MEMORANDUM

To: President's Council
From: Joseph Shoben
Subject: DTF Report on the College Information Center

Although I have had only a chance to skim this document, I am sending on two copies of the report of the DTF on the proposed College Information Center. Obviously, it is an item that we should discuss thoroughly at the earliest opportunity. It seems clear that the DTF has done a thoughtful and thorough job that deserves as prompt and positive response as we can provide.

EJS: mw

cc: Nichols
THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE

September 15, 1971

MEMORANDUM

To:       Bob Barnard  Lucy Enriquez/  Don Humphrey  Pat Matheny
          Carl Brown   Mary Garner   Will Humphreys  Mike Olson
          Dave Calof   Kathy Hagen   Jan Krones  Bill Phipps
          Les Eldridge  Ron Hoffman  Les Leahy  Deborah Skiff

From:     Dick Nichols

Subject:  Information Center DTF

First, a reminder that our next meeting is scheduled for 1 - 3 p.m., Wednesday, September 22 (that's a change because of a conflict) in Building 215. Another meeting of our DTF will be held from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in Building 215 on Wednesday, September 29. Please mark those dates.

A quick reminder about where we are and where we hope to go next.

We've generally thrashed about and agreed that we probably can't come up with a perfect solution to the problem of input but that if we design a workable, reliable system people will make increasing use of it. We've seemingly agreed that we ought not ignore the contribution that faculty can make in getting information to students while still realizing that student interest goes beyond study groups--that there is a need for community-wide participation.

We've also apparently recognized for at least, but not entirely limited to, staff and budgetary limitations that the Information Center should focus on the need to publicize what's happening at Evergreen as opposed to playing initiative or investigatory roles. (This per Will Humphreys' summary near the end of the meeting.)

We've agreed that we want to eliminate (to the extent possible) the avalanche of paper descending on us with increasing rapidity and velocity, while realizing that centralizing the issuance of memos, etc. does transfer a heavy work burden.

We've recognized the need for coordination of "important" campus-wide communications but still must wrestle with two problems associated with this: (1) a recognition of the things an Information Center can't do (as Bob Barnard suggested); and (2) a definition (if we can) of what "important" means. We also know that the Information Center will need a "place" for operations and some kind of supply of manpower in a time of severe budgetary constraints.

What we haven't talked about (and couldn't the first time around) is the system itself: Just what will the center do and how? We'll hear something about facilities and money at the next meeting, but the most important item will be the consideration of some specific proposals. If you have any thoughts
or even complete models in mind, please get them into rough written form and send them to me prior to the meeting so that I can make copies for all members of the DTF. I'm planning to show up with my own model but I hope it won't be the only point of conversation.

I hope we'll be able to begin putting a "master model" together next time, get it pretty well refined on September 29, put the finishing touches to it the following week and then draft our report to Joe Shoben no later than October 8. Since our students and faculty DTF members will be scattering after October 1, we'd best get most of the hard work done before the end of the month.

DICK NICHOLS