

## LONG RANGE PLANNING

# Self Study Set-up Aids in College Planning

by Mary Onapu, Staff Writer

(This is the second of a series of articles to clarify the much abused, much confused Long Range Planning Program at Alma College to the student body. Last week's article was a general description of the program, its history, purpose and the students' role; this week the institutional self-study committee and its work will be explained.)

The institutional self-study program is closely related to LRP. For several years the Alma faculty has voluntarily participated in institutional self-study through the Liberal Arts Study of the North Central Association of Colleges. This study has led to improved methods of counseling, testing, and instruction. It has also established a strong interest in college self-study and a climate of improvement through group participation.

Another factor relating the two programs is the representation of faculty and administrative members on the LRPC. These members, Dr. Lester Eyer, Dr. Wm. McKeefery, Arthel Merritt, Henry Howe, Dr. Harold C. VandenBosch, and Dr. Florence Kirk, form an on-campus sub-committee of LRP to work with the faculty. This year Dr. Eyer, a member of the sub-committee, was selected as the faculty representative through a summer workshop in higher education.

The summer workshop in higher education was held at the University of Minnesota, and it was here that the planning for institutional self-study for 1957-58 was done. Dr. McKeefery was the director of the self-study workshop and together with Dr. Eyer, who was present at the summer meeting, and Dr. Ruth Eckert, a member of the University of Minnesota staff, prepared a plan for self-study at Alma College.

To-date the work of the self-study committee has resulted in two papers, A and B. Paper A is a series of questions prepared by the faculty about Alma College. This was done in the belief that the solution to a problem can be no better than the questions raised. Paper B is a factual statement in partial answer to questions raised by A. It describes as much as was known and could be obtained at the time about the purpose, clientele, and progress of the College.

Among other documents produced by the committee is one restating the college objectives. This includes the size and selection of the student body, the curriculum, faculty, facilities and a definition of the mission of the school. These objectives will be the topic of discussion of the next article.

Included in the future steps of the self-study committee is the important step of devising a program which can most effectively meet the restatement of the college objectives. Under this plan committee organization and procedure for 1957-58 includes the steering committee, central committee, and the individual faculty committees.

The purpose of the steering committee is twofold: editorial (combining the separate committee reports into a single report) and serving as liaison between faculty committees and the LRPC.

The central committee is composed of chairmen of the 15 faculty committees, and its function is to coordinate and stimulate the work of faculty committees.

The 15 committees are: executive, academic events, academic standards and credits, admissions, assemblies and special programs, athletic curriculum, health, judicial, library, nominations, publications, religious life and work, scholarship and grants-in-aid, and student affairs.

Each faculty committee will prepare a report in the light of the new college objectives and the profile of the "Alma College Plans for the Future" by January. These reports will define the school's function and duties; evaluate the present program in its area, and suggest proposals for change during the next five years.

Faculty appraisal of the program of the college has been determined by a questionnaire distributed this fall, the results are just in and are being evaluated by the curriculum committee. It covers such things as: student preparation in high school for freshman college courses (questions as to which courses meet the college objectives; procedure used in class rooms; suggestions for additions or deletions to the courses and changing requirements for graduation.

At the present time the curriculum committee is working on revisions of group requirements for graduation. As soon as these reports have been completed and evaluated the almanian will publish the results.

Next article: Future Objectives of Alma College.

# the almanian

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ALMA COLLEGE, ALMA, MICHIGAN

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## Guest Lecturer Brings World Designs to Alma

Robert Frantz  
Tours World of  
Architecture

Alma College's guest lecturer, December 6 was Mr. Robert Frantz of "Frantz and Spence Architects." Mr. Frantz holds a B. S. and M.S. degree from the University of Michigan. Mr. Frantz lectured and showed slides from his many trips abroad on the topic "Architecture Around the World."

During his lecture, Mr. Frantz traced the history of architectural design as reflected by various forms of government and cultures since the beginning of history. He showed slides of buildings from Indonesia, India, Asia Minor, Egypt and Europe. During his lecture, he pointed out that: "Architecture is a common language of all races, through all periods."

The objective of Mr. Frantz's lecture was not to make us architects. "The objective is to arouse and stimulate the curiosity in architectural design, in order that some day we may follow it up and receive the pleasure that is there" Mr. Frantz stated.

