Colleges Revamp Orientation As Rice Scraps 'Math Week'  

By PHIL KUSNETZKY  

A broad cultural, social, and academic orientation program is planned by the various colleges for freshmen entering in September. It will center around the University's drastically revised approach to the scholastic aspects of Freshman Week.

Instead of the traditional math and English review, five morning lectures will be given by Rice's Trustee Professors—Dr. Chillman, Bray, Tsanoff, and two others to be decided upon. The lectures will discuss the general topic: "What is a University?"

Following the lectures, discussions led by faculty associates are planned in each of the colleges.

No other scholastic work will be required. The afternoons and evenings are left free for activities planned by the colleges. Tours of the campus and city, a trip to the theater, course registration, close contact with faculty associates, and—of course—physicals, will occupy prominent places in the week's activities.

All colleges will use a system of "advisers," "mentors," or "fellows"—upperclassmen whose duty it is to orient a small group of freshmen to the college, the university, and the city.

Particular programs of each college are listed below:

**Jones College**

During the time before the lectures are scheduled to begin, Jones College is planning a buffet supper at the home of Dr. Class. After this meal, they plan a meeting with the officers and senior advisers and general talks for the freshman girls.

Jones is planning to divide their tour of the campus into two segments; one day will be spent in viewing the outsides of the buildings and one day going through them.

A visit to the Museum of Fine Arts is scheduled. Jones is going to the theater with men from Wiess and Hanszen.

On Friday there will be a meeting with the advisers and registration for courses. Sunday will end the week with some activity with Baker College while the upperclassmen move in.

**Wiess College**

Wiess is offering a preview of courses during the early part of the week. This will include summaries of the course material together with information on just what each professor expects from his students.

On Thursday there will be seminars with faculty associates and fellows to discuss essays which will have been previously distributed to the freshmen. These will deal with the philosophy of a college education.

Wiess will have a model college night on Friday as a preview of coming events. Sunday will feature a boat ride up the ship channel and a book fair during which upperclassmen will be able to sell their books to freshmen.

The Wiess program will attempt to give a broad emphasis to the intellectual aspects of life at Rice and try to create freshmen who are better oriented toward the campus and the city.

**Will Rice College**

Will Rice will feature daily seminars with groups headed by one associate, one fellow and one other member of the college. All time will be occupied except time for reading during the early night.

Dr. Bearden will have an active program of physical activity. Mr. Parsons will rove around the college communicating with freshmen.

The college is planning a special sightseeing tour. One night will be devoted to college orientation and one to college system lectures. Will Rice will emphasize facilities of culture in Houston.

The college feels that it is time to eliminate the emphasis on activities that tend to strengthen a tie to adolescence and its attendant lack of concern. The freshmen need not be treated as though they are not capable of more than they were offered in times past; rather they should be challenged to participate in activities that reflect a responsible direction and a concern for

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the cultural background that is so difficult to obtain here.

The key to success lies in the offering of a wide and diverse range of activities, with no particular emphasis in any one category or field of interest.

Hanszen College

Besides the regular lectures, discussions, and tours, Hanszen College plans a system of personal counseling by associates, a trip to the Alley Theater, and two college nights: one featuring the Associates, Master, and Cabinet which will emphasize the College and its role in the University, the other presenting a stimulating speaker from outside the "Rice sphere." Additional activities are currently under consideration.

A book—possibly Crane Brinton's "Shaping of the Modern Mind"—will be sent to freshmen during the summer for study and use in the first week's seminars.

The core of Hanszen's Freshman Week program and Orientation program is the system of Advisers—ten seniors and juniors who each take charge of a group of eight freshmen and provide orientation in all fields of university life. The Advisers will conduct the Freshman Week activities and be "the man with the answers" throughout the year.

Although the Advisers will carry the weight of the Orientation program during the year, other aspects are also important. In order to prevent over-reacting against the old system of "guidance" Hanszen has arranged for the Advisers, the faculty counselors, and the compulsory—though modified—"guidance" program to be kept under a single coordinator and considered as three aspects of a single, comprehensive plan. In this way it is felt that the great benefits of the new "Advisers" program can be achieved without neglecting the important contributions toward college unity possible from a successful "Guidance" program.

Baker College

The program at Baker College will be under the direction of the college, Mentors who will act as advisers to the freshmen during the week and the entire year.

Baker will begin its program with a wiener roast the first day. The first formal gathering will be the buffet supper on the second night.

The outstanding feature of the week is expected to be a group of discussions on such topics as student government; student organizations; religion at Rice.

There will be a social event with Jones on the last day of the week. Inter-sectional athletic competition will be sponsored during this week.

Baker College is in complete accordance with the basic philosophy set for in the Student Association report and will therefore use this to guide all activities during the week.