

Barnard



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Barnard Faces New Increase In Fees

Why Raise Tuition Charges?— President Outlines Plan For \$100 Tuition Rise

Tuition costs will be raised by Barnard College beginning with the academic year 1956-57 in an effort to raise the salaries of faculty, administrative, and clerical staffs. The school hopes to increase the salaries because they have not risen proportionally along with the higher cost of living since 1939.

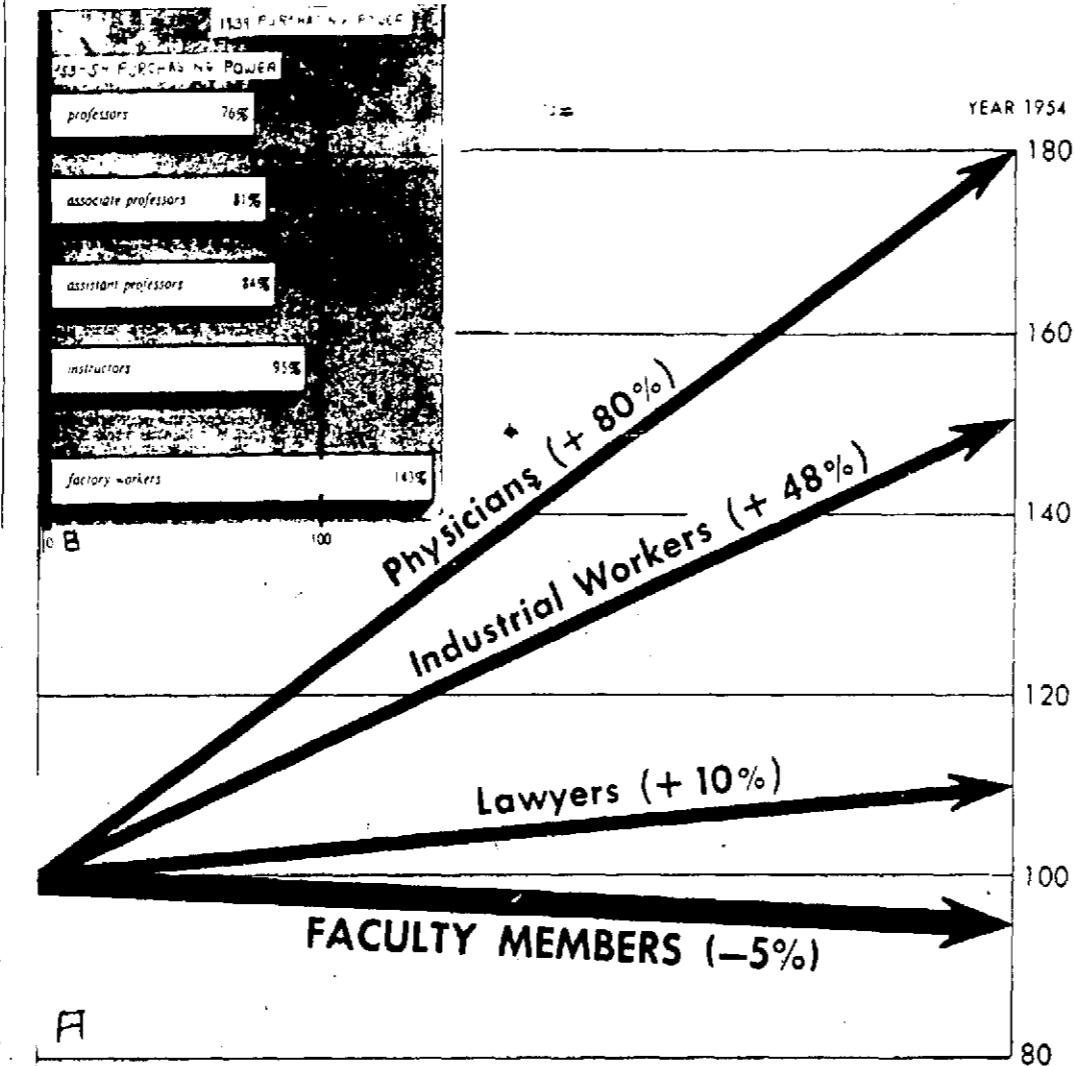
Faculty Salaries

The average salary of a Barnard professor (now \$6,357) has shown an increase of only 16.2% since 1939 as compared to the Price Index (cost of living) which has gone up 86% since that year. Although the Ford Foundation awarded Barnard a grant of \$592,800 in the form of an endowment fund, the income from which was to be used for increasing faculty salaries, it is not expected that those funds will be sufficient to help restore faculty salaries to their 1939 purchasing power. In fact, the Foundation estimated that the grants would yield to the universities involved only 4% annual income, leaving the salaries still 16% below the 1939 purchasing power.

