

Who's Minding the Store?

After "Where is he going?" and "Why did he leave?", the next question when a university president resigns is, "Who's minding the store?" Very simply, the answer is that the University of Oklahoma will be guided during the search for a new president by the same administrative team that has been responsible for the day-to-day operation of the institution for some time.

The interim president, Dr. J. R. Morris Jr., has been associated with the University for 27 years, from graduate assistant to Norman campus provost, second only to President Banowsky in his broad managerial authority, particularly in academic areas. Educated as a psychologist, Morris has been assistant dean, then dean of University College and vice president for the University Community. He served briefly as interim provost in 1976 and 1978 before assuming the office on a permanent basis in 1979.

Dr. R. Gerald Turner, the new Norman campus acting provost, has overseen the administrative details for Banowsky for the past three years, first as executive assistant to the president, then vice president for executive affairs. A Texas native, Turner came to OU from Pepperdine University, where he was associate vice president for university affairs.

Continuing his direction of the Oklahoma City campus is Dr. Clayton Rich, Health Sciences Center provost since 1980. Rich previously was dean of medicine and vice president for medical affairs at Stanford University, and came to OU from the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Science in Washington, D. C.

OU's senior administrator in terms of longevity, Vice President David A. Burr, will continue to direct the office of University Affairs, which includes private fund raising, media services, school relations and publications. Burr began his OU service in 1950 as editor of *Sooner Magazine*, was director of public relations and development and assistant to the president, vice president for the University Community and vice president for university relations and development.



The familiar faces with the familiar names making up the team which will direct the University of Oklahoma during the presidential search period include (clockwise) Interim President J. R. Morris, seated at right, Acting Provost R. Gerald Turner, Vice President for Administrative Affairs Arthur J. Elbert, Vice President for University Affairs David A. Burr and Vice President for Student Affairs Jack H. Stout. Not pictured is Health Sciences Center Provost Clayton Rich.

Vice President for Administrative Affairs Arthur J. Elbert was Banowsky's first major appointment in 1979. Elbert's far-ranging responsibilities include operation and maintenance of the physical plant, financial and budgetary matters and auxiliary services. He held a similar position at Chicago State University before coming to OU.

Jack H. Stout, the vice president for student affairs, has had a variety of student-related assignments since joining the staff as a general counselor in 1966. He was the number two person in the University Community

under both Burr and Morris, then associate vice provost and vice provost for student affairs before being promoted to vice president in 1981.

Rounding out the executive staff are Barbara H. James, executive secretary to the OU Board of Regents; Stanley W. Ward, OU's chief legal counsel; Ron D. Burton, University trust officer and executive director of the OU Foundation; Walter R. Mason, assistant to the president and affirmative action officer; Larry C. Brawner, HSC associate provost; and Gary R. Smith, HSC vice provost for administration and finance.