

Thursday night November 5, a group of students concerned with the dismissal of Professor Bennett met to ascertain the facts about the recent decision. Dr. Bennett provided us with the following information.

1. Professor Bennett was not notified that the committee for the evaluation of his appointment was about to meet.
2. Professor Bennett's publishing record was not examined in the decision.
3. The case was brought up in October, much earlier than customary.
4. Professor Bennett was not given a one year extension period.
5. Three newly-appointed tenured members of the philosophy department who had been at Brandeis only one month were involved in the decision. They could not adequately judge Bennett's worth.
6. Personal non-academic evaluation of Professor Bennett influenced the decision.
7. Graduate students have been discouraged from taking Professor Bennett's courses by tenured members of the department.
8. Tenured members of the philosophy department have expressed the opinion that philosophy and politics are incompatible. Dr. Bennett spent the past summer in social action in Roxbury.
9. Dr. Diamandopoulos is a professor of philosophy, chairman of the history of ideas department, and Dean of Faculty. As a member of the administration, he was present at, and voted at the decision-making meeting, thus acting as both judge and executioner.

Committee on Bennett's Dismissal