

3401 SOUTH 39TH STREET



MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53215

August 20, 1969

Dear Faculty Member:

I am writing to you today because I consider the hopes and plans generated at the Spring Faculty Institute and at the meetings this Summer, of which you were recently apprised, of supreme importance for the development of Alverno College.

On a separate sheet enclosed with this letter, you will find a preliminary outline of the activities scheduled for September 2-3-4-5, which are being spoken of collectively as "September '69." You will note an invitation to all faculty, old and new, for cocktails and dinner on Tuesday, September 2, at 6:00 p.m. (Detailed information will follow.) I cannot urge you too strongly to participate in every moment of these days.

Across the country, students and faculty have been wrestling with the very difficult question of how to enter into more productive interaction with each other. Students have complained that faculty dictate what they ought to learn as though they were the Lord Buddha himself--omniscient as no one else can be. And faculty have complained that students are too inexperienced to have anything to say about what they shall need to know. Obviously, both groups have gotten themselves out on limbs.

Here at Alverno, small as we are, we have the opportunity not to be trapped into such a dichotomy. On the other hand, we know from our Faculty Institute and from student suggestions that we have much to do yet before teaching and learning are as integrated as we can make them.

Faculty members from the summertime committee have obtained the services of Dr. Judson Jerome, a member of the staff of Antioch College, who is currently directing the new Antioch center in Columbia, Maryland, and three students from the center, Douglas Douglas, Nancy Mills, and Nancy Timmins. This center is engaged in what seems to me to be one of the best ideas I have heard in a long time regarding a direction colleges might take as they seek to meet the needs of today and tomorrow.

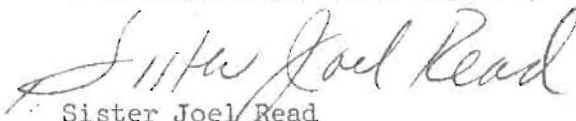
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It is a very great pleasure for me, then, to be able to tell you that the Antioch-Columbia team will be with us from late Tuesday afternoon until possibly sometime Thursday morning. Enclosed is a copy of one of Dr. Judson's articles. Others will be available next week. The Barat College News Release contains another college's response to the present need.

I know, then, that you will see to it that you are available for these days of charting together the academic course for Alverno as we close off the decade of the 60's and begin the decade of the 70's.

I eagerly look forward to seeing all of you again, and to meeting those of you new to Alverno's staff this year.

With kindest personal regards,


Sister Joel Read
President

SJR:hl

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