

Aquinas Close-Up: The Financial Squeeze

The formation this semester of a Cost Allocation Committee to help balance the University's budget and attempt to avoid a tuition increase indicates to some extent the University's growing concern over its current financial difficulties, which are affecting planning for next year at virtually every level within the school. According to the recently released results of a statewide survey, however, the financial problems confronting the University at this time are by no means unique, but are instead typical of the money troubles plaguing almost all of the private colleges and universities in Pennsylvania.

Commenting on the study, which was prepared by the consulting firm of McKinsey and Company for the Pennsylvania Commission for Independent Colleges and Universities, Rev. Dexter L. Hanley, S.J., University President, noted that the survey

indicates "that the University's problems are neither unique nor due to local decisions in management and finance. We would all like the situation to be otherwise, but the facts bear out the contention that universities must be prepared to take critical steps and soon."

The McKinsey study was an analysis of the situation of 68 private colleges and universities in Pennsylvania, which together contain 95% of the enrollment in private higher education institutions in the state. The University of Scranton was one of the 68 participating schools.

"Progressive Financial Deterioration"

According to a summary of the report prepared by CICU Executive Committee Chairman Keith Spalding, "In nearly all of the 68 participating Pennsylvania institutions, a rapidly progressive financial deterioration has set in." While in 1965 the 68 schools



DR. LEONARD N. WOLF
Vice President for Planning

operated with a total surplus of \$19,000,000, in 1970 they shared a \$1,000,000 aggregate deficit. According to the report, tuition rates have risen at an average of 6.9% per year during that period, but educational costs have been increasing at a rate of 10% per year since 1965.

In a letter to members of the University community concerning the McKinsey report, Father Hanley commented on action to be taken by the University "It is my hope that this University will be ready to take innovative steps at a time early enough to reverse the general trend and to insure our solvency. . . . At this time, I suggest that the whole University community begin a serious dialogue at all levels, untinged with personalities and divorced from mere self-interest.

"The report indicates to me the sharp need of our cost-allocation

studies, better budget control, and a willingness to tighten our collective belt to assure better distribution of our resources."

University Status

Dr. Leonard N. Wolf, Vice President for Planning, told the *Aquinas* that the question of whether the University is in a period of "rapidly progressive financial deterioration" can only be answered in a "general fashion." He explained, "Yes, we are in a rapidly increasing phase of financial deterioration at the present time. And what rapidly increasing means is very simple: that we expect it to become worse and worse each year with respect to operating costs, unless we initiate certain changes. In other words, unless we do something, our deficit will become greater and greater each year, and our chance of

(Continued on page 7)

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Curriculum Changes Will Affect Upperclassmen, Explains Dean

In a recent *Aquinas* interview, Dr. William J. Parente, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, explained several ways in which present students in the college will be affected by the curriculum changes taking place this fall.

"We have already begun to be more flexible with respect to the administration of the modern language requirement," said the Dean, noting that this year students who failed to show aptitude for language in intermediate or elementary courses have frequently been allowed to make substitutions for these courses. With the institution of the new curriculum, Dr. Parente pointed out, a number of literature in translation courses will be available as possible substitutions for the regular language requirement. The new courses include classics in translation and courses in German, French and Spanish heritage.

Also in the spirit of the new curriculum, Theology 23, formerly a sophomore requirement, will not be required for present freshmen. Instead, sophomores will be able to choose from approximately seven theology courses.

Dr. Parente pointed out in addition that greater flexibility is being allowed in the way in which non-math majors may fulfill their math requirement. The new curriculum's interdisciplinary Parsegian Sequence, a four-semester natural science course designed to demonstrate relations among the scientific disciplines to non-science majors, will be available as a substitution for the present basic math requirements, as will courses in computer science. Natural Science 101, a new ecology-oriented course, has already been permitted as a substitution for math in several cases.

The Dean noted that student difficulties in these areas of theology, language and math have in the past

been the most frequent causes of probationary status.

In addition to these changes, Dr. Parente pointed out that in line with a current nationwide trend toward proliferation of courses, the University next year will have "the highest percentage of new courses that it has ever had." This is being made possible fundamentally because of the new curriculum, he explained, because the new program eliminates the traditional core curriculum, and thus frees more professors for such things as interdisciplinary courses and new departmental electives.

