

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN

April 2, 1970

To: Suzanne Simon, Judi Lee, Starzetta D. Newsome, Nadine Forde, Stan Yarian, Gary Miller, Judy Grunbaum, Barbara Gilman, Chris Johansen, Carlos Maynard, Lawrence James Philp, Nora Crain, Janna Longacre, Ann Souza, Abby Gould, Meg Liebrag, Jerry Meadows, Mary (Toots) Zynsky, Bob Steiner, Linda Kearney, Warren Dreher, Richard James, Melissa Koch, Karen Lahn.

In response to the letter sent to the administration on March 16th, I have the following responses.

1. There are many financial requirements of the school and the museum and the Board of Trustees and the administration are in the process of formulating a plan for a capital fund campaign which might well enable us to eventually increase the scholarship funds of the school. As our planning proceeds, we will incorporate in the long range fund-raising plans of the School of Design specific provision for increasing scholarship aid funds.

A. In each case when tuition has gone up over the past five years, there's always been provision made of 15% of the amount of increased income due to tuition which has been laid aside to increase the scholarship aid funds.

B. We have always had scholarships for young people from all parts of the country who without financial aid would not be able to attend RISD. We have not set any artificial quotas as to place of residence for full scholarship students, but our discussions have tended towards making a heavier effort within Rhode Island as part of the basic philosophy of this administration.

Our funds for scholarships include three major categories, the first of which is grants, the second of which is work-study money, and the third of which is loans. Our present policy is to provide funds in the first two categories for incoming full scholarship freshmen and then to work out a suitable package with each scholarship student for the remaining three or four years of his or her career here. Ordinarily loans are a part of the package for the final three or four years of a student's career here, but exceptions to this normal practice will be made when it appears relevant.

The whole question of selection of students to come here whether on scholarship or not is a very complicated and technical problem, and the admissions committee has the authority not only to make the painful decisions as to who comes and who does not come, but also to work out the policies under which that committee will operate. Our purpose is not to find individuals with the highest possible grades or class standing or SAT scores, but is to find those

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students who will profit most from an experience here at our college and who give evidence of sizable talent in a visual art sense.

- C. Incoming students are asked whether they are going to require financial aid when they join us in their first year. Our planning is considerably damaged when an individual who has not applied for financial aid suddenly does so. We recognize that in occasional instances individuals suddenly move from a status of being able to pay full tuition to requiring some aid or full scholarship aid and in those instances where this happens, we are caught with our funds already committed. I am instructing the financial aid officer to hold some funds available for such emergencies.
2. It is not our opinion that we can declare a moratorium on increases in tuition and room and board fees for the next four years.
 3. The fact that RISD has available some full scholarships as well as a larger number of part scholarships, from a financial point of view is generally well known; is in our catalogue and needs no further advertising. Mr. Meeker is writing the new admissions catalogue for the school and will be delighted to show the copy before printing to any or all of you.
 4. If these demands are interpreted to mean that we will have an additional scholarship aid fund of \$500,000 for the school year of 1970-71, I feel that it cannot be met.
 5. I am complying with your demand by placing this letter in the Dean of Students office.

Yours very truly,

Talbot Rantoul
President

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