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VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1

February 1971

Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice Thomas J. Paolino has been named Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Roger Williams College. Judge Paolino, a Providence native and Brown University alumnus of the class of 1928, is a graduate of Harvard Law School and has been practicing law in this state since 1931. He was appointed to the state Supreme Court in 1956.

As Chairman of the College's Providence campus Building Committee, Judge Paolino noted in his acceptance speech that "the focus of the College now will be on building a new metropolitan campus. Towards this goal a great part of our energies will be directed."

Judge Paolino, whose election to the position took place at the College's Annual Meeting held last month, succeeds Gerald W. Harrington who has served as Chairman since 1968 and has been a Roger Williams trustee since 1956.

Named to the Board of Trustees for the first time were Dr. Marshall N. Fulton, a physician prominent in the Bristol community; Alfred R. Meyer, registered representative with the Providence firm of Tucker-Anthony and R. L. Day; and Andrew Sides, president of Newman Crosby Steel Company of Pawtucket.

Reelected to the Board for three-year terms were Elwood E. Leonard, Jr., president of H. & H. Screw Machine Products, Inc., of Ashton; Judge Paolino; Mrs. Claiborne Pell; and Dr. F. A. Simeone, Director of Surgery at Miriam Hospital.

At the Annual Meeting, which was attended by some 70 persons, college officials dedicated the new 7.5 million dollar Bristol campus and paid tribute to the members of the Building Committee which oversaw construction of the bayside facility. These included Mr. Harrington, Chairman, the late Alvin E. Anderson, Roswell S. Bosworth, Sr., Earl H. Bradley, Mrs. Marshall N. Fulton, Alexander H. Hirst, William R. Innis, and Arthur A. Sweeney.

During the ceremony held in the library a large slate plaque commemorating the occasion was unveiled by Mrs. Fulton. The plaque will be hung permanently in the library.

Following the dedication, the college Corporation made quick work of the business end of the Annual Meeting and topped off the evening with a roast beef dinner in the dining lounge.

An Air France jet left last week for Paris carrying nine RWC students who are on their way to Palermo, Sicily for a semester's independent study. The "Sicily Program", developed by faculty member Mary Finger, is the first such study-abroad program ever sponsored by the college in its liberal arts curriculum.

The RWC students--and two others from U.R.I. and the University of Massachusetts--will participate under Mrs. Finger's guidance in a program combining classroom work with cultural field trips and independent study projects during their three-month sojourn on the Italian island. They'll receive a full semester's credit for their work.

With the assistance of the Experiment in International Living organization, it has been arranged for each student to live with a Sicilian family for a month, in and around the city of Palermo. There the participants will attend classes at the offices of the U.S. Information Service. Their courses will include: the Italian language, the history of the Mediterranean area, contemporary Sicilian social problems and Sicilian culture. The semester will also feature trips, and one grand tour on the Italian mainland.

RWC participants include Paul Bisbano, Ida Bochner, Anne Caldarella, Michael Carey, Phyllis Gagne, Robert Pearson, Ronald Rohrman, Sichaël Simeoni, and Harry Torres.

The College is in the process of initiating this month a program of transitional course work for servicemen at Rhode Island bases who wish to prepare for college entrance while still on active duty.

The preparatory classes, taught by members of the Roger Williams faculty, will be held two days per week in the late afternoon and evening at the Newport Navy Base, at Quonset, and at the 24th Artillery Division bases at Bristol, Coventry, Rehoboth and Danvers, Mass. The classes will emphasize the mathematics and English skills needed for college level work. Any serviceman who has completed high school may sign up for these courses.

Under the transitional preparation program, the student will be reimbursed his full tuition and costs by the Veterans Administration, providing he has completed more than 180 days of active duty. Students who successfully complete the program will be eligible for enrollment at Roger Williams College.

Developer of this new program is Robert H. Doherty, Assistant Dean of Admissions.

