Proposal for Two-Year Experiment in Honor System is Presented

An experimental Honor System, to remain in effect for two years, will be instituted in the undergraduate schools of the University in September, 1964, if it wins the final approval of the various school faculties this month.

Texts of the proposal were circulated to members of the faculty by the Committee of Undergraduate Deans, of which Dean Willis Winn of the Wharton School is chairman, on April 21. The proposal itself was drawn up, after extensive discussion, by the Undergraduate Affairs Committee of the University Council.

"The only reliable determination of feasibility is to try an Honor System experimentally for a reasonable period on a voluntary basis," the committee said in submitting its proposal. "Our aim is to substitute experience for speculation in determining the feasibility of establishing a permanent Honor System at Pennsylvania. The committee suggests that the University, by taking an empirical approach, will have ample opportunity for evaluation without commitment beyond the experimental period.

"We recommend that the Experimental Undergraduate Honor System contained herein be instituted in September, 1964, and be retained until May, 1966. We also recommend that a small student-faculty committee of the University Council be charged with studying the effectiveness of the system throughout this period and with advising on problems which arise in the administration of the system. In the last semester of its operation the committee should also make a thorough report on the system with recommendations as to its retention, modification, or rejection.

"The Committee realizes that there will be difficulties in instituting an Honor System, but it is convinced that there are values to be attained by its success. With the understanding that the committee is proposing a temporary system, we recommend that the undergraduate schools of the University for the two-year period beginning in September, 1964, adopt the following Experimental Undergraduate Honor System:

I. Adoption

"In any individual class and in any course in which multiple sections combine for testing purposes, the instructor (or the course head) who supervises all examinations, (Continued on page two)
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(Continued from page one)

quizzes, and other bases for grades has the authority, but is not bound, to install the Experimental Honor System if, prior to the time the first quiz, examination or written assignment is given, at least 75 per cent of the students in the class (or a larger percentage if he so stipulates) express approval of this Honor System through secret ballot.

II. Scope

"The scope of the Experimental Honor System shall include quizzes, examinations, written problems, papers and term papers, exercises and daily recitations, subject to modifications authorized by the instructor.

III. Honor Code

"Every student has the personal responsibility to uphold honorable standards of conduct in academic work and an equally important responsibility to see that others uphold these standards. Any work represented by the student as his own will be regarded as conforming with these standards of conduct.

"For at least the duration of the Experimental Honor System, the student will write at the conclusion of any paper that is to be graded this affirmation followed by his signature:

"'I have upheld the Honor Code.'

IV. Responsibility in Reporting Violations

"Under the Honor Code a person who observes what appears to be a violation of the Code has a responsibility to act. This action may be carried out in one or more of the following manners:

"1. He may give a verbal warning to the suspected violator that his conduct has been observed and appears questionable.

"2. If an obvious violation is observed, the witnessing student may either:
   a) ask the violator to report himself to the Honor Board, or
   b) report the violation directly to a member of the Honor Board, or
   c) report the violation to the dean of his school.

"An instructor has a responsibility to report to the Honor Board any violation of the Honor Code which he observes.

V. Honor Board

A. Composition. The Honor Board shall be composed of 11 undergraduate students, two each from the College, College for Women, Engineering Schools, and Wharton School, and one each from the School of Nursing and the School of Allied Medical Professions, to be appointed by the head(s) of the student government(s), subject to the concurrence of the appropriate academic deans. The 11th member shall be appointed under the same conditions by the head(s) of the student government(s) from among the undergraduate student body in such a manner that representation among the undergraduate schools is rotated. Appointments shall be made effective with the beginning of each academic year, which shall be the junior year of each new appointee, and shall continue for two consecutive academic years.

B. Adjudication. The basic function of the Honor Board is to determine whether an alleged violation of the Honor System does in fact constitute a violation of the Code. The Board sits as a fact-finding board, hearing testimony and assessing other evidence which is put before it.

The accused has a right to face his accuser.

"If a student is found guilty of a violation, the Honor Board may issue a warning to the student or recommend to the appropriate committee of the student's school such disciplinary action as an F in the examination, an F in the course, suspension or expulsion."

