policy-making at the State College when President Ernest O. Holland submitted his resignation on March 29, 1944, terminating 28 years of service in that office. That same day, Herman J. Deutsch and 58 faculty colleagues requested the privilege of participating in the selection of the new president by means of a special committee. The deans and directors also offered their services, but that gesture was less notable than the faculty request. Deans and directors had regularly been consulted by President Holland but the faculty had been largely without significant influence on policy. In this new situation, the professors were consulted, their representatives serving on an ad hoc committee, offering a sign that they might have greater influence in the new administration than they had under Holland.[4]

The State College of Washington, which since 1956 has had the title Washington State University, was a small school in 1944 with only 1,978 students, located at Pullman in the rolling hills of the Palouse. Their situation seemed to have created psychological problems for some faculty because they were isolated from the main lines of commerce and communication. Isolation for Holland created a fear that his campus was the cynosure for a host of Washingtonians critical of student behavior, disapproving of liberal teaching, and distrustful of research not immediately applicable to the agricultural industries of the state.

The State College, in one sense, was a pale copy of the liberal arts college of the nineteenth century, probably less rigorous than eastern contemporaries. From a slightly different perspective it was largely a teaching institution in which graduate work and faculty research and creative endeavor were far below teaching in prestige. The State College also by law was (and remains) a land-grant school but did not entirely fit the appellation "Cow College," though it had cows enough. Enoch A. Bryan, the president from 1893-1915, had