What's News @ Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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RIC's Rehab Team Involved Either Way: More Aged, Handicapped - or Just More Visible?

by George LaTour

To the more-than-casual observer moving into Rhode Island from out of state, it appears Little Rhody has more than its share of aged and handicapped. While exact figures for purposes of comparison are difficult to come by - if not impossible - a new arrival in the smallest state in the Union soon becomes impressed with the seeming over-abundance of television commercials of the public service variety advertising this or that for the disabled.

Television and radio news broadcasts over regular intervals with news of "mainstreaming" the retarded back into society, or of special events for those with physical, mental or social handicaps.

Rhode Island's newspapers are no exception.

What's New

by Laurence J. Sasso, Jr.

So far this semester 547 individuals have been helped by the center's staff. "We will have many more," says Guillotte, riffling a stack of folders containing information on "200 or so" freshmen who are undecided as to major. There also are 135 transfer and readmission students for whom the center's services are requested.

No TYPICAL SCENARIO

While each problem the staff sees is a different case, Guillotte, center director, says Guillotte - there are two main categories of students which the staff sees. They are the above-mentioned type, the student who has not chosen a major, and those who wish to change their major. Many of them are new to the college or unfamiliar with its procedures (such as the transfer process), but recently the center has had three seniors come in who wished to change majors.

HELPING THOSE WHO FALL THROUGH

Also the staff can help students who somehow "fell through the cracks" at registration time. Guillotte describes individuals who have arrived in the center office on registration day oblivious to what must be done. Some come in even after the appointed day has come and gone. It's incredible, he said, but either they don't get their materials there, or they mail the or misunderstand them. "We've solved a lot of hairy problems along that line," he observes.

The "43" Rehabilitation Counselor Education Program it is not a major concern at this point. Having recently received national recognition, they are addressing themselves to the task of providing advanced specialized training to 75 graduate students in the state of Rhode Island in both state and private agencies.

The rehabilitation program was begun in 1975 under the college's Department of Counseling Education. Students in their 30's and 40's have been working in Rhode Island in both state and private agencies.

More Aged, Handicapped - or Just More Visible?

The student is out of breath. She's between one class and the next. It's cold outside. No time to take off her gloves, hat, coat, sit down, take a number, wait to be seen. Dr. Henry Guillotte, associate professor of education and co-coordinator of the Academic Advisement Information Center at RIC, feels "Rhode Island does have a state Rehabilitation Network - one of only two or three states nationally that have such - to work with and for the handicapped.

Professor Evans, Dr. Hanoch Livneh and Dr. Richard Ober, all members of RIC's rehabilitation program and all instrumental in its seeming accreditation, mutually agree that it is perhaps more a case of Rhode Island's aged and handicapped being more visible than in many other states. They surmise, it is because Rhode Island may be in the forefront of mainstreaming emotionally and physically handicapped people back into society. Examples of this involve the placement of mildly mentally handicapped adults into residential apartments, and children from the Rhode Island School for the Deaf attending regular classes with non-handicapped children at the Henry Barnard School at RIC.

Whether it is the sense of Rhode Island actually having a greater proportion of aged and handicapped people, or if it is a case of its doing more for its aged and handicapped, the idea of more visible, may be worthy of study by those interested in such studies and ramifications. For it is perhaps more a case of Rhode Island's aged and handicapped being more visible than in many other states.
**Editors’ Note:**

("Administrative proliferation" is a phrase which has generated much interest and discussion on campus in recent days. On Nov. 11, Prof. David E. Sweet sent a lengthy letter to Dr. Donald Averill, President, RIC/AFT, which contained a number of criticisms of the College and the state of higher education. One of the items discussed was what has come to be termed "administrative proliferation" and the time I presented information which I wanted to verify before preparing a written report. This identification was left with Vice President Nazarian, whose recent illness has delayed my being able to present you with this information as soon as I had hoped. Enclosed with this letter is a copy of a letter from Dr. Nazarian to me in which he sets forth the numbers of persons assigned to the College in 1968, 1975, and 1980. In the data on which I assumed the (president), and from that, the total number of permanent, non-tenure, tenure, tenure-line faculty in the same time period increased by 11 or 3.02 percent--going from 464 to 517.