## State Extempore Hosted Here

Alma College was host to the State Extempore when they met on campus Dec. 7. Nine colleges and universities of Michigan participated in the Saturday event.

After a coffee hour and general meeting followed by luncheon, the contest was held.

Winners were Tom Pappas, Wayne State University and Sherry Hoad, Albion.

Second in the divisions were William Goivan, University of Detroit and Jean Borderding, Calvin College. Third were Verne Hosahl, Albion College and Mary Jane Brooks, Wayne State University.

State Director of the Extempore group is Harold Mikle, professor of speech, Alma College.

## EDITORIAL

# A Matter of Policy . . .

Policy-wise, the ALMANIAN has often been the subject of "orientation" criticism. When the news and editorials heavily favor the student body, we are criticized by faculty and administration as being "overly student-oriented." All we have to do is run an announcement from the Dean's office on the front page and we are then criticized by the students as being "a mouthpiece for the administration." We speak of this in good nature, for it exemplifies one of the "occupational hazards" of the newspaper. It is a criticism to which we cannot cater. We cannot please everyone all the time and there will undoubtedly be times when we please no one. (There have already been times when the most displeased group on the campus has been the staff itself.)

It has been no secret, tho, that the editorials of the Almanian have displayed a hop-scotch pattern. About the only solid editorial policy we have adhered to is our belief that an editorial policy should not be rapidly formed.

We did make some positive statements, however, in our Thanksgiving edition. We spoke of five areas of service as follows: (1) EQUALITY in communication, (2) MATURITY in purpose, (3) FACTUAL TRUTH in new content, (4) HONESTY in opinion, and (5) OPPORTUNITY in expression. We are prepared at this time to make one more major step forward.

Every good newspaper is biased; but in order to be considered a worthy standard, that bias must be followed with a reasonable consistency. We too, are dreamers. We dream of the day when the ALMANIAN will be looked to as a consistent standard of the Alma campus; we look forward to an ALMANIAN which can proudly serve as a point of reference to all sides of all issues.

This by no means implies that we will henceforth straddle the fence. It simply means that if the ALMANIAN agrees with an issue, it will consistently agree with it. It means that if the ALMANIAN disagrees with an issue, it will likewise consistently disagree with it. It means above all, that issues and concepts take editorial precedence over groups and individuals.

## Annual Presentation of "Messiah" Sunday

Watson Wins  
Nat'l Honor

Poem Selected For  
Annual Anthology

Bob Watson, Junior, from Port Huron was recently informed that his poem, "Soul Search," was selected by the board of judges of the National Poetry Association, for inclusion in this year's Annual Anthology.

The Anthology is a compilation of the finest poetry written by the college men and women of America, representing every state in the country. Selections were made from thousands of poems submitted.

Bob became interested in the competition after reading an article in the ALMANIAN which appeared in the Homecoming Edition. His poem is reprinted here:

### SOUL SEARCH

I search my soul within me  
That I may clearly see,  
And intimately know thee,  
And closer to thee be.  
I search my soul within me,  
At home, at work, or play—  
To feel the power of thee  
Throughout each glowing day.  
I search my soul within me  
Each morning bow in prayer  
And know the glory of thee,—  
The beauty of Love's care!

AAUP Chapter  
Elects Officers

Faculty members of Alma College attended the first American Association of University Professors meeting which was held on Dec. 4.

Harold Mikle, professor of speech, was elected president of the local chapter; Claude Dicks, professor of religion was elected vice president and Dr. Steven Meyer, professor of business administration, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Three speakers from the Kalamazoo College chapter, Dr. Hightower, Dr. Batz and Dr. Montz, were present to help organize Alma's 39 members.

The national count of AAUP numbers 37,567 members.

On Sunday, Dec. 15, at 8 p.m. in the Alma high school auditorium, the Choral Union and Alma College A Cappella Choir assisted by the Alma College Orchestra will perform Handel's "Messiah." This will be the Choral Union's eighth year of performances. Of special interest is the fact that this year the Alma College A Cappella Choir will join as a group in the performance, making the largest group to perform the "Messiah" in Alma in the Choral Union's history.

