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## [Statement from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, March 13, 1969]

Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Sarah Lawrence College

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March 13, 1969

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

With respect to the memorandum sent to the Board of Trustees by the students in Westlands, it should be clear that the Board has responsibility for overseeing and approving the kind and quality of education offered by the College. Developing solutions to the specific problems raised in the memorandum--with the exception of rescinding the tuition increase--is the responsibility of the administration and faculty, subject to approval by the Board.

Changes in the structure of committees or provisions of tenure involve changes in the faculty by-laws; such changes are proposed by the faculty and sent to the Board for approval. The Board does not initiate faculty by-law changes.

Specific proposals for changes in such matters as admissions procedures, curriculum and appointments are developed by the President and the faculty and submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval.

As to the tuition increase: The increase cannot be rescinded since these funds are necessary to carry out the College's program for 1969-70. It is hoped that changes in the structure of the College now being worked on by faculty, administrators and students will make it possible to operate the College without incurring such rapidly escalating costs. With rising costs of education, however, increases in tuitions are likely to continue in all private colleges all over the country.

The Board is deeply concerned with and interested in the discussions about change which are under way in the College community and will give thorough and thoughtful consideration to them.