Goals
There are several objectives of the O.U.T.L.E.T. (The Open Use of Television for Language Experiences Together) series. The first is to familiarize these student producers with what is involved in the production of a television show (while realizing that this is a real experience in that there is a large audience who will be watching.) We hope that this will keep students in touch with peers in different areas of the state. It is a requirement of the funding school systems that the shows offer something to those watching as well as those participating... and rightly so! the basic concern is “communication.”

However, most of the kids involved are far from experienced so we're trying not to set false expectations or demands. We would consider a program worthwhile if teamwork processes are learned and observable. The WNVT staff is trying very hard to transmit these skills to the student teams. If successful, this cooperative effort should have tremendous effect on both the individual shows and the series.

Planning and Training
The basic guide for a series of student-centered productions was set up at a conference this past summer. In attendance were WNVT personnel and educators from the schools. Brainstorming techniques were used in achieving the final outline. At this point that outline is being expanded and modified as the need arises.

It was the general feeling at the summer conference that as many students as possible should be involved in the project and that it truly be student centered.

This called for workshops in orienting teacher team members as to their roles in addition to establishing student workshop sessions. Fortunately, the School Services Division of WNVT is staffed with Program Utilization Specialists who are trained in team building, problem-solving, and leadership skills. Thus, right on down the line, everyone was involved in constant learning experiences.

There are two WNVT staff members working full-time on O.U.T.L.E.T. - Duffy Farrand and myself. It has been our function to implement the conference objectives, organize the schedules and fill any needs the teams have as we move along. One of the first things we did, was to design an orientation tape which we produced to go along with a studio tour.

The orientation packet gives definitions of many television terms, a sample script and run-down of the orientation tape, a guiding outline of where students should try to be time-wise during the six weeks, and an addenda of the processes involved during the period. Each member is also given a copy of the taping and orientation schedules so they are in touch with the what and when of the other groups.

Steering Committee and Money Matters
There is a steering committee, composed of equal numbers of students and adults, who make deci-