Appearing as guest soloists will be Irene Kunst, soprano from Ann Arbor, Jean Austin, contralto from Ann Arbor, and James DeYonge, tenor from Grand Rapids. Mr. DeYonge is on the faculty at Calvin College. The performance will be under the direction of Dr. Ernest G. Sullivan, head of the Department of Music of Alma College and Professor Glen G. Stewart will be the organist. The Choral Union is made up of singers from the community and the college. Its members have been rehearsing every Tuesday evening since the first of October preparing for the performance. Their only reward is the enjoyment of singing together with others of similar interests, and in experiencing the thrill of performing choral works by some of the world's greatest composers. Although the "Messiah" has been the most frequent work in the repertoire of the organization, last year Mendelssohn's "Elijah" was performed. It is hoped that next year another new work may be sung. The newly elected officers of the Choral Union are: Paul Storey, president; Melvin Larimer, vice president; Mrs. Bernard Johnson, secretary and Mrs. W. Carl Clemons of St. Louis treasurer.

The orchestra has been established this year as a permanent organization, and plans a Spring Concert in addition to playing for the "Messiah." The orchestra has an active membership of 22, including instrumentalists from the Gratiot County community as well as the college. The group will be supplemented with membership music faculty for the Deacons of the Michigan State University 15th performance. Professor Robert E. Rufener directs the orchestra, which rehearses every Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. in Tyler Auditorium.

It means that we will still be subject to "orientation criticism" for the bias we have chosen is to be liberal arts oriented.

Actually, we mean "Christian Liberal Arts Oriented" but realizing in the Reformed tradition that putting the two words "Christian" and "Liberal" too close together might be tantamount to heresy, we should qualify this stand. This is the difficult part. Neither faculty, nor administration, nor students, we feel, have yet "come up" with a workable definition of "liberal arts."

In order to choose this bias, then, it has been necessary for us to define the term ourselves. (It has taken six type-written pages so far and is not complete yet.) Armed with a dictionary and giving philosophical treatment to the semantics thereof, we are greatly aided by the insight provided in the great mission of the Church to spread the Gospel. In fact, the concept of Christian witness in education is part and parcel of this line—we find that Christianity and Liberalism are not so foreign to each other after all.

Presumptuous of us? Perhaps. But we will go even farther. Starting next semester we plan to have our editorials written by a board of editorial writers. Concurrent with the kind of responsibility we feel a student group should display, and in order to be among the first to attempt the development of the "community" we mention in the editorial "Chapel Cuts and Liberal Arts," to be published next week, we will invite a faculty member, or perhaps more than one, to actively participate as a writer, or writers on our editorial board.

There are many things about the Alma campus into which the ALMANIAN has a moral responsibility to delve. To champion Christian liberal arts and to live up to these responsibilities seems to us a crusade worthy of any campus newspaper. Our own Dr. Molyneux has laid a groundwork. In order for us to continue true to those high ideals, we too, must participate in the formation of the Christian community bond between scholar and student. We can think of no better place from which to begin, than the board of editorial writers of the ALMANIAN.



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Founded 1900

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berger.

If, in expression of the living presence of Christ, in the pages of the ALMANIAN, each member of Alma College finds: (1) Some one thing to enjoy (2) Some one thing to interest (3) Some one thing to challenge (4) Some one thing to lead him more surely toward "life more abundant" (5) Some one thing to help him find and know himself more adequately—then we shall have just BEGUN to fulfill our obligation to Alma College—which is to help students realize that God is the very force of living and learning.

## REB's yell-

THREE CHEERS for the extra blackboard in room 4! You should have been around when there were just two! Conversation in the Greek class went something like this:

Dr. Dicks: Dugan, what kind of an alpha is that?

Dugan: It isn't an alpha sir. It's the other fellows handwriting. I wrote mine over his.

Of course there was but one eraser and conditions were so crowded that we couldn't pass hand to hand. Surely other classes using the same room share our presentation of a bouquet of mythical orchids to Mr. Merrit and the maintenance men.

WILL DAVID VAN MARTIN please report to the Almanian office. We'd like to interview him before the Dean does...

CONTEST BOUND, the Almanian staff voted to join the Associated Collegiate Press this week and will enter this year's issues in their national critical contest...

LONG-RANGE PLANNING is due for an exhaustive exposition. We urge our readers to digest the series which start this issue on the front page. After all, after the series is over, which leg will you stand on when someone asks: "What's long-range planning, anyhow?"

