Will Rice Planning Committee Turns Attention To Long Range

By TOM SCHUNIOR

The Will Rice College Academic Possibilities Committee was formed two years ago to investigate ways in which the college could take a more active role in the academic part of the University education.

THE ORIGINAL focus of the committee was on programs which could be put into effect immediately. Plans were presented for an enlarged speaker program, student-led discussion groups, freshman advisor and preceptorial programs, and the bringing of professors or graduates into residence in the college.

But administrative indolence, the increasing housing shortage, and speakers committee less inspired than the APC prevented significant achievements along any of these lines, and the committee turned its attention toward longer-range plans.

Since the spring of last year, Tom Giesen and Robert Johnson have kept academic affairs constantly in the awareness of the members and associates of Will Rice through papers, talks, and personal discussion. The ideas they introduced and clarified have become a standard part of discussions of the purpose and method of education.

"THE COLLEGES are not now a part of the direct educational program at Rice, and serve rather as havens from strictly academic work.

"Undergraduate instruction, as it exists at Rice, amounts to little more than training.

"Somehow the very life of a student must become identified with his education, and this can only be done through the Colleges.

"We have little provision for independent work and a dependence by students on crutches of lectures, tests, and homework."

THESE ARE the themes that they developed, and documented..."