2500 Rice Applicants...

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Thresher Staff

"Although there will not be a great deal of change in our method of selecting students for next year's freshman class, competition will be stiffer because of a slight increase in the number of applicants," says Mr. J. B. Giles, Director of Admissions.

Last year 2100 filed completed applications. Mr. Giles estimates that there will be closer to 2500 candidates for entrance this year.

More Intensive Interviews
In selection of students, primary consideration is given to high school record, College Entrance Examination Board Scores, and personal qualities. This year there will be increased emphasis on character, industry, and motivation as revealed through a more intensive interviewing program.

"We feel that through more interviews we might better choose students who show not only intelligence, but also interest, combined with an ability to budget time. By paying more attention to character, we hope to shorten the probation lists," added Mr. Giles.

55% Science-Engineers
About 55% of the students admitted will be in Science-Engineering and about 45% in Academic and Architectural programs. Actually, the percentages usually even up because many students change from Science-Engineering to Academic.

Texas students are shown a "slight" preference over out-of-state applicants. Last year fewer than 20% of those accepted came from out-of-state, although there is no set percentage.

Foreign Admittance Difficult
It is especially hard for a foreign student to gain admission to Rice. "Although I think the school benefits by having foreign students," said Mr. Giles, "it is often difficult to compare their qualifications with those of other applicants because of differences in grading, etc." He added that without adequate information concerning an applicant the Board of Admissions can not have enough confidence in the student's abilities to accept him.

No final decisions have yet been made in choosing any students for the Class of 1964. March College Board Scores and high school records will have to be considered.