

**"Tightly-knit community"**

# Stong to resubmit proposal for college BA

By J. W. BELTRAME  
Virginia Rock, master of Stong college, and interested faculty and students, agreed in principle Friday to resubmit a proposal for an experimental B.A. degree programme to be offered by Stong.

The original Stong proposal, submitted to the academic planning sub-

committee three years ago, called for an enrolment of 100 students at a cost of \$157,750, including a small library.

The new proposal will call for the replacement of the credit system by a course system, in which students would be able to remain in the same course throughout their undergraduate programme. Both

proposals call for a learning environment where "students and teachers will work together in deciding what should be studied, how it may be studied, what work should be done, and how it is to be achieved."

The old programme was narrowly rejected by the Senate academic policy and planning committee, which acted on the recommendation of the subcommittee.

Rock plans to submit the revised proposal to the Senate task force in February. The experimental programme could be introduced as early as 1975.

The revised Stong proposal will again hold enrollment down to 100 students, and retain its "flexible" ap-

proach to university education.

Although the new programme will not be run on a credit basis, students will be able to achieve a York B.A. degree for their work and 5 yearly credits if they wish to transfer out.

Rock's intention is to create a tightly-knit community of students in which a free exchange of ideas is made possible. "Large institutions create an impersonal environment which inhibits development of some elements of the finest education," she said. Since everyone would have to take a core course, there would be common ground for communication.

"The courses would be for people who know what they want to do, are self-motivated, and who are able to create their own curriculum."

The experimental programme would also allow students to by-pass the much-criticized York first year courses. People enrolled at Stong could begin immediately in their preferred fields. A student would be able to choose a professor whose specialty coincides with his preferred area of study. The two would then decide on a curriculum and a standard of evaluation. Rock indicated that an academic adviser would be an inseparable part of the programme, since many students would not know where their field of study might lead.

Students would also have the option of choosing their adviser, who would be more than someone who "signs the student's study list." Work would not be graded, but a complete dossier which would include a "detailed descriptive statement of work done" would be compiled by the professor.

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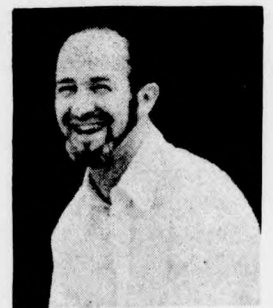
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