

Provost shows academic side in administrative post

By MARGARET MILLER

Jewell Stindt holds the newly created title of Provost at Schoolcraft College. She is well content with the position, her station at the college and the philosophy they embody.

Provost is defined by Webster as a high administrative officer in charge of strictly educational activities. Provost Stindt, who holds a doctorate from the University of Michigan, functions as top administrator at Schoolcraft when Dr. Nelson Grote, president, is away from the college.

"I am pleased with my role," she said, "because I feel that putting an academic person in this position shows the college has its priorities straight."

"To me, the reason we are here is first as an educational institution, and the greatest function of education is to help people love the world better and themselves more."

Symbolic, thinks the educator who also is vice president of instructional affairs, is her Schoolcraft library card.

"It was the first item issued to me and it pleased me very much because it represented the academic side of Schoolcraft," she said.

JULIE STINDT, as she is known to friends and colleagues at various educational institutions, has not only a great love of learning but some definite ideas on how to bring it to more people.

"Schoolcraft has done very well in looking at the needs of the community," she said, "but I am sure there are many 'pockets' of potential students whose needs could be better met if we learned how to do it."

She said surveys were beginning with the idea of identifying such potential. As a starter, she worked on a program for distributing questionnaires

among students at Schoolcraft's Garden City and Plymouth campuses.

"We asked them what kind of courses they would like that were not now being offered — what we could do differently to make it possible for them to take better advantage of our offerings," she said.

"We are already beginning to put together the data we've compiled, and there will be some changes in the way courses are offered."

One thing being tried is a system by which two related courses are offered in time chunks of two or three hours

once a week instead of for an hour or two three times a week.

"This makes it possible for a student to take up to nine hours of credit while going to the campus just once a week, perhaps after work," Ms. Stindt explained.

ANOTHER IMMEDIATE change instituted by the new provost will show in the winter schedule book.

"We've reduced its size, narrowed it down to the essential information," she said.

Instituting changes at Schoolcraft is

a function rather different from Ms. Stindt's previous position with Wayne County Community College.

There her work was largely organizing from scratch.

She related how she was happily teaching social studies at Denby High School in Detroit when the plans to organize WCC were announced in the summer of 1969.

"I went down to volunteer whatever help I could that summer," she said. "I was put to work interviewing prospects for the sociology faculty that would be hired for the school's fall opening."

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