President Sets Facilities Goal

Muriel Designated Acting Dean

Acting President Anthony Santiago, appointed to his new post in August by the Board of Higher Education, has set the renovation of the Security Mutual Building and the creation of an Hostos community advisory board as priorities for his administration.

At this year’s first faculty meeting, Acting President Santiago said, “If Hostos is to survive, in the long run we must acquire more space so that we can grow. If we remain small and in rented facilities, we are vulnerable.”

President Santiago also charged the Hostos College Senate with the responsibility of following through with recommendations for the creation of an Hostos community advisory board which the Senate approved in principle last spring. At that time, the Senate’s Executive Committee appointed a committee to study the formation of the advisory board. The members of the study committee are Prof S. Victor De Leon, Robert Wheeler, Thomas Joyce, Angelo Aponte and Clara Watnick.

At the faculty meeting, Acting President Santiago announced the appointment of Prof. Amador Muriel, former chairman of the physical sciences department, as Acting Dean of Faculty. Prof. Evangelos Giza has resigned the deanship over the summer. Acting President Santiago assumes his new position after four years as director of the Hostos Division of Community and Continuing Education. Believed to be the first blind person to head a college or university in the United States, he has a diverse background in education and (Continued on page 2)

Renovation Funds Are Denied

That was the simple and painful reaction of an Hostos staff who seemed to be reflecting the dismay of the entire college community upon hearing that, yes, once again, Hostos was denied the means to renovate the Security Mutual building at 500 Grand Concourse.

The latest attempt to secure the funds for the renovation was begun last winter when the college and staff members of the CUNY Office of Facilities Planning began the long and complex process of applying for federal funds under the Local Public Works Program which is administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The Board of Higher Education had, in turn, approved the application in February and it subsequently received the support of Bronx Borough President Abraham. Significantly, the funds for the renovation were to come from the federal government so that the city and the State Dormitory Authority, both of which have not been able to sell bonds on the public market, would not be burdened. It seemed as though the Local Public Works Program afforded the city and CUNY an ideal opportunity to complete the long-delayed Security Mutual project.

What happened? The truth is that no one at Hostos or the CUNY central office is absolutely sure. The final decision on how the federal funds were to be distributed was made by Mayor Abraham Beame, although many projects were apparently eliminated even before they reached the mayor’s desk.

As Acting President Anthony Santiago explained at this year’s first faculty meeting, “All we know is that somewhere between the Borough President’s Office and City Hall our project was cut out. Neither I nor the people at the Board of Higher Education know how or where, but the decision to deny us the money was probably made by bureaucrats.”

One staff member at the Borough President’s Office offered the following explanation: “The mayor obviously did not think that it was appropriate that, with the funding problem of the University, the Security Mutual project was advisable.”

A staff member at the city’s construction office had yet another explanation: “That’s for sure. The city colleges are not exactly the darling of the world these days.”

Whatever the immediate reasons for the rejection of the project are, ultimately the Hostos bid was not approved because the college and the community it serves are politically weak. Perhaps no telling is the list of projects in the Bronx which received (Continued on page 2)

Senate Elects New Chairman

Assails AFT On Bakke Stand

The Hostos College Senate convened its first meeting of the year on September 29 and elected a new chairman and two members of the Hostos presidential search committee. The Senate also voted overwhelmingly in favor of a resolution demanding that the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) withdraw a brief filed on behalf of the complainant in the landmark Bakke case which is before the Supreme Court.

The new chairman of the Senate is Prof. Victor De Leon of the biology department. He replaces Prof. J.A. Betancourt who had held the position in an acting capacity since last spring. Prof. De Leon set increased activity on the part of the Senate, including attendance of representatives at Senate meetings, as a priority. His term of office is for one year.

The two faculty members elected to the presidential search committee were Prof. J.A. Betancourt and Prof. Cyril Price of the dental hygiene department. Under guidelines set by the Board of Higher Education, the presidential search committee is to be composed of the chairman of the Senate, the two faculty members elected by the Senate, two students designated by the Student Government Organization and a Hostos graduate who is also to be selected by the student government.

In action on the Bakke case, the Senate objected to the amicus curiae or supporting brief which the American Federation of Teachers filed on behalf of Alan Bakke, an unsuccessful applicant to the medical school at the University of California at Davis, who has claimed that he was the victim of reverse discrimination because a quota system at the medical school favored the admission of minority students with (Continued on page 2)

Speakers Bureau Setting Engagements

The Hostos Speakers Bureau is resuming operations this fall with engagements as several local community agencies and senior citizens’ centers. Community groups interested in availing themselves of the service, which Hostos provides free of charge, should contact the Office of College Relations and Development (attention: Speakers Bureau at Hostos for a list of speakers and their topics. The topics include health care, careers and counselling, science and the arts and education.

