

College should stay 2-year, candidates say

By TIM RICHARD

Schoolcraft College faces growth problems, but the two-year community college shouldn't become a four-year, bachelor degree-granting institution.

That was the consensus of five candidates seeking two seats on the college board of trustees. They spoke and answered questions on the same platform for the first time last week before the Livonia Republican Club.

Missing not only that appearance but an invitation from Livonia interested Democrats was the sixth candidate, attorney Jerome Harris.

The questions about limiting college growth and becoming a four-year college came from the audience. Here are the candidates' answers in the order in which they spoke:

HARRY GREENLEAF, a Ford personnel man, said Schoolcraft is planning for a 50 per cent growth in credit hours in the near future. The college will "grow some yet," he said.

Greenleaf is best known to the political world as chairman of the 2nd Congressional District-Wayne Republican organization. He has a degree from Rensselaer Institute.

RICHARD HAYWARD, executive vice president of Freedland Structural Steel, said "the philosophy of the school is to take care of the needs of the community. Those needs will change."

"The way it's set up, it can't become a four-year school," he added.

Hayward has a background in the Livonia Hockey Association and is a member of Toastmasters.

ROBERT CADOTTE, an attorney and Manufacturers Bank vice president, said college enrollment "has no upward limit other than financial. Its philosophy is to provide education for all eligible students."

"We can't put on an artificial limit to enrollment. I wouldn't want to expand it to a four-year institution."

Cadotte has been a member of the Schoolcraft College Foundation board of directors for seven years.

MARK McQUESTEN, an insurance office manager, said the limitation on enrollment is buildings, adding: "I don't want to meet the needs of students by sacrificing quality."

McQuesten said there is a price to pay with the "satellite campus" concept now being explored, and the price is "lack of familiarity among students and lack of an exchange of ideas."

McQuesten, a student activist in his days at Schoolcraft, called for a new

"Walden Woods II" conference between faculty, students and administration and a review of the quality and hiring practices of part-time faculty.

BON COWDEN, seeking re-election to the Schoolcraft board, was unable to attend the GOP meeting.

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