Trippiedi Elected Student Trustee

Mike Trippiedi’s participation in Convention II, the model constitutional convention he attended while a senior at John Hersey High School, solidified his interest in government and politics.

The convention, held in Washington, D.C., was attended by students from throughout the United States. Trippiedi served on the legislative committee, where he was required to present and discuss amendments.

"I had the opportunity to speak several times at the parliamentary sessions and I did very well," he says. "In fact, I did fantastic! I enjoyed being there." He adds that he was the only deaf participant at the convention, and that he spoke through an interpreter.

Trippiedi has now brought these interests to Harper where he is majoring in general education. He plans to go on to a four-year college to major in either history or government. His long-range goal is to work toward master’s degrees in education and administration, teach deaf students at the high school level and, he hopes, get into politics.

Trippiedi has represented the Disabled Student Services division in the Student Senate at Harper where he has also worked on the Access Committee. As a member of the Board of Trustees, he will relinquish his Senate seat.

He says he was insulted by the poor turnout for the student trustee election, and attributes this to voter apathy. "It was not spiritually gratifying," he adds. It also delayed his participation on the Board—and he was anxious to get started.

His goal as the student trustee is to work toward solving traffic problems at Harper and to address the recycling issue. He also says he hopes to give people a better understanding of the disabled population and prove that the disabled are capable of doing anything they choose. While serving as a student trustee, Trippiedi adds "I will try to help anyone I can, and represent the student body by expressing their feelings and their main issues." His eyes sparkle as he signs, “But I would bet that the Board of Trustees will have a new and different experience.”
The President's Message

The report, Committee on Scope, Structure, and Productivity of Illinois Higher Education, includes suggestions for institutions of higher education. To meet the goals I cited in last month's Insider, the following objectives and priorities are identified by the Committee as those which should continue as priorities in the 1990s:

- Improving teaching and learning and strengthening undergraduate education;
- Assisting with preparation of the workforce for the state's economy;
- Improving minority student achievement;
- Keeping the cost of higher education affordable for the individual; and
- Improving the use of all resources available to colleges and universities.

We at Harper College should support these priorities. In fact, we already have similar goals and objectives in place. Clearly, the first item listed is the critical ingredient and the one which dictates how the remaining items fall into place.

Other Committee recommendations emphasize the need to provide good decision-making processes and performance data upon which to base decisions. For example, the report suggests that the following steps be taken:

-Colleges and universities should assure that their planning, management, and decision-making processes are structured to achieve goals and policy objectives.
- The Board of Higher Education and colleges and universities should cooperatively determine the kinds of data that will enable Illinois higher education to report about its performance with respect to its goals and policy objectives.
- Each college and university should prepare an annual report for its students, prospective students and parents detailing student success and satisfaction with the institution.
- Each college and university should prepare annual reports—for both its campus community and state officials—about the institution's performance with respect to its goals, including efforts to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of its programs and services.

It is obvious that anecdotal information about our students will not suffice in the current environment. We have a lot of information in our computer records and are going to need to collect more and different data to comply with these recommendations. We will have to prepare reports detailing the progress we've made on our goals and, ultimately, the progress we've made in helping our students achieve success.

Robert H. Atwell, President of the American Council on Education, stated the case for quality and accountability in this way:

"Gone are the days in Washington when our virtues were self-evident and our faults nearly invisible. Whatever we think of the national education goals, and however long they remain a focus for policy making, our job over the next few years is to show that we are using our resources wisely, that we are making tough decisions about priorities and that we are facing up to the needs of a changing population and a changing world. Only by dealing with the substance of our problems can we refurbish the public image of higher education and restore confidence in our ability to advance the national interest."

Our agenda for the 1990s must include responses to these recommendations and priorities of the IBHE report as well as the interests of national and international policy makers. It will be a challenge to put these in perspective and find the right responses for Harper College.
FOCUS ON

Student Development

As the summer approaches, the Student Development staff has been gearing up for a flurry of activities. "The scope of the orientation process has increased tremendously in the last few years," says Dean Joan Kindle. Prior to beginning courses, all full-time students are seen individually.

A three-session program has been instituted for new full-time students. During session one, The Keys to College Success, participants will be greeted by the Student Development staff and will listen to a panel discussion featuring current Harper students. During this one-half-day session, new students will also take math, reading and English assessment tests.