WE HEAR RUMORS that the campus is to have its own ibld classic (humor magazine). Hmmm.

SEEMS TO BE a lot of emphasis floating around concerning a 1-point average. There also seems to be quite a bit of emphasis still floating around concerning the "importance" of belonging to every campus activity which justifies its existence by the power of the almighty activity credit. Yass.

SOME GROUPS of officialdom on the campus are concerned with the problem of chapel cuts. Are we in danger of losing our perspective outlook toward liberal arts? In other words, are there not OTHER problems MORE important to the students and administration than chapel cuts? Or, in other words, chapel cuts are merely a symptom.

ON THE EDITOR'S desk this week was found this little note, apparently a news release from somewhere or another, but we pass it on to you anyway:

"The late Pres. A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard University once quipped: 'No wonder colleges are reservoirs of knowledge. The freshmen bring a little in and the seniors take none away, and knowledge accumulates.'"

## COLLEGIATE COMMENTARY

**Flu and Fraternities**  
(ACP)—Flu officially interrupted fraternity initiation activities at Ohio State this fall. On a request from that school's health service that the fraternities "abandon for this year... any activity that would disturb and deny normal sleep and rest or interfere with proper eating and personal hygiene of the individuals..." in order to fight influenza, the Greek groups halted any such activities.

Their fraternity council even made spot checks at each house every night throughout initiation week, said the LANTERN, to see that no one was violating the rule.

## Marine Corp Seeking Officer Candidates

First Lieutenant Perry M. Peterson, the procurement officer for the state of Michigan, visited Alma College on the 2nd and 3rd of December 1957, for the purpose of interviewing, testing, and providing information for those students interested in becoming Marine Corps officers. He was located in Tyler Center Lounge. Qualification tests will be given on campus.

PLC: Undergraduates may apply for the platoon leaders class which involves two six-week summer training sessions at Quantico, Virginia. Upon graduation from college, the PLC's are commissioned second lieutenants in the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve.

OCC: Graduating seniors and recent graduates may apply for a ten-week officer candidate course. Upon completion of the ten-week course, the officer candidate is commissioned a second lieutenant in the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Both the PLC and the OCC programs offer choice of ground or aviation duty. Length of active duty is three years for ground officers and approximately three and one-half years for pilots.

WOMEN: College women may apply for a commission in the Women Marines. The college programs for women are similar to the male programs described above.

**Personal Background**  
First Lieutenant Perry M. Peterson, U. S. Marine Corps, procurement officer for the state of Michigan:

Lieutenant Peterson is originally from Evanston, Illinois, where he attended Northwestern University as a biology major. While at Northwestern, he became a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and the Marine Corps platoon leaders class. He received his bachelor of science degree from the School of Education in June 1954, and then entered the Marine Corps as a second lieutenant. While on active duty as a Reserve officer, Lieutenant Peterson was selected for a regular commission and he is now a career artillery officer. Stationed in Detroit, Lieutenant Peterson and his family reside in Inkster, a suburb of Detroit.

## Council Reads "Thanks" Letters

The Student Council held its weekly meeting in Tyler Center, Tuesday, December 10, at 7:30. Council president, Harry Turner, read letters from Dean Vreeland concerning the successful Big Name Dance; from Dr. Sullivan thanking the council for moving back the date of the Song Fest; and from the Clack family, thanking the student body for remembering them in their hour of grief.

A committee reported on the changing of the library hours. Suggestions on what services would be expected in the library during the extra hour between 9 P.M. and 10 P.M. were discussed.

Other committee reports came from the Judicial Committee and the Health Committee. Both committee chairmen concluded that their work was not finished as yet.

The Council is looking ahead to a concert or a concert-dance for the spring. Nothing has been planned, but suggestions are being taken with the hopes that such an event will be possible.

## My Neighbors



"Well, if big, black cigars make your husband sick, why don't you stop smoking them?"

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**Pioneer Hall Tops Volleyball**

Pioneer Hall smashed Sigma Phi's 62-17 rate top bidding again this week. Stiff competition are the Alpha Theta's, who are running a close second; smacked Alma Alkies 40-16. The Bermuda Belles stacked up a solid 52 against Les Dames 13. Excitement ran high as the K. I.'s scored an extra 10 points over the Crazy 8's.

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