

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA



# Almanac

VOL. 6, NO. 8

MAY 1960

Non-Profit Organ.

U. S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 2147

Philadelphia, Pa.

## Council of Baccalaureate Faculties Is Proposed

Members of the Educational Council, at a special meeting on May 24, will take under consideration a proposal for a Council of the Baccalaureate Faculties of the University, to be established as a means of enriching the mutual associations among the various baccalaureate programs and giving students a more broadly based, fully integrated education. The special meeting will not affect the Educational Council's regularly scheduled session, to be held on Thursday, May 12, at 4 P.M. in the Benjamin Franklin Room of Houston Hall.

Prior to consideration by the Council, the proposal will be reviewed by the University Senate at its next regular meeting, on Tuesday, May 17, at 1 P.M. in Room W-1, Dietrich Hall.

Essence of the proposal is the establishment of a council consisting of seven deans of the undergraduate schools, seven representatives of the faculties of these schools, seven representatives elected at large by these faculties from among their members, and up to five appointed members of the graduate and professional schools. The chairman of the Council would be appointed by the President.

The objectives of the Council are to focus attention on and promote excellence in undergraduate liberal education; to explore new approaches, and to stimulate student educational responsibility. Its powers are mainly to make recommendations through the Provost to the several faculties and to the Educational Council. It may also organize special studies and experimental programs, and represent the interest of the faculties in the Offices of Admissions and Student Aid.

In detail, the proposal as revised last month sees the purposes and functions of the Baccalaureate Council as eight in number. Briefly, these are:

1. To focus the attention of undergraduate schools, departments and faculty members on the basic policies deemed most likely to promote excellence in undergraduate education.

2. To promote the broadest concept of a liberal education, "so imaginatively conceived as to incite students to exert their greatest efforts to learn and to profit."

3. To emphasize liberality of concept and method in the organization of curricula and presentation of courses.

4. To seek methods of identifying both generally able and specially gifted students, and of helping them to realize their capabilities.

5. To explore ways of stimulating students to assume responsibility for their own educations at the earliest possible stage, and of giving latitude to students who have already demonstrated intellectual maturity.

6. To foster uniformity in basic procedural requirements among the several undergraduate schools.

7. To maintain a continuing, careful regard for the standards by which baccalaureate degrees are awarded, so that they are in harmony with the University's objectives and not unduly influenced by considerations of immediate utility.

8. To encourage experimentation with interschool and interdepartmental efforts, joint appointments and assignments, new curricular approaches, instructional devices and techniques as a means of advancing the intellectual power and attainment of students.

The University "has not made the most of its opportunities as a university centered in a community unusually rich in scientific, cultural, social, economic and industrial institutions," the introduction to the revised proposal states. "Nor has it made the most of its unique advantage among universities; namely, the geographic propinquity of a remarkable diverse academic community whose members are unusually versatile and experienced in both graduate and undergraduate programs.

"In consequence of its historic segmentation among schools," the introduction continued, "the curricula have tended to become unduly narrow and professionalized, and growth toward catholicity and liberalization has been artificially restricted."

The concept of a Baccalaureate Council grew out of a proposal originally made by President Harnwell in 1957, which in turn was in accord with criticisms and suggestions made in the report of the Educational Survey. As a means of carrying out one of the Survey's recommendations, the concentration of undergraduate education in the liberal arts and sciences with professional education mainly at the graduate level, the President conceived a Baccalaureate Faculty to administer the undergraduate educational programs.

(Continued on page three)

## Need Help in Teaching? Here's Just the Machine

For the teacher harassed by the need of constant drill in fundamentals, relief is in sight, in the form of a teaching machine.

Dr. Eugene Galanter, Associate Professor in the University's Department of Psychology, is one of a number of experts in his field working to perfect a device, now in the experimental stage, which will make possible the mechanical teaching of easily formulated fundamentals.

The machine, which makes use of thousands of units containing questions on the subject being studied, eventually can take over the drudgery of repetitive, rote teaching and leave the teacher free to carry on the truly educative part of his work, Dr. Galanter predicts.

Now being tested on primary and secondary pupils through the cooperation of several private schools in the area, the teaching machine has the added advantage—a crucial one in educational psychology—of correcting immediately the pupil's mistakes, and of permitting each pupil to learn at his own rate.

