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Simon's Rock Oral History Project

Interviewee: **Bob Snyder**
Faculty in Mathematics (1974 - 2010)

Interviewer: **Russell Miller, College Archivist**
Transcriber: **Russell Miller, College Archivist**

Date: **August 17, 2005**

Location: **Bard College at Simon's Rock, Great Barrington, MA**

Collection: **Simon's Rock College Archives**

Contact: **archives@simons-rock.edu**

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Interview with Bob Snyder

August 17, 2005

Simon's Rock of Bard College (aka Bard College at Simon's Rock)

Selected excerpts from the Oral History Project interview. The full transcript may be restricted. To request access please contact the [Simon's Rock College Archives](#).

Keywords: George Richardson, Bud Leeds, Baird Whitlock, Betty Hall, Elizabeth Blodgett Hall, merger, Bard, Leon Botstein, Upper Campus, Winter Term

“I’d been in an early college program, myself. [...] So, I actually left high school after the tenth grade and entered this sort of program. I don’t have a high school degree. In fact, that was one of the things that may have – I mentioned that in my letter when I was inquiring about a job here, and had gotten a response back from Bud Leeds, who was sort of Dean of the Faculty then, and taught mathematics. He was inquiring about my experiences there. So I think that might have led to them responding to me when the job did open.”

“I think to some extent the quality of the students, as a whole, improved some after the merger with Bard. It may have just been that we got some good admissions people. Whether that was through the efforts of Bard, I can’t answer that question. But certainly I think things have progressed very well since the merger with Bard, in terms of the success of the school. You see we’ve added a lot of buildings, we’ve got a bigger enrollment, and I think the quality of the students, as a whole, is better.”

“The school is still such a wonderful place. It’s still a wonderful physical location. It’s still a lot of community, I think. The students are interesting. The classes are interesting. I think the program is interesting. Yeah, there are going to be some rough spots. Things won’t stay exactly the same. Things will change a little bit, but I think the school will remain the school it’s been.”