



What's New(s) at RIC

Bond Issue Campaign Efforts Accelerating

In the event that the sight of John Foley dressed as Uncle Sam at the old-fashioned rally held on campus September 27 hasn't won over every last uncommitted voter to the cause of supporting Bond Issue Referendum Number 9, the bond issue campaign committee he heads is initiating several activities which he feels certain will complete the task.

Nine "information bulletins" on the bond issue, what it will mean to the college, what facilities will be provided by its passage, how approval will affect the individual taxpayer, will be circulated to the entire campus on Tuesday and Thursday each week between now and election day, November 7.

In addition, a letter seeking endorsement of the bond issue has been sent to every organization which has rented or used RIC facilities in recent years. A large number of community groups and civic and fraternal organizations have also received the letter. A separate mailing is planned to go to 25,000 homes in the area contiguous to the campus in an effort to enlist the support of our neighbors.

Brochures, posters and hand-outs have been designed and will be available for distribution from October 3 on. The committee chaired by Foley will be meeting weekly between now and election day. Final details for a telephone survey to elicit favorable votes are the next priority on the group's agenda.

Open House Greenhouse Tour and Plant Sale



Vicki Smith, A RIC senior majoring in art, tends to plants in the campus greenhouse under a work-study program. A tour of the greenhouse and plant sale are among the many Open House events scheduled for October 15.

-Photo by Peter P. Tobia.

President's Column

Recent news coverage of my remarks to the faculty of the University of Rhode Island may have distorted my main point, which was that those things which Rhode Island College can do now and do well, it should be designated to do in the metropolitan area. The college has the advantages of a full-time, urban-based campus which offers programs of high academic quality and excellent student support services. Never have I called for the exclusion of the university or any other institution from Providence. Rather, I have repeatedly stressed that there is good work for all three public institutions to do in the city as well as statewide, but that Rhode Island College is prepared to offer the bulk of undergraduate programming in the areas in which we are strong.

As evidence of the continued desire for cooperation among the public institutions of higher learning in Rhode Island, the three institutions are organizing six task forces designed to increase cooperation and use resources as effectively as possible. These task forces, as agreed upon at a meeting of the three Presidents and Dr. Carl Trendler, deputy assistant commissioner for Post-secondary Education, are groups which will work to achieve better articulation between and among the three public institutions; more inter-library purchasing and other joint services; improved academic and administrative computer services; joint usage of physical facilities; and a combined printing of all courses offered each semester in order to increase students' awareness of the range of courses available at public institutions.

In addition to these task forces, other officers and faculty members of the university, the college and the junior college meet

regularly or occasionally. The three Presidents meet at least monthly on a formal basis, and informally more often than that. It is my intention to continue to speak aggressively on behalf of the needs, role, and mission of Rhode Island College. In a state system of public higher education which has only three institutions, however, the extent of cooperation among them must be high. Thus, I also eagerly seek opportunities to further cooperative activities and programs. (An audio tape of the President's speech to the university faculty meeting may be borrowed from the President's office by anyone interested in it.)

Kickoff Event to Open United Way Campaign

"Get to the Heart of Things" has been chosen as the theme for the 1978 United Way campaign. Dr. Sheri Smith, chair of the campus campaign, announced that this year's drive will take place during the period of October 17-27.

A kickoff event, to which all members of the RIC community are invited, will be held on Tuesday, October 17 at 1 p.m. in the field area between the Henry Barnard School and the Faculty Center. Featured will be a "Kick-off" soccer competition between campus "celebrities" and the United Way Steering Committee.

Goals for the RIC campaign are a 70 percent participation by the faculty and staff, an 80 percent contribution by payroll deduction, and a 20 percent increase in the amount of contribution for a total of \$27,500.

Come watch your colleagues as they kick off a successful campaign!

Review of General Ed Program Nears Completion

A framework for a new General Education Program is emerging from months of deliberation by a Special Curriculum Review Committee. Representing the faculty and administration, the nine members of the committee met daily throughout the summer. The committee continues to meet on a weekly basis, and Chair Edward A. Scheff, professor of communications and theatre, anticipates completing the review of the college's General Education Program by early December.

