

Barnard Bulletin



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Incomplete Brooks Entrance Creates Threat to Security

By Barby Kogon
with Amelia A. Hart

"For the money we are paying, the lack of security is abominable and that anyone can wander in or out makes me very insecure in this neighborhood. How can Barnard allow this," said Sally Printz, a Barnard freshman, in reaction to the newly relocated entry of the Brooks-Hewitt-Reid Dormitory.

After many months of renovation, the entrance to BHR has finally been moved from Reid to Brooks. While students generally concur that the appearance of the entrance is grand and very plush, many residents, desk attendants and Resident Assistants are uneasy about the lack of security the new door fosters.

The entrance is now being utilized without all the intended security measures

having been put into effect. Currently the situation is such that anybody, resident or non-resident, student or neighborhood stranger can enter the building. The chief problem with the entrance, as is, is that visitors can not be properly checked for identification until they are already inside the building at which point it is very easy for an unwanted visitor to forge his way through the unsteady two foot gate. Ideally the gate lock is not to be released for a student or visitor until the desk attendant presses the buzz device located behind the desk.

One desk attendant demonstrated that the gate can easily be pushed open without the aid of the electronic "buzz" device. There was a buzz-security system at the Reid entrance but there visitors could

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Student enters new Brooks Entrance. In the foreground is the desk attendant.



George Gatch, Dean of Residential Life.

House System to Further Community Spirit

By Danielle Kim

Academic Year 1983-84 will bring to Barnard a new dorm program designed to create camaraderie among residents, commuters, faculty and administrators. The HOUSE SYSTEM, already in effect, is basically a dormitory organization affiliated and led by Faculty-Administrators Associates.

Under the House System, each Barnard dorm- both on and off campus- will become individual "units" affiliated with approximately 10 faculty-administrators who have volunteered to serve as Faculty-Administrators Associates. The program will include scheduling and planning of dorm activities, in which the Associates will initiate and participate. The specifics of

these social and academic events will obviously be determined by those students and Faculty-Administrators involved in each dorm. As a result of participating in House System, interactions and communication between students, faculty and administrators will increase, and new and even veteran Barnard women will find themselves on more familiar and personal terms with the members of the Barnard community.

The House System will operate under each dorm's Resident Director, who will work with dorm students and other interested students, i.e., commuters and faculty-administrative members. The Resident Director will also act as a liaison between students and the Associates.

The students and the Faculty-Administrators Associates will be responsible for planning various activities. By allowing commuters' participation instead of limiting it to residents, House System will enhance the sense of community and create closer contact among everyone at Barnard.

House System Program was recommended to President Futter, Dean of Student Life, George Gatch, and other administrators by the Committee on Student Life in April 1982. By September 1982 a special committee was formed to oversee the development of a House System. This Committee was composed of faculty, administrators, and students, many of whom were the members of the Class of '83.

Before actually instituting the House System this year, the Committee con-

ducted an extensive search on the particulars of the House System. In order to find the most effective organization of House System at Barnard, the members of the Committee visited such colleges and universities as Harvard, Princeton, Wellesley, and Yale. As a result of careful observation, comparison and evaluation, the Committee was able to fuse various possibilities to accommodate special needs of Barnard and its location in the city. One sharp difference between Barnard House System and that of a small-town college is that Barnard Faculty Administrators do not reside in their affiliated dorms. However, this should not be a problem, since all residents have the chance to meet with their Faculty Administrators on a regular basis during individual dorm programs.

At this point the initial Committee's work and responsibilities are taken over by Dean Gatch and her Associate, Rosemarie Dackerman. Dean Gatch said she hoped everyone would participate, especially emphasizing the importance of commuter participation, since the main purpose behind the House system is to bring the Barnard family together, not just the ones termed as "residents."

Feminist Union Formed

About 40 women including Barnard students, Columbia students, Barnard alumnae, and even one student from New York University attended the first meeting of The Feminist Union last Sunday.

Jessica Chalmers, who organized the group, said she started The Feminist Union simply, "Because there was no such group on campus. Everybody would ask me why there wasn't this kind of group."

She described the Union as, "A place for women to meet and talk with other women." The group will meet on Sundays with the format of the meetings alternating between lecture and discussion with a guest speaker one week, and discussion among the members within smaller groups of 8 to 10 the next.

The Feminist Union is currently seeking recognition from both Undergrad and Ferris Booth Hall as they hope women from other campuses will join. Asked if men could join the group Chalmers replied that if there was enough interest some sort of auxiliary group might be formed, but "right now this is a group for women."

The Feminist Union's next meeting will be held this Sunday at 7:00 in the Women's Center. The speaker will be Temma Kaplan, the new director of the Women's Center.

The Bulletin is doing an article about cheating at Barnard. If you have ever observed or heard about an incident of cheating we'd like to talk to you. Complete confidentiality is guaranteed if requested. Call x2119 or x1386.

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