Engagements are limited to the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx. Many of the Hostos speakers are able to lecture in either English or Spanish. A minimum of three weeks’ notice is usually required to schedule and confirm a speaking engagement.

Thus far, some 33 Hostos faculty members, administrators and staff members have volunteered to lecture in the program. They got off to a good start last spring with engagements at such local agencies as the Bronx Secor Senior Center, the Alianza Civic Tropical, the East Harlem College and College Counseling Center and the Mount Eden Multi-Service Senior Citizens’ Center.

Faculty and staff members interested in participating in the program should contact Ms. Anne Jackson of the Office of College Relations.
President...
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social work. He holds a bachelor's degree from Hunter College's School of Social Work. After working in the early sixties as a case worker at the Industrial Home for the Blind, he became one of the first directors of the Mobilization for Youth's first neighborhood service center in New York. In 1967, he was appointed the director of the Brooklyn Center of ASPIRA, and by 1970 he became the Assistant Executive Director of ASPIRA of New York. From that position, he helped lead a court challenge of the Board of Education for its failure to provide equal educational opportunities to Spanish-speaking children.

Students, Bank Help Recruit

The mid-summer Hostos student recruitment drive was a resounding success thanks in great part to the efforts of the students, faculty and administrators who volunteered their time for the effort. Special thanks also go to the management of the local branch of Bankers Trust which permitted Hostos recruiters to set up a table in the bank offices, assistant vice-president of the bank. That help has come in the form of direct grants to the college office of college relations and involvement to cover the cost of the advertising in the offices' grants effort; the bank has also donated the funds for all the photography appearing in this year's volume of El Coqui.

"Our special thanks go to Bankers Trust for all their help," said Mr. Carlos Velez, assistant director of admissions who deployed the Hostos recruiters. "We were very well received there and received everyone's full cooperation." If there was a slogan for the recruitment drive it was: "Everybody in the Hostos family is a recruiter." Among the faculty volunteers were Prof. Anita Cunningham, Magda Vasllos, Isaias de Jesus, Judith Nowinski, Louis Browne, John Scarry and Rosalina Velez. Representing the English department was staff member Miriam Soto. The student volunteers were: Evelyn Santiago, Evelyn Monge, Lourdes Lopez, Lawyer Anderson, Nancy Cruz, Beverly Simmons and graduate Benny Diaz, Noe Mercado, a staff member of El Coqui. The student newspaper, contributed by writing an article on the recruitment drive which was included in an issue of Spanish-speaking daily El Mundo.

"Whatever we do," said Mr. Velez, "we must do to recruit for Hostos. We must make sure that we follow the Security Mutual project from one bureaucrat's desk to the other so that we don't get passed over again."

Renovation...
(Continued from page 1)

Local Public Works funding. Among them are:
Over $2 million for the continuation of the new gateway and orientation facility at the Botanical Gardens.
Nearly $1.9 million for reconstruction of the City Island Bridge.
Nearly $3.25 million for three schools in the Parkchester section of the Bronx.
Over $1.5 million for sewer and street reconstruction at the Albert Einstein peripheral.
Nearly $4.7 million for buildings at the Bronx Zoo, including a primeat building, or in other words, a monkey house.
Indeed, there is something out of kilter in a city which passes over a much-needed project at a struggling college in favor of a parking lot at a ball park, and a monkey house at the zoo. And there is an obvious lack of vision among the city leadership when, in the face of warnings from several federal agencies that the facilities of Spanish-speaking peoples are being neglected, it chooses to undermine the viability of the only bilingual institution of higher learning in the eastern United States.
Recently, for example, a Justice Department official pointed out that the nation and the New York metropolitan area were experiencing a sizable influx of Hispanic-American immigrants with special social, economic and educational needs. He added that the single highest concentration of the nation's Hispanic population was in New York City.

The upshot is that Hostos continues to hold ESL and basic composition classes in rooms intended for 20 students that are brimming with as many as 35 and 40 students while the Security Mutual Building rests like a vacant hull across the Grand Concourse, from the former fire factory that houses Hostos today.

