Date: October 16, 1973

From: Office of the Chancellor

Subject: Narcotic Drug Legislation

You're undoubtedly aware that New York State's narcotics law went into effect September 1. Governor Rockefeller, as you know, urged enactment of the legislation as part of his continuing program to curtail drug abuse, a major problem in today's society.

While there is no evidence which indicates that college students are any more or less involved with drugs than are other segments of society, I believe we have an obligation to assist in familiarizing our students with the law, including penalties for infractions. A person convicted of a violation jeopardizes his future in many ways. Indeed, those convicted of a felony are barred from employment in fields such as medicine, law and engineering.

Because of the serious implications of the new legislation, I ask that you initiate programs to increase student and staff awareness of the new law and the possible consequences of violations.

In addition, this seems an opportune time to reexamine our efforts to counter illegal use of drugs. One such effort--education and orientation programs designed and conducted with the assistance of responsible student leaders--has been effective on some campuses. Under present circumstances, implementation of such programs on a University-wide basis seems not only desirable but necessary.

Some material for this purpose has already been sent to you, your student leaders, and your student affairs administrators. We'll provide additional materials at the next meeting of the Conference of Presidents.
Memorandum to Presidents
October 16, 1973

Would you please submit, during this semester, a description of existing or planned drug education programs at your campus as well as other special efforts you are making to deal with problems associated with drugs.

Thanks very much.

Ernest D. Boyer

This memorandum addressed to:

Presidents, State-operated Campuses
Presidents, Community Colleges
Deans, Statutory Colleges

Copies for information only sent to:

Chancellor Kibbee
Dean McGrath
Vice Provost Risley
President Miles