The table on the first page of Dr. Nazarian's letter in each category refers to "unrestricted" positions. These are the positions which are supported by the income of the College–the money paid to the College by the students in the form of tuition, fees (student activities fee, student union fee, or the dining center fee). This money plus certain mandatory fees, such as health and athletic fees (but not the student activities fee, the student union fee, or the dining center fee, all of which support the auxiliary enterprises referred to below).

In addition to the unrestricted positions, the College also has a substantial number of "restricted" positions. There are two broad types of "restricted" positions: there are those which are supported by income earned by the auxiliary enterprises of the College (the dining center, the bookstore, the student union, and the residence halls), and there are those positions, during the course of these years, not been accompanied in states with enrollment-driven budget and staffing formulas by a restoration of previously eliminated positions.

You should understand, however, the numbers and types of positions which can be supported from restricted funds depend entirely on the nature of the restrictions written into the grants and contracts or on the nature of the work done by the auxiliary enterprises. At any given time there usually are a few faculty positions supported by grants and contracts. (There are also such positions.) In requesting the report from Dr. Nazarian I have assumed that the term "administrative proliferation" generally referred to what are assumed to be unwarranted increases in the number of College executive officers and other principal administrators of the College—a subdivision of the group identified as "administrative staff" in the table on the first page of Dr. Nazarian's letter. I asked Dr. Nazarian to identify by title those positions which are "restricted" positions. They are listed beginning at the bottom of page 2. There are 29 such positions at the present time. (Please note that there is no hereafter significance to the order in which they are listed; I have listed them in chronological order.) There is a description of the changes which have occurred in these positions since I became president. In general, these latter letters contain a description of the "new" positions on the list.

Because there may also be questions and concerns about some of the other positions which have been created either temporarily or permanently since I became president, the report can be found below in this letter.

One point I believe must be stressed. This report demonstrates, I hope conclusively, that there has been no recent increase in the total number of faculty on the campus. Since I have become president—the first year that the number of unrestricted, permanent, tenure-line faculty positions. This 3.02 percent increase in faculty has occurred while the total number of students in the College has increased from 1977 to 1980 has increased from 422.5 to 431, from an FTE of 1984 in 1977 to 1984. Thus, our total faculty has increased at a rate much greater than the rate of increase in our enrollment. Our admin-

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What’s New(s) at RIC

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Laurence J. Sasso, Jr., director. News inquiries and submission of materials for publication should be directed to News and Information Services, Room 6, The Bureau (second floor).

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By the summer of 1977 the College had committed itself to the establishment of the greater Cranston area in social work--the MSW. Subsequently, it became clear that to secure an enrollment of 600 students it was necessary, therefore, to upgrade and to absorb some existing social work-related functions into this new unit, which is currently designated the Division of Social Work, Continuing Education and Community Services. The College now has a dean and an assistant dean for this division; it has all the resources of funds, operating funds assigned to it. Incidentally, this Division accounts for approxi mately 20 percent of our FTE enrollment and 40 percent of our CE income.

Dr. David E. Sweet  
President  
Rhode Island College  
Providence, Rhode Island  
Dear Dr. Sweet:  
The following information was presented to you in preliminary form, on July 31, 1980.  

Dr. David E. Sweet  
President  
Rhode Island College  
Providence, Rhode Island

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Adopts Financial Policy

(John W. Speer, controller/treasurer) has released the following statement regarding the new policy of the Board of Regents:

The financial policy and we will make every effort to do so. With adequate planning, and has released the following statement regarding the new policy of the Board of Regents:

1. Director of Development-Presently filled on a temporary basis using the Director of Athletics line.
2. Vice President for Student Affírs-Temporary position using the Dean of Students line.
3. Special Assistant to the President-Presently filled on a temporary basis using the Vice President for Student Affairs line.
4. Information and Public Relations Specialist-This is a new classified position, resulting from a mislabeling of an existing classified position.
5. Personnel Office-A new position that was created when the Personnel position was split into two positions: one permanent position in the faculty, the other a full-time Personnel position.
6. Director of Academic Support-This position was formerly Assistant to the President, it was transferred to Academic Support and with an upgrade and change in title and responsibilities.
7. Director of Budget-Formerly Business Manager position which was upgraded along with change in title and responsibilities.
8. Head Basketball Coach-Line was established putting together one-half time existing coaching position and one-half time administrative assistant position.
9. Director of General Studies-As a half-time faculty position, function has become part of the duties and responsibilities of Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences.

