

Schoolcraft policy upheld

Trustee fails to prove college restrictive

By TIM RICHARD

If Trustee Mark McQuesten believes Schoolcraft College's admissions policies are "racially, socially and economically restrictive," he was unable to prove it to seven other trustees and the administration.

Instead, McQuesten was publicly admonished by board Chairman Paul Y. Kadish for implying the two-year community college is racist.

The clash occurred at the March 23 meeting when McQuesten asked for discussion of an admissions policy that excludes non-residents of the college district when programs are full. The college district includes the school districts of Clarenceville, Garden City, Livonia, Northville and Plymouth-Canton.

Admissions Director Barbara Geil said applications are refused from non-residents for only four programs: associate degree nursing, practical nursing, culinary arts and medical records technology.

NON-RESIDENT enrollment since 1972 has been 30 per cent of the total.

then 29, 27, 25, 24 and currently 27 per cent, according to an administration report.

An enrollment breakdown of Schoolcraft's Garden City campus showed 62 students from Detroit, 33 from Redford Township, 39 from Dearborn, 27 from Inkster, 20 from Wayne and lesser numbers from other communities. No racial breakdowns were immediately available, according to Edward McNally, vice-president for student affairs.

The policy of not admitting non-residents to crowded programs was adopted in 1971, Miss Geil said that when a non-resident applies for one of the four programs with a waiting list, his \$10 application fee is returned and the application not even accepted.

"I VOTED against that policy in 1976," McQuesten began. "The board's concern is for the local taxpayers. Fine — but not to the total exclusion of non-residents."

"The population of the Schoolcraft College District is homogeneous. To

restrict people in programs is to restrict the programs to certain socio-economic groups.

"A college should have a free association of ideas. Discussions in classrooms become limited because of where we came from.

"I'm worried about the quality of the institution. I remember when this college had a very good mixture," said the board's only Schoolcraft graduate, adding: "There is de facto segregation."

THE OTHER BOARD members came down on McQuesten — hard.

"Until you have a Supreme Court opinion — and you're not even a lawyer — I suggest you not make state-

ments like that," said Kadish.

"I resent being called racist. I resent the idea that this board isn't willing to discuss a situation. Your attitude is a holier-than-thou type of thing," said Kadish.

Trustee Rosina Raymond pointed out that the board has sought property tax increases from residents and, in return, should "be willing to give them priority."

"I agree with you philosophically," she said to McQuesten, "but realistically..."

"That's the brightest thing you've said all year," chimed in Trustee Leonard Wozniak.

Vice-chairman Ron Cowden said:

"This is a community college. That's the name of it."

"This board can't do much about" racial segregation in housing, added Trustee Gerald Cox.

"If the numbers showed a need," said Treasurer Harry Greenleaf, "I'd be jumping up and down for a change in the policy."

THERE WAS no motion to change the admissions policy, which will continue to state:

"1. After Jan. 22, 1978, non-resident applications will be accepted to courses and/or programs on a space available basis.

"2. Normally, priority for placement on waiting lists and admission to pro-

grams for applicants will be given in the following order:

"1. United States Citizens. A. Applicants who are bona fide residents of the college district. B. Applicants who are bona fide residents of the State of Michigan, but who reside outside the college district. C. Applicants who reside outside the State of Michigan.

"11. Aliens.

In other action, trustees unanimously approved a policy change adding "age" and "handicap" to the list of things it will not discriminate against. Others are race, creed, color, sex and national origin.

President C. Nelson Grote said the change was necessary to comply with recent state and federal statutes.

Civil service jobs available for bids

The Michigan Department of Civil Service is now accepting applications from persons interested in working for the state as transportation construction engineers, biometricians, and state properties security guards.

The deadlines are fast approaching, says State Rep. Wilbur Brotherton, who urges those interested to investigate these positions as soon as possible.

There are four levels offered in the transportation construction engineer position. Those applying must have a degree in engineering and be registered as an engineer in Michigan. Previous experience also is required.

The biometrician positions, likewise, require a degree and previous experience due to the specialized nature of the job.

State properties security guards need a high school education or GED equivalent and must be a licensed driver with a good driving record.

Persons submitting applications that qualify for the positions will be examined by the Department of Civil Service. If they achieve a passing score, their names will be placed on the hiring list for these positions.

Applications are available at department offices in Lansing, Detroit, and

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Swim begins

Spring is here, at least officially, and the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department will offer swimming to all its spring fever residents.

Swimming will be offered four nights a week through the department. Swimming will start April 3 at North Farmington High School from 7:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. At Farmington High School, swimming is on tap beginning April 4 from 7:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The fee is 50 cents for children and teens, and 75 cents for adults 18 years of age and older.

Group nights will be offered every Monday at NFHS and every Thursday at FHS, with reduced rates for groups of 15 or more. Individuals are welcome on group nights as well.

For more information, contact parks and recreation at 474-6115.

Swimmers must furnish their own suits and towels. Persons with long hair must wear bathing caps. Children whose chin height is below 38 inches must be accompanied by an adult. Absolutely no cut-offs are permitted; swim suits must be worn.

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It's spring...and do you know where your fur is? On that first warm day, you should be thinking about fur storage. Because there's nothing more damaging to your furs than the heat and humidity of summer. To store your furs in our vaults — where they can be cleaned, repaired and readied for fall — simply call the Revillon Fur Salon at 643-9000, and a bonded messenger will call and carry your fur to safety. Revillon Fur Storage. Revillon 8400 FIFTH AVENUE Troy, Somerset Mall, Big Beaver at Coolidge, open Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays until 9 P.M.

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