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R. J. Vanden Branden
Drake University

Robert Franke
Drake University

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Concerns of the Articulation Committee

R. J. VANDEN BRANDEN
and
ROBERT FRANKE
*Drake University
College of Education*

Communications between the various educational institutions in Iowa is and should be the primary need which is satisfied by Articulation Committee activity.

A panel, composed of Paul Tweeton of the State Department of Public Instruction, Robert Franke, and Tom Hendricksen representing two-year and four-year colleges, respectively, presented various views related to better communications and other concerns of articulation. The panel discussion was designed to provide an opportunity for dissemination of information by the panel and reception of ideas and suggestions from the audience.

The history of articulation attempts in Iowa has involved several statewide meetings jointly sponsored by the Iowa Academy of Science and the Iowa State Board of Public Instruction. At the 1968 meeting a change in direction was initiated from general consideration at general meetings to specific consideration by committees within each of the concerned disciplines.

Tom Hendricksen emphasized that if the Clarinda campus is to continue its traditional junior college function, its students must be able to transfer

with relative ease to Iowa colleges that offer senior college courses. The case in point is similar to all area colleges offering junior college courses. Recognized accreditation or departmental acceptance by the senior college is imperative. Communications from the four-year institutions regarding changes in program and course equivalency are urgently needed by two-year college advisers.

Robert Franke commented that transfer students are a concern of the four-year colleges also. The question is: What can the Articulation Committee do to aid students who transfer from community colleges? The four-year colleges could supply information relative to the curricula, the recommended preparation at the community college level (courses and sequences), advisers to consult, etc., to the Articulation Committee, but how can the Committee disseminate the information? Suggestions range from publication of a printed booklet to incorporation of the information in the *Science Teachers Journal* or Midwest Biology Teachers publication to the organization of consultant teams to visit schools interested in the opportunities and types of programs at the four-year institutions.

NSTA Annual Meeting In Cincinnati March 13-17

Some concerns and suggestions were offered by the audience. A statement urging that "we" get the four-year colleges to articulate was countered by the same suggestion for two-year colleges. Some individuals urged that grade-point averages should be transferred and counted by the four-year colleges. Other comments evoking discussion involved common basic liberal arts requirements, a statewide master plan or guidelines, and the inclusion of Voc-Technical schools in the articulation committee. The statement which aroused a great deal of concern was that junior colleges are rated A, B, or C by some agency. If this is true, who evaluates and by what criteria? All present were interested in the answer to these questions.

The moderator, R. J. Vanden Branden, commented that the Committee is on record as willing to serve as a clearing house for exchange of information and the organization of consultant teams. It was noted, however, that such activity must be limited until funds are available because currently the Biology Committee members are contributing their time and efforts individually or with their expenses underwritten by their institution. Similarities in concern for transfer students expressed by the panel members underline the need for statewide committees for articulation. Request for assistance and information can be sent to the chairman at Drake University or the secretary, David Parker, at Eastern Community College at Clinton.

The NSTA Annual Meeting (formerly called the annual convention) will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, March 13-17. The theme is: "Science Teaching Toward the World We Want." Forms for advance registration and hotel reservations will be mailed to all NSTA members in October and will also appear in the Association journals in November.

Again this year the meeting will include several special features presented by members. Deadlines and contacts are:

1. AGA-NSTA STAR awards program and Ohaus-NSTA teacher awards program—deadline for entries is January 15, 1970. Write to NSTA for entry forms.
2. Curriculum materials center—correspond directly with the chairman: John Grate, Director of Program, Research, and Design, Cincinnati Public Schools, Education Center, 230 East Ninth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.
3. Members' exhibit of devices, techniques, and procedures—correspond directly with the chairman: Miss Audrey Dick, Supervisor, Primary Grades, Cincinnati Public Schools, Education Center, 230 East Ninth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.
4. Film or slide programs, such as documentaries, single-concept loops, or topical presentations produced by teachers and/or students—correspond directly with the chairman: Dr. Marjorie Gardner, Science Teaching Center, The University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20740.