Having set the renovation of Security Mutual as "the highest priority" of his administration, Acting President Santiago has begun to explore ways to obtain funding either through the city's capital budget, through a bond sale by the Dormitory Authority, Lehman College, for example, was able to persuade a consortium of savings banks to buy Dormitory Authority bonds to fund construction of several buildings on its campus.

Furming heavily in President Santiago's strategy is the creation of the Hostos community advisory board which was approved this year by the college Senate and which it is hoped will be composed of individuals who would be able to influence decision-makers to complete the Hostos project.

"Whatever we do," President Santiago said at the College Senate's first meeting of the year, "we've got to make sure that we follow the Security Mutual project from one bureaucrat's desk to the other so that we don't get passed over again."

Senate...
(Continued from page 1)

lesser qualifications.

The case has been the center of considerable controversy as scores of organizations and prominent individuals have supported both sides in the debate, although no institution of higher learning has filed on behalf of complainant Bakke.

Clearly, the feeling of those representatives at the Senate meeting who argued in favor of the resolution condemning the AFT briefing was that a decision in favor of Bakke would seriously undermine most of the hard-won gains in the civil rights movement.

As Acting President Anthony Santiago put it, "All constitutional issues aside, what all this comes down to is discrimination and racism. It would be a great shame to all that's been accomplished."

"What counts here," said Prof. Edward Maynard, who introduced the resolution condemning the AFT, "is not the fine arguments of law. What counts is the effect that a decision for Bakke would have on society in general and our goals for equality."

The resolution, which will be sent to AFT headquarters via telegram, reads as follows:

"The College Senate of Hostos Community College demands that you withdraw the unfair brief for in suits of Alan Bakke vs. the Regents of the University of California."
Hostos Receives Diverse Grants

Hostos has received at least $262,193 in competitive grants for the 1977-78 academic year, according to Ms. Anne Grossis, director of the Office of College Relations and Development.

The total does not include a Vocational Education Act grant administered by The New York State Education Department, which has been approved for the Hostos laboratory technology program as the award has not yet been set. The total also excludes a grant of $100,270 from the National Science Foundation which was reviewed by Mr. Pred Muriel project director.

Following is a description of the unfunded grants:

- Sciences: A three-year grant of $195,911 from The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (Department of Health, Education and Welfare) to be shared with Lehman College and Queensborough Communtiy College over a period of three years. (The grant is now in its second year.)

Mr. Pred Muriel, chief development advisor and strategist for the various federal programs and private funding sources on a nation-wide basis, for exploring Hostos program needs with offices of federal programs and private foundations and corporations; and for providing the necessary follow-up on grant applications submitted by the college to the various federal programs and private agencies. In addition, Mr. Barron will be called upon to perform the usual administrative duties as well as to provide some modules, especially drill exercises, in computer-assisted instruction. His hope is that the proximity of the computer will encourage faculty to experiment with this medium of instruction.

The computer was being used in the science CAI which he began last year when the college had occupied since its opening.

A report by the national committee of Hispanic voters for Jimmy Carter was crucial to the overwhelming support of Black voters across the country contributed to the report on the computer.

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NewsBriefs

Prof. Víctor De León of the biology department has collaborated on an article entitled "Stem and Polynuclear Ribsomes of Mouse Ova," which appeared in a recent issue of Developmental Biology. The article is related to extensive research on embryonic development which Prof. De León has conducted at the Cornell University Medical College.

Prof. Carlos Quiroga of the English department published two articles—"Etnocentrismo lingüístico: actitud negativa biográfica de la educación bilingüe" and "Situación del educando hispanohablante en los Estados Unidos"—in the spring edition of El Condor Literary Review which is published in Puerto Rico by the Ana G. Méndez Educational Foundation. The articles deal with what Prof. Quiroga terms "the negative attitudes taken by college ESL teachers during the presentation and imposition of the second language."

Prof. Quiroga is presently finishing a follow-up article with the cooperation of Prof. Bowman Willey, also of the English department. The article delves into the roots of ethnocentric attitudes in the ESL classroom.

Hostos graduate Alcides Torres ('72) has returned to New York City after serving for three years as a counselor in the department of corrections in Puerto Rico. Mr. Torres was a member of the charter class of Hostos Community College. He went on for a bachelor's degree, also in sociology, at City College. Two of Mr. Torres' sons, Jay and Amos, are also graduates of Hostos, and have served the college as employees and loyal friends through the years. During his three years in Puerto Rico, Mr. Torres, senior, was the pastor of a church in San José, Rio Piedras.