As just are promotions of faculty from the rank of instructor to assistant professor, upgrades in the classified service has been included, for example, a promotion from Administrative Assistant to Administrative Services. There have been other changes that may be of interest.

IO. Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, and Associate Professor to Professor, there are made relative to upgrades in the classified service, for example, a promotion from Principal Clerk Typist to a Clerk Secretary, etc.

If you wish further analyses, I shall be happy to provide them.

Sincerely,
John Nastanian
Vice President for Administrative Services

Advisement Center

(Continued from p. 1)

The average number of contacts per advisor at the center is two or three. Guillotte explains that some are seen or talked with only once, as was the case with the student who buttonholed him regarding the problem of adding a course. Others might be seen as many as eight or nine times. Advice and discussions can range from explanation of what a career major can lead to, to referral of students to the various skill centers on campus or to the counseling center.

"I look on the center in two ways," Guillote said. "First it is a safety valve. It gives the student a problem a specific place to take it. It is a supplement and complement to the regular departmental advising procedures; it's not a substitute. Second, the center provides for a follow-up process. We keep a file on the individual, we write in the computer at the appropriate time to see if the advice we gave them was followed.

Without any advertising or promotion the AAI has served 347 students since school opened in September. "It's all been word of mouth," Guillote explains. "We did a good job last spring and that's been the source of our contacts this fall.

It must be the unusual he agrees, a case of good news traveling fast.

Proposal

(Continued from p. 1)

story higher than Browne Hall. Hardy says that the college even envisions some degree of variance because of the support. He says that because of the addition will connect to an existing building which is fully staffed, he also feels that builders can come closer to actual costs when bidding on the job since a nearly identical structure has been built and is in place.

This project has been driven since the beginning of the year to keep costs as low as possible for students while meeting the need for increased housing on campus." Hardy says. Total cost for the project is estimated to be between $2.5 and $3 million.

Advisement Center

(Continued from p. 1)

Our complete schedule of events for the week of November 24-Decmebr 1, 1980 is published below.

Calendar Of Events

NOVEMBER 24-DECEMBER 1, 1980

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Registration Deadline for 12/5 Foreign Service Exam.

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Photographic Exhibition and Workshops by Merrick Art Center, RIC Center Gallery.

4 p.m. Class of 1981 Meeting. Plans for senior week and second annual carnival will be the main topics of discussion. Student Union, Room 310.

4-6 p.m. Career Life Planning Workshop. Craig Lee Hall, Room 054.

6-9 p.m. Student Development Advisory Board Meeting. Student Union, Room 310.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

10 a.m.-12 noon Office of Career Services Outreach Booth. Career advisors are available with general information about the Office of Career Services and about specific majors.

12 noon p.m. RIC History Department Luncheon Colloquium: "Geographie of Verrazano." In the year of the 400th anniversary of Verrazano's birth, Prof. Armand Patruno will provide a sketch of the life and career of this explorer of portions of eastern North America. Gage Hall, Room 411.


1-2 p.m. Anchor Christian Fellowship Meeting. Student Union, Lounge F.

1-2 p.m. Women's Center Film Series, "Anything You Want To Be." Admission is free and open to all students. Student Union.

6-9 p.m. Kappa Delta Phi Meeting. Student Union, Lounge F.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

2-3:30 p.m. Anchor Christian Fellowship Meeting. Student Union, Lounge F.

2-4 p.m. WIC Radio Meeting. Student Union, Room 310.

2-4 p.m. Harambee Meeting. Student Union, Room 304.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8:15 p.m. RIC Chorus and Symphony Orchestra at the Ocean State Center for the Performing Arts where they will offer a free concert of Handel's "Messiah" on Dec. 1 at 8 p.m. The concert is the college's annual "gift to the community.

HANDLING HANDEL: The RIC Chorus and Symphony Orchestra at The Ocean State Center for the Performing Arts where they will offer a free concert of Handel's "Messiah" on Dec. 1 at 8 p.m. The concert is the college's annual "gift to the community.