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Report Says Doctorate Holders Avoid Teaching

By LANE VANDERSLICE

State colleges and universities were warned, in a well documented study made this summer, that they were fighting a losing battle in the contest with business, industry, law and medicine for top quality men.

Almost half of the state colleges and universities' graduates holding a doctorate are entering other professions — not college teaching, the Russell Committee report on faculties said.

Financial support "will have to be intensified and increased substantially" if the present "high levels" of quality education were to be even maintained, the report insisted.

Fewer Doctorates in State

It noted with alarm the decreasing number of new faculty members nationally who have doctorates.

The solution to the problem of an increasing number of doctoral degree holders moving into other fields appears to be related directly to the sharp decline in the economic status of the college-teaching profession during the past twenty years, the report said.

Even with the 10% national average college teaching salary, the report revealed, Michigan schools are lagging behind in the salary level of the two upper faculty ranks, professor and associate professor.

Study 7,340 Faculty

Special attention is needed for the adjustment of salaries in these two ranks, the report said, "if the Michigan institutions can expect to compete for staff with the better institutions of the country."

The study was the 10th in a series of 12 on higher education in Michigan by the staff of the Michigan Legislative study committee.

Data from the study was obtained from 58 colleges and universities in the state. The study covered 7,340 faculty members.

Faculty Dollar Smaller

The report pointed out that the purchasing power of the faculty salary dollar has "lagged deplorably" behind the nation's gain in purchasing power as a whole.

The gain by the University — which the committee said was selected because of its exceptionally good salary situation — was only nine per cent compared with 79 per cent nationally.

Michigan's privately controlled institutions were the cause of some concern by the report, especially in the area of faculty salaries.

The report said salaries in private institutions deserve "immediate, active and vigorous" support by public groups. The average salary in private institutions was $4,643.

The privately controlled institutions, as a group, have less than half the percentage of doctorates on their staffs that the State-controlled institutions have, the report observed. However, the report said, several of the privately controlled institutions do have percentages comparable with a number of the State-controlled schools.

Also, slightly lower percentages would generally be expected in view of the fact that all but two of State of the privately enrolled institutions are exclusively undergraduate, while some of the state schools have extensive graduate programs, requiring larger numbers of doctoral degree holders.

Percentage Drops

National figures showed that the percentages of new faculty members with a doctorate employed from 1953 to to 1956 dropped from 51.4 percent of the group in 1951 to 23.5 percent in 1956.

"To the extent that the doctorate reflects faculty quality, it means that colleges and universities in the country are now being staffed with individuals of lower qualifications than in the past," the report said.

Leads in Salaries

The University was far out in front of other state institutions in the level of faculty salaries. The average of University faculty salaries was $8,506, nearly $1,800 ahead of the nearest private school, which the survey did not name, and over $1,000 more than the average of salaries at Wayne State University, the nearest in salary average state controlled institution.

The average salary paid to full-time faculty members on a 12-month contract basis in the state-controlled institutions is $7,386; in the privately controlled institutions it is $4,643; and in the community colleges it is $6,322, according to the report.

The report also stated that less than 10 per cent of all full-time faculty in Michigan colleges and universities were paid more than $10,000 a year.

More Doctorates at 'U'

The University also leads all state schools in percentage of faculty that have obtained doctorates, with 58.2 per cent. The state-controlled schools, with 45.3 per cent of their faculties holding a doctorate degree, are well above the national average of 40 per cent.

The committee report showed that 42.1 per cent of the University faculty received their highest degree at the University. This was over 15 per cent above the Wayne State University total, the next highest.

An interesting sidelight of the committee report was its finding the average salaries paid to male faculty members at state colleges were substantially — over $1,000 — more than the salary women received; while on the community college level the difference was only $17 dollars.

Promotions 'Conservative'

Of the 7,460 faculty reported in service, the report said that 50.3 per cent have been at their present school less than four years; 44.4 per cent have been there less than three years; and only 14.5 per cent have been in service at their present institutions more than 10 years.

