DR. JOHN RUSSELL SELECTED

Dr. John Russell, associate professor in engineering technology, has been selected from among eight candidates to serve as an academic intern in the Office of the President. This quarter-time assignment for the academic year is designed to familiarize a member of the faculty with university decision making and basic operations.

Dr. Russell received his Ph.D. from the University of Florida in 1973 and began his teaching career at Western in 1973. The first academic intern in the President’s Office was Dr. Joan Krenzin, currently chair of the Faculty Senate.

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of the non-persisters had a grade-point average of 2.0 or above. A more recent internally completed study of the 1979 freshman class indicated that more than 38 percent of the non-persisters had ACT composite scores above the mean for that class. Almost 40 percent had experienced academic success.

The Council on Higher Education staff completed an extensive retention study for the same class. Its study indicates that Western's attrition rate for the students who had taken the ACT was higher than any other state university except Northern Kentucky. The overall attrition rate, however, compared unfavorably only with UK, Murray State, and Eastern Kentucky. In the highest ACT composite groups (scores of 24, 25, and 26) reported by CHE staff, Western's rate of transfer to the other state universities seems to top that of UL, UK, Northern Kentucky, Murray State, and Eastern Kentucky. Although lack of academic success is clearly related to the attrition of the freshmen who enter Western with low ACT scores, no reason has yet been identified for the unduly high rate among academically successful and well-prepared students. The Retention Task Force is currently exploring that situation.

**PHYSICAL PLANT SAVINGS**

Through efforts of the faculty and physical plant staff, a savings of nearly $18,000 was realized during the reduced scheduling of Cherry Hall facilities this summer. More than $8,000 was saved in air conditioning and ventilation, and nearly $1,500 was saved in electrical costs. Other savings were realized in water usage reduction, reduced cleaning staff and equipment needs, routine maintenance and solid waste collection. During the 70-day period, the total savings to WKU were $17,984.

**AASCU GOALS FOR 1984-86**

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities is the organization of colleges and universities similar to Western and is our lobbying group in Washington. The association's annual meeting is scheduled for October 31-November 3 at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville. The theme of this year's meeting will be "Quality Education."

The following goals have been set by the AASCU Board for the 1984-86 biennium:

- Reinforce the value of public higher education.
- Represent the interests of state colleges and universities collectively at national and state levels.
- Assist state colleges and universities in improving student access and retention.
- Establish the national identity of state colleges and universities.
- Protect the decision-making authority of the institutions.
- Expand global perspectives and international involvement of state colleges and universities.
- Provide a mechanism for collective action by AASCU institutions.

**INSTITUTIONAL GOALS FOR 1982-83**

During the annual State of the University address, President Zacharias outlined 12 goals for the 1982-83 academic year. They include:

- Intensify our role as academic and career advisers.
- Use new development funds for innovative programs and purchase of major equipment and supplies.
- Revitalize our ties with secondary schools -- public and private.
- Establish a leadership program with major funding to bring some of the most promising students to campus.
- Review the future of all aspects of international education.
- Expand faculty and staff benefits.
- Engage in a self-study of all dimensions of the University in preparation for the Southern Association reaccreditation.
- Assist the Council on Higher Education staff in developing an equitable formula.
- Implement a comprehensive system of evaluating administrative performance.
- Develop specific performance standards at the departmental level for determining rank and promotion.
- Establish a plan for financial emergencies and program changes due to changes in enrollment.
- Continue the implementation of our affirmative action program in accordance with state and national guidelines.

**DR. CAPPS RETURNS TO TEACHING**

Dr. Randall Capps, assistant to the president for the last three years, has requested to return to full-time teaching. For the fall semester, Dr. Capps will have a sabbatical to study organizational communication at General Motors Corporate Headquarters and the American Council on Education. No replacement will be employed for Dr. Capps' position this year.