Courses of study in elementary Russian, general psychology, and elementary spelling have been prepared thus far for use in the machine. Each course will ultimately involve the preparation of 6,000 to 12,000 items in each area.

The tremendous task of "programming" such a course is complicated by the need to determine the order in which specific questions should be asked. This, says Dr. Galanter, is more difficult than selecting the questions to be asked. Once the proper order of questioning is established, he states, students may learn much faster than by the usual teaching methods.

"The object in the use of teaching machines is not to have students complete school sooner, but to have them reach higher levels of education in the same length of time," says Dr. Galanter. It may be possible through use of the machines, he believes, for a student to get a master's or doctor of philosophy degree in the same 16 years it now takes him to get his bachelor's degree.

The two types of teaching machines now being tested have two characteristics in common: they present the

## Dr. Gordon Reports on Advanced Placement Program

The admission to college freshman courses of high school graduates with advanced standing is not likely to shorten such students' regular four-year college course, nor to lower the quality of freshman courses, Dr. James D. Gordon, Advanced Placement Officer of the University, declared recently.

Dr. Gordon, an Associate Professor of English, reported to the March 17 meeting of the Educational Council on the present status of his program. In answer to general questions on the subject, he said no detailed study has yet been made at this University as to the performance of Advanced Placement students, but that studies elsewhere reveal they do at least as well as other students.

The project, said Dr. Gordon, may shorten the four-year college course for the exceptional student, but it is not likely to speed up so many as to affect the general organization of studies in the near future.

"Is there any danger that in the hands of secondary school teachers and administrators the quality of college freshman courses will be lowered?" he was asked.

"At present the danger does not seem to be serious," he said, "though it is a possibility that must be kept in mind. As advanced courses in high schools become more generally established in American education, they should properly become the concern of the regional accrediting agencies. In the meantime, as long as the quality of the placement examinations is well maintained and the granting of credit remains under the control of the faculty, the advantage of attracting the most desirable students to the university outweighs the danger of lowered standards."

Asked if there is any connection between Advanced Placement and General Honors, Dr. Gordon said there was no formal connection, but that since both programs are intended for the same type of student, a large degree of overlapping should be expected.

pupil with a series of questions, and they demand a continuous, active response of the learner. But one type employs multiple-choice questions; the other, questions which may be answered by a write-in.

*(Continued on page three)*

### DR. GALANTER MUSES AND TALKS ON THE SUBJECT OF TEACHING MACHINES:



*"The limitations of machine teaching have not yet been revealed to us."*



*"We have only scratched the surface. The potentialities seem unlimited."*



*"We are bound to run into snags. At the moment these are hard to anticipate."*



*"When they occur, we shall have to face them and revise what we are doing."*

## Students Plan and Carry Out Design for Flower Show

Graduate students in Landscape Architecture at the School of Fine Arts won compliments last month for their design and construction of the Spring Welcoming Flower Show held at Rittenhouse Square during Easter Week.

Their design, the most ambitious yet attempted at the show, featured four bamboo pavilions leading into the central area of the square, where the focal point of the display was an umbrella-shaped weeping cherry specimen. Walks into the center of the park were defined by tall hedges of pine and birch.

Patio areas with tables and chairs were created to effect a sidewalk cafe atmosphere. Easter lilies floated in the Rittenhouse pool, and forsythia, daffodils, azaleas, tulips and hyacinths were included in the overall display.

The annual project was carried out in cooperation with the Center City Residents' Association, Fairmount Park Commission, and City of Philadelphia.

The design problem was set by Karl Linn, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture. Judges for the design included Raymond T. Entenmann, curator of the School of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts; W. H. Noble, executive director of the Fairmount Park Commission; Ian L. McHarg, Chairman of the Department of Landscape Architecture at the School of Fine Arts, and Mr. Linn.

### TEACH

*(Continued from page two)*

In the first type, confronted by a choice of several answers to the question the machine propounds, the student must make a correct selection, by pushing the suitable button, before he can go on to another question. No second question "lights up" until the first has been answered properly.

In the second type, once the answer has been entered by the student on a small write-in tab, it is slid beneath a plastic cover. The student then determines whether it is right or wrong by comparing it with the answer that is now exposed. The student corrects his answer before going on to the next question.

The machine does all this, Dr. Galanter points out, without emotional involvement. "It never scolds or gets angry at the child who is having difficulty.