Independent colleges, such as Barnard face severe financial problems (with faculty salaries as one of the most pressing) because of the shrinkage in recent years in their income from endowments. Sharp increases in income and estate taxes have reduced the capital accumulations of wealthier people from whom endowments formerly came. At the same time, price inflation cut in half the purchasing power of the income from existing endowments.

Expansion Problems

Problems of expanding college populations also affect the teacher salary problem. If the present student-teacher ratio of 13 to 1 is to be preserved, for every 10 college teachers now employed, somewhere between 16 and 25



Real Income before Taxes. Source: Council for Financial Aids in Education, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, U.S. Dept. of Labor.

new ones will have to be found between now and 1970. In view of the fact that physicians enjoyed an increase of about 80% in their real income and lawyers an increase of about 10% from 1940 through 1954, while faculty members had their average real income fall by 5%, it is expected to be difficult to recruit young people to the higher education teaching field.

There is also a marked difference in the average salary received by teachers in different types of colleges and universities. In the academic year, 1953-1954, teachers in privately endowed, independent colleges and universities were paid an average salary about \$1,000 less than that paid to faculty in tax-supported schools.

Graph A: What has happened to college faculty salaries in comparison to other professions and trades, using incomes before taxes are deducted. Graph B: What has happened to college faculty purchasing power since 1939.

A proposed one hundred dollar increase in Barnard's yearly tuition, tentatively approved by the Board of Trustees and intended to permit a rise in faculty salaries, was announced at the Representative Assembly meeting yesterday. President Millicent C. McIntosh speaking in the Minor Latham Drama Workshop invited students to ask questions about the increase and relevant scholarship provisions.

The reason for the increase is the failure of faculty salaries to keep pace with the rising cost of living. According to Mr. Forrest L. Abbott, comptroller and business manager of Barnard, the salaries for Barnard faculty members have risen only 16.2% on the average since 1939 while the cost of living index has risen 86%.

"It is hoped that the tuition rise will cover a blanket increase in salaries," said Mrs. McIntosh. Part of the additional funds obtained from the increase is also expected to go toward increasing present scholarships and by granting one hundred dollar remissions on tuition to those seniors (Class of '57) who request such aid through a letter from their parents to the President's office.

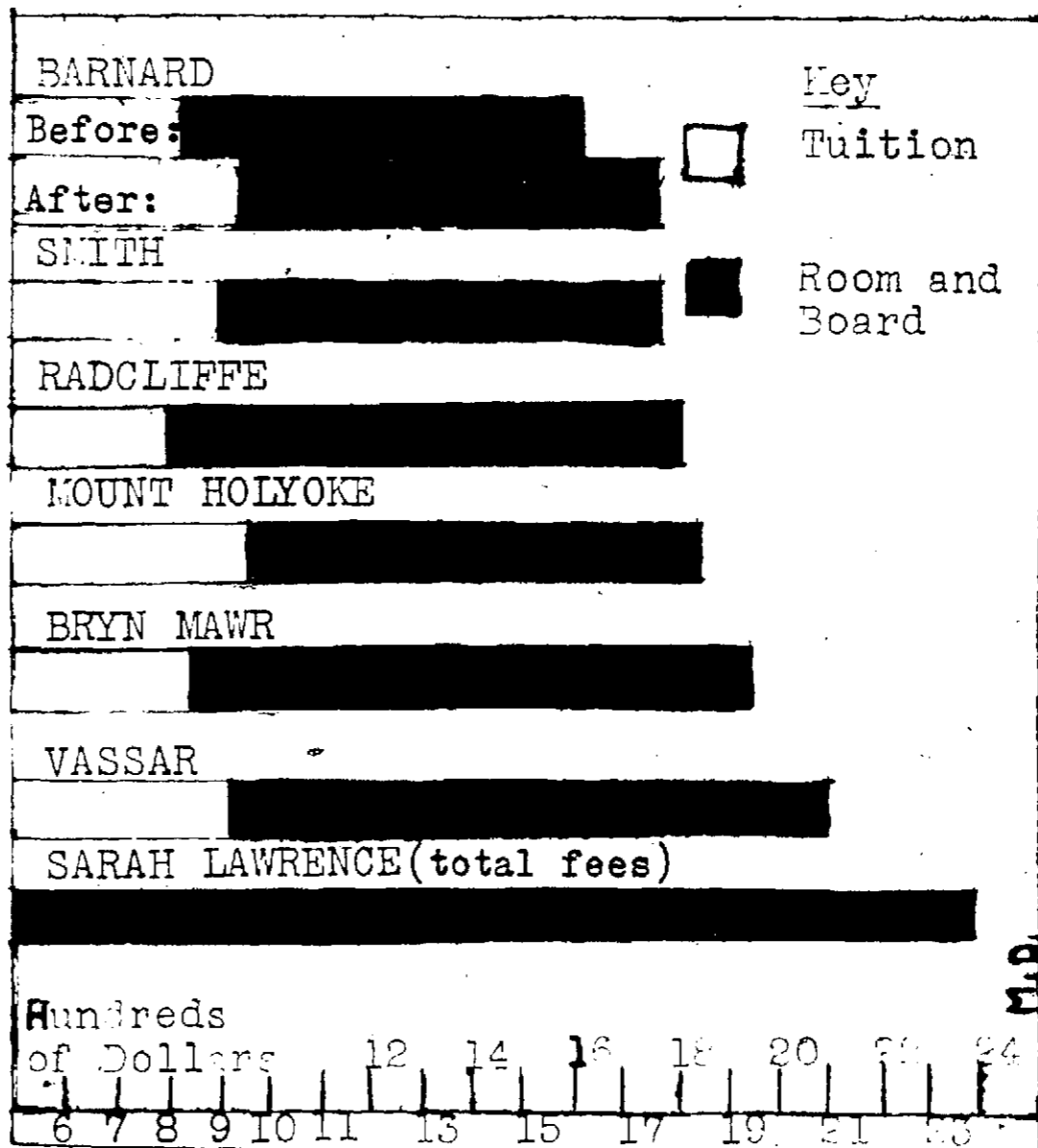
Mrs. McIntosh explained that faculty salary increases all over the nation and the desire to keep Barnard enrollment at its present size were factors which entered into the decision. Although Barnard's wage scale has compared favorably with those of the other private women's colleges, it has fallen short of the state university scales by as much as \$1,000 in some instances.

