

MEMORANDUM

October 19, 1966

TO: Dr. Joseph W. Fordyce, President
FROM: Terry O'Banion, Dean of Student Affairs
RE: Development of the New Campus

- Santa Fe Junior College
Gainesville, Fla.

When I consider the following factors:

1. Junior College students commute and need places to "Hang their hats."
2. Junior College students have identity problems and need opportunities to confront, and interact with, other students in the process of growth. Sophomoric weltanschmerz will out - the College should provide spaces for the sighs.'
3. Junior colleges have identity problems. They proclaim special interests in the individual but usually provide fewer spaces for individuals than four-year colleges and universities.
4. The library, cafeteria, and student center are traditional gathering places for students. The library is to study; the cafeteria is to eat; the student center is to play.

I wonder if we might not have an excellent opportunity to develop in our new campus an extra dimension to provide for some of the student needs evident above. I would like to see us include in the overall campus development, plans for spaces clearly earmarked for student-student, student-faculty, and faculty-faculty interaction. It seems to me that we could provide some 10 or 20 planned spaces for students that might be parts of some buildings and separate in some cases.

I use some of the following terms when trying to explain this idea to myself:

1. Watering holes for commuting students (Ed Finley used this) - drink from the wells of life.
2. Santa Fe Outposts - A haven for the weary.

Saul Booth
Confrontation Cubicles

October 19, 1966

Page Two

3. Oasis - Mecca - Private enterprise builds one across the street of every campus - Wanderers fill their stomachs here, perhaps their souls.
4. Neighborhood Bar - Come ye who are heavy-laden.
5. Home Base - There's no place like it.
6. Climate Clusters - Birds of a feather...

Does my stream of consciousness portrayal communicate? It shouldn't communicate too clearly, for I am not at all sure what I am talking about. Two additional concepts help me a little, one physical and one psychological.

Physical Concept - I visualize the gazebo as a good representation of the kind of space I am talking about - perhaps an octagon-shaped, roofed space with seating space for eight students. These could be miniatures of the central building complex appropriately grouped for attractiveness around the campus. I see gazebos on stilts over the "ponds" with inter-connected boardwalks to be used as nature trails - living science labs.

Psychological Concept - The term "Nurture Nooks" most nearly communicates what I mean. The most important learnings of students may not occur in our traditionally-planned learning spaces; the most important learnings may occur in the nooks and crannies of the College environment, in the nooks and crannies of the curriculum as well as the physical plant. Some Nurture Nooks now in existence at Santa Fe include the back of the auditorium, the steps of the front entrance, the window casings overlooking the inner garden spots, the green bench at the bus stop in front of the building, and the cars parked in the back lot. It might be possible to plan spaces for these natural gathering places.

If you build a gazebo on stilts over the pond and leave all the trees, you get a Nature Nurture Nook!

TOB:VdL