WELFARE & Miscellaneous Services

The Chaplaincy

The Northampton long had a Christian Union, but religious denominational societies were not allowed until 1961-62, when the Church of England Society was formed. Christian witness and worship has been guided by Reverends P. Mason, D. Stonebanks, W. Zwalf and H. Williams (Church of England), Reverends G.H. Davis, C. Morris and G. Tedcastle (Methodist), Reverends T. Cornford, B. Stuart and R. Norris (United Reformed) and Reverends P. Carpenter, B. Kent, R. Riley and F. Hegarty (Catholic).

The Moynagh Health Centre

Soon after Northampton Hall was opened in session 1966-67, a medical officer was appointed. Dr. K.D. Moynagh of St. Bartholomew’s Hospital, who had been working for the College part-time in this capacity since 1964, was appointed. Sadly he died during the time of taking over the new University Health Centre in Sebastian Street in 1972. His widow officially opened the Moynagh Health Centre, unveiling a plaque in his memory on 24th July 1973. Dr. Margaret A. Lorge was appointed Senior Physician 1st September 1972. There is also a full-time Counselling Service under Miss E. Noonan.

The Saddlers’ Sports Centre and Recreation

It was not the policy of the City Parochial Foundation to finance activities that could legally be financed out of rates and taxes. Thus, very early on, the C.P.F. ceased to finance the educational activities and concentrated on social and sports provision. Gradually, however, following the 1918 Education Act that recognised that the education service should provide opportunities for the healthy use of leisure, the C.P.F. was less happy to pay for it. The 1944 Education Act completed the process. The organised users of the Palmers Green ground became known as the Northampton Exiles and took up a tenancy that expired in 1963.

The swimming bath and the sports centre are both let to outside parties when not required by the University. In chapter eight we have recorded the generous donation of the Worshipful Company of Saddlers that enabled the building of the Saddlers’ Sports Centre on the University’s
Goswell Road site, Subsequently the Company covenanted an annual sum for seven years to support the running of this excellent centre. Subsequent to the removal of the University of Surrey to Guildford, Chelsea College was looking for another partner to share its Collier's Wood Ground. City University's leased athletics ground on the North Circular Road was given up in 1971-72, although the Palmers Green ground was retained. Thus the University now enjoys very fine sports and recreational facilities. No attempt is made here to record the history of individual or team prowess in sports or games in the same way that individual academic attainment is not covered. In 1970 P. Johnson was appointed Sports Director.

Worcester Polytechnic

A scheme operative from session 1971-72 enables City University students to spend six months in the United States studying at Worcester Polytechnic whilst American students come to City University on an exchange basis. Each institution waives course fees but students need to find fares and subsistence. For the British students the exchange period counts as an Industrial period and the American students can gain course credits. The scheme provides valuable educational and social experience and soon extended to staff visits and exchanges. Mrs. M. Watkins has fostered the scheme from the beginning. There are now links with other institutions abroad.

Information Services

Northampton College had a Gazette which continued as T.C.U. Gazette and in 1966 G.T. Page was appointed as Communications Consultant looking after press publicity and producing a high quality magazine Quest for issue to schools from May 1967. Terry Page was succeeded by Tom Baistow in 1976 and City News commenced publication.

Careers Advisory Service

The Careers Advisory Service was conducted on a part-time basis until 1970 by R.P. Pierce-Price of London University’s Service. He was then appointed full-time.

Schools Liaison

Academic Departments and the Students’ Union have organised visits of interested potential students over the years, and there are links with schools via academic staff serving as school governors. A Schools Liaison Officer was appointed in 1970.