Several interdisciplinary courses be-



DR. WILLIAM J. PARENTE

ing incorporated into the new curriculum will be made available to upperclassmen next year. Among the interdisciplinary courses planned are "The Problem of Alienation in French and American Literature," to be taught by Dr. Njegos Petrovic of the French Department and Prof. Matthew O'Rourke of the English Department, and "The Nature of Nature" to be taught by Dr. Paul

Fahey of the Department of Physics and Dr. Matthew Fairbanks of the Philosophy Department. Prof. Stephen Casey of the Theology Department and Dr. Louise D. Mitchell of the English Department will offer a course in Black Studies.

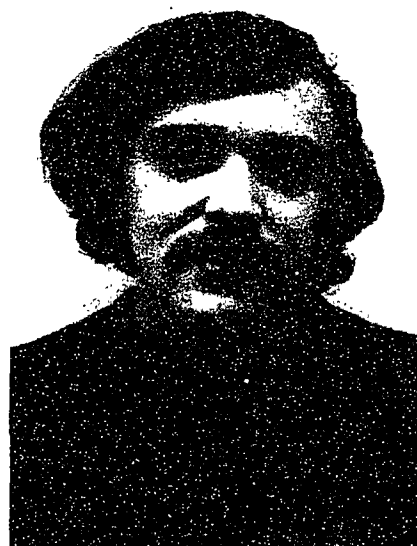
As an outgrowth of the Black Studies course to be offered, Dr. Mitchell will also be teaching an English Department elective in Black Literature. This is one example of the new courses becoming available in virtually every department in the College, according to the Dean.

Among the new departmental courses being formulated are inquiry courses, which will appear in most departments next year. "The inquiry course is not merely another name for the same course," Dr. Parente noted, explaining that inquiry courses not only deal with content, but also explore the objectives and methodology of the particular discipline and the nature of the questions it seeks to answer. Upperclassmen have not had the opportunity to take such courses, the Dean noted, and many are expected to take inquiry courses in their major fields as electives next year.

One department planning significant changes in line with the new curriculum is the Department of English. Dr. Richard H. Passon, Chairman, explained to the *Aquinas* some ways affecting upperclassmen in which the department has responded to curriculum changes.

According to Dr. Passon, present Freshmen will next year be able to fulfill their Sophomore English requirement in one of several ways. For the first time, they may choose from the regular Sophomore survey of English Literature, a new survey of American Literature, or another new course following introduction to literature by genre, featuring one

(Continued on page 2)



BOB NOLAN



JERRY MULDERIG

Mulderig Appointed Editor of *The Aquinas*

Jerry Mulderig, Junior English major, has been named Editor-in-chief of the *Aquinas* by the newspaper's Editorial Board, effective with this issue. He succeeds Robert Nolan, who resigned the post on March 17.

Mulderig, who joined the *Aquinas* in 1969, has held the positions of News Reporter, Layout Editor, News Editor and Managing Editor on the staff. He is a member of the Dean's Conference Committee, the Dean's Subcommittee on Catalogue Revision, the Conference on Resident Student Affairs, the Spiritual Life Committee and the Admissions Office Host Committee, and serves as Student/Alumni Relations co-ordinator and student representative to the Department of English.

Nolan, a former University Senate member and Political Science Club President, was a candidate in last year's Student Body President race. He has held the position of *Aquinas* Editor since December 1, and leaves the *Aquinas* now to complete work on

a senior Honors project.

Commenting on changes he plans for the *Aquinas*, Mulderig said: "First of all, if the paper is to be a real service to the University, it has to appear regularly. I think the *Aquinas* should come out consistently every second week of the academic year; of course, to do this, we're going to have to tighten the paper's organization.

"Improving organization will include building up the news and production staffs. We were in pretty good shape last fall, when most of our present staff joined the *Aquinas*, but in May we're going to lose the seniors now on the staff as well as several undergraduate staff members who are transferring after this semester. What this means is that we have to start working with new people right away."

The new editor explained that anyone interested in working on the *Aquinas* staff should either stop by the office on the third floor of the

(Continued on page 6)

Curriculum Changes To Affect Upperclassmen; New Courses Available In Many Departments

(Continued from page 1)
semester of studies in poetry and one of drama.

In addition, Dr. Passon noted that in response to the new curriculum several upper-division courses for English and non-English majors have been added for next year. The regular "Advanced Composition" course has been changed to a course in "Teaching Composition" and will include work as laboratory assistants in the Freshmen writing center for

students taking the course. Dr. Passon noted that the course is ideal for Junior English Education majors, since "it gives them excellent practical experience in teaching writing and working with students."

