

Campus Notes

The Freshmen

An American Council on Education survey of the current freshman crop reveals some interesting information about the students.

Of those in public universities like OU 61.6 per cent felt it was essential or very important to be an authority in their fields, 70 per cent to raise a family, 68.2 per cent to have friends with different backgrounds, 63.3 per cent to help others in difficulty, and 83.8 per cent to develop a philosophy of life.

In government affairs 93.5 per cent feel the federal government should be more involved in control of environmental pollution, 71.4 per cent in protecting consumers from faulty goods, 68.2 per cent in providing compensatory education for disadvantaged, 77.4 per cent in elimination of poverty, and 89.6 per cent in crime prevention.

Almost 90 per cent agreed that students should have a major role in designing curricula, and 69.7 per cent agreed that students should help decide faculty promotions and that most students felt the way they did. 81.9 per cent agreed that some abortions should be legalized.

Politically 29.5 per cent felt they were now liberal, although 35.4 per cent felt they would be liberals within four years. Now 44.4 per cent are middle of the road, but only 29.5 per cent expect to still be there four years from now.

Racially the group is not a very mixed bag — 90.9 per cent are Caucasian, 6 per cent Negro, .3 per cent American Indian, 1.7 per cent Oriental and 1.1 per cent other origin.

Tripping

On the theory that first-hand experience beats textbook learning, 28

political science students headed for the nation's capital in December accompanied by two faculty members in political science.

Initiated by the students, the trip included a meeting with members of Oklahoma's congressional delegation, visits to the White House, Congress, the courts, several regulatory agencies, the Pentagon, the State Department and the Federal Judicial Center. They also were received by the embassies of Israel and Kuwait.

Students paid their own expenses with some assistance from the Alumni Development Fund, the OU Honors Program and the University Community Office.

Distinguished Visitors

Argentine poet, essayist, short story writer and critic, Jorge Luis Borges, was at OU Nov. 16-Dec. 6 under the sponsorship of the Department of Modern Languages and Books Abroad international literary quarterly.

In a series of lectures and symposia, some in Spanish and some in English, the blind writer attracted

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large numbers of students and other interested people.

In the School of Art three craftsmen served as guest artists in November for a craft symposium. Paul Soldner of Aspen, Colorado, Dr. Nik Krevitsky of Tucson, Arizona, and Mike Selig, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, worked with the students in an exchange of idea and theory.

Jose Feliciano, the popular young Puerto Rican guitarist, appeared December 4 as part of the Popular Artist Series sponsored by the Student Association.

Outlook

A further slow-down in business activity during the first half of this year followed by a modest upturn in the latter half of the year is forecast by Dr. A. G. Homan, director of OU's Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

In Oklahoma Homan expects the same general pattern with a rise in personal income of about 6 per cent compared with an estimated 8.8 per cent rise in 1969.

New Jobs

Dr. Jerome C. Weber, member of the OU physical education faculty since 1964, has been named an assistant dean of University College, OU's freshman division.

Weber, who spends half-time at his University College post, is assisting in the administration of counseling and advisory programs. He holds a bachelor's degree from Brooklyn College, and master's and doctoral degrees from Michigan State. At OU he is a member of the Human Relations Committee, first vice president of the OU chapter of the American Association of University Professors and president of the Faculty Club. In 1968 he received a \$10,000 grant from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to conduct a study on the physical fitness status of Oklahoma youth.

Robert M. Ruggles joined OU in November as assistant professor of journalism and assistant to the director of the School of Journalism. He had been the education writer for the Daily Oklahoman and Oklahoma City Times. Ruggles holds bachelor's and master's degrees from OU.

Timely Debate

Clock watching took on new dimensions at OU just before Thanksgiving. The point in question: What time is 12 p.m., the hour the official University calendar gave as the beginning of Thanksgiving recess?

To the University Senate, which started it all, 12 p.m. meant midnight. But to the students and their congress 12 p.m. was noon. And so the battle raged as the clock ticked on.

Dr. Hollomon settled it all with a tongue-in-cheek administrative white paper calling the decision "one of the most vital" he has had to make, he settled on midnight. Most students left early in the afternoon anyway, like they usually do.

Chief Visitors

An Oklahoma City bank executive and a Santa Fe, New Mexico, publisher have been named chief officers of the Board of Visitors, which advises President Hollomon on policy matters affecting the University and reviews and recommends long-range goals of the institution. The new officers are J. W. McLean, chairman, who is president and chief executive officer of Liberty National Bank and Trust Co., Oklahoma City, and Robert McKinney, vice chairman, who is pub-

lisher of The Santa Fe New Mexican.

Scheduling

With more and more schools going to schedules that end their first semester before Christmas, OU is making another attempt at revising the schedule.

The University Senate committee on organization has circulated a questionnaire on the academic calendar offering four plans: one that gets finals out of the way before Christmas; one that ends classes before Christmas and provides for no final exams; one that ends classes before Christmas and has finals immediately after Christmas, and the traditional schedule with classes ending after Christmas with finals in mid-January. All are proposals for the 1971-72 calendar.

On the Job

In an effort to bring Jamaican nationals back to their home country to live and work, the Jamaican government has set up a personnel development unit to establish and maintain contact with students and graduates. Interested OU alumni may write the Training Division of the Military, 3 Lockett Avenue, Kingston 4, Jamaica.

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