The students return to campus the following week for the second session, Planning Your First Semester. At this time, they meet individually with counselors to review their assessment scores and plan their first semester course load. The appointment is followed by a campus tour, introduction to activities on campus and in-person registration. By the end of the second session of orientation, new students have a clear understanding of the academic structure, procedures, programs and services, and begin to view Harper as "their school."

The third orientation session, The Freshman Experience, is a general assembly offered for all new full-time students. It is scheduled for Monday, August 13. This year The Freshman Experience is a rally featuring Playfair, a national organization specializing in new-student orientation. It is a large group experience designed to create a sense of spirit and community. A parent orientation is also held that evening, to provide an opportunity for parents to learn what Harper offers and to discuss concerns with College administrators, faculty and staff.

Kindle says the new format has been implemented to foster student success. "There's concern that a student who comes to Harper might get lost in the shuffle," she explains. She adds that the first semester is a very volatile time for new students, and that the orientation program helps build camaraderie and assure students that there is a place for them at Harper.

Part-time students have the opportunity to participate in a program sponsored by the Center For New Students that is similar to the second session of full-time orientation. Because part-time students generally have jobs and/or families, their schedules are more complicated, says Kindle. "We need to provide a more individualized program to accommodate their schedules," she adds. In response, the Center offers orientations from March through August. Each is set up as a small-group session that includes information about Harper's programs, services and policies and provides students with an opportunity to meet individually with a counselor to discuss course selections. These students, then, are well prepared to register by telephone.

Other special orientations include the transfer-student orientation, geared for students transferring in from other colleges, and an early orientation offered to one district high school each year.

Chris Staub, coordinator of New Student Orientation says, "The Center for New Students is basically a place for prospective and newly applied students to get the information they need to feel comfortable about attending Harper." She adds, "We also offer sessions for students who think they may want to attend Harper, yet are not at the point of wanting to be oriented."

However, when these prospective students hear about the very individualized attention Harper gives to new students, it's a good bet that many of them will decide to come here.

Coordinator of New Student Orientation Chris Staub (standing left) and Dean of Student Development Joan Kindle are assisted by orientation leaders as they prepare to welcome new students to orientation sessions.
INSIDER'S VIEW
of Richard Seiler

Richard Seiler

Seiler says that if time and money were not a problem, he'd attend a driving school and qualify for a sportscar road-racing circuit. He'd also like to take up soaring with sailplanes, an interest he developed during his college days at the University of Illinois.

Seiler has been in the bookstore business since that time, beginning as a student helper at the Follett-owned store on that campus. Since leaving Urbana, he has worked on campuses in Ohio, Kansas and throughout Illinois, but adds, "This move to Harper has been a very good one for me."

Born: Frederic, Wisconsin

Education: University of Illinois, Urbana; presently working on bachelor's degree in business administration from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio (external student program)

Family: Wife, Evelyn; daughter, Lori

Hobbies: Too many! Golf, fishing, model trains, racquetball, auto racing (spectator)

Favorite food: Hasty-Tasty hot dogs with supreme tamales

Favorite book: The Hobbit

One thing I've learned in life: Take life as it comes—Don't worry, be happy!

Point of View Takes Top Honors

Point of View, the Harper student literary and art magazine, took first place honors for "Best Overall Design" at the 12th Annual College Press Convention sponsored by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

The publication, with Graphic Designer Mike Knudsen as its visual arts advisor, also won third place honors for its title and contents page and honorable mentions in the categories of spread-design, graphics, general typography, single illustration and black and white photography. English Professor Frank Smith serves as the publication's literary advisor.

Student Nufri Asani, who won multiple awards including the first in design, was a student aide in the Graphics department last year, and Gwen Rodig, photography winner, is a student aide in the Photography department.

U. S. Postal Service employees fill the new stamp machine located outside the College Bookstore in Building A. Both stamps and postcards may be purchased--at postal service rates!
FROM THE CHAIR

The Distinguished Faculty Committee

The Distinguished Faculty Award is presented each spring to a member of the faculty who has been nominated and voted upon by colleagues within his or her division. After this vote, the selection process begins.

A file with letters of recommendation is set up by the Distinguished Faculty Committee, which is chaired by Dean of Instruction Chuck Harrington. Committee members then individually review the files and meet as a group in early April to select three finalists. “Our charge is to give the Board of Trustees these three nominations,” says Harrington, and adds that Board members then select one recipient for the year. The 1989 winner was AED associate professor and chairperson Pat Mulcrone.

Committee members are nominated by their division deans to serve on the committee with Harrington, one member of the Board and a student representative.

The winner of the Distinguished Faculty Award is traditionally not announced until the award is presented at the College Commencement, scheduled for Sunday, May 20, this year.

