York Students Back Jamaica

By IWEN HSIAO

The Student Council at York College now supports Jamaica as a permanent site for the new four-year institution.

The surprising switch of position was disclosed yesterday as students were preparing for a march today on City Hall to demand adequate facilities for the college.

The college’s student leaders earlier had supported Fort Totten in Bayside as a permanent site. But in a vote late last week, the 30-member Student Council endorsed Jamaica as the site. Prior to that, the student government’s nine-member executive board unanimously approved Jamaica, it was learned.

Mark Powers of Jamaica, a student council spokesman, said because the Board of Higher Education reportedly favors the Jamaica site, the student council “is willing to go along with it.”

Asqured whether sites other than Jamaica were discussed, Powers refused to comment, saying it was irrelevant.

Powers stressed that rather than the permanent site, the students are more concerned with having adequate facilities in the immediate future. “We’d support any site, even it’s in Osh-Kosh,” he said, “if the needs of the students can be met.”

That concern is shared by the college’s 50 faculty members. In a resolution unanimously adopted yesterday, the faculty demanded:

- Immediate designation and preparation of an adequate temporary facility for the full interim period before permanent facilities are available.
- Immediate augmentation of present facilities to provide adequate space for the academic year 1968-69.
- Immediate designation, acquisition and preparation

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Students at York Endorse Jamaica

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of a permanent site so that academic and community planning can begin.

A faculty spokesman said although Jamaica was mentioned as a permanent site, no vote was taken as to a preference.

The faculties warned that unless the recommendations are met, York College will not be able to enroll a freshman class this fall and that its program for upper classmen will become significantly below the standards of other colleges.

At present, York College is using the facilities of Queensborough Community College in Bayside. The Board of Higher Education, while favoring Jamaica as a permanent site, leans toward the Glen Oaks Country Club as a temporary site.

POWERS, who is co-chairman of the Student Site Selection Committee, said both students and faculties were to participate in today’s march, scheduled to begin at noon on the Brooklyn side of the Brooklyn Bridge and proceed across the bridge onto City Hall Plaza.

While students demonstrate outside City Hall, a student-faculty delegation will seek a meeting with Mayor Lindsay to demand adequate classrooms, laboratories, auditorium, library, cafeteria, parking and recreational facilities.

Powers said that through City Council President Frank D. O’Connor, who addressed the student body last October, Lindsay had pledged his support of a “higher quality education” for the students. “We want him to fulfill that commitment,” he said.

Locating York College in Jamaica is widely supported by many public officials, including Mayor Lindsay and O’Connor, and community organizations.