Edwards Heads New Committee Investigating University Goals

By FRYAR CALHOUN

A new faculty committee headed by Dr. Edgar O. Edwards is beginning a sweeping investigation into the long-range goals of Rice University.

The Academic Planning Committee, created by President Pitzer shortly before Christmas, will study, analyze, and make recommendations in virtually every field of University enterprise.

DR. EDWARDS, Chairman of the Economics Department, said that the committee’s function would be “to develop long-range plans for the University plans which will largely represent the faculty’s views as to what the University’s goals and procedures should be.”

The final report will be submitted to President Pitzer, who told the Thresher, “This committee will play a very valuable role in developing long-range goals which reflect the views of the faculty and, so far as feasible, the students.” He added that he hoped appropriate student opinion would be considered by the committee.

Members of the Academic planning Committee are Dr. Clark P. Read, Professor of Biology; Dr. Louis Mackey, Associate Professor of Philosophy; and Dr. Thomas Leland, Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering.

IN ADDITION, seven subcommittees have been established for study of specific areas. These subcommittees will present reports and recommendations to Dr. Edwards’ committee sometime around January of 1964. The main committee will then synthesize this material, establish an order of priority and financial feasibility, and present its final report to the President in May, 1964.

Dr. Edwards’ committee will also consider the possibility of adding certain professional schools to the University.

Dr. Alan J. Chapman, Chairman of the Mechanical Engineering Department, will head the subcommittee on “Expansion in Existing Fields of Study” which will consider such questions as library facilities, expansion of present graduate and undergraduate departments, and optimum size of faculty and student body.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE on “New Areas of Study” will recommend desirable development of fields in which no undergraduate major is now offered. Dr. Louis P. Galambos, Assistant (Continued on Page 6)
Professor of History, has been named chairman.

The vital problem of organization and financing of research will be handled by a group under the direction of Dr. Edward Lewis, Professor of Chemistry. Questions to be considered include the possibility of interdisciplinary and group research, year-round operation of the school, and use of existing research foundations and funds.

**DR. JIM DOUGLAS,** Chairman of the Mathematics Department, will direct an inquiry into graduate instruction; problems such as M.A. and Ph.D. requirements, minimum and maximum times of study for these degrees, and desirability of the M.A. thesis requirement may be studied.

The subcommittee most closely concerned with the student body will be under the direction of Dr. Dwight Brothers, Associate Professor of Economics. Dealing with undergraduate instruction and related areas, the subcommittee will evaluate present academic requirements and possible alterations, student motivation, the possibility of a preceptorial system, examination and grading, and comprehensive exams. Consultation with Dr. Street Fulton's committee on the new men's college and with the student evaluation committee is expected.

**DR. ROY TALMAGE,** Professor of Biology, will direct a group in the imposing field of "External Relationships of the University and its faculty." The subcommittee will evaluate the possibility of night classes, alumni relations, the development and placements offices' functions, and the dependence of the university on the government.

No chairman has yet been named for the subcommittee on physical facilities, which will investigate needs for additional buildings and equipment in present and developing areas.