

COLUMBIA SPECTATOR ARCHIVE

Columbia Daily Spectator, Volume CXVI, Number 36, 9 March 1992 — Harvard searches for new provost [ARTICLE]

Harvard searches for new provost

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Contributing Writer

The search for a provost at Harvard University came one step closer to conclusion after University President Neil Rudenstine narrowed the field to three finalists.

The new provost will be the first person to assume the post since it was abolished in the 1950s. Duties of the new provost, who will become the most powerful Harvard administrator under Rudenstine, will include assisting the president with academic planning and integrating the operations of the graduate schools and the Arts and Sciences division, which now operate mostly independently of one another.

Although the search has been conducted in secret, the Harvard Crimson obtained the names of the three Harvard faculty members being considered for the post: Professor of Health Care Policy Barbara McNeil, Professor of Government Dennis Thompson, and Professor of Political Economics Jerry Green.

Also at Harvard, a group of law school students has sued the university, claiming that hiring practices at the school discriminate against women and minorities.

The Coalition for Civil Rights, the organization of students who filed the suit, argues that discriminatory hiring has hurt law students' education. The Supreme Judicial

Court of Massachusetts heard the case yesterday, and a ruling is expected in one to five months.

In another Harvard conflict, a Christian group has called for the resignation of the university chaplain, who announced last November that he is gay.

The group, Concerned Christians at Harvard, held a candlelight vigil and is conducting a postering campaign in its attempt to oust Reverend Peter J. Gomes from his post at Memorial Church. Gomes announced his homosexuality last fall in a protest of Peninsula, a conservative Harvard monthly which published an issue dealing exclusively with homosexuality.

Yale University

Yale University has announced that it expects a deficit of \$15 million for the 1991-92 academic year.

The figure replaces an earlier estimate of only \$8.8 million. The \$6.2 million dollar increase has resulted mostly from a rise of approximately \$3.2 million in financial aid spending. The deficit could rise even further when the federal government sets the percentage it reimburses the university for secondary research costs.

In the past, the federal government has supported Yale science research centers' operating expenses by granting 58 percent of its indirect science research costs for federal projects. In May, the Bush administration capped the percentage of funds the government would give at 26 percent.

Yale also announced that there will be a 6.7 percent increase in tuition and room and board costs for the 1992-93 academic year. Tuition

the 1992-93 academic year. Tuition costs will rise to \$17,500 and room and board expenses will climb to \$6,700.

Duke University

Duke University President Keith Brodie has announced his resignation and a national search has begun for his replacement.

Brodie will step down from his post after the 1993 spring semester.

Possible replacements include current Duke administrators and Elizabeth Dole, a Duke alumna, former United States Secretary of Transportation and of Labor, and current head of the American Red Cross.

Also at Duke, graduate English students who teach the basic first-year composition course are irate over a recent administration decision to hold all classes at 8:00 a.m. The Graduate Professor's Student Council has unanimously passed a resolution calling on the administration to reconsider the decision and graduate instructors are considering forming a union.

In a different conflict, 40 people stormed into a meeting of a committee which is considering opening a Wendy's restaurant in the Duke student center.

Opposition to the plan, which was drawn up by the Privatization Committee, focuses on possible layoffs of employees at other student center eateries, a stipulation that nearby university restaurants would not be able to sell foods similar to those sold by Wendy's, and a contract stipulation that would require first-year students to subscribe to a board plan for the first time.

Also at Duke, Brodie has agreed

to personally fund five important merit scholarships.

The five Andrew B. Duke Scholarships, valued together at \$350,000 to \$360,000, were to be eliminated in efforts to close a \$3 million budget gap.

Princeton University

A university eating club which has been closed for several years will reopen soon. The club, called the Dial Elm Cannon, was closed by

its Graduate Board due to vandalism and alcohol abuse by members. Princeton eating clubs act as both dining halls and social clubs.

Cornell University

An unidentified person or persons sprayed graffiti over several maps of the campus, criticizing a proposed move to assign dormitory rooms randomly for all incoming first-year students.

The plan, advocated by Vice President for Academic Programs and Campus Affairs Larry Palmer, would change the current system by not allowing first-year students to declare a housing preference. Palmer argues that the change would increase integration and awareness of diversity by forcing students into living arrangements with people they might not normally meet.

The graffiti written on the signs was "NRH," which stands for "No Random Housing." No suspects have been named.

Stanford University

The Student Senate at Stanford University passed a bill suggesting that the Board of Trustees reconsider their decision to raise tuition by

9.5 percent for the 1992-93 academic year.

Also at Stanford, the Cowell Student Health Service has proposed that the university begin a free, anonymous AIDS testing program. Money for the new program would come from savings the health service expects in its switch from professional psychological counseling services to peer counseling.

In Stanford sports, swimmer Jenny Thompson broke the world record in the 100-meter freestyle. Thompson, a first-year student, gained a place on the 1992 United States Olympic team with her effort. Her time of 54.48 seconds broke the old record by 0.25 seconds, a significant margin in the 100-meter freestyle.

Dartmouth College

A black students' group at Dartmouth has petitioned the college to change the name of the black special-interest housing residence, arguing that the man it is named for was a racist.

The Afro-American Society has asked the university to change the name of Cutter Hall, named for a former president of United Fruit, to Shabbazz Hall. Shabbazz is a shortened version of Malcolm X's Arabic name. Other student groups have supported a name change, but argue that Malcolm X was anti-semitic and that a different name should be chosen.

College Round-up