"In general, it has all the advantages of the private tutor . . . (But) its other major advantage is that the machine frees the teacher for those creative and uniquely human tasks that only the teacher can perform. Thus, the drudgery of drill, the manipulation of flash cards, the grading of homework exercises, the incessant repetition during recitation, all become things of the past for the teacher. The child comes to the teacher with a fund of knowledge that can be discussed and amplified without need for the teacher first to impart the skill."

## Dr. Lee Conducts Radio Program

Dr. Charles Lee, Associate Director of the Annenberg School of Communications, is conductor of the new "Books and Authors" program on Radio Station WCAU.

## Dr. Yeh to Head Towne School

Dr. Hsuan Yeh, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, has been appointed director of the newly organized Towne School of Civil and Mechanical Engineering, effective July 1, when the Towne School will be established by merging the present Schools of Civil and Mechanical Engineering.

Before coming to the University in 1956, Dr. Yeh served successively as an assistant and instructor at M.I.T., and as research associate, assistant professor, and associate professor at Johns Hopkins.

A native of China, he was graduated in 1936 from Chiao-Tung University, Shanghai, with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He served nine years in the Chinese Nationalist Air Force and attained the rank of major. After coming to this country, he won scholarships at M.I.T., where he took the degree of Master of Science in 1944 and Doctor of Science in 1950.

Dr. Yeh has been active in research in fluid dynamics, gas turbine design, and aerodynamic design, and has made numerous contributions to technical publications. He is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences, and American Rocket Society, among others.

## New Museum Find at Tikal

Excavators of the University Museum working at Tikal, the ancient Mayan ceremonial center in northern Guatemala, have unearthed a magnificently carved Early Period stela, or stone monument, believed to be about 1500 years old.

The monument, discovered April 7, bears the Mayan date 9.0.10.0.0. 7 Ahau 3 Yax, corresponding to October 19, 445 A.D. It was found standing in its original position within a deeply-buried structure below the central temple of the North Acropolis, facing the great plaza of Tikal. Discovered with it was a large tomb which promises further important disclosures, but which has not been completely excavated.

Only a small portion of the back and right side of the stela has been uncovered thus far. The back is covered by 160 exquisitely carved hieroglyphs, in eight vertical and 20 horizontal rows. This block of Mayan text is preceded by a large hieroglyph. The right side has four rows of three glyphs each above a handsome standing human figure, intact except for the face.

The style of carving, in low relief with finely incised details, is unique for Tikal. The full dimensions of the monument are as yet undetermined. A height of 79 inches has been exposed, as well as the full width of 30.5 inches and full thickness of 20 inches.

### COUNCIL

*(Continued from page one)*

The proposal for a Baccalaureate Council was discussed in the Committee on Educational Policy in March, 1959, without definite action. Last October, a preliminary draft of a proposal for a Baccalaureate Council was presented to the CEP by the President. Discussion of this proposal was temporarily deferred pending consideration of the long-range goals of the University with respect to undergraduate education. This discussion is continuing. Members of the Senate on the CEP have participated fully in the discussions up to this point.

## Among Other Things

**HONORS OF THE MONTH:** *Louis I. Kahn*, noted Philadelphia architect and Professor of Architecture in the School of Fine Arts, has been named to receive this year's Brunner Award of the National Institute of Arts and Letters. The citation and prize of \$1000 will be presented to him May 25 . . . *Dorothy Bemis*, who retired in 1958 as Assistant to the Director of the University Libraries, has been elected to the Hall of Fame of the Special Libraries Association . . . *Professor Y. H. Ku* of the Moore School of Electrical Engineering was awarded a Gold Medal by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of China during a recent lecture tour of Taiwan, for his scientific contributions of the past several years . . . *Dr. Herman P. Schwan*, also a professor in the Moore School, has been named chairman of the Professional Group on Medical Electronics of the Institute of Radio Engineers for the year 1960-61.

**SPEAKING OF SPEAKING:** *Dr. George W. Taylor*, Professor of Industry in the Wharton School, spoke recently on "The American Press Conference" on a Voice of America broadcast from Washington . . . *Dr. Julius Wishner*, Associate Professor of Psychology, will address the Behavioral Sciences Colloquium at the University of Delaware on May 25.

*Dr. G. Jay Anyon*, Assistant Professor of Industry in the Wharton School, spoke on "The Basic Concepts Involved in Material Management" before the Society for the Advancement of Management at Allentown, Pa., on March 30 . . . Another Wharton School speaker was *Dr. John F. Lubin*, whose subject March 24 before the Metropolitan New York Chapter of Industrial Engineers was "Management Stimulation Exercises for Executive Development and Operations Analysis". . . On April 6, *Dr. Heinz Moenkemeyer*, Assistant Professor of German, delivered one of a series of lectures on Existentialism at Holy Family College in northeast Philadelphia.

**TRAVELERS:** *G. Holmes Perkins*, Dean of the School of Fine Arts, attended the Northeast Regional Meeting of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture at the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence on March 25-27, and spoke on "The Architecture of Urbanism" . . . *Dr. John M. Brewster*, regional medical officer of the Pennsylvania Railroad and Lecturer on Public Health and Preventive Medicine in the School of Medicine, attended the annual meeting of the Medical and Surgical Section of the Association of American Railroads at Hollywood, Fla., late in March . . . *Miss Mary Beam*, Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, was appointed by Governor Lawrence last month as a Pennsylvania delegate to the Golden Anniversary White House Conference on Children and Youth, held in Washington . . . *Dr. Theresa I. Lynch*, Dean of the School of Nursing, delivered a paper on "Medical Aseptic Technique—A Major Barrier to the Spread of Communicable Disease in the Hospital," at the annual New England Hospital Assembly in Boston on March 30.

**OOPS!** *Dr. Robert Maddin*, Director of the School of Metallurgical Engineering, informs us that our report on

his having been named a lecturer at Cambridge University for this summer was "exaggerated." He is to deliver a lecture there, this summer . . .

**THE LECTURE CIRCUIT:** *Dean Jefferson B. Fordham* of the Law School was a luncheon speaker April 7 at the Midday Club, before representatives of major U. S. cities gathered for a symposium on Philadelphia's progress in meeting its transportation problems . . . *Dr. Claude K. Deischer*, Associate Professor of Chemistry, lectured on "Chemistry, Key to Better Living," before 400 elementary science teachers of Lehigh County at Parkland High School near Allentown on April 5 . . .

*Dr. Jewell Cass Phillips*, Professor of Political Science, is the author of a book, *Municipal Government Administration in America*, published last month by Macmillan.

*Dr. Robert G. Cox*, Associate Professor of Accounting, has been named to assume the post of Vice Dean of the Undergraduate Division of the Wharton School upon the retirement of Professor Thomas A. Budd on July 1 . . . *Dr. Joshua A. Fishman*, Associate Professor of Human Relations and Psychology, has been awarded a travel grant by the National Science Foundation to attend the International Congress of Psychology in Bonn, Germany, from July 30 to Aug. 6, when he will give a paper on recent research in neighborhood change . . . *Dr. Adrian McDonough*, Acting Chairman of the Department of Industry in the Wharton School, lectured on "Computer Utilization" at the Government Administration Conference in Montgomery, Ala., on March 31 . . .

*Dr. Sidney Weintraub*, Professor of Economics, is participating in a symposium on "Appropriate Monetary Policy," to be reported in the May issue of the *Review of Economics and Statistics* . . . *Drs. McDonough, M. S. Estey*, and *W. E. Howard* and *Mr. K. S. Scheid*, all of Wharton's Industry Department, were hosts to a training study team of six Bolivian management executives touring the United States under the auspices of the International Cooperation Association when the group came here to discuss labor-management relations on April 11 . . . *Dr. Philip E. Jacob*, Professor of Political Science, has accepted an appointment to the Committee on College Teaching of the American Council on Education.

## Reminder: Senate Meets May 17

The last regular meeting of the University Senate for the current semester will be held on Tuesday, May 17, in Ballantyne Hall, Room W-1 of Dietrich Hall at 1 P.M. Professor Noyes Leech, chairman, urges all members who can possibly attend to be present.

### THE ALMANAC

*Published monthly during the academic year by the University for the information of its faculty and staff*

The Editors are assisted by an Advisory Committee representing the Faculty, Administration, and Personnel of the University.

Editor ..... Frederic G. Hyde

Address ..... Development Building

*Printed at the University of Pennsylvania  
Dept. of Publications, Forms, and Printing*