Trustees Agree To Scholarship Plan; Demonstrators End Williams Occupation

by John Osler

Fletching to provide adequate financial aid for "as many qualified Negro students as are available," with a minimum guarantee of 15 full scholarships each year, representatives of the Board of Trustees reached an agreement with student negotiators shortly after midnight Tuesday that brought an end to the sit-in at Williams Memorial Monday morning. The representatives of the Executive Council of the Trustees, Dean of the College Harold L. Dorwart, Chaplain Alan C. Tull, and College Counselor George Higgins met with the student negotiating committee for the sit-in during two one-and-one-half hour sessions Tuesday afternoon and evening.

The College's guarantee of a minimum 15 scholarships represents a yearly expenditure of approximately $200,000. The College is presently devoting over $75,000 a year to scholarships for disadvantaged students. The Trustees also made a direct financial commitment to match the Senate's pledge of $15,000 to the project.

Members of the student negotiating committee reported to their constituents in the administration building Tuesday that the negotiations had grown an "open ended" commitment to provide scholarships for however many Negroes gained admittance over the Senate-requsted financial commitment of $65,000 from the general fee. The negotiators reported that the Trustees would make up the difference from the College budget if the students reported.

The sit-in was an amended version of a proposal submitted to the students by the Trustees, representing an agreement at a meeting in Chaplin Tull's office at 3:30 p.m. April 24. Until the interim the Trustees' proposal was discussed by the students in Williams Memorial Monday afternoon and evening. After the students met with the administration, Chandler Tull's office was offered an opportunity to carry the program beyond the original Senate goals.

Both Dorwart and Tull denied that the College had "lost face" in its confrontation with the students. Tull said that to talk in terms of "conciliation" was to try the struggle beyond what "happily" ended. He added that neither students nor administrators had any way of knowing how the situation would develop, but the Trustees would have given the proposal if it were not for the sit-in.

President to Charge Six With 'False Imprisonment'

by Alexander J. Bellef

Following the conclusion of student-faculty negotiations regarding the funding of Negro scholarships at the College, it was revealed that punitive action would be initiated against six of the alleged organizers of the student sit-in of Williams Memorial late Monday night. Jon N. Loebner '69, addressing the group gathered in the second floor lobby of the administration building, stated, "the seed is clear, we'll all share in the blame." One of the six alleged organizers, Steven H. Kenney '71, reminded the students that the decision was theirs, as had been the decision to participate in the nature and occupation of the building.

E. David Chasin '68, a Welders member suggested that a petition be circulated indicating that the six did not stand alone in the scheme of the last day and a half, and that those signing such a document desired to share the burden of any punishments levied by the judicial bodies of the College. A petition was circulated, and following the abandonment of Williams Memorial, it was learned that approximately 150 of the student demonstrators had signed.

It is yet not known what the College intends to do with the petition or what action will be taken against students who indicated their participation in the "false imprisonment" by signing.

Michael A. Williams '68, one of the student negotiators, explained that the guarantee to provide at least 15 scholarships in so way compromised the College admissions policy. The 15 scholarships are conditional upon the acceptance of that number of qualified students by the admissions office, according to Williams.

In the statement announcing the student-Trustee accord, which was read to the press by Tull shortly after midnight, it was revealed that the College had been taking significant steps to meet the problems of race and poverty... before the receipt of the Senate requests. The report continued to say that "the negotiations taken to complete these processes, unfortunately, at this time, may not be current and current.

When asked if he was satisfied with the agreement, student negotiator Steven Kenney '71 replied, "Yes, the College has met our demands."

The sit-in has come to an end, but the College has not passed through the crisis. Before us lies the arduous path of reconciliation. We must emerge from the last two days as a united community -- one dedicated to the spirit of progress that would make sit-in a thing of the past.

It is inevitable that when an issue of great importance, emotions swell and attitudes tend to polarize. People are either strongly for or strongly against what is happening, and no one has the time or inclination to sympathize with opinions that conflict with his own.

Crisis did not bring out the best in Trinity gentlemen, nor did it enhance the stature of those who educate them. The pace of events caused confusion and a sense of bitterness which threatens to poison the atmosphere of the campus.

Though it may take some time until everyone can look each other in the eyes again, it is the duty of every member of the College to work for a reconciliation. It would be tragic for the Trustees, Administration and students to "get tough at a time of a vainglorious assertion of authority. Students are dedicated to further progress; and we hope that the Administration will prevent a breakdown in sympathetic communications.

The TRIPPOD urges the student body to give careful thought to their policies, and to discard the use of "crisis-diplomacy" as a viable political method.

Finally, we request that the 3-3 committee, in a spirit of goodwill, will take no punitive measures against the six students involved in the sit-in. Unnecessary reprisals would hardly herald a promising future for the College.