The committee, in a lengthy explanatory passage, said it was "well aware that it presents to the faculty and student body an experimental system that will be recognized by all as a compromise. Some may call it no honor system at all, but a permissive system of non-proctoring; others may say that it demeans the student by asking him to write out his 'honor' each time he submits a paper. But it added its conviction that "an experimental period is necessary in any attempt to determine the feasibility of an undergraduate honor system in an institution with six undergraduate units, each attracting a variety of students whose backgrounds, educational goals and professional aims may differ greatly." The system, it concluded, "frankly does not intend to impose an ironclad unbeatable system of student proctoring to replace that responsibility now incumbent on the faculties."

Dr. C. T. Oliver to Become Ambassador to Colombia

Dr. Covey T. Oliver, Professor of Law, was nominated in April by President Johnson to be United States Ambassador to Colombia. The selection was approved April 28 by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

A member of the Law School faculty since 1956, and a former State Department official, Dr. Oliver will succeed Fulton Freeman, who has been named Ambassador to Mexico.

The new Ambassador was graduated from the University of Texas in 1933, took his law degree there in 1936, and went on to advanced degrees in the same field at Columbia University in 1953 and 1954.

Dr. Oliver presently lives in Lansdowne with his wife and their five children. He said he expects to go to his new post this summer, after extensive briefing in Washington, where he has served previously in various State Department posts.

National Academy of Sciences

Honors Three at Pennsylvania

Three members of the University family were honored by the National Academy of Sciences at its annual meeting in Washington April 28.

Dr. Detlev W. Bronk, a Trustee of Pennsylvania and currently Director of the Rockefeller Institute in New York, was awarded the Academy's Public Welfare Medal, given for contributions to science as a whole rather than in any specific field.

Two members of the faculty were among the 35 scientists elected to membership in the organization. They are Dr. Thomas Foxen Anderson, Professor of Biophysics and senior member of the Institute for Cancer Research, and Dr. Louis Barkhouse Flexner, Professor of Anatomy and Director of the Institute of Neurological Sciences.
New Policy of Early Decision Is Announced on Admissions

A new “early-decision” policy which will affect the children of members of the faculty and administrative staff has been adopted by the University for applicants for admission to its undergraduate schools, and will go into effect in 1964-65.

Dean of Admissions William G. Owen said in announcing the policy that it “is designed to relieve at least some of the anxieties associated with admission to college in the face of greatly increased numbers of college-age youth.”

Under this plan, he said, action will be taken in the fall of the senior year on the applications of students who have made their choice of a college by that time. By filing a single application at Pennsylvania before October 15, the candidate will be judged on the basis of his three-year school record and the results of the College Board tests taken in his junior year; he will receive notification shortly after December 1, and the approved candidates will be asked to make a non-refundable deposit to hold their places in the class.

Early-decision candidates who are children eligible for faculty and staff scholarships will receive the same special consideration as in the past, Dean Owen stated, noting further that “for many years such children have not had to compete against other candidates. No matter how many other applicants there are, the child of a faculty member has been judged, like the alumni child, from an academic standpoint solely on the one question: Can he be expected to perform satisfactorily without undue difficulty? If so, he has been admitted.”

The Dean added that, conversely, the child even of faculty parents, if his record indicated he could not perform satisfactorily, was not admitted. A satisfactory character record is of course obligatory in all cases.

“The results of this policy,” said Dean Owen, speaking of the children of both faculty and alumni, “have been that between 75 and 80 per cent of all such applicants have been approved for admission; of those approved, approximately two-thirds have chosen to matriculate at the University, and they generally comprised about 15 per cent of the entering class. These figures compare favorably with most of the other Ivy League colleges.”

He went on to say that early-decision candidates who are accepted here will be required to enroll at any other college. Those who are not accepted will have available if they wish it, special guidance and counseling from the Admissions office about other possible choices for college. In a few cases the early decision may be withheld until the applicant’s fall semester grades and December College Board results are available; in this event a decision will still be made several months before the regular notification date.