Another example of an upper-division elective created as a result of changes brought about by the new curriculum is a new senior elective, "Teaching Modern Grammars," a course designed to explore various new theories of grammar as well as traditional grammatical principles. Students in this course will act as lab assistants in next year's new Writing Clinic, a laboratory-method writing course for Freshmen in the Academic Development Program which will be analogous to the Writing Center but will emphasize developmental work.

Besides Dr. Mitchell's new Black Literature course (English 112), another new course for next year open to non-English majors will be "Workshop in Writing," to be taught by Father Richard F. Grady, S.J., Professor Emeritus. "We've had a great demand by students for a writing course beyond the Freshman level," Dr. Passon noted, explaining that this new course will be offered in the evening but will be open to all

students.

"Next year we are going to be doing some drastic overhauling of our major program in response to the new curriculum," the Chairman commented. He pointed out that more new courses will be integrated into the program in order to develop specific programs in English for students planning to go into such occupations as advertising, management, and law.

Looking to other changes, Dr. Passon commented that greater flexi-

bility within the department is probable in the future. He explained that the program of studies in English has always been oriented toward preparation for graduate school, and as such has often been somewhat irrelevant for students desiring a background in English but not interested in English graduate studies. In the spirit of the new curriculum, Dr. Passon said, "we're going to be applying our requirements more flexibly to account for non-traditional career plans."

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Script Notes

Temple University's College of Education in association with the Philadelphia Public School System, is beginning a program that allows college graduates to earn a Master's degree while teaching mathematics at junior high schools in Philadelphia's economically depressed areas.

Students wishing to enter the program must have a bachelor's degree and at least nine credits in math. They will be given teaching preparation during the first summer at no charge, and while teaching during the school year will receive a salary of \$8900. Through the program the student can thus gain a teaching certificate and earn a Master's Degree while on the job.

Interested students should write the Junior High Mathematics Internship, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19122.

Pop-A-Doodle, Inc., is offering students an opportunity to work their

way through college by selling popcorn on street corners.

The company will furnish students with carts, uniforms, and ingredients for making popcorn, and will give a 20% commission on each 25c Pop-A-Doodle bag sold.

Prospective Pop-A-Doodle salesmen should write to the company at 60 East 56th Street, New York, N.Y.

A new method of recruiting students has been devised by Mount St. Scholastica and St. Benedict's Colleges of Atchison, Kansas. The school will pay up to \$100 to any member of its student body who recruits a prospective student for September 1971 term. Twenty-five dollars is paid if the applicant is accepted for admittance to the college, with the remaining \$75 paid to the student recruiter if the applicant decides to enroll.

An overseas job-placement service is being provided by Student Overseas Services, a Luxembourg company.

Jobs available range from factory work to camp counseling. S.O.S. will place a student in a job and arrange for the necessary work permits. Knowledge of a foreign language is not required.

Interested students may obtain job listings, descriptions, and application forms by sending \$1 to Student Overseas Services, 22 Ave. de la Liberté, Luxembourg, Europe.

The Institute of International Education has recently published the fifth edition of the "Handbook on International Study for U.S. Nationals."

The book, basically a guide for students interested in attending a foreign university, also contains information on the "year of study abroad" programs of U.S. colleges. The handbook is available from IIE, 809 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017, for \$7.00.

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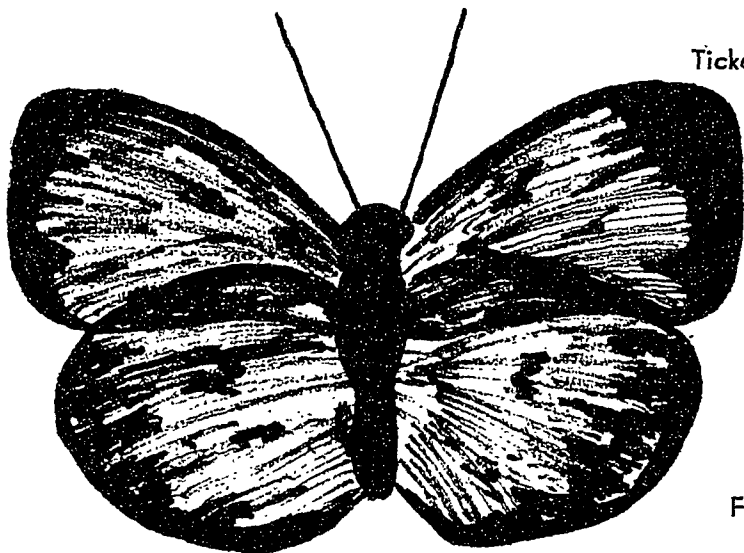
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