

The National Program - - -

A PROGRESS REPORT

The Urban Corps National Development Office was established in the fall of 1968 under a grant from The Ford Foundation to serve as a catalyst for the establishment of local Urban Corps programs in cities throughout the nation, and through this vehicle to create new and viable relationships between the academic community and our urban centers.

This initial period of our operations has been devoted to exploring the feasibility of implementing Urban Corps in a wide variety of communities and in developing a series of reports documenting and examining the concept and technology of the Urban Corps.

Our success in this pursuit may now be measured in terms of concrete accomplishments:

- - - Our initial pilot group of eight cities has blossomed into more than 15 operating Urban Corps programs in every part of the nation.

- - - Federal officials, including the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare and the Commissioner of Education, have enthusiastically endorsed the Urban Corps concept as a valuable method of both serving the needs of the city and the colleges — and providing our nation's young people with an opportunity to *constructively* participate in the resolution of the urban crisis.

- - - Institutions of higher education and regional organizations have begun to move actively towards the development of new forms of academic curricula, involving not only courses and lectures but also the opportunity to test theory against the realities of the outside world. In several cases the local Urban Corps is serving as the test-bed for this development.

(continued on page 2)

EDUCATION CHIEF URGES CHANGE IN WORK-STUDY PRIORITIES

U.S. Commissioner of Education James E. Allen, Jr. has called for an increased commitment of Federal work-study funds to programs which reflect the concern of today's college population for "an education geared to realities."

OE ALLOCATES \$23.4-MILLION IN ADDITIONAL CWSP FUNDS

The nation's colleges and universities will share an additional \$23.4-million in College Work-Study Program funds, thanks to a supplemental allocation just announced by the U.S. Office of Education. The new money brings the total allocation of CWSP funds for the six month period ending December 31, 1969 to \$102,662,178, an increase of nearly twenty-five per cent over the previously announced Work-Study levels.

The supplemental grants are the result of a re-allocation of CWSP funds originally allocated for use during 1968 and unexpended by the participating colleges as of December 31st of last year. The new money is being distributed primarily to colleges in those states which suffered most heavily from the low level of the initial CWSP funding for the July-December 1969 period. Generally, institutions in those states which received less than 70% of the amount recommended by the regional CWSP panels have been granted enough additional funds to bring them up to that level. Schools in states which already received all or nearly all of their recommended funding will not share in the supplement.

The largest supplemental grant went to California, which received \$3.7-million in additional funds, increasing its allocation from 44% of the level approved by the regional panel to 70%.

The University of California at Berkeley will receive the nation's largest CWSP grant of \$879,898, with \$320,012 coming from the supplement.

Speaking at the opening session of the Atlanta Service-Learning Conference, Dr. Allen said that young people have reversed the traditional concepts of success, putting "the pursuit of goals beyond the self" before monetary rewards. "Today's youth is as bored with four-wall abstractions as it is with materialism," the nation's education chief told the more than 200 delegates to the conference. He said that education must extend beyond the confines of the campus, to give students the sort of first-hand experience they now demand.

Dr. Allen applauded the Urban Corps as a way to inject reality testing into the present academic structure. He called for major changes in the College Work-Study Program to facilitate the development of programs for the constructive involvement of college students in important urban-related activities. Observing that most work-study funds are now used for the employment of students in work on their college campuses, Dr. Allen said that he would like to see this situation reversed, with the bulk of work-study resources being used to help the nation's communities resolve their most pressing problems.

Dr. Allen also called for an examination of techniques for the effective integration of new people into existing organizations on a short-term basis, and for the exploration of programs combining community service with academic credit.

"The need," Dr. Allen concluded, "is to concentrate on ways of helping the young to realize the potential of their new sense of purpose and spirit for service."

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PROGRESS REPORT
(continued from page 1)

- - - Dozens of cities have expressed an interest in adopting the Urban Corps concept, and a number of state governments have begun to offer coordinating and resource services for those of their cities desiring to develop such a program.