Prof. Pablo Cabrera, chairman of the Puerto Rican studies department, was the stage director for the world première performance of Macías, the oldest known Puerto Rican opera, which was presented at the Ópera de San Juan over the summer. The opera was written in the mid-nineteenth century by Felipe Güteirrez y Espinosa, a Puerto Rican composer whose talents had not been recognized until lately. Güteirrez had originally dedicated the opera to king Alfonso XII of Spain, but it was never performed and it soon fell into oblivion. The opera was rediscovered recently in the Royal Archives in Madrid by Puerto Rican historian Lidio Cruz Monclova. The Ópera de San Juan's production of Macías was appropriately dedicated to Spain's present king, Juan Carlos. It was the cause of considerable commotion in the operatic world, not only because of the work's superior quality, but also because it is the oldest opera from the Caribbean area. Says Prof. Cabrera, "Macías changes almost completely the panorama of Puerto Rican music."

The costumes and scenery used in the première of Macías were largely the result of efforts by Prof. Carmen Marín of the Puerto Rican studies department who was called in to research the period and place—13th century Spain—of the opera. Prof. Marín's assignment was particularly challenging because the 13th century remains a relatively obscure era in Spanish history.

Prof. Cabrera also narrated one of the recent segments of Realidades, a national bilingual Latino series shown from time to time on public broadcasting stations. Entitled "Who's Afraid of Bilingual Education?" the segment reviews bilingual programs at several schools across the nation.

Also appearing in a segment of Realidades entitled "Your Voice is Powerful!" were the Hon. Jack John Olivero, a member of the Board of Higher Education, and former chairman of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense Fund, Congressman Herman Badillo and Raquel Creffiff of the Office of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico who was among the community leaders who campaigned for the creation of Hostos Community College.

The paper presents an ex-

Prof. Leroy Sparks, chairman of the radiologic technology department, has collaborated with Dr. A. Brest Garber, a nationally known figure in health education, to produce a modularly designed medical terminology program entitled Learn-a-Term. Published by Aspen Systems Corporation, the program is designed for paraprofessional health care personnel who use medical terminology, but may not know what they mean. Prof. Sparks and Dr. Garber have based the Learn-a-Term program on teaching experiences at Hostos. (Dr. Garber has lectured at Hostos.) The program has been used with great success at Harlem and Roosevelt Hospitals.

Prof. Graciela Rivera of the visual and performing arts department has been included in the latest edition of the International Who's Who in Music and Musicians Directory. The volume outlines Prof. Rivera's rich career which began in 1952 with her début in the title role of Lucia di Lammermoor at New York City's Metropolitan Opera. Prof. Rivera was the first Puerto Rican to sing a title role at the vaunted Met. She has since performed in opera houses in major cities in Europe, the United States and Latin America.

Acting Dean of Faculty Amador Murriel has published a paper entitled "Illustrative Calculations Using Projection Techniques" in the August 1977 issue of the American Journal of Physics. The paper presents an explanation of how physicists can predict the interaction of two bodies in a physical system. It is based on highly theoretical research which Dean Murriel began in graduate school and completed while at Hostos. The American Journal of Physics is a pedagogical journal intended primarily for doctoral level students and teachers.

Hostos graduate Heriberto Seda has been elected chairman of the committee on committees of the Lehman College Senate. Mr. Seda is also the founder and president of the Association Estudiantil de Educación Bilingüe-Bicultural, a student/faculty organization at Lehman which promotes bilingual, bicultural education.

Democrats...

"(Continued from page 3) delivering New York. You'd think that in some way he'd do the same for the city's Latinos."

Still in all, the Democratic National Committee's report emphasized that Hispanics "came nowhere near measuring up to their potential" last November. "For every two Hispanics who voted," the report claimed, "three potential voters did not."

A perfect example of this unrealized potential was the meager turnout of Hispanics, particularly Chicanos, in California, the nation's largest state and a treasure chest of electoral votes. As the report claimed, "if Texas and Ohio [and New York] show the difference the Hispanic vote can make, California shows the difference it might have made." It concludes that, had Latino voters turned out in California at the same rate as they did nationally, the state would have swung to Carter.

The lesson to be drawn from the last national elections is clear: Hispanics are a burgeoning power in the nation, and, as the Justice Department, the Commission on Civil Rights and the Bureau of Labor Statistics have acknowledged, they are growing in numbers. How effectively Hispanics make their presence known, will depend on how effectively they wield their political clout.

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American Journal of Physics