NEWS is a first step toward organized and regular communication within the Roger Williams community. The more we learn from you (faculty, students, administrators), the more informed and informative the paper can become. Therefore, we urge you to notify us of any events--physical or metaphysical--which you think would be of interest. Just direct a note or phone call to the Development Office, Bristol campus. Thanks.

Martha Matzke, Editor

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tomorrow night the college will sponsor a concert by the Providence Chamber Players at the Bristol High School auditorium. The string quartet will play the works of Mendelssohn, Haydn and Shostakovich. Free and open to the public, the concert will begin at 8:15 p.m.

Poet William Stafford, on leave this year from his professorship at Lewis and Clark College in Oregon, will visit Roger Williams February 18. Author of such recent collections of poems as Allegiances and The Rescued Year, Mr. Stafford will be the second reader in the RWC 1971 Creative Writing Series. His reading will be held at 8 p.m. in Lecture Hall #12 on the Bristol campus and will be followed by a coffee hour. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Watch for the weekend film series on the Bristol campus! This week (Feb. 13, 14) "The Sergeant" with Rod Steiger. Next week (Feb. 20, 21) "Sweet November" with Sandy Dennis. The following week (Feb. 27, 28) "Rachel, Rachel" with Joanne Woodward. All showings will be in Lecture Hall #1 at 8 p.m.

An innovative type of undergraduate research will be the result of a \$3,000 grant recently awarded the Social Sciences Division by the Urban Observatory, a local foundation sponsored by several Rhode Island colleges and universities. According to the grant proposal, drawn up by Social Sciences coordinator John W. Stout, the money will be used to establish a research liaison with the state's Department of Community Affairs.

In this year-long endeavor, which will operate cooperatively with the social sciences department at Barrington College, selected students and their advisors will work with state officials to develop meaningful data on specific topics concerning the towns of East Providence, Barrington, Warren and Bristol. The 15 or so participating student researchers will be assisted by eight other student clerical aides, who will be paid on an hourly basis.

This semester, says Mr. Stout, will be taken up with selecting the student researchers and assistants and working coordinately with Barrington and officials of the Community Affairs Department to draw up lists of research topics and assign them to student teams. The research will then continue throughout the summer and fall, to be completed next January. The proposal also has some broader aims: "to expand communications between government and the academic community regarding urban problems, to discover means by which undergraduate research efforts may be directed to developing a working partnership with government on approaching community problems," to make social science classes immediate and relevant, to interest students in the possibility of a government career, and to add to the reservoir of information used by government agencies in attacking urban problems.

Mr. Stout notes several exciting aspects of the program. "Governments have generally been disinterested in undergraduate research and have instead spent thousands of dollars for consultants--this may signal the start of a new pattern. Also, he says, "there may be in this approach elements of the curricular reforms students are eager to see."

About 25 municipal and state officials, architects, engineers, and planners visited the Engineering Division last week to have a look at some design projects completed last semester by the sophomore class. The projects included models for offices and apartments in urban areas of Rhode Island, and a graphic projection of the space requirements of the Theodore Francis Green Airport in 1980. This project included a model for a possible expansion of the facility, with detailed cost and materials analyses for the imagined development.

This week the student work will be viewed by the executive committee of the Board of Trustees, which is meeting on the Providence campus. (One model, by the way, shows a handsome office building on the site of the campus. Is that a hint?)

Faculty members Robert Crotty and Robert McRoberts are co-editors of a new anthology of modern English prose and poetry being published this month by Cummings Publishing Co. of New York. The book, entitled Workshop, A Spontaneous Approach to Literature, is designed for introductory literature or creative writing courses at the college level, and includes model discussions and discussion questions along with samples of the essay, short story, and poem.

Mr. Crotty and Mr. McRoberts direct the college's creative writing program. A third editor of the anthology, Geoffrey Clark, teaches at the University of Iowa.

Named to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees at the College's recent annual meeting were Roswell S. Bosworth, Sr., Alexander H. Hirst, William R. Innis, Thomas J. Paolino, Chairman, and George C. Williams.

The Executive Committee is the "working" body of the Board, which meets quarterly. The smaller group meets once a month.

ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE

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ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE, BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND 02809

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