- - - Hundreds of copies of each of the reports issued to date by the National Office are in use by cities and universities throughout the nation, and each issue of the *National News* now reaches more than 5,000 persons (up from an initial press run of 200 in the early spring).

Remaining ahead is the expansion of the Urban Corps concept to every major Urban Center, the development of "spin-off" programs intimately involving the cities with the academic community, completion of the documentation of the Urban Corps experience and methodology, and an analysis of the success, techniques and impact of the various Urban Corps programs throughout the nation.

The Urban Corps National Development Office is programmed to conclude its effort in the spring of 1971. At that time it is our sincere hope that the Urban Corps will have proven itself a viable and valuable program for the nation and its people.

- - - Michael B. Goldstein
Director

After more than four years of operating under unofficial guidelines, the U.S. Office of Education has promulgated a set of Regulations governing the College Work-Study Program. The new Regulations, effective June 13, 1969, together with the legislative requirements of Title IV-C of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (as amended) provide the legal framework for all CWSP programs, whether involving work for the college itself, or off-campus (such as an Urban Corps). The CWSP guidelines, embodied in the *1968 College Work-Study Program Manual*, remain in effect as the official interpretation of Federal law. It should be noted, however, that the new Regulations modify certain aspects of the program, so that the guidelines as currently issued do not completely conform. Conflicts must be resolved in favor of the Regulations.

The most noteworthy changes caused by the new Regulations concern the increased emphasis upon off-campus work relating to public service activities, especially in the health, education and welfare areas. The Regulations also provide specific guides for the full-time employment of students attending summer school or other "non-regular" courses, and recognize for the first time the legal right of an institution to delegate to an outside agency (e.g. an Urban Corps) the *ministerial* functions of administering an off-campus work-study program, such as payroll processing and on-going supervision. The Regulations specifically reserve to the institutions the sole power to determine the eligibility of students for CWSP awards.

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More than seventy upperclassmen attending units of the City University of New York have been working part-time in city agencies as part of a new seminar-experience program in urban government.

Each of the students is enrolled in the seminar at his college, and spends ten hours a week on a high-level assignment within a municipal agency. Weekly seminars are augmented by monthly meetings of all the participating students, with top urban officials discussing the problems and prospects of the city.

The students in each seminar often concentrate on a specific geographic part of the city, permitting an interchange of ideas and perceptions concerning the various services, resources and needs of the community. Although the students receive no pay for their work, they do receive academic credits for the successful completion of the program.

The seminar-experience program is administered jointly by the City Administrator's office and the City University, under the direction of Deputy City Administrator Philip Finkelstein and Dr. Robert Hirschfeld of Hunter College.

The Regulations were published May 13, 1969 in Vol. 34, Number 91 of the Federal Register at pages 7632-7635 and will appear in Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at Part 175. Copies of the new CWSP Regulations, together with an analysis and finding list keyed to the CWSP Manual, are available from the Urban Corps National Development Office.

Alumni Journal Tells Urban Corps Story

The Fall/Winter edition of the *Sarah Lawrence College Alumnae Magazine* carries a lengthy article on the exploits of twenty Sarah Lawrence students who participated in the New York City Urban Corps during the summer of 1968. Written by an undergraduate, Teresa Baker, who herself served in the program, the well-illustrated article examines the rewards and frustrations the girls experienced during three months with the city. The girls worked in a wide variety of assignments, from tutoring children and working with addicts to researching the problems of air and water pollution. They tell of their encounters with government bureaucracy, and their own perceptions of the effectiveness of their experience.

Reprints of the article are available without charge from the Urban Corps National Development Office, 250 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10007.

NEW HAVEN URBAN CORPS LAUNCHED

Mayor Richard C. Lee has announced the formation of a New Haven Urban Corps to give the Connecticut city "an opportunity to benefit from the enthusiasm, energy and idealism of our young people."

Lee said that the program will assign students to "meaningful and creative jobs" in a wide variety of city activities, including health, public safety, education and recreation. The Mayor said that the students will work in administrative, research and evaluative capacities, under the supervision of regular city employees.