“Of course the children of faculty members need not avail themselves of this early-decision plan,” the Dean pointed out, “but those who do not will have to face consideration along with more than 6500 applicants expected for the 1600 places in the freshman class which will enter in September, 1965.

“It is thus hoped,” Dean Owen concluded, “that the early-decision plan will eliminate pressure and suspense for those qualified applicants who have selected Pennsylvania as their first choice among colleges.”

Dr. Welch New Associate Dean Of College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Claude Welch, Berg Professor and Chairman of the Department of Religious Thought, has been appointed Associate Dean of the College, effective July 1.

He succeeds Dr. Charles L. Babcock, who has served as Acting Dean during Dean Otto Springer’s leave of absence this term. Dr. Babcock will resume his duties as Associate Professor of Classical Studies. Dr. Donald D. Fitts, who has acted as Vice Dean, will return to the Chemistry Department, where he has been promoted to Associate Professor effective July 1.

An ordained Methodist minister, Dr. Welch was graduated in 1942 from Upper Iowa University, took his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School in 1945, and his Ph.D. there in 1950. He taught at Yale and at Princeton before coming to Pennsylvania in 1960.

Berlin University Officials Are Entertained on Campus

Three high-ranking officials of the Free University of Berlin, with which Pennsylvania has maintained close relationships since 1958, were guests of this University April 20 and 21.

Members of the German delegation were the Rector, Dr. Herbert Lüers; the Dean of the Science Faculty, Dr. Karl Peter Grotmeyer, and the Manager of the Rector’s Office, Dr. Horst W. Hartwich. They were accompanied by the chairman of Berlin’s Student Council, Werner Gebauer, and by Ralph Brown, representative of the U. S. Mission to Berlin.

They were introduced to President Harnwell by Dr. Maximilian Ehrenstein, Professor of Biochemistry in the School of Medicine, who has been a frequent guest lecturer at the Free University.

Vice Provosts Roy F. Nichols and Otto Springer acted as hosts to the delegation at a dinner given in their honor at the Faculty Club.

The delegation members were also guests at a luncheon given at the Women’s Residence Hall by Gene Gisburne, Vice President for Student Affairs, and John C. Hetherston, Vice President for Coordinated Planning. Other guests included Dr. Constance P. Dent, Dean of Women, and Dean of Men Robert F. Longley.

Trustees Approve Change In Name of Dental School

A formal change in the name of the School of Dentistry was approved by the Trustees of the University at their meeting on Tuesday, May 5.

Effective July 1, the school will be known as the School of Dental Medicine. The Trustees acted on the recommendation of the school’s faculty and the University Council.

In other actions, the Trustees approved the appointment of Dr. Morris S. Vitelles as Dean of the Graduate School of Education. Dr. Vitelles has been Acting Dean since the retirement as Dean of Dr. William E. Arnold last summer.
HONORS AND APPOINTMENTS: Louis I. Kahn, Professor of Architecture in the Graduate School of Fine Arts, was awarded an honorary doctorate in Architecture at the Polytechnic Institute of Milan, Italy, early in April ... Phi Delta Kappa, international men’s honorary society in education, has elected Guy Anselmo, Jr., Assistant Dean of Men, to membership . . . Dr. Edward P. Hutchinson, Professor of Sociology in the Wharton School, has been commissioned by the State Department’s Division of Security and Consular Affairs to prepare a report on the administration’s immigration bill, No. S-1932 in the Senate and H.R. 7700 in the House of Representatives . . . Members of the Evening School Alumni Society honored William R. Hockenberry, who is to retire June 30 as Director of the Evening and Extension Schools, by presenting him with a silver centerpiece at ceremonies in the Warwick Hotel on April 20.

Dr. Charles C. Price, Chairman of the Department of Chemistry, was recently appointed to the United States National Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the representative of the American Chemical Society. Professor Price has also accepted membership on the Committee for the Survey of Chemistry under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences. He will serve as chairman of the American delegation at a Conference on College Chemistry to be held next Nov. 16-20 in Hakone, Japan.

