

March 18, 1967

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Extract from Minutes of Faculty Meeting dated December 12, 1966

"Regarding rumors about faculty resignations from Shimer, President Mullin said he could not speak for the future, but to date only one person (Mr. Bellairs) has indicated he does not wish to return next year. The President concluded his remarks as follows: 'I think everyone of you in this room can make a contribution to Shimer College and I think it is important that we all do make such contributions. I would hope our present difficulties would not cause any to leave and would urge each of you to unite for the good of the College and the welfare of our students. All of you are essential if we are to continue our fine educational venture. There will necessarily be some losses of faculty, but I hope they can be at a minimum and that we can get enthusiastic additions.'"

Extract from President Mullin's Memorandum to Members of  
the Faculty dated February 11, 1967

"It is important for the sake of our students, as well as ourselves, that every effort be made to heal the breach caused by the division within the faculty and to work together as a group of rational, intelligent people trying to help each other solve mutual problems.

"I welcome your comments or discussion on these or any matters affecting the welfare of the College, its faculty and its students. We owe it to the students to concentrate on academic achievement and to continue to give them a good education."

Extract from President Mullin's Memorandum to Members of  
the Faculty dated February 28, 1967

"It seems to me that the most deplorable thing that has come out of our present difficulty has been both the private and public interjection of expressions of derogatory opinions by faculty members about their colleagues. Regretably, this too often has been both emotional and unrealistic, as well as uncharitable. There has been not only a polarization about ideas within the faculty, but also a corrosive private and public denouncement of colleagues on a personal and destructive basis. Unfortunately, this has been transmitted to the students and has added greatly to their confusion and unrest. I decry the efforts of all those persons who have engaged in character assassination, whether publicly or privately. I decry the highly unprofessional efforts to involve and exploit students in this matter, especially the attempts to frighten them with dire prophecies of doom. I call upon each one of us to examine our motives and to evaluate our behavior. This should lead to the sincere encouragement of the healing process. Let us renew our faith in the real Shimer College by seeking out the truth, and by discharging our responsibilities with all the dignity, courage, and honor at our command."