The report observed that these percentages appeared to reflect the rapidly expanding enrollments in many of the institutions of higher education, especially in the community colleges.

Percentage of faculty members in each of the ranks "appears to reflect rather conservative practices" in the matter of promotion and assignment to each of the ranks.

'A' Students Number 175 For Summer

Straight "A" grades were earned by 175 University students who attended the 1958 Summer Session, according to the Office of Registration and Records.

This number is 27 more than the 148 figure set by students in the 1957-1958 spring semester.

Only those students who were enrolled for six or more hours of credit were included in the all "A" list.

Following in the number of undergraduate students receiving "A's" in eight of the 16 schools and colleges of the University:

Architecture college, four; business administration school, 13; education school, 28; literary college, 87; music school, 21; natural resources school, eight; Nursing School, six; and the public health school, 15.

The 175 straight "A" students were among 10,308 students enrolled in the 1958 Summer Session.

'U' Band Plans Musical Honor For Watkins

University Secretary and Assistant Vice-President Herbert G. Watkins will receive a tribute from the University's Marching Band in the band's pre-game presentation on Saturday, according to William D. Revelli, director of the University Bands.

Watkins, presently on furlough from his University posts and due to retire on June 30, 1959, served as the Faculty Business Manager of University Bands from 1931 through 1945.

The Board of Regents approved last June the establishment of the Herbert G. Watkins Band Fund.

I-Hop Tickets To Go on Sale

Tickets for the annual I-Hop, "Shades of Savanna," will be on sale from 1 to 5 p.m. today through Friday at the League Undergraduate Office and the Assembly Association office, 1511 Student Activities Building, Karen Barling, '59 Ed., ticket chairman, said.

The first all campus dance of the year, I-Hop will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday in the League Ballroom. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

Bagwell Says Unions Boss Gov. Williams

DETROIT (AP)—Paul D. Bagwell last night described Gov. G. Mennen Williams as "handservant" of one union leader and "intimately linked" to the past with another.

The Republican candidate for governor, attacking Democratic Gov. Williams's policies in a campaign speech, said that his association with "certain labor bosses" has handicapped the state to business and industry.

Bagwell, in an address prepared for a 17th district Republican rally, did not specifically identify the two union leaders.

However, he said that "if there is one subject on which Gov. Williams qualifies as an expert, it is Hoffa-type and Reuther-type unionism. He has accepted help from both with the impartiality as it suited his political purposes."

"There is something rotten in Michigan and it is not going to be cleaned up as long as we retain in office a governor who is the handservant of one union leader and in past years has been as intimately linked with another," he said.

Wenley House Continues Faculty Guest Program

Wenley House has taken a great stride in bridging the gap between students and faculty members with its Faculty Guest Program begun last winter, according to John M. Hale, director of West Quadrangle.

For 13 weeks, beginning last February, faculty members were invited to luncheons with members of their classes. During this 13-week period, nearly 100 faculty guests lunched, with nearly every student at Wenley House.

This semester, seminars and informal meetings between faculty members and students with common interests will supplement the luncheons on the program.

These interests range from bandaids operation and bi-di to academic subjects and student government matters.

Hale, senior director of University Quadrangles, stressed the program, saying some "students have no feeling of knowing faculty members as persons."

The success of the idea is indicated by statistics showing the number of faculty members who attended 59 from the literary college, 40 from the College of Engineering, and two from the College of Pharmacy.

Melon-Colic

Indiana University women, clad in sweatshirts and bermudas, Thursday served up the town-wide Sigma Chi Annual Melon Mess.

This year's mess — the 12th annual — consisted of 924 five 35-pound watermelons. A thousand were ordered but six of the melons met an untimely end, landing unceremoniously on the ground.

Feature attraction at the festivities was the demolition of the 53-pound state championship watermelon.

To the victor belongs the title of Champion Melon Eater of 1958.

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