TRAVELERS AND SPEAKERS: Dr. Andre von Gronicka, Chairman of the German Department, has been invited by the Bonn government to be its guest on a tour of Germany from June 15 to July 11. He is one of a group of six so invited. Dr. von Gronicka is conducting a seminar at Dartmouth College the afternoon of May 7 on “Modern German Literature,” and is giving a talk there the same evening on Thomas Mann . . . Dr. Marvin E. Wolfgang, Professor of Sociology, spent April 2-15 in Rome on an NIMH exploratory travel grant to enlist the cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Education in a five-year cross-cultural delinquency research project . . . On April 10-11 Professor Elias Burstein of the Physics Department lectured on Semiconductor Electronics and Quantum Electronics as part of the program for executive technical development instituted by the Office of Continuing Professional Studies at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

Dr. Arthur P. Whitaker, Professor of History, gave addresses on “Varieties of Nationalism in Latin America” at the Regional Council on Latin American Studies of the University of Denver on April 10, and at the World Affairs Conference of the University of Colorado on April 13. He is to speak on nationalism in Latin America at the History Department Colloquium of Princeton University on May 13 . . . Dr. Dale T. Harroun, Professor of Civil Engineering, took part in the third Plowshare Symposium on Engineering with Nuclear Explosives at the University of California at Davis, Calif., April 21-24 . . . Dr. G. F. di Roccoferrera, Associate Professor of Industry, spoke on “Computer Education in Schools of Business” at the Center for Continuing Education of the University of Chicago on April 10.

Professor Adolf Klarmann of the German Department spoke May 4 and 5 at the University of Nebraska on “German Expressionism” . . . Dr. J. Wesley Schneyer, Assistant Professor of Education, and Mrs. Margaret Willson, Assistant Director of the Reading Clinic in the Graduate School of Education, were members of the arrangements committee for the ninth annual convention of the International Reading Association held April 29-May 2 in Philadelphia. Other participants in the activities of the convention, at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel and Convention Hall, included Dr. Helen Huus, Associate Professor of Education, and Dr. Ralph Preston, Acting Vice Dean of the Graduate School of Education.

Dr. Allan H. Brown, Chairman and Professor of Biology, served as chairman of a section at the National Conference on Space Nutrition and Related Waste Problems, held at the University of South Florida in Tampa on April 27-30 . . . Dr. Albert I. Oliver, of the Graduate School of Education, visited Puerto Rico recently to evaluate two secondary schools on behalf of the Commission on Secondary Schools of the Middle States Association. This month he has been assigned by the International Schools Services to survey a secondary school in Brussels, Belgium.

Dr. Rufus Wixon, Professor of Accounting in the Wharton School, is to speak on the “Relationship of Accounting Principles to Budgeting” on May 21 at the 14 annual national conference of the Budget Executives Institute, to be held at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel . . . Dr. Frederic G. Hyde, of the Journalism faculty, will be the principal speaker May 20 at the annual dinner of the Delaware Valley Industrial Editors Association, to be held at the Poor Richard Club.

Dr. R. J. Reynik of the Department of Metallurgical Engineering presented a paper on “Thermodynamic Driving Forces for Nonstationary Metallic Diffusion” at the American Physical Society meeting April 27 in Washington, D. C. Dr. S. D. Goitein, Professor of Arabic, delivered the 1964 Rutgers Hebrew Studies Department lecture May 6 on “Judaism and Islam.” . . . Drs. MacEdward Leach and Tristram P. Coffin, of the Folklore Department, delivered papers late in April at Duke University, Durham, N. C., during a two-day program sponsored by the American Folklore Society and others in connection with the publication by the Duke University Press of the Frank C. Brown Collection of North Carolina Folklore.

Dr. Robert E. Spiller, Professor of English and Acting Dean of the Annenberg School, made the summary address at a conference for visiting foreign scholars, held in Detroit April 23-25 under the joint auspices of the State Department and the American Studies Association. On June 21, Dr. Spiller will be in Oslo, Norway, to give the summary address at a meeting of the Nordic section of the American Studies Association.