In considering what changes to recommend for the new curriculum, the committee addressed itself to two basic questions: What is the desired outcome of a four-year college education? What is the responsibility of the college in terms of course offerings and requirements to ensure the desired results? The committee also took into account the results of a questionnaire sent to full-time faculty and a select group of students and alumni regarding the college's curriculum and related academic philosophies, practices and policies.

A progress report on the committee's work thus far was sent to members of the faculty, administration and program directors in September. Outlined in this report is a tentative Liberal Education Program comprised of 11, three-credit course requirements. The courses are distributed among eight areas of study and are designed to expose students to as broad a body of knowledge as possible in a reasonable amount of time.

Upon completion of its review, the committee will submit a final proposal for a General Education Program to the Curriculum Committee for its approval.

Grants and Awards

DR. PETER W. HARMAN, associate professor of economics, has been selected to receive a Fulbright-Hays award under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Program by the Board of Foreign Scholarships and the U.S. International Communication Agency. Professor Harman began a year of lecturing in international economics and economic development in July 1978 at Cuttington University College, Suacoco, Liberia.

* * * *

A planning grant of \$500 has been awarded to the ENGLISH DEPARTMENT by the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities. The department will undertake an experimental project in public education under the direction of CAROLYN R. LENZ, associate professor of English.

Plans for this project include the use of advertising placards on Rhode Island Transit Authority buses to display selections from significant works of European and Oriental authors. The public will have the opportunity to read the quotations and take home "handy commentary" to which they may respond in writing if they wish more information on the authors or their ideas.

Focus on the Faculty

A paper by Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences, DR. C. ANNETTE DUCEY, has been accepted for presentation at the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Popular Culture Association of the South to be held in Nashville, Tennessee, October 8-10. The title of the paper is "A World of Sweets and Sours, Puritan vs. Hedonist Sense in American Life."

(continued on page 4)

(Focus on the Faculty - continued)

An article entitled "Summer Session Programs of the 1980's" by DR. WILLIAM A. SMALL, acting dean of graduate studies and director of the summer session at RIC, appeared in the June 1978 issue of *Education Tomorrow*.

In the article, Dr. Small presents the results of a survey of summer session directors of 35 colleges and universities in the United States concerning the profile of future summer study programs. Predictions include an increase in students from varied backgrounds in the 35 - 55 age group; expanded, off-campus curricular offerings; more flexible scheduling of courses; shorter, more concentrated programs of study; and a greater emphasis on individualized instruction.

Opportunities

The Bureau of Grants & Sponsored Projects announces the 1978-79 program of National Science Foundation (NSF)-CHAUTAUQUA-TYPE SHORT COURSES for college science teachers. Conducted at 15 field centers throughout the United States, the program offers 52 different science courses in two, 2-day sessions; one in the fall, the other in early spring. The short course program provides a forum in which scholars at the frontiers of various scientific disciplines communicate recent advances in their fields directly to college teachers.

Participants or their institutions provide the costs of transportation, meals, and incidental expenses. Lodging and instructional materials are supported by the NSF.

A brochure containing complete information on the courses, and application forms may be obtained by writing to Chautauqua-Type Short Course, Box N, AAAS, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

The National Science Foundation is offering approximately 130 NATIONAL NEEDS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS for the 1979-80 academic year. Fellowships are awarded for study or research on scientific problems related to national needs in the mathematical, physical, medical, biological, engineering, and social sciences, as well as in interdisciplinary areas. Awards will not be made in clinical education, business fields, history, social work or public health.

Applicants should have earned a doctoral degree in any of the sciences listed above, or have attained the equivalent through research training and experience. Eligibility is also limited to those individuals holding a Ph.D. for no more than five years as of November 3, 1978, the deadline date for submitting applications for the Postdoctoral Fellowships.

Further information on these fellowships can be obtained from Annette Ducey, associate dean of arts and sciences Gaige 153.

What's Happening

The Music Department will sponsor lectures and workshops by R. Murray Schaefer, a prominent Canadian composer, on October 10 and 11. The evening workshops to be given in Roberts Hall will be of special interest to music teachers.

A Guggenheim fellow and winner of the first Harold Moon Award by BMI Canada for distinguished contributions to Canadian music at an international level, Schaefer is interested in instrumental timbres, vocal phonetics and electronic sound complexes designed to reach the emotions of his listeners. He is currently working with the World Soundscape Project which is concerned with man's sonic environment and curbing unnecessary noise.