, faculty, administration and staff can for the first time devote full energies in this way to the questions of education and Amherst College; however, this period will be fruitful only with full participation by all members of the college community. Open dialogue among all individuals and groups on campus, as well as widespread discussion of the questions that have been and will be raised, are the methods that will best ensure that the moratorium is more than an extended weekend or reprieve on work due, and it is from these discussions that the direction of the coming days can be taken. It is up to everyone to involve himself, and on this involvement rest the success of the moratorium.

A further program will be issued on Monday. Watch special bulletin boards in Converse Lobby, in front of Frost, and in Valentine.

The College Council