Inside Harper

During Harper’s Wellness Week in April, participants were able to become more informed about wellness issues...

Tom Nykial, a student in AUT 130, tests the automated aluminum can crusher that his class conceived and built. The machine was built to serve as an educational model with all working parts visible and designed to show the machine in action. The course is taught by adjunct professor Art Peters.

Architecture Students Display Work at Chicago Club

An exhibition of student work from Robert Nikola’s beginning course in Architectural Technology is now on display at the Cliff Dwellers Club, 220 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

The exhibition features computer graphic images generated by Harper architecture students based on the work of Architect Louis Sullivan. In the project, students analyze the content and execution of Sullivan’s original drawing and attempt to approximate the image on the computer. This hands-on experience improves the students’ computer application skills while introducing them to the design concepts of a master architect.

Because the use of computers is now commonplace in the practice of architecture—both in two-dimensional drafting and three-dimensional solid modeling—students in the Harper program enroll in traditional studio courses and computer application courses simultaneously.

Professor Gertrude Lempp-Kerbis of the Architectural Technology faculty serves as the president of the Cliff Dwellers Club, originally an all-male luncheon club. It is devoted to an interest in art and cultural activities, and is located in the penthouse of Chicago’s Orchestra Hall. Because Louis Sullivan used the club as his studio during the final years of his life, a room has been set aside in his memory.
Departmental Developments

Martin Ryan, dean of Liberal Arts, plans to return to the English classroom this fall. An interim dean will be appointed to serve for one year...Barbara Cierny, lab assistant, BUS/SS, and Debra Ruben and Geetha Murthy, lab assistants, ACA COMP, attended a seminar on the Novell Network. Novell is a software package that links computers together to share software packages. Joy Droll, Office and Administration Services lab assistant, recently attended several development workshops offered through CareerWoman, Inc. As a member of this professional organization, Joy attends a free monthly forum focusing on leadership skills, creative thinking, problem solving, organizational effectiveness and "Learning to Learn"...Focus on Your Future, a conference designed for administrative assistants, secretaries and office personnel, will be held on campus on May 22. Guest speaker is Mary Kay Slowikowski, a business management consultant. Workshops scheduled include Ethics in the Office, How to Negotiate with Your Boss, Planning for Personal and Professional Growth, There's Nothing Wrong with Saying No, and others. For more information, call the CE Office.

New faces on campus this month include Kelly Wickstrom, exercise physiologist, PFAR; James Finke, weekend specialist, CE; David Lauerman, custodian, and Martin Hendricks, groundskeeper, PHY PLT; Sara Speicher, editor/newswriter, PUB; and Carol Kob, clerk/typist, WOM PRG. Laurene Miller, Secy I, PLCMT, has been reclassified as Secy II and Betty Parkhurst, Secy II, PURCHAS, has transferred to work in PERSONL.

Retirees' Corner

Jan Langdon, secretary II in the Personnel Department, was honored during a retirement reception on April 27. Jan's career at Harper started in 1971, when she was hired as a part-time temporary secretary. She has worked in nearly all departments on campus, moving to Personnel in 1981.

Custodian Nels Andersen, who has been at Harper for 14 1/2 years, plans to retire on May 31. He lives in Lake Zurich and says that after he retires, he plans to do some traveling, help his three married children with home projects and babysitting, and take it easy!

We send both of them our best wishes and a request to keep in touch!

Also, we have been asked many times to include news of former employees, but can't do it without help from our readers! Please send any news to Publications and Communication Services, 1200 West Algonquin Road, Building A, Room 302, Palatine, Illinois, 60067.

In Case You're Asked...

Our first four-day work week is set for the week of June 4, which is also the first day of the summer session.

Events scheduled for Building J Theatre this month include the movie, The Fabulous Baker Boys, which will be shown free of charge on Wednesday, June 6, at 7:30 pm. Events slated for the Family Summer Series include Ventriloquist Lynn and Friends, who will perform on Wednesday, June 13, and Comedian Dave Rudolph and Friends, who will be on campus on Monday, June 18. Family Series performances begin at 7:30 pm. Admission is $2 for children under 12, $3 for Harper students and staff, and $4 for the general public.

The Dental Hygiene Pinning Ceremony is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Thursday, May 17, in Building J; the Nursing Pinning ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 19, at 1:00 pm in Building M; and the graduation ceremony is set for Sunday, May 20, at 3:00 pm in Building M.

Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, May 28.