Barnard, with its existing facilities, can not hope to gain funds by increasing the college enrollment, the President pointed out. The administration is forced, therefore, to depend upon grants from outside institutions. The recent endowment by the Ford Foundation contributes only \$25,000 to the \$100,000-\$125,000 estimated as necessary to raise salaries.

In concluding his remarks, Mr. Abbott described the situation as "a problem of what we were not doing," and pointed out that an increase in tuition would raise the salaries in proportion to costs a little but the salaries would still be far from matching the cost of living.

Why Raise Room and Board?—

Comparative Tuition, Room and Board Charges



	Present	Proposed
Registration	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
Tuition	780.00	880.00
Room and Board	770.00	842.00
Laundry	13.00	13.00
Student Activity	13.00	13.00
Medical Fee: Day	5.00	5.00
Dorm	10.00	10.00
Resident total	\$1616.00	\$1788.00
Day student total	823.00	923.00

After increase Barnard is the lowest for combined tuition, room and board, for room and board alone, and is the third lowest in tuition

When the residents of Brooks and Hewitt Halls returned from their Christmas vacations they found in their mailboxes a letter announcing an increase in board and room charges. This, the first increase since 1949, raises the charges from \$783 to \$855 and will take effect in September 1956.

President Millicent C. McIntosh stated in the letter that the Trustees found it imperative to take this action because the food service and residence halls operations are running at a sizeable deficit of \$11,147. A considerable larger deficit is anticipated in this year's operations.

The report attributed the deficit to an increase in food expenses estimated at 11.9 per cent since 1949. "Our records show that prices of many of the food products served in our dining room, have had a much greater increase than this 11.9 per cent. Operational wage rates in both the dining room and the residence halls also have increased during the past five years an average of 28.4 per cent."

As indicated by the chart on the left, Barnard after a tuition increase still compares most favorably with her sister colleges, Mount Holyoke, Smith, and Vassar, schools which like Barnard maintain their own facilities, from fees paid by undergraduates, have comparable tuition fees but charge appreciably more for room and board. Moreover, Radcliffe, which does not maintain a separate faculty, and Bryn Mawr, which can count on fees paid by graduate students, have totals which exceed Barnard, though their tuitions are lower.

Editorial

As students we find it difficult to work up any genuine enthusiasm for a rise in tuition. However, even if we do not welcome the matter, we can commend the manner. The array of arguments and charts presented to us at the open Representative Assembly made it fairly clear that the rise was already, and necessarily, a fait accompli. Nevertheless, we appreciate the fact that the final decision by the Trustees was deferred until the students could be consulted and their questions answered.

Even more credit we feel must be given to the provisions made for helping students who find it difficult to meet the increased fees. The assurance given to next year's seniors for whom transferring is no longer a possible solution that a simple letter from their parents explaining financial need will relieve them of the increase is an example of the consideration shown by the administration throughout the drafting of their plans.

This consideration, we feel, merits equal thoughtfulness on our part. It will be very easy for next year's seniors to apply for the \$100. Scholarship students too will not find it hard to convince themselves that they must have an increase. However, the rise in tuition is necessary if the quality of education at Barnard is to be maintained. We are obligated to think before we deprive incoming or other students of the scholarship money we do not absolutely need.