

Jordan selected without committee approval

By Michael Crimbly

After reviewing scores of applications, the Presidential Search and Screen Committee recommended eight candidates for the job of Penn State president. And then they didn't even interview or meet with any of them!

According to Committee member Dr. Nancy Tischler, Capitol Campus English and Humanities professor, the President Search and Screen Committee didn't meet with Dr. Bryce Jordan, the new president, until just before he was elected.

"We were never told we'd meet or interview the candidates," Tischler said. "But we were never told that we wouldn't either."

Tischler said it was the

Search and Screen Committee's job to find candidates suited to the job of university president. It was up to the Trustees' Selection Committee to do the actual interviewing and selecting.

"Our job was simply to weed through the 300 nominations and find ten or so suitable candidates," Tischler said. "The trustees interviewed the eight candidates and made their selection."

Quentin Wood, chairman of the Trustees' Selection Committee, said the process was long and tedious.

"Some of the final candidates resigned from consideration and we had to ask the Search and Screen Committee for replacements," he said in his address to the Board of Trustees.

Wood was chosen as chairman of the Trustees' committee because he was president of the

Board of Trustees when Dr. John Oswald announced his retirement as university president in September, 1981. Wood selected the other eight members of the committee, among them current Trustees' president Walter J. Conti, from the 32-member Board of Trustees.

Mary Dunkle, a spokeswoman for the university, said Oswald, as a member of the Board of Trustees, normally would have been a member of the Selection Committee but he asked to be excused.

"He thought his recommendations might put pressure on the Selection Committee," she said.

Both Oswald and Jordan were members of the administrative staff of the University of Kentucky from 1963 to 1965.

Wood also appointed the fifteen-member Search and Screen Committee. Its

members included eight faculty members, selected at random from members of the University Faculty Senate, two deans, one alumnus, one commonwealth campus director, one member of the president's administrative staff, and two students.

The Search and Screen Committee located candidates by placing ads in the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, as well as in educational journals throughout the country. It also listened to the recommendations of officials from other universities.

Members of both committees said they were pleased with Dr. Jordan's selection.

"His credentials are outstanding," said Dr. Tischler. "I feel he'll make a fine president."

"We are delighted with the selection of Dr. Jordan," Conti agreed.

Gideons visit Capitol Campus; give away Bibles

By Chris Pumarejo

"Would you like to read the word of the Lord? Please take a free copy."

For four hours, Gideon Foundation, offered free bibles on Capitol Campus, October 12. Gideon is a non-profit affiliate of the Christian Business and Professional Men. The Gideons monitored entrances to the building, offering copies of the New Testament to all who passed.

Those who came in the front encountered a soft-spoken gentleman named Paul Lauver. He explained the mission of the Gideons and their services:

"What separates the Gideons from other missionaries is our approach," Lauver says. "We don't preach what we believe; but simply hand out copies of it."

Also, the Gideons don't try to pressure you into monetary contributions or membership. On this point they depart

radically from the mainstream of religious solicitors.

Organized in 1898, the Gideons first conceived of giving away bibles around 1908 and since then have distributed more than half a billion copies in 130 countries at the rate of one million every 17 days.

At Capitol Campus alone they gave out an estimated 800; at the Main Campus, 13,000.

The members who represent various denominations, are all volunteers. Many are retired, while some participate on their days off or on weekends. Still others use vacation time to hand out the "good book" abroad.

Asked how the students responded to the Gideons, Lauver said, "We are well pleased with our reception. We hope the students in turn are pleased with our conduct. We don't want to cause problems for anybody."

Students agreed. No students interviewed felt harassed. Those who refused bibles were not pressed any further. Of the

people questioned, about sixty percent did not accept a bible. "I already have one," or "Not interested" were typical responses. Many said they took bibles out of politeness.

Virtually all students felt the Gideons had the right to give away bibles since they obviously were not disruptive in any way.

Only one person felt the Gideons should not be allowed on campus. He cited the constitu-

tional mandate that separates state, school and church. He also saw inequity of permitting the Gideons on campus while excluding other more verbal religious groups.

Despite the one dissenter, the Gideons visit to Capitol Campus spiced up an otherwise somber Tuesday afternoon and left our campus richer in reading material.

Maude's Advice

Dear Maude:

What is this - Fantasyland? All the nice brick buildings on campus and what do I see? Five or six buildings painted all the colors of the rainbow. Hey, those candy-coated buildings may make my mouth water, but they make my stomach turn. What's the idea?

Signed,
Blinded by the Sight

Dear Blinded:

You've heard of Early Victorian? Well, this is Early Psychodelic. Campus records show that these buildings were painted by a group of students

called the Watermen. They were led by a young radical named Alfie Stopman. The paper contacted Alfie in New York City (where he is now an averusing executive on Madison Avenue). He explained, "Hey man, like it seemed like a really far out and groovy idea at the time."

Signed,
Maude.

Confidential to Space Engineer-
Indeed, I think E.T. is a cute little turd.

Signed,
Maude.

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