Pitzer: Key To Future Is Graduate Program

By GEARY EPPLEY

"Rice's undergraduate program is first class—as good as any other school in the country," said President Kenneth S. Pitzer in an interview last Monday, at which he covered a range of topics relating to his hopes and ambitions for Rice.

President Pitzer continued that Rice could not yet be considered one of the truly outstanding universities in the country due primarily to its limited graduate program. He said that a well-functioning graduate department "should produce 5-10 PhD's a year at a minimum and predicted that much effort would be made to strengthen and enlarge Rice's graduate program. When asked if he thought this might be to the detriment of the undergraduate student, he replied, "If the ratio between undergraduate and graduate students became less than two to one, the undergraduate might tend to be swamped, but Rice has a long way to go to reach that point."

He mentioned that he would like to see about 1600 to 1800 undergraduates and 600 to 800 graduate students here. President Pitzer added that if there were some small reduction in the effort expended on the undergraduate level, it would be more than offset by the contribution of the graduate students to the university in the areas of research and other intellectual endeavors.

He also stated that he would personally strive to attract more "of that small number of truly outstanding individuals in the academic world" to the Rice faculty.

Concerning out-of-state enrollment, President Pitzer said, "It is obvious that Mr. Rice intended this school to provide education to residents of Texas. Rice University can best fulfill this purpose by providing a truly cosmopolitan student body."

He added that 52 per cent of the applicants to this year's freshman class were from out-of-state. Of those accepted, 150 were from out-of-state, 338 from Texas. Producing a pocket slide rule, President Pitzer rapidly concluded that this was approximately 31 per cent from out-of-state.

Obviously, then, it is somewhat more difficult for the out-of-state student to get in. President... (Continued on Page 7)
PITZER--

(Continued from Page 1) Student Pitzer continued that although the percentage of non-Texas residents is increasing, "the ratio of Texas residents is not likely to drop below one half." Three-fourths of the current undergraduates are Texans.

THERE ARE NOW 16 undergraduate and 85 graduate students from outside the U.S. Noting this as a sign of the increasingly cosmopolitan character of the Rice student body, President Pitzer said that he expects the number of foreign students to increase some in the future.

On the delicate subject of racial integration, President Pitzer said, "The subject is being considered by the Board of Governors and I am very encouraged."