Mayor Lee also announced the appointment of Alan Trager, a 22-year-old city planning student, to serve as coordinator of the new program. A former VISTA volunteer and program planner, Trager previously participated in an effort to involve city planning students in local poverty programs.

Festivities Mark Urban Corps Openings

During the month of June more than a dozen cities throughout the nation formally launched their Urban Corps programs. Here is a sampling of the opening events.

Atlanta — More than 200 students attended the opening session of the Atlanta Service-Learning Conference. They heard Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen and U.S. Commissioner of Education James Allen, Jr. urge the development of programs geared to the needs of today's youth.

Detroit — The Motor City welcomed its Urban Corps students with a reception on the grounds of Mayor Jerome Cavanagh's official residence. The Mayor welcomed the group of 100 students, and spent over an hour discussing the city's problems and prospects with them.

Boston — Mayor Kevin White greeted several hundred Urban Corps students in ceremonies at Boston's new award-winning City Hall. He stressed that the potential learning experience of a summer in the city is just as important as the work they will be doing.

Minneapolis — Urban Corps students working in the Minnesota city spent a full day getting acquainted with their host-employer. Mayor Arthur Naftalin, in his final official address after eight years in City Hall, called upon the students to direct their talents towards improving their community. City Coordinator Thomas Thompson discussed transit problems in the Twin Cities area, and a panel of city officials and civic leaders participated in a series of round-table discussions on specific local problems. The students were guests of the city at a luncheon at the Minneapolis Athletic Club.

New York — More than a thousand Urban Corps students heard Deputy Mayor Timothy W. Costello urge them to "shake things up" through what he termed "constructive dissent." "Action Summer", a motion picture on the Urban Corps, was shown at this opening event.

From The Editor...

The *National News* is designed to serve as a vehicle for the interchange of ideas and developments in the growth of Urban Corps student involvement programs, and indeed in the entire area of the urban-academic interface. We hope that by spreading an understanding of the concept, benefits and technology of the Urban Corps we will be serving to stimulate the growth of these programs throughout the nation.

This issue of the *National News* marks two important mileposts in our rather short existence: distribution to every major city and institution of higher education in the nation, and a new format permitting both enlarged content and easier reading. Indeed, this issue has been delayed due to the need to adapt our production facilities to "mass production." We will resume monthly publication with the August issue.

Thanks to the generous support of the Ford Foundation, we are able to circulate the *National News* without charge. Requests for new subscriptions and/or additional copies should be addressed to Anna Beranek, Editor, Urban Corps National News, Room 1410, 250 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10007. We of course invite your comments and suggestions for future issues.

ATLANTA URBAN CORPS TO TEST "SERVICE-LEARNING"

The Atlanta Urban Corps has been selected to serve as a "practical laboratory" for the development of a broad-based urban-academic involvement effort in the Atlanta area.

The Atlanta Urban Corps will work with the recently organized Atlanta Service-Learning Conference to test new ideas and concepts designed to involve students, faculty and practitioners in arrangements providing both valuable services to the community and relevant learning experiences for the participants.

The Atlanta Service-Learning Conference is designed to bring together agencies, institutions, organizations and individuals interested in the relationships between service experience and higher education, combining their resources in "an exploration and development of a conceptual framework and practical model for service-learning programs." The Conference will operate for a nine-month period, examining the various elements of the service-learning concept, from curriculum design and service potentials to financial resources and inter-institutional relationships. Conference meetings are planned on a regular basis, with monthly reports of the results of detailed examinations of each element.

The Atlanta area is considered a hospitable one for this type of experimentation due to its unusual diversity of organizations and institutions, coupled with a tradition for innovative local development. More than 30,000 students attend Atlanta's eleven colleges and universities, and most of the "socially-relevant" Federal agencies, such as HEW, HUD and the Peace Corps have regional headquarters in the city.

The Conference is being sponsored by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), a public agency of 15 Southern states created by interstate compact to assist in the development of higher education and the fostering of social and economic growth in the Southern region. Information on the Conference may be obtained from Mr. William Ramsay, Director, Resource Development Project, Southern Regional Education Board, 130 Sixth Street N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30313. Area code (404) 872-3873.

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