



UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Almanac

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Should Professors Express Opinions In the Classroom?

SHOULD A PROFESSOR express his own opinions and viewpoints in class, and if so, to what extent should they be explained or otherwise qualified?

This question was put to several University professors in an informal interview.

Dr. W. Norman Brown, professor of Sanskrit and chairman of the department of South Asia Regional Studies, replied that a professor should express his opinions whenever appropriate, provided he gives his reasons or clearly indicates, when the occasion demands, that the opinions are "off the cuff." Dr. Brown believes the problem is essentially one of "academic honesty in the classroom."

Dr. Alexander V. Riasanovsky, associate professor of history, agreed with Dr. Brown's statements and added several further qualifications. Dr. Riasanovsky stressed the professor's duty to make it clear if and when he is speaking in an area other than his academic specialty. He described such discussions as "flights of fancy or facts" which are legitimate, but for which he has little time.

Dr. Riasanovsky expressed the view that an opinion on any subject is legitimate, as long as it is labelled as such or is readily distinguishable as an opinion. He feels that when a professor has strong views on a particular subject, it "behooves him to reveal his own bias and to cite or explain conflicting opinions."

Dr. J. Robert Ferrari, assistant professor of insurance, stated that part of the professor's classroom role is to deal with matters of fact, interpretation, and opinion that fall within the scope of his

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Price Calls For "Synthesis of Life" As National Goal in Major Speech

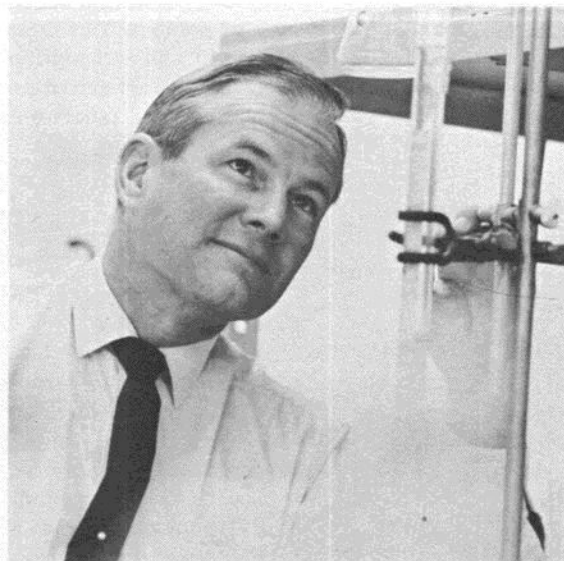
A SCIENTIFIC GOAL that "would dwarf those of either atomic energy or the space program" has been proposed by Dr. Charles C. Price, Blanchard Professor of Chemistry, and retiring President of the American Chemical Society.

Dr. Price called for "the setting of the synthesis of life as a national goal" in his presidential address to the American Chemical Society. The speech is reprinted in the September 27, 1965 issue of *Chemical and Engineering News*.

Dr. Price called for the scientific community to give serious consideration to the question of what time and what money should now be committed to "the synthesis of life." He asked: "How much should be invested? Should a separate national program, analogous to the Atomic Energy Commission, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and National Health, be organized and how soon?"

Dr. Price also asked the scientific community to "become better organized to provide more able and responsible information" on how funds should be allocated to various scientific projects. He noted that recent scientific programs of research call for hundreds of millions of dollars, but also called for answers to the basic question: whether each project represents "the best use of available funds and scientific manpower."

Dr. Price's speech received prominent attention in the nation's press. *The New York Times* discussed it in an editorial, and writing in *Life* magazine, Albert Rosenfeld said: "In sober scientific circles today there is hardly a subject more commonly discussed than man's control of his own heredity and evolution. And the discussions seldom leave much doubt that men will acquire this control. It is a matter of when, not if."



Dr. Charles C. Price proposes goal that would "dwarf" space program.

Eilers Will Assist Vice-Provost

DR. ROBERT D. EILERS, associate professor of insurance in the Wharton School, has been appointed assistant vice provost, President Harnwell has announced.

Dr. Eilers will assist A. Leo Levin, professor of law, who was recently named vice provost with primary responsibility in the area of student affairs. Professor Levin is responsible for the offices of the Dean of Men, Dean of Women, Admissions, Student Financial Aid, Foreign Students, Fellowship Information and Study Programs Abroad, and the University Counseling Service. The report discussed elsewhere of the Committee on Undergraduate Affairs of the University Council recommended the creation of the position of vice-provost.

A member of the University faculty since 1961, Dr. Eilers was recently named executive director of the S. S. Huebner Foundation for Insurance Education.

He received his bachelor of science degree in business administration from Drake University in 1952 and his master of business administration and his Ph.D.



Dr. Robert D. Eilers

from Pennsylvania in 1957 and 1961, respectively. From 1959 to 1961 he held a S. S. Huebner Foundation Fellowship. He served as assistant sales manager of the Philadelphia office of Mutual of New York from 1957 to 1959.

Author of the "Regulation of Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans," the new assistant vice-provost is a co-author of "Risk and Insurance" and a co-editor of the "Group Insurance Handbook." He is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, national honorary business fraternity, and Pi Gamma Mu, national honorary social science fraternity.

OPINIONS

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discipline. He added that the "area of study will determine the definitional difficulty of such classifications as well as the relative frequency with which each type of discussion arises."

Dr. Ferrari also stated that regardless of the discipline involved, the freedom to express personal opinions helps to insure the teaching freedom necessary to stimulate a free exchange of ideas in the classroom. He would agree that whenever personal opinion is involved "it should be identified to suggest the existence of alternative viewpoints and to lay bare the underlying issues by removing the known bias."

The 1940 *Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure* of the American Association of University Professors and the Association of American Colleges in the discussion of the classroom performance of the professor states only:

"The teacher is entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing his subject, but he should be careful not to introduce into his teaching controversial matters which have no relation to his subject."

as a vice-provost.

Chaired by Dr. Otto Springer, the Council committee that authored this report makes a series of specific recommendations but also lays down general principles which it believes should be applied in the area of student affairs. It calls for an "integration of the academic and non-academic aspects of undergraduate life."

The committee disclaimed the notion that mere structural changes would solve all problems of student affairs. But the report states: "We do believe, however, that in the selection of a vice-provost who is an active faculty member and who has, at the same time, a genuine interest in and dedication to undergraduate education outside the classroom as well as in it, a new era of cultural and intellectual orientation can be initiated."

The report also stresses the need for the new vice-provost "to seize the initiative in developing, as well as implementing, a philosophy of student activities." The report continues: "There should be goals, clearly understood and clearly articulated, and policies formulated in the light of these goals."

PARENTS DAY

Provost David R. Goddard has announced that Friday, November 12, has been designated as Parents Day at the University. "In keeping with the custom of recent years," Dr. Goddard said, "the parents of the sophomore class have been invited to be guests of the University on that day."

"One of the most enjoyable experiences for parents is being able to attend morning classes with their sons and daughters. Should parents appear in any classes," Dr. Goddard reminded the faculty, "it is my hope that they would be permitted this privilege without a departure from the usual mode of teaching."

"I know that the parents will appreciate our making them welcome on the campus as the opportunity arises throughout the day," Dr. Goddard said.

Council Asks New Deal for Students

THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL has approved a report which calls for far-reaching structural changes in the division of student affairs, for more faculty participation in the shaping of policy in this area, and for the development and articulation of a new philosophy of student activities.

The Council approved the report entitled "The Division of Student Affairs: Philosophy, Function, and Structure" at its September meeting. The Council Committee on Undergraduate Affairs prepared the report after making an intensive study of the Division of Student Affairs.

Perhaps the most important recommendation of the report is that responsibility for student affairs be consolidated and placed in the office of the provost and that an additional vice-provost be appointed to assume primary responsibility in that area. This recommendation has been implemented with the naming of A. Leo Levin, professor of law,

Professor Discusses "These Kind of Students"

By Dr. Richard Bozorth

SEVERAL YEARS AGO the Office of Admissions announced its decision to receive a few freshmen into the College despite their low scores in the Verbal and English tests on the College Boards. The step was being taken because these candidates showed other signs of academic prowess and personal worth. Expressing his approval of such healthy elasticity in our policies, a colleague turned to me and said, "There ought to be special sections in English for these kind of students."

Now my quarrel with the University—which will be surprised to learn that I have one—lies neither with admissions policies nor with a colleague's usage. My quarrel is with our indifference, our outward show of numbness when we face vulgarity, obscurity and error in student writing. We and our students are incessantly bombarded with the products of the ad-man, the incomplete combustion given off in official "releases" by governmental and other sources, and the gimmick-diction of the news media. Though we cannot damn the origin of such eruptions, we can at least recognize such infection in the writing of our students. We can refuse to accept papers written

in non-English and defiled by the presence or absence of punctuation. And to the student who protests "But you know what I mean," we can answer, "I could guess, but I won't!"

Bad grades and the rewriting of his papers usually make an honest student of a lazy one in short order, while we can forget the genuine misfit whose inability to reform will already have jeopardized his survival in courses other than our own. When the English Department ten years ago discontinued English A, a non-credit remedial course, it did so because study had shown that fewer than 20 per cent of students needing such sub-freshmen help ever finished the sophomore year. In the meantime, a steadily rising level of ability in our entering class makes poor expression by a student ever more probably the result of indolence and lack of motivation. We have the chance and the duty to spur our students towards literacy by insisting that they write decent English prose.

We owe this to our students, our colleagues, and to ourselves. For the student who will not or cannot use correct, idiomatic expression and yet is passed along with reasonable credit—presumably on the grounds that we can guess

what he meant to say because we know what he should have meant—eventually becomes a major in Anthropology, or Insurance, or English. When this happens, few of us feel it just or humane to deal rigorously with an upperclassman and so perhaps deny him a degree at this late stage.

But the baccalaureate that is coming to be regarded as the birthright of every normal boy and girl is often an admission ticket to advanced study. And so at the last we may have fostered that uniquely American ritual of helping a semi-literate achieve the graduate credit that will enable him to teach and direct others. It might prove more frightening than amusing to confront the bulk of theses and dissertations we have radically corrected or rewritten in the past decade.

What, then, are we to do? We can begin by referring our bad writers to their desks for another try if they want credit for an assignment. We can deduct heavy percentage from the examination that defies deciphering. We can send students who cannot write to the hundreds of handbooks and manuals of composition, to the Student Tutoring Society, or—better yet—to their sitting

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Faculty Sees L.B.J. Sign Arts and Humanities Act

PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON invited four University professors to attend the signing of the Arts and Humanities Act in Washington, D.C., this past September. They were: Dr. Robert M. Lumiansky, professor and chairman of the English department, Clarence Morris, professor of law, Dr. Roy F. Nichols, vice-provost and dean of the Graduate School, and Dr. Froelich Rainey, director of the University Museum and professor of anthropology.

These professors were among over one hundred prominent artists and leaders invited to the ceremony.

Dr. Lumiansky was a member of the Commission on the Humanities which sparked the introduction in Congress of the legislation. In addition to Dr. Lumiansky, Professor Morris and five other faculty members played major roles in preparing the Report which led to the legislation:

• Dr. Ernest Bender, associate pro-

fessor of Indo-Aryan language,

- Dr. W. Norman Brown, professor of Sanskrit and chairman of South Asia Regional Studies,
- Dr. Hennig Cohen, associate professor of English,
- Dr. MacEdward Leach, professor of English, and
- Dr. James B. Pritchard, professor of religious thought and curator of Biblical archaeology at the University Museum.



Dr. Lumiansky



Professor Morris



Dr. Nichols



Dr. Rainey

Among other things...

AUTHORS: **Dr. Arthur B. Shostak**, associate professor of sociology, and **Dr. William Gomberg**, professor of industry, are co-editors of *New Perspectives on Poverty* published by Prentice-Hall . . . **Dr. John W. McCoubrey**, associate professor of the history of art, is author of *American Art, 1700-1960: Sources and Documents*, published by Prentice-Hall.

Dr. David E. Lavin, assistant professor of sociology, is the author of *The Prediction of Academic Performance: A Theoretical Analysis and Review of Research*, published by the Russell Sage Foundation . . . The Ministry of Justice of Sweden has published **Dr. Thorsten Sellin's** translation of the new penal code and child welfare act. Dr. Sellin is a professor of sociology.

Dr. William H. Telfer, professor of biology, is co-author of a newly published textbook entitled *The Biology of Organisms* (John Wiley and Sons) . . . **Professor Jerre Mangione**, associate professor of English, is the author of two recently published books, *Night Search*—a novel, and *Life Sentences for Everybody*—fables in single sentences.

Dr. Tristram P. Coffin, professor of English, is co-author of the recently completed four volume *Ancient Ballads Traditionally Sung in New England*, published by the University of Pennsylvania Press . . . **Dr. W. Norman Brown**, professor and chairman of the department of East Asian Regional Studies, has videotaped a lecture on "The Legacy of Modern India" for the University of Illinois.

Dr. Claude Welch, associate dean of the College and chairman of the department of religious thought, is the

author of *God and Incarnation in Mid-19th Century German Theology: Thomas, Dorner, Biederman*, published by Oxford University Press . . . Associate professor of business law, **Charles M. Weber**, is the author of a book entitled *Commercial Paper*, published by Prentice-Hall.

The University of Pennsylvania press has published *Suburban Difference and Metropolitan Policies: A Philadelphia Story* by **Dr. Oliver P. Williams**, assistant professor of political science. Collaborators include **Dr. Harold Herman**, assistant professor of political science.

APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS: **Dr. Carl A. Moyer** was appointed George Lieb Harrison Visiting Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine for the academic year 1965-66. Other appointments: **Dr. Florence S. Lief**, associate professor of microbiology, School of Veterinary Medicine; **Richard O. Toth**, assistant professor of landscape architecture; **Dr. Donald D. Patterson**, associate professor of medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine; **Dr. Darwin J. Prockop**, assistant professor of biochemistry, School of Medicine.

THE ELECTED: **Dr. Albert J. Stunkard**, chairman and professor of psychiatry in the School of Medicine, has been named head of the Professors of Psychiatry, an organization composed of chairmen of the departments of psychiatry of all the U. S. and Canadian medical schools.

Dr. Russell L. Ackoff, chairman of the department of statistics and operations research, and director of the Management Science Center, has been elected a fellow in the American Statistical Association . . . **Dr. Ruth Smalley**, dean of the School of Social Work, attended a meeting of the organizing committee for the International Association of Social Workers and the International Congress of School of Social Work in New York.

VISITOR: **Philip Roth**, novelist and short-story writer, is visiting lecturer in English. His *Goodbye Columbus* won the National Book Award in 1960.

BOZORTH

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rooms for a daily half-hour of reading aloud. Unless one is quite deaf, this latter remedy will do more to implant the ability to speak and write clear prose than batteries of tutors, word lists, and style books.

Finally, we can reform ourselves. We can take pains to speak and write simply and clearly. The enormous specialization that the subjects of a university curriculum have undergone in the past generation has brought teachers to a point of sharing little common ground and so having no common language. My neighbor in English may tolerate if not admire my comment on "the unique tensions set up by the social matrix of this poem," but the effect on my students is mortifying.

STEAMBOAT ROAST

The Faculty Club's "Steamboat Roast" dinner will be served from 5 to 7:30 p.m. November 17 for \$2.25 per person. On Thanksgiving Day, dinner will be served from 3 to 7 p.m.

During home football games, the Faculty Club is open for pregame brunch and postgame dinner.

NEW EDITOR NAMED

Dr. Herbert S. Denenberg, associate professor of insurance, has been named the new editor of *The Almanac*.

Dr. Denenberg is the co-author of a textbook on risk and insurance, and is the winner of four awards from the *Journal of Risk and Insurance* for outstanding contributions to that periodical. He is an assistant editor of the *Annals of the Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriters* and a book review editor of the *Journal of Risk and Insurance*.

Dr. Denenberg, a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, received an LL.B. from Creighton University, an LL.M. from Harvard University and a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

Information for *The Almanac* should be addressed to Dr. Denenberg at Room W-147 Dietrich Hall.

The Almanac is published monthly during the academic year by the University for the information of its faculty and staff. The editor is assisted by an advisory committee representing the faculty, administration, and personnel of the University.

Dr. Herbert S. Denenberg, Editor
W-147 Dietrich Hall

University of Pennsylvania
Printing Office

Senate Meets

WHAT SHOULD BE the University's policy concerning classified research and research having to do with chemical and biological warfare?

This question will be discussed at the first 1965-66 plenary meeting of the University Senate, to be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 3, in Room W-51 of Dietrich Hall. Other items on the agenda are:

- A report on activities of the Senate Advisory Committee, by Dr. Julius Wishner, chairman of the Senate. His report will discuss the committee's work in nominating candidates for vice-provostship, the election of a chairman-elect of the Senate, and recent actions of the University Council in connection with undergraduate affairs and athletics.

- A discussion of the new functions and policies of the *Almanac*.

The Senate has also invited President Harnwell and Provost Goddard to report on any matters of interest to the Senate.

Dr. Richard Bozorth, secretary of the Senate, has announced that all members of the Senate will receive a written agenda before the meeting. Any Senate member not receiving Senate mailings should contact Dr. Bozorth.

Informal coffee hours to which all faculty and students are invited will be held every weekday in the Bowl Room of Houston Hall from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

These student-faculty get-togethers are sponsored by the Houston Hall Board and the Bennett Union Board. Each week the coffee hour will be hosted by a different campus organization. Faculty and members of the administration are being urged to stop by, even for a few moments, whenever they can. Coffee and donuts will be made available at five cents each.

The new program starts on November 1. It has been endorsed by Vice Provost A. Leo Levin as a method of increasing informal contacts between the students and faculty.

New Disability Board Makes Three Adjudications To Start New Program

THE "DISABILITY BOARD," which is to determine eligibility under the University's new long-term disability income program, has been appointed and has already favorably acted on three applications for benefits.

The Board is chaired by Dr. Paul W. Bruton, professor of law. The six other members of the Board, appointed by President Harnwell, are Dr. Lloyd W. Daly, chairman and professor of classical studies; Dr. William T. Fitts, Jr., professor of surgery; Dr. John A. Goff, professor of mechanical engineering; Dr. Walter C. Klingensmith, associate professor of clinical medicine; Dr. Dan M. McGill, Frederick Ecker Professor

of Life Insurance; and Dr. Francis C. Wood, chairman and professor of medicine.

The three board members who are physicians constitute the medical subcommittee of the disability board.

Three disability determinations were made retroactive to July 1, 1965, the date the program became effective. The three cases represent the entire known backlog of those disabled before the program went into effect.

Disability income coverage is considered one of the most advantageous fringe benefits because of the high cost of disability protection, especially when purchased on an individual basis.

New Research Laboratory Dedicated

THE NEW Laboratory for Research on the Structure of Matter both in function and appearance is tailor-made for its staff of metallurgists, engineers, solid-state physicists, and inorganic and physical chemists.

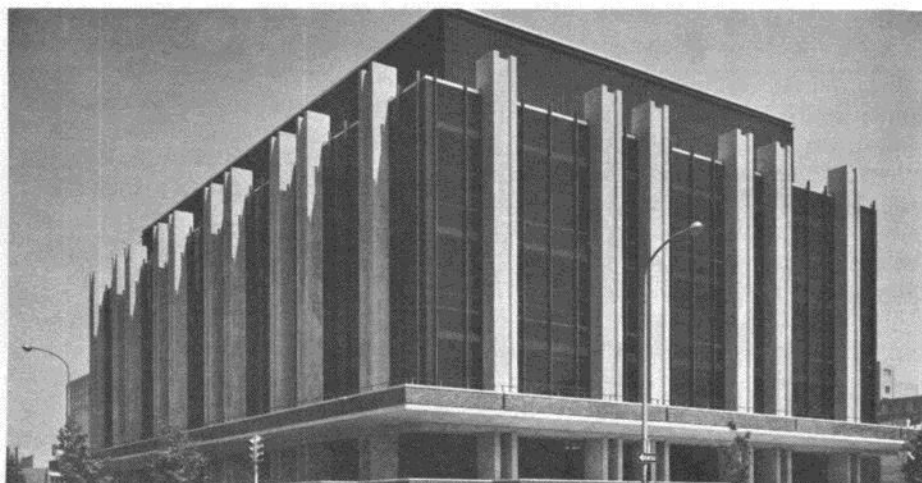
Huge "polarpane" glass windows, designed to reduce glare and absorb heat, and 32 precast exhaust chimneys, form an abstract design of glass, concrete, and metal. The building provides an unusual collection of centralized research and teaching facilities which will permit its interdisciplinary staff and student body to study the structure and properties of materials.

Dedicated in October, the building was constructed at a cost of \$4,175,000. Dr. John N. Hobstetter, professor of metallurgical engineering, is director of the Laboratory.

The Laboratory has 41 members on its faculty and 24 members holding post-doctoral research appointments. It has 160 graduate students and will eventually produce over five per cent of the nation's Ph.D.'s in this field.

Among the research facilities of the Laboratory are a high magnetic field center, an electronic microscopy center, a materials processing research center, and an X-ray diffraction center.

An abstract design of glass, concrete and metal . . .



Among other things...

LAURELS: **Dr. Edward B. Shils**, associate professor of industry, served the Philadelphia Board of Public Education as chief negotiator and labor consultant during recent bargaining sessions with the American Federation of Teachers... **Dr. Abraham Klein**, professor of physics, received an award of honor from Brooklyn College for his many contributions to the field of theoretical physics.

Dr. Howard E. Mitchell, assistant professor of education and director of the Human Resources Program, is one of sixty psychologists invited to attend a Chicago meeting to discuss the professional training of psychologists in the future. The meeting is supported by the National Institute of Mental Health.

The Surgeon General of the United States Air Force has named **Miss Eleanor J. Carlin**, associate professor of physical therapy, as a National Consultant Emeritus in Physical Therapy to the United States Air Force. Miss Carlin has served as a consultant since 1954.

Two University professors were honored by having their essays reprinted in *Modern Essays in Criticism*, edited by Arthur E. Barkin and published by the Oxford University Press. The two are **Dr. William H. Marshall**, professor of English, and the late **Dr. Rosemond Tuve**, professor of English; the titles of the two essays are respectively: "*Paradise Lost: Felix Culpa* and the Problem of Structure," and "Structural Figures

of L'Allegro and Il Penseroso."

Dr. Karel Duda, Czechoslovakian Ambassador to the United States, visited the University campus in September to present an award to **Dr. Lysle H. Peterson**, professor of physiology in the University's School of Medicine and its Division of Graduate Medicine. The award "for outstanding work for the development of medical sciences" was from the Czechoslovak Medical Society. The presentation took place in the office of **President Harnwell**.

TRAVELERS AND SPEAKERS:

Dr. Richard L. Hoffman, instructor of English, spoke on "Ovid and the Canterbury Tales" at Dickinson College, and was initiated as an honorary member of the Dickinson chapter of Eta Sigma Phi... **Dr. Rosa Wessel**, associate dean of the School of Social Work, led a roundtable discussion at the Statewide Conference on Children Born Out of Wedlock, called by the Governor's Council for Human Services in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania... **Dr. Ruth E. Smalley**, dean of the School of Social Work, spoke on the "Spiritual Components in Social Work" in Chicago, Illinois, on the occasion of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Loyola University School of Social Work.

Dr. John W. Carr, III, associate professor of electrical engineering, delivered a paper on "Recent Advances in

the Use of Computers" to a meeting of high level government managers organized by the Federal Civil Service Commission in September... **Dr. Enos E. Witmer**, assistant professor of physics, has returned from a semester's sabbatical leave at the University of Hamburg, where he delivered a series of lectures on the philosophical implications of modern physics.

Dr. Henry J. Abraham, professor of political science, conducted a seminar for 45 teachers from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden, under U. S. Department of State auspices in Mora, and a similar seminar in Odense, Fyn, Denmark, in October.

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas, research professor, Population Studies, delivered the Inaugural Address at the 1965 meeting of the International Federation of Women in Brisbane, Australia, in August. She also served as chairman of an International Committee on Internal Migration sponsored by the International Population Union in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in August, and participated as chairman of a session on Internal Migration at the Second World Population Conference in Belgrade, sponsored by the United Nations.

An exhibit of photographs by **Allan B. Jacobs**, associate professor of city planning entitled "Calcutta: Textures of a City" was on display at the Graduate School of Fine Arts. In conjunction with the display, Professor Jacobs, who served as a member of the Ford Foundation Planning Advisory Group to the Calcutta Metropolitan